



# Editorial

## It is our pleasure to present our 2008 Annual Report.

In 2008, we reinforced our organisational resources and increased the amount of aid provided to the victims of wars and natural disasters. It was sometimes with difficulty and with great risk to our teams that we implemented 127 aid programs in our 15 missions, targeting millions of people. Our budget rose by 22% by comparison with 2007 and now stands at 45.6 million Euros, 86.6% of which is directly spent on humanitarian aid.

The situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) was particularly illustrative. At the end of the year, when renewed conflict forced large numbers of people to flee, *SOLIDARITES* staged its largest aid operation ever: 10 days of action targeting 100,000 people in North Kivu.

As part of our campaign to provide access to drinking water and sanitation, we delivered a petition bearing a large number of signatures to Bernard Kouchner, France's Minister for Foreign and European Affairs, requesting that he mobilise resources to combat unsafe water – the leading cause of death worldwide.

More than ever, our partners, donors and institutions are the cornerstone of our humanitarian action. We can never thank them enough for their contributions to bringing aid, saving lives, and giving hope to so many whose lives are under threat.

Alain Boinet.  
Managing Director and Founder.

Pierre de La Bretesche.  
President.

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# Actions that speak for themselves

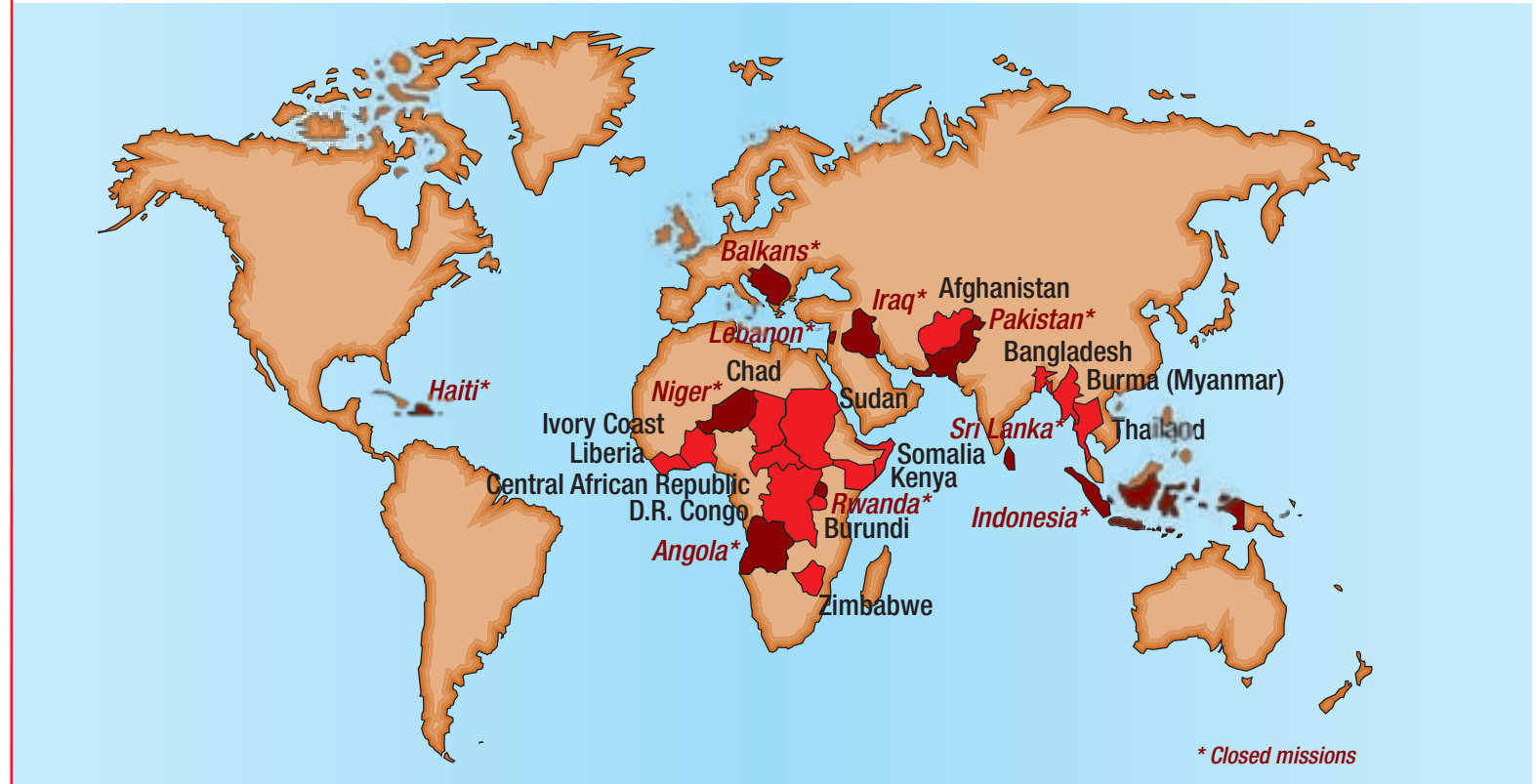
*SOLIDARITES* is an international humanitarian organisation which has been providing aid to victims of armed conflict and natural disasters for the past 29 years by responding to their most vital needs: food, water and shelter.

We are particularly committed to fighting waterborne diseases- the most frequent cause of death worldwide (8 million deaths per year) <sup>(1)</sup>. Our programs focus on providing access to drinking water and sanitation as well as food security and reconstruction.

*SOLIDARITES'* programs respect the cultural identity of their target populations, and are implemented by a team of 178 expatriate volunteers and 1,800 local staff. In 2008, *SOLIDARITES* carried out missions in 13 countries: Sudan (Darfur, South Sudan), DR Congo (Ituri – North Kivu – Katanga), Chad, Central African Republic, Kenya, Somalia, Burundi, Liberia, Ivory Coast, Afghanistan, Myanmar (Burma), Thailand (among Karen refugees from Burma), Bangladesh. In earlier years *SOLIDARITES* conducted missions in Iraq, Albania, Serbia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Bosnia, Romania, Rwanda, Lebanon, Niger, Haiti, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Pakistan and Angola.

*SOLIDARITES* is a non-profit organisation (under the French 1901 Law of Associations). The Founder and Managing Director is Alain Boinet, and its President is Pierre de la Bretesche. Our Board of Directors (16 members) is predominantly made up of former

## *SOLIDARITES'* missions



volunteers or employees wishing to pursue their commitment to humanitarian action on a voluntary basis. They meet every three months and vote the annual budget.

At our Annual General Meeting, we elect 6 Steering Committee members from the Board of Directors. This committee meets once a month to make strategic decisions

regarding *SOLIDARITES* operations. In 2008, the *SOLIDARITES* head office at Clichy-la-Garenne was staffed by 40 employees and a dozen trainees, who carried out both operational activities (field operations, expatriate human resources, logistics) and managerial and administrative activities (general management, administrative and financial manage-

ment, accounting, head office human resources, administration, communication, fundraising). The head office's role is to provide support for and optimise our humanitarian aid programmes.

1 *L'eau (Water)*. Michel Camdessus. Robert Laffont. 2004.

## OUR CHARTER: A COMMITMENT TO ACTION

### ■ Our humanitarian commitment:

To provide aid to individuals and populations threatened by armed conflict or natural disasters.

### ■ Independence and impartiality:

Our independence enables us to provide an impartial and inclusive response to humanitarian needs.

### ■ Respect for dignity and cultural identity:

Our action must respect the dignity and cultural identity of the aid beneficiaries.

### ■ Quality:

We systematically strive for quality in our humanitarian action, in order to make optimum use of resources and provide the best possible response to people's needs. We use a number of different tools to achieve this.

### ■ Coordinated action:

On the basis of these principles, we cooperate with other humanitarian organisations, institutional donors, local authorities, as well as local populations and their representatives.

### ■ Informing the general public:

We report on the needs and plight of the populations that we assist, in order to alert public opinion and muster the necessary support.



S. LE CLEZIO/SOLIDARITÉS

## SOLIDARITÉS: MISSIONS BETWEEN 1980 AND 2009

■ **1980** : our first mission in **Afghanistan**, where we are still present 29 years later. It began with the invasion of Soviet troops and continued until their withdrawal, through the civil war to the Taliban regime, from American intervention to Hamid Karzai's government, from emergency to reconstruction, with and for the Afghan people.

■ **Romania**: Between **1989** and 2000, we carried out numerous projects to assist the large numbers of orphans in state institutions.

■ **Iraq**: In **1992**, we sent aid convoys to one million Kurdish refugees fleeing Saddam Hussein's troops. In 2003 and 2004, we rehabilitated water treatment plants south of Baghdad.

■ **Africa, the Great Lakes region**: **Rwanda** (**May 1994** – 2000) in response to the horrors of the genocide and during the aftermath of the conflict. We have been in neighbouring **Burundi** since 1996 and in **Democratic Republic of Congo** (Kivu, Ituri, Katanga) since August 2000, and are still very active in these two troubled countries.

■ **The Balkans**: since the beginning of the conflict in **Bosnia** (**summer 1992** – 2000); then in **Kosovo** (summer 1998 – 2001), **Macedonia** and **Albania** to assist 800,000 Kosovar refugees, and finally in **Serbia** (Krajina, Slavonia) to assist refugees.

■ **West Africa**: in **Ivory Coast**, when conflict broke out in **2003** and in neighbouring **Liberia** (January 2004), where our humanitarian action continues today.

■ **Sudan, Darfur**: since February 2004. This has been a difficult mission, providing aid to people forced to flee their villages and victims of numerous exactions.

■ **Natural disasters**: the December 26, 2004 **tsunami** in **Sri Lanka** and **Indonesia**, severe drought in **Niger** (August 2005), Hurricane Jeanne in **Haiti** (September 2004), and the devastating earthquake in the **Kashmir** region of Pakistan on October 8, 2005.

■ During the summer of 2006, a temporary emergency in **Lebanon**; then in 2007, new humanitarian missions in **North Kenya**, in **South Sudan**, in Thailand to assist **Burmese refugees**, in the **Central African Republic** (CAR), in **Somalia**, a stateless society dragged down by years of conflict, and finally in **Bangladesh**, devastated by a cyclone in November 2007.

■ **2008**: **Chad**, assisting displaced persons and refugees fleeing regional violence; **Burma**, devastated by cyclone Nargis in May 2008.

■ **2009**: **Zimbabwe**, June 2009, bringing emergency aid to populations of this crisis-ridden country; **Pakistan**, summer 2009, assisting displaced persons fleeing the fighting between the Pakistani army and Taliban insurgents.



V. PROUVOST/SOLIDARITES

# ***SOLIDARITES*** in figures

15 missions in 2008

127 humanitarian aid programs

Aid provided to around  
3.4 million people

178 volunteers in the field

260 expatriate volunteers  
posted abroad

Over 1,800 local staff  
and managers

40 employees  
at the Paris head office

Nearly 79,000 private donors

45.6 million Euros  
in humanitarian aid

86.8 % of resources devoted  
to assisting populations in need



SOLIDARITES

# From emergency intervention to reconstruction; humanitarian aid for the most vulnerable

## Our 2008 achievements in figures:

11,378 tonnes of food distributed in Darfur

Nearly 700 water points and wells equipped, built or rehabilitated

Nearly 10,000 latrines built or rehabilitated

More than 130 classrooms built or rehabilitated

For the past 29 years, the international humanitarian aid organisation **SOLIDARITES** has practiced the principles and values set out in its charter: providing aid for victims of complex humanitarian crises where emergency, post-emergency and reconstruction intermingle. Our efforts allow for changing needs and contexts, and our aim is to reach those who are the most vulnerable and to assist them as effectively as possible. From the first crucial hours following an emergency to the final days of reconstruction, we aim to help populations living in extremely perilous conditions to recover their stability and independence.



**Our mission:** "To provide aid to individuals and populations threatened by armed conflict or natural disasters". Through the commitment of our volunteers and national members of our operational teams, we fulfil this mandate by implementing aid programmes in three fields of humanitarian action:

### 1 • ACCESS TO DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION:

- Analyzing and checking water samples
- Sourcing, drilling and harnessing springs and wells
- Purifying, transporting and distributing drinking water
- Building and rehabilitating water treatment plants and water supply networks
- Building and rehabilitating hydraulic infrastructure (irrigation canals, reservoirs, dams, etc.)
- Building and rehabilitating latrines, washing areas, etc.
- Training in basic hygiene

### 2 • FOOD SECURITY:

- Distributing emergency food aid
- Distributing seeds, fruit trees, animals and agricultural tools

- Providing technical and veterinary support for animal breeding activities
- Diversifying agricultural production and market gardening
- Supporting agricultural and market gardening groups
- Training farmers, market gardeners and livestock farmers
- Supporting the revival of fishing and fish farming
- Teaching the principles of a varied and balanced diet

### 3 • RECONSTRUCTION:

- Building or rehabilitating shelters, homes, schools, healthcare centres, tracks and roads, bridges, markets, essential facilities, etc.

### THE THREE PRINCIPLES GOVERNING OUR ACTION:

**Independence:** we provide aid for individuals and communities solely in relation to their vital needs, without exceptions based on ethnic, religious, or political criteria. The only limits: our capacities and major security risks.

**Respect for the individual:** we consider the

needs of individuals and communities and fully respect their dignity and cultural identity.

**High quality action:** our efforts to improve the quality of humanitarian aid are based on the willingness of our members to adopt and develop the most efficient and cost effective practices for meeting the needs of the affected populations. We muster the technical, human and financial resources at all stages of a project, from the initial needs assessment to providing solutions and evaluating results.



# Access to drinking water, sanitation, and food security: coping with the world's major humanitarian challenges

## THE FIGHT FOR SAFE DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION IS AT THE HEART OF OUR ACTION

Unsafe drinking water is the leading cause of death worldwide, claiming 8 million lives every year (1). Armed conflict, natural disasters or weather conditions result in crisis situations which leave populations vulnerable. Humanitarian action is essential to provide emergency access to safe drinking water and a healthy environment and to assist populations in rebuilding resources to protect themselves from waterborne diseases.

*SOLIDARITES* has worked for 29 years in water management, hygiene and sanitation; our goal is to eliminate waterborne diseases among vulnerable populations. Our teams install drinking water supply systems, train people in disease prevention, and provide improved sanitation.

*SOLIDARITES* has also initiated a campaign and a petition [www.votregoutteeau.org](http://www.votregoutteeau.org) to make the vital issue of access to water and sanitation a top priority for political decision-makers. This commitment is the logical continuation of our humanitarian action. Since 2005, *SOLIDARITES* has played an active part in World Water Day and participated in the World Water Forum in Istanbul in March 2009.

1 L'eau. (Water). Michel Camdessus. Robert Laffont. 2004



SOLIDARITES

## 2008 - A CHALLENGING YEAR FOR *SOLIDARITES* IN THE FIELD OF FOOD SECURITY

The rise in prices of basic foodstuffs in early 2008 had dramatic repercussions for the poorer populations in many countries - sometimes even resulting in riots. Despite warnings from the FAO, the international community failed to anticipate the magnitude of the crisis, which was the result of economic and intrinsic structural factors:

- The vast gap between growth in production and demand for agricultural produce. This was partly the result of the booming world population (+1.2% per annum) and changes in eating habits (more animal proteins) among the swelling ranks of the middle classes (China and India, in particular).
- The loss of arable land to urban development, encroachment of deserts and damage caused by soil erosion.
- The upsurge in extreme climatic phenomena (droughts, floods, cold spells, cyclones).
- Soaring oil prices, which affected the cost of producing and shipping foodstuffs.
- The growing trend towards using agricultural produce as bio-fuel.
- The shift of hedge funds towards basic foodstuffs.

According to FAO Secretary General, Jacques Diouf: ***"The number of people going hungry in the world rose by several million in 2007***

***and 2008 in the wake of rising food prices. It is expected to increase a further 105 million in 2009 as a consequence of the economic and financial crisis and the resulting rampant unemployment and spreading poverty."***

In the face of this challenge, *SOLIDARITES'* food security actions cover three main areas:

- Preventing malnutrition during food shortages and ensuring that families have access to food. In the emergency phase, action may consist of distributing food rations, as in Darfur. However, the main focus is on improving agricultural production, adding value to basic produce through local processing, and enabling maximum benefit from innovations adapted to local and agricultural needs. Programs of this type are being carried out by our teams in the Ivory Coast, the Central African Republic or in Afghanistan.
- Starvation is not always the result of poor harvests but insufficient funds for purchasing food. "Cash for work" projects or revenue-generating activities offer a means of overcoming this difficulty. Our activities in certain parts of Afghanistan are examples of these programs.
- Finally, other actions are aimed at improving nutrition by introducing families to better eating habits and a more balanced diet.

# Missions in Sudan (Darfur □ South Sudan)



## DARFUR

**Team:** 40 volunteers and 300 Sudanese staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 5,674 K€

**Partners:** European Union (DG ECHO), DFID (GB), OFDA (USA), CDC/MAE/CIAA (France), United Nations (WFP, UNICEF, FAO, UNJLC)

### Context and humanitarian situation

Humanitarian organisations in Darfur are coping with the consequences of a complex conflict and its root causes, such as shortages of arable land or drinking water. Rebel groups increased steadily from 2007 to 2008, with the emergence of local "warlords". As a result, the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA), signed on May 5, 2006 between one of the rebel factions and the Sudanese Government, has been rendered all but obsolete. Humanitarian teams face additional risks, with a sharp increase in threatening incidents in 2008; making certain zones inaccessible to humanitarian aid. The humanitarian

situation in 2008 was extremely fragile, constantly changing with each new local or national development.

Over 400,000 residents were forced to flee in 2008. By the end of the year, 2.7 million individuals had been uprooted and 4.7 million were affected by the conflict. Two population groups were particularly in need of humanitarian assistance: displaced persons with no resources, seeking refuge in urban or suburban areas and displaced persons or residents in remote bush areas devoid of all resources. These two population groups depend on international aid for their survival, either for subsistence, access to drinking water and sanitation or medical assistance.

During the second half of 2008, the International Criminal Court (ICC) prosecutor decided to file charges against the Sudanese President, Omar al-Bashir. This strained the relations between humanitarian organizations and Sudanese authorities.

### Our action

*SOLIDARITES* has been operating in Darfur since 2004. In 2008, we embarked on a process of "highly targeted" aid in order to provide the most appropriate assistance to those in the greatest need, while encouraging community participation to enable the local populations to improve their own ability to cope with emergencies, regain their independence and return to normal life. This long-term approach was coupled with efforts to reach the most isolated popula-

tions, especially those living in the bush. From our bases in Khartoum, Nyala, Muhajeria, Seleah, Shaeria, Kutrum, Nertiti and El Daein, the *SOLIDARITES* team in Darfur (40 expatriates and 320 Sudanese staff) was able to provide assistance to 300,000 people in 2008, providing access to drinking water and sanitation, food aid and essential commodities. 15 aid programs were carried out, covering the following areas:

- Food aid: distribution of food rations (sorghum, lentils, oil, sugar, corn-soya blend) to an average of 81,000 people per month, for a total distribution of 970,000 rations or 11,378 tonnes.
- Access to water and sanitation: 200,000 residents were provided with access to drinking water (by drilling deep wells equipped with hand pumps and building pumping plants), improved sanitary conditions were provided for 85,000 people; 3,000 latrines were built.
- Distribution of essential commodities: 115,000 residents.
- Food security: 29,500 farmers received seeds and tools, benefiting a population of 150,000; 99,000 animals were vaccinated, 81,500 veterinary operations were carried out and 109 "Community Animal Health Workers" were trained and provided with equipment and support, benefiting 125,000 people.
- Education: 22 classrooms were built or refurbished, 42 schools received supplies, benefiting 25,000 pupils.

**See Page 18**



## SOUTH SUDAN

**Team:** 6 volunteers and 45 Sudanese staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 996 K€

**Partners:** European Union (DG ECHO), United Nations (Common Humanitarian Fund - CHF)

### Context and humanitarian situation

On January 9, 2005 the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) was signed, bringing an end to Africa's longest civil war: nearly 20 years of conflict between SPLM/A insurgents in South Sudan and the Sudanese Government. Although the political situation and security conditions in South Sudan have improved, some areas are still impossible to access as a result of inter-ethnic conflict. Socio-economic indicators and food safety remain cause for concern. Most South Sudanese families rely on rudimentary farming for their basic needs, but many are unable to produce sufficient quantities to feed themselves during the hunger gap between harvests. Waterborne diseases are the most frequent cause of death, since outbreaks of diarrhoea can occur at any time; December 2008 is a case in point. Diarrhoea is a major cause of infant malnutrition.

With the influx of returning refugees, South Sudan's population is growing exponentially. In Malakal, the number of inhabitants has more than doubled since 2004 to reach nearly 200,000 today. Malakal, located on a



flood plain on the eastern banks of the Nile, is a flat area prone to frequent flooding during the long rainy season. The town stands on clayey soil which turns into a sea of mud when it rains. This makes for dire sanitary conditions and exposes the population to waterborne diseases.

### Our action

In 2008, *SOLIDARITES'* action in South Sudan involved a number of programs, in both urban and rural areas:

- Access to drinking water and sanitation for the residents of Malakal (Upper Nile State): emergency distribution and water treatment, hygiene education, distribution of basic hygiene products (jerry cans, soap, etc.), refurbishment and equipment of a water analysis laboratory and training of staff: 70,000 people living in Malakal were able to benefit from all or part of this program.
- Access to drinking water and sanitation for the population of the town of Tonga (Upper Nile State): rehabilitation and construction

- of a water treatment and distribution network, construction of latrines and a waste incinerator, benefiting 2,500 people.
- Access to drinking water and sanitation for the residents of Khorfullus and Atar (Jonglei State): construction of two water treatment networks, and 164 school or village latrines, benefiting 6,136 people.
- Rehabilitation of a section of the Malakal - Nasser road, to facilitate the return of refugees and boost economic development, benefiting nearly 240,000 people.

# Missions in the Democratic Republic of Congo

(Ituri □ North Kivu □ Katanga)



V. PROUVOST/SOLIDARITES

**Team:** 58 volunteers and 741 Congolese staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 19,465K€

**Partners:** European Union (DG ECHO, EuropeAid), OFDA (USA), United Nations (UNICEF, OCHA, FAO), Coopération française (SCAC, AFD), Pooled Fund (joint funds financed by the United Kingdom, Sweden, Belgium, the Netherlands, Canada and Norway), FSD/Veolia.

## Context and humanitarian situation

In the DRC, 2008 saw the return of hostilities in the east of the country (Kivu and the Eastern Province), and an economic crisis in Katanga. Two years after the establishment of institutions following democratic elections, reconstruction and economic rehabilitation programs are blocked. According to the United Nations, seven in 10 children live below the poverty line. Katanga, economic mining heart of the DRC, has felt the impact of the global crisis.

Unemployment and spiraling food prices have weakened the poorest members of the population; inadequate water supply and sanitation infrastructures have exacerbated cholera epidemics. Nonetheless, Katanga has experienced an earlier and more stable return to peace than have the other provinces.

At the end of 2008, exactions by armed groups, including the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), had caused the displacement of 130,000 people in the Eastern Province (including Ituri and Upper Uele), while insecurity reduced humanitarian access to these populations. A joint Congolese,

Sudanese and Ugandan military operation to neutralise the LRA began on 14 December 2008. In response, the LRA attacked a number of areas in Upper Uele over Christmas.

In North Kivu, the resumption of hostilities since the end of August 2008 has set various armed groups against each other and against the Congolese National Army (AFDRC). At the end of 2008, more than 800,000 displaced persons were fleeing the fighting in North Kivu. The increased frequency and duration of dis-

placements eroded the subsistence capabilities of host families and worsened general impoverishment. Here too, insecurity reduced access to the most vulnerable populations.

## Our action

The situation in eastern DR Congo is a "complex emergency and post-conflict situation", involving populations who are resident, displaced or in the process of returning, and whose priority needs are access to drinking water and food security. In order to respond more efficiently, *SOLIDARITES'* activities in the DRC, since September 2008, have been organised into three distinct, separate operational missions (Ituri Mission, covering Ituri and Upper Uele, North Kivu mission, Katanga Mission), and a representation office in Kinshasa supported by a pool of technical advisors. In 2008, this organisation carried out 21 programs adapted to each context:

## Our actions in Ituri / Upper Uele

- Rapid response programs in Ituri/Upper Uele: needs assessment and response to displaced populations in Ituri, emergency and sustainable access to drinking water (managed springs), sanitation and hygiene, distribution of essential supplies and education kits, construction of classrooms: benefiting 244,557 people. In Upper Uele, interventions began in late December, with the distribution of essential supplies for 4,630 people in Dungu.

- Returnee assistance programs: distribution of essential supplies for 32,068 households and 49,407 education kits, construc-



V. PROUVOST/SOLIDARITES

tion of 60 classrooms equipped with furniture and latrines for 3,557 pupils, multi-sector needs assessments in reception sites.

- Water supply and sanitation program for returning and vulnerable populations: construction of 116 latrines, 45 disposal pits and incinerators; fitting out and rehabilitation of 38 springs and a well; construction of five water reservoirs and a pond; hygiene awareness activities, establishment of 42 water facilities management committees: benefiting 34,560 people in total.
- Agricultural and economic rehabilitation program: support for agricultural production (dis-

tribution of seeds, tools and plants), for small-scale livestock breeding (goats and rabbits), for fish farming, as well as an economic rehabilitation program (rehabilitation of roads, bridges, income generating activities): benefiting 82,480 people in Irumu and Mahagi territories.

#### **Our actions in North Kivu**

- Rapid Response Programs: needs assessment and response to vulnerable populations in North Kivu, emergency and sustainable access to drinking water (managed springs, rehabilitation of supply pipelines and supply of water by trucks), sanitation and hygiene, distribution of

essential supplies, construction of classrooms and distribution of education kits: benefiting 895,938 people.

- Program for access to water and sanitation to combat waterborne diseases: rehabilitation of three catchment areas and a collection well, training 11 drinking water committees, intensive hygiene awareness activities, establishing 49 hygiene training programs in schools, health centers and markets: benefiting 15,983 people in Rutshuru territory.

- Program to improve water supply and sanitary conditions in the town of Rutshuru and the City of Kiwanja: rehabilitation and construction of 30 drinking fountains and 615 latrines, capturing a new spring and installing 2 km of supply pipe, reinforcement of 2.5 km of old pipelines, training 131 local drinking fountain officers and managers: benefiting 91,075 people in total.

- Program to extend the water supply, treatment and distribution network in Beni using high-volume water fountains: construction of 18 high-volume water fountains and 240 latrines, rehabilitation of the old drinking water purification plant, capacity building for joint local management of the supply system. This project continues the work undertaken since October 2003 in Beni, which provides a water services infrastructure for 170,000 inhabitants in 18 central districts. It provides access to an additional 70,000 residents in the 12 suburban districts of Beni.

- Return support program and community rehabilitation program for the populations of Virunga National Park at Kilolirwe and in Lubéro district: census of populations in 13 vil-

lages in the park and assessment of more than 10 reception sites for 70,000 aid recipients.

#### **Our activity in Katanga**

- Programs to combat cholera through access to drinking water and hygiene for the populations of the Kalemie and Nyunzu territories: rehabilitation of 21 main water supply pipelines, fitting out or rehabilitation of 50 installations (spring water catchments or closed wells), 17 drinking water fountains, and 128 water supply outlets in the villages; assistance for the construction of nearly 4,000 latrines and training for 182 hygiene or water management committees: benefiting more than 270,000 people. Moreover, a technical component, (research, analysis, equipment supply, rehabilitation and support for REGIDESO [DRC public water utility] in Kalemie) aims to improve access to drinking water for 370,000 users of the town's supply system.

- Program for water supply, hygiene and sanitation: installation of five filtration systems and 17 wells, construction of 50 communal latrines, training for 17 well management committees, epidemiological monitoring: benefiting 51,000 people in Lake Upemba territory.

- Assistance program for returning populations: agricultural production, livestock breeding and fisheries rehabilitation program benefiting 58,949 people in Bukama territory.

- Food security program: distribution of agriculture kits, training farmers, livestock breeders and veterinary auxiliaries, setting up 68 market gardening and agricultural groups: benefiting 32,175 in Lake Upemba territory.

# Missions Chad – Central African Republic

C.DECORDE/SOLIDARITES



disappearance of State services and affects NGO activities. Limited access to drinking water, lack of sanitation, education and health care, and the high concentration of populations living on meager resources, are causing waterborne diseases and tension. The situation is complicated further by thousands of Central Africans fleeing the

fighting between government and rebel forces in their country and taking refuge in Daha and Massembagne in southern Chad.

## Our action

In 2008, *SOLIDARITES'* actions in eastern Chad (Ouaddai region) around Ade (whose population has quadrupled since 2003), included the implementation of two programs:

- Program for access to drinking water and hygiene for the inhabitants of Ade and its region: construction of seven water supply points, construction of a community well at Kalak, drainage for eight water supply points, rehabilitation of a network of three bore holes, distribution of 70 sand filters for water treatment: benefiting 18,770 people. Training in hygiene: benefiting 9,200 people.

- Monitoring program, in partnership with the UNHCR, of the humanitarian situation in Ade and Am Timan in the Salamat region.

## Central African Republic

**Team:** 14 volunteers and 72 Central African staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 2,892K€

**Partners:** European Union (DG ECHO EuropeAid), United Nations (WFP, ERF/CHF, FAO, UNICEF), French Embassy (CDC / CIAA).

## Context and humanitarian situation

The Central African Republic is one of the poorest countries in the world (ranking 178th out of 179 according to the United Nations human development index – UNDP, 2008): 70% of the population lives on less than one dollar per day, 72% are illiterate, 74% do not have access to drinking water and life expectancy is 39 years. The population suffers threats from road bandits, rebel groups and armed forces. Military activities in the north of the country bring violent abuse and destruction, causing people to flee their villages to take refuge in neighboring countries (Cameroon and Chad), or even in the bush. These displacements affect a third of the population.

## Our action

*SOLIDARITES'* action in CAR in 2008 included the implementation of seven programs covering several areas:

- Development support program for rice cultivation and fish farming in Bozum (Ouham

Pende region) and Bangui: training organisers, technical monitoring, supply of agricultural inputs, rehabilitation of hydro-agricultural installations, support for acquisition of equipment and infrastructure: benefiting 3,200 members of groups and cooperatives.

- Food security and access to drinking water and sanitation programs in Kabo, Ndélé and Kaga Bandoro: monitoring food vulnerability, targeted food aid, agricultural support (distribution of agriculture kits, inputs, seeds and tools, promoting market gardening, providing agricultural and veterinary training), construction of 9 communal latrines and an incinerator, hygiene training, distribution of hygiene kits, on-site distribution of drinking water for displaced persons in Kabo, fitting out 22 traditional wells, repair and maintenance of bore holes, installation of sand filters, training 32 water point management committees: benefiting 109,000 people.

- Emergency food distribution program in the Kabo area: 781 metric tonnes of foodstuffs distributed: benefiting 16,000 people.



SOLIDARITES

## Chad

**Team:** 7 volunteers and 35 Chadian staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 597K€

**Partners:** European Union (DG ECHO), United Nations (UNICEF, UNHCR)

## Context and humanitarian situation

The humanitarian crisis in eastern Chad affects a million people, with approximately 243,000 Sudanese refugees fleeing the violence in Darfur and 185,000 displaced Chadians. In spite of the presence of EUFOR (European Union Force) and MINURCAT (United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad) in the Republic of Chad and in the Central African Republic, insecurity in eastern Chad has brought about the near

# Mission in Kenya and Somalia

**Team:** 10 volunteers, 82 Kenyan and 36 Somali staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 2,177K€

**Partners:** European Union (DG ECHO), United Nations (UNHCR), DFID (GB), MFA / CIAA (France).

## Context and humanitarian situation

### In Kenya

The electoral violence of January 2008 led to the displacement of 300,000 people. At the end of 2008, the government declared a food security emergency because of the global food crisis and the rising price of basic foodstuffs: sugar, oil and corn. This crisis was aggravated by displacement of populations

and speculation. The first victims were the inhabitants of shantytowns and of arid zones suffering from drought. According to the United Nations, nearly one Kenyan in 10 is in need of food aid.

The situation in the refugee camps near the Somali border is deteriorating. In one huge camp at Dadaab, the population numbers nearly 300,000 refugees (mainly Somalis), in desperate need of access to drinking water and sanitation, and subject to cholera epidemics. The same situation exists in the west of the country (Kisumu) and in the North East (Moyale, Mandera).

### In Somalia

The political and security situation in Somalia deteriorated in 2008, bringing it to the worst point in 18 years in respect of humanitarian access. The advance of insurgent forces led to the demise of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in favor of a government of national unity (GNU). The chaos has induced those who can to flee to Kenya and to Yemen. At the same time drought, especially in the centre of the country, has caused the displacement of people seeking water, as well as the death of flocks and herds. There

are nearly 1.5 million displaced people. The critical food security situation is aggravated by the worldwide spiraling of food prices, placing 3.7 million out of approximately 8 million Somalis in a humanitarian and food emergency situation. One child in five is severely malnourished and the figure is constantly rising.

## Our action

### In Kenya

- In the capital, Nairobi: food security program for shanty town dwellers: development of sack gardening (onions, tomatoes, cabbages, spinach etc.), training in production of suitable seeds, poultry breeding: benefiting 160,000 people.
- In North Horr, in the north of the country: reinforcement program for food security, sanitary conditions and access to water for pastoral populations; rehabilitation of wells; construction of latrines; hygiene information; establishing nurseries, hen houses and veterinary services; distribution of mosquito nets and water filters; installation of rainwater collectors, production of fodder: benefiting 35,205 people.



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### In Somalia

- In Bardera District: program for food security, access to water and sanitation: chlorination, distribution of water filters, promotion of hygiene, construction or rehabilitation of latrines, wells and water collectors, land clearance and draining of flooded areas, distribution of essential supplies, installing hen houses, agricultural training, distribution of seeds and establishment of irrigated crops: benefiting 58,600 people.
- In Afmadow District: program for food security, access to water and sanitation for vulnerable populations, particularly displaced persons; construction of water reservoirs, wells and latrines; hygiene promotion; distribution of hygiene kits; support and training in fodder and honey production: benefiting 96,000 people.

# Missions **Burundi – Liberia – Ivory Coast**

## Burundi

**Team:** 7 volunteers and 71 Burundian staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 1,230K€

**Partners:** European Union (DG ECHO, EuropeAid), United Nations (FAO)

### Context and humanitarian situation

Following the Pretoria Agreement at the end of 2003, Burundians started to believe in peace and start the reconstruction pro-

cess. However, the 2008 world food crisis and runaway inflation caused the price of basic foodstuffs to rocket. At the same time, with a population density among the highest in Africa (of which the majority live from agriculture) per capita agricultural production has declined by nearly 40% since 1988 and malnutrition is a worrying reality. Hydraulic and education infrastructures are either outdated or badly maintained and endemic pockets of cholera remain in the area around Lake Tanganyika. The situation was complicated in 2008 with the arrival of Congolese refugees fleeing vio-

lence in their country, and the return of Burundian refugees from Tanzania. The basic needs of these population groups – water, sanitation, education, health, agriculture and economic development – are far from being met.

### Our action

*SOLIDARITES* in Burundi carried out three programs in two areas:

- Early warning food security program in Cankuzo province (with technical support from the FAO): regular surveys of markets and households and interviews with State services.

- Programs to provide access to water and sanitation and to prevent cholera in the provinces of Cankuzo, Muyinga, Ngozi, rural Bujumbura, Bururi and Makamba: fitting out, repairing and channeling water sources; repair, construction and extension of water conveyance networks; supply of drinking water by lorry; water analyses; emptying and construction of latrines; treatment of wastewater; hygiene training; construction of showers. These projects benefited 165,000 people.

### Context and humanitarian situation

In 2008 wide disparities persisted between urban and rural zones in Liberia, worsened by the remoteness of some areas of the country. Basic needs remained unmet – health, infrastructure, access to water and sanitation and food security. Between 2007 and 2008, as a result of the world food crisis, the prices of basic foodstuffs rose by 22%. According to figures from the Ministry of Agriculture, chronic malnutrition remains endemic, affecting 39% of children under 5. Between June 2007 and June 2008, 91% of vulnerable households saw their spending on food rise, and 55% of urban households live on less than one US dollar a day. According to the FAO, ten out of fifteen counties are underfed, while the government maintained that in 2008 only a quarter of the population had access to drinking water and only 20% access to adequate sanitation. Only 5% of people understand good hygiene practices. The mortality rate associated with diarrhoeal illnesses in children under 5 is 20%. Cholera epidemics occur almost every year in the capital Monrovia and in the counties of Maryland, Sinoe, Nimba, Gbarkpolu and Grand Bassa.

### Our action

In 2008, *SOLIDARITES* carried out two programs in Liberia:

- Program to provide access to water and sanitation in Harper county: construction, rehabilitation and chlorination of 28 wells; construction and rehabilitation of 157 latrines; hygiene awareness; creation of





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hygiene and water point maintenance committees; water analyses; repair of 3 bridges: benefiting a total of 17,140 people.  
 - Food security program in Gbarnga county:

support for market gardening, pig farming and fishing; creation of farmer groups; technical support and distribution of seeds and tools; promotion of animal health and

distribution of veterinary kits; construction of 14 drying areas and 5 rice mills; rehabilitation of a bridge; preparation of a vulnerability study: benefiting a total of 12,250 people.

## Ivory Coast

**Team:** 4 volunteers and 41 Ivorian staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 1,691K€

**Partners:** European Union (DG ECHO), UN (UNICEF, FAO)

### Context and humanitarian situation

In 2008, the security situation improved in Ivory Coast and the 'Zone of Confidence' symbolising the partition of the country, was dismantled. However, the implementation of the Ouagadougou Peace Agreement (OPA) ran into difficulties - in particular the disarmament and reintegration of the ex-rebels and the preparations for the presidential elections, planned for 2008 and now put back to November 29, 2009. The humanitarian situation is still cause for concern: the water supply infrastructure is outdated and badly maintained (in rural areas more than 60% of pumps are out of order); less than 40% of the population has access to drinking water; the education system has suffered from the destruction of its infrastructure, school closures and the departure of teachers due to the security situation. School enrolment rates are declining.

Health care has been badly affected by the destruction and looting of facilities and loss of staff. HIV/AIDS infection rates are at 4.7%, the highest in West Africa. Finally, acute global malnutrition rates are above the emergency threshold (10%) in the North-West (11.6%), the North (12.2%) and the Centre-North (11.7%). The world food crisis has crippled Ivorian households who spend the bulk of their income on food.

### Our action

In 2008, our action in Ivory Coast focused on four programs in two areas:  
 - Programs for agricultural recovery, access to water and sanitation and the rehabilitation of schools in Toulepleu and Bolequin (Moyen Cavally region): rehabilitation of 245 wells and 35 pumps; water analyses; setting up 85 water management committees; construction of 219 latrines; hygiene training; support for market-gardening; training and technical support for agricultural production; distribution of tools and seeds; rehabilitation of agricultural land; support for farmers' organisations and for marketing produce; nutrition education; rehabilitation of 47 schools and 104 teacher residences; distribution of 10,000 school kits; planting of 10 school gardens; education awareness campaigns.  
 - Access to water and sanitation in San Pedro (Bas Sasandra region): this program, which started in 2008 and will continue until 2010, includes drilling wells, construction of latrines, water analyses, wastewater treatment, hygiene training and establishment of water management committees.

# Mission Afghanistan

**Team:** 8 volunteers and 121 Afghan staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 1,893K€

**Partners:** European Union (DG ECHO, EuropeAid), United Nations (FAO), NZ Aid, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (France), World Bank, MRRD (Afghan Ministry for Rural Rehabilitation and Development)

## Context and humanitarian situation

Afghanistan in 2008 was still one of the world's poorest countries. The humanitarian situation is alarming: as a result of the world food crisis, wheat prices have doubled in certain areas; more than 30% of Afghans do not have enough to eat; 24% of breastfeeding women are malnourished; at least 50% of children are underweight; households

spend the bulk of their income on food and nearly 9 million Afghans rely on food aid for survival. Finally, 70% of the Afghan population do not have access to drinking water. Mortality due to waterborne diseases particularly affects children under 5, and life expectancy is only 44 years... The huge challenge of rebuilding the country is more and more difficult to fulfil due to the security situation: the decline observed in 2006 and 2007 continued in 2008, once again the most deadly year since military intervention in 2001. Even though there has been considerable progress regarding education and health care, the government is having difficulty extending its authority beyond Kabul district. The insurrection has intensified, especially in the South and the East, with regular clashes against Afghan

and international forces. Humanitarian access is limited in these areas.

## Our action

*SOLIDARITES'* action in Afghanistan focused on seven programs in several fields:

- Emergency access to water and sanitation in Kabul (districts 6 and 13): construction of 135 wells; rehabilitation of 8 water pumps; rehabilitation of 810 latrines; construction of 14 waste management centers; distribution of 3,500 hygiene kits; training of maintenance technicians; creation and training of hygiene committees; hygiene and waste management training and awareness; 4,300m of road repairs. These programs benefited 47,000 people.
- Rural development and food security programs (Bamyan province, districts of Yakawlang, Saighan and Khamard, Samangan province in the district of Roy-e-Doab): drainage and rehabilitation of channels, roads and agricultural infrastructure; support and training for dried apricot production; distribution of seeds (fodder, wheat, vegetables), agricultural tools and processing equipment for milk and poultry production; participation in 2 agricultural fairs; a study on potato cultivation. These projects benefited 22,646 families.



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- Emergency food distribution and rural rehabilitation program (Samangan province, Roy-e-Doab district): reconstruction of roads and distribution channels for 350 tonnes of flour, 42 tonnes of beans and 17 tonnes of oil. This project benefited 3,700 highly vulnerable families.
- Community Development Program (National Solidarity Program – NSP) in partnership with the MRRD (Afghan Ministry for Rural Rehabilitation and Development): in 2008, *SOLIDARITES* supported the Community Development Councils (CDCs) in designing 67 infrastructure projects approved by the MRRD and the completion of 40 other projects. These programs benefited 102,000 people represented by the 67 CDCs formed in the district of Roy-e-Doab (Samangan province).



S. CALLIGARO/SOLIDARITES



# Missions Myanmar (Burma) – Thailand (Burmese Karen refugees)

## Myanmar

**Team:** 8 volunteers and 50 Burmese staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 577K€

**Partners:** Ministry of Social Welfare Relief and Resettlement, United Nations (WFP, UNICEF, UNHCR), IOM (International Organization for Migration), Ministry of Foreign Affairs (France), Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation (SDC), Rhine-Meuse Water Agency (AERM), NGO Partners, REAM (Renewable Energy Association Myanmar – Burmese NGO)

### Context and humanitarian situation

Myanmar is the largest country in Southeast Asia with a long coastline around a large part of the Bay of Bengal. The country is prone to monsoon flooding, cyclones,

mudslides, earthquakes and drought. On the night of the 2-3 May 2008, Cyclone Nargis hit Myanmar, devastating the Irrawady delta, the most populous and fertile region in the south of the country, and killing 140,000 people. Although rich in natural resources, the country remains one of the poorest in Asia. Governed by a military regime, 40% of the population belongs to more than 100 ethnic groups, often concentrated along the borders. Several of these groups are fighting the army and hundreds of thousands have fled the violence, mostly taking refuge in neighboring Thailand.

### Our action

In Myanmar in 2008 *SOLIDARITES* focused on nine programs in two areas:

- Emergency assistance programs for the victims of Cyclone Nargis on the outskirts of the capital Yangon (Shwe Pyi Tha district): rehabilitation of latrines and drinking water facilities; hygiene awareness; distribution of hygiene kits, emergency shelter materials, tarpaulins and home kits. 100,000 people benefited from these programs.
- Emergency aid programs for victims of Cyclone Nargis, prevention of natural disasters and reduction of food insecurity in the Irrawady delta (in Bogale and Pyapon municipalities, an area of mangrove swamps only accessible by boat): rehabilitation and

cleansing of rainwater reservoirs and water and sanitation facilities; construction of latrines and rainwater tanks; training carpenters and distribution of toolkits; promotion of hygiene and distribution of home hygiene kits; distribution of 35,000 rations of food, seeds, tarpaulins, mosquito nets and fishing equipment; training in boat and canoe building and construction of a jetty. This program benefited 40,000 people.



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## Thailand

(work with Karen refugees of Burmese origin)

**Team:** 4 volunteers and 116 Thai and Karen employees

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 529K€

**Partners:** European Union (EuropeAid), Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation (SDC)

### Context and humanitarian situation

In 2008, Thailand was badly affected by the world economic crisis and internal social and political problems. For the last 24 years, Thailand has been host to Burmese refugees. About 140,000 refugees were living in 9 camps near the Burmese border, with an

average of 45,000 living in Mae La camp – a "temporary" camp set up 20 years ago. *SOLIDARITES* has been working in Mae La since 2007 to improve sanitary conditions. Overpopulation (around 18,000 people per km<sup>2</sup>) heightens the risk of epidemics, especially waterborne diseases.

### Our action

*SOLIDARITES'* action for Burmese Karen refugees in Thailand in 2008 involved the implementation of two programs for access to water and sanitation in Mae La camp (Tak province): construction of 309 latrines and a network of 419m of wastewater piping; rehabilitation and maintenance of the water capture and conveyance network; emergency water treatment (chlorination); awareness campaigns about hygiene and eradication of sources of epidemics. These programs benefited 45,000 people.



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# Mission Bangladesh – And in 2009, 2010...



AFP

## Bangladesh

**Team:** 4 volunteers and 10 Bangladeshi staff

**Volume of aid in 2008:** 224K€

**Partners:** Rhine-Meuse Water Agency (AERM), French Red Cross, Ministry of Foreign Affairs/ DHA (France), Fondation de

France, Veolia Water Force

### Context and humanitarian situation

Much of Bangladesh is less than 12 meters above sea-level, and is therefore vulnerable to natural disasters (cyclones, flooding etc.). It is also one of the poorest and most densely populated countries in the world (147th out of 179 according to the United Nations/UNDP Human Development Index in 2008). On November 15, 2007 Cyclone

Sidr devastated the South of Bangladesh, causing 3,300 deaths and affecting a further 8.5 million people, drowning rice paddies and destroying livestock. Almost all water points were rendered unusable due to salination and 615,000 dwellings were flattened. Important humanitarian needs remained unmet at the end of 2008.

### Our action

Since December 1st 2007, *SOLIDARITES* has been working in Mathbaria (Pirojpur district in the South of the country), to provide access to water and sanitation: water treatment; distribution of filters and water purification systems; hygiene promotion; distribution of soap and other non-food products; rehabilitation of communal sand filters; water reservoir cleansing; construction of latrines in schools and homes. As a result, 37,400 people had access to drinking water and 32,500 people have been educated in good hygiene and sanitation practices. Around 68,000 people have benefited from the rehabilitation of water points and tanks and 1,600 schoolchildren had access to sanitation services.

### MISSION ACCOMPLISHED IN SRI LANKA...

After completing our humanitarian programs among the victims of the Tsunami and the armed conflict, the *SOLIDARITES* mission in Sri Lanka was closed in March 2008.

## And in 2009, 2010...

### 3 MILLION PEOPLE AFFECTED BY CYCLONES IN BANGLADESH

Just as it was recovering from the damage caused by Cyclone Sidr, Bangladesh was hit by Cyclone Aila on May 25 2009. Aila killed more than 175 people and affected more than 3 million others, destroyed more than 400,000 hectares of crops and ruined livestock, villages and roads along the coast. *SOLIDARITES*, already present in the area (see above), provided aid to the suffering populations by building emergency shelters and developing programs for water and sanitation supply to prevent the spread of water-borne diseases.

### ZIMBABWE

For 75% of Zimbabwe's population, international aid is the primary source of food and life expectancy is, according to the WHO, between 35 and 40 years. A cholera epidemic has caused 4,000 deaths since the end of 2008. *SOLIDARITES* has been working in Kadoma since July 2009 (south west of the capital, Harare) to set up a food security and economic recovery program for urban populations with no access to land and therefore no access to agricultural revenue.

### DARFUR

In Darfur since 2004, *SOLIDARITES* was expelled by the Sudanese authorities on March 4, 2009, cutting off vital humanitarian aid for the local population.

# Financial report 2008

## Significant events 2008:

2008 reflects the development effort of previous years. The volume of new funding is stable compared with 2007 and humanitarian aid operations increase by 22%.

In particular it should be noted:

- Activity in 2008 centred on strengthening existing capacities: a reorganisation of the mission in DRC was necessary because of its size. With 38% of the financial volume and 50% of the total volume of *SOLIDARITES'* missions in 2008, the creation of 3 operational missions and a mission for representation and experts allow operational teams of a manageable size whilst capitalising on a standard approach for the whole country.
- The end of «tsunami» missions but not of interventions following natural disasters: with closure of the mission in Sri Lanka and opening in Myanmar (Burma) following the hurricane Nargis in May 2008.
- Drop in funding from the general public compared to 2007 both in terms of total funding and the net income. Following forecasts which were constantly revised downwards during the year, the financial impact was finally less significant due to the response of the general public to the last mailings of 2008 and an exceptional donation of 150K€
- Stable general running costs, with the exception of provisions for risks. The latter includes a specific provision related to *SOLIDARITES'* expulsion from Sudan (Darfur), notified in March 2009 but with an impact on contracts in progress at 31/12/2008.

Overall the association finished the year with a surplus of 451K€ allowing an increase in reserves to a total of 1.47 million Euros at 31/12/2008.

## Statement of Sources and Application of Funds

The statement of sources and application of funds is established according to the same principles as in 2007, comparing total funds for the period and total funds applied in the year, and including foreign exchange impact. The new rules governing the statement of sources and application of funds will be applied from 2009.

### Sources of Funding

The funds applied in 2008 increase significantly from 2007, 45.6M€ in 2008 compared with 37.5M€ in 2007. The increase in total funds is much less, going from 47.5M€ in 2007 to 49.1M€ in 2008.

Total funds applied of 45.6M€ are broken down as follows:

- 30.9 M€ of institutional funding (23.4 M€ in 2007, an increase of 32%)
- 9.7 M€ of donations in kind (9.4 M€ in 2007, an increase of 3%)
- 3.7 M€ of private funding, of which 3.5 M€ are funds received from the general public (3.9 M€ in 2007, a drop of 10%) and 0.2 M€ from business and other private funds (0.4 M€ in 2007, a drop of 50%)
- 1.3 M€ of other income (0.4 M€ in 2007)

The relative importance of certain donors in the institutional funding varies according to whether applied funds or new 2008 funding is analysed. Above all, it depends on the impact of contracts lasting several years, for example the large EuropeAid contract signed in 2008 for a 3 year long 3.1M€ project in the Ivory Coast.

The European Union remains the chief source of funding with DG ECHO as the most important of *SOLIDARITES'* partners (10.7M€ of funding in 2008, 10M€ of applied funds). 3 new contracts (Ivory Coast, CAR, Thailand) were signed with EuropeAid in 2008 compared with 5 contracts in 2007. Nevertheless, because of contracts in pro-

gress at the end of 2007, EuropeAid applied funds increase by 26% (4.0M€ in 2008, 3.1M€ in 2007).

The proportion of UN funding continues to grow, above all because of the Rapid Response Mechanism, a project in collaboration with UNICEF in DRC, and the emergency aid mobilised in North East DRC in November 2008. This programme is also the reason for the increase in Contributions in Kind in 2008: of the 9.7M€, 8.0M€ originate from UNICEF in RDC.

The breakdown in new funding from the French government changes in comparison with 2007, the CIAA contribution (Interministerial Food Aid Committee) increasing by 133%. In contrast, the large contract signed with AFD (French Development Agency) in 2007 was not renewed for other projects in 2008. British (DFID) and American (USAID) funding remain stable as a proportion of applied funds.

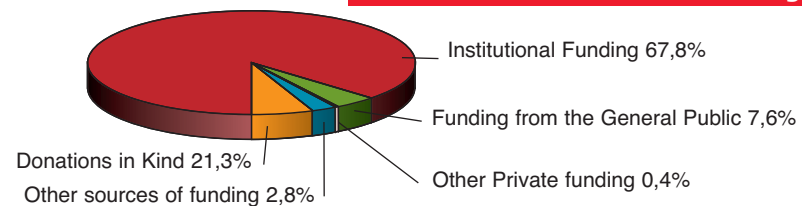
Funding from businesses and other private funds reduced further in 2008 (192K€ 2008, 256K€ 2007). This group remains extremely difficult to mobilise, especially in the current economic environment, other than for emergencies or specific partnerships.

The same difficulties were to be noted in fundraising campaigns targeting the general public. The volume of mailings budgeted for potential new donors was reduced because of results significantly lower than those of the previous 18 months. Without the exceptional response to the two last mailings of the year, the results for fundraising would have been significantly lower in 2008.

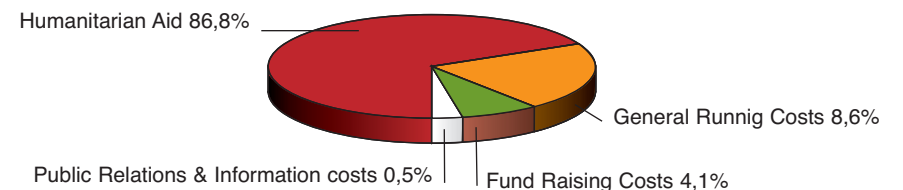
A once-off donation of 150K€ increased private donations in 2008 and was given in support of the overall activities of the association.

Private funding makes up 10.3% of monetary resources on the basis of total funds applied in 2008 compared with 15.1% in 2007, and 9.3% of total funds for the period (10.9% in 2007).

## Breakdown of Sources of Funding Utilised in 2008



## Breakdown of Expenditure 2008



### Expenditure

The Association's total expenditure is 45.2M€ in 2008 compared with 37.4M€ in 2007 and includes investment at head office level to continue development of its activities.

86.8%, or 39.2 M€ dedicated to humanitarian aid (85.7%, 32M€ in 2007)

4.1%, or 1.9M€ of fundraising costs (6.1%, 2.3M€ in 2007)

0.5%, or 0.2 M€ for communication (0.6%, 0.2M€ in 2007)

8.6%, or 3.9 M€ of general running costs (7.6%, 2.8M€ in 2007)

The 86.8% of humanitarian aid costs include 9.7M€ of contributions in kind. Excluding the latter, the ratio of humanitarian aid: total expenditure for the period is 83.1% in 2008 compared with 80.9% in 2007.

The response to the conflicts in Sudan (Darfur) and eastern DRC represent 56% of funds applied to humanitarian aid, or 22.0M€ In purely financial terms, 13.7M€ has been devoted to these missions. The two missions opened in 2008, Chad and Myanmar, represent 3% of humanitarian aid expenditure and 19% of own funding.

Fundraising and donation processing costs total 1,858 K€ in 2008, or a decrease of 18% compared with 2007, and correspond to a ratio fundraising costs / donations of 56.3 %. This ratio drops slightly compared with 2007 but remains high because of prospection efforts. The net income from prospection campaigns is lower than that from existing donors and over a longer period. A street marketing test did not achieve better results. Therefore, a larger scale campaign was not launched.

Information and communication costs only increase by 3K€ in 2008 compared with 2007, or 1%.

Head office costs remain stable at 2.2M€ in 2008, a small increase of 2.6% compared with 2007. The full year impact of costs for the new office (rental and associated costs, depreciation) and new positions created in 2007 is limited because of the exceptional costs related to the move which were borne in 2007.

Between departures in the assessment team and new arrivals in fundraising, operations and logistics, full time equivalent staff numbers at head office remain stable with 39 at 31/12/2008, as at 31/12/2007. External

### STATEMENT OF SOURCES AND APPLICATION OF FUNDS

APPLICATION OF FUNDS (Euros)			SOURCES OF FUNDING (Euros)		
	2008	2007		2008	2007
Afghanistan	1 893 342	1 367 395	Donations from the general public	3 297 657	3 860 377
Burundi	1 230 116	1 487 403	Exceptional Donation	150 000	
DRC - North Kivu & Ituri	16 354 729	11 758 518	Legacies and Bequests	28 322	25 506
DRC - Katanga	3 110 249	1 680 361	<b>FUNDING RECEIVED FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC</b>	<b>3 475 979</b>	<b>3 885 883</b>
Ivory Coast	1 690 638	1 385 885	% of total funding for the period	7,1%	8,2%
Liberia	1 130 433	1 020 992			
Sudan Darfur	5 674 236	8 840 339	Company and other private funding	186 122	251 084
Sri Lanka	97 827	541 943	Membership fees	2 435	2 073
Kenya - Somalia	2 176 701	1 472 052	Other	3 593	2 624
Thailand	529 003	216 550	<b>OTHER PRIVATE FUNDING</b>	<b>192 151</b>	<b>255 782</b>
South Soudan	996 175	623 884	% of total funding for the period	0,4%	0,5%
Central African Republic	2 891 941	622 938			
Bangladesh	223 895	146 160	Institutional funding - France	2 723 985	2 907 141
Chad	596 931		Institutional funding - European Union	16 268 293	14 858 529
Myanmar	576 840		Institutional Funding - UN	9 142 020	7 859 003
Missions closed before 2008	1 612	851 192	Institutional Funding - Other governmental	6 254 994	7 908 663
<b>HUMANITARIAN AID</b>	<b>39 174 668</b>	<b>32 015 613</b>	Other	81 646	
% of total application of funds for the period	86,8%	85,7%			
			<b>INSTITUTIONAL FUNDING</b>	<b>34 470 938</b>	<b>33 533 335</b>
<b>TOTAL FUNDRAISING COSTS</b>	<b>1 858 133</b>	<b>2 276 507</b>	% of total funding for the period	70,2%	70,6%
% of total application of funds for the period	4,1%	6,1%			
			Donations in Kind WFP	1 192 859	2 713 437
<b>PUBLIC RELATIONS AND INFORMATION COSTS</b>	<b>243 390</b>	<b>240 709</b>	Other donations in Kind	8 500 466	6 639 500
% of total application of funds for the period	0,5%	0,6%	Services in Kind	41 472	
			<b>CONTRIBUTIONS IN KIND</b>	<b>9 734 797</b>	<b>9 352 936</b>
Head office costs	2 181 130	2 125 070	% of total funding for the period	19,8%	19,7%
Interest and Financing Costs	18 155	40 095			
Exchange Losses	1 084 544	495 322	Other operating income	13 016	21 060
Provisions	500 980	119 242	Financial Income	2 522	8 301
Exceptional Items	93 746	51 505	Exchange Gains	1 089 476	278 056
<b>GENERAL RUNNING COSTS</b>	<b>3 878 556</b>	<b>2 831 234</b>	Release of Provisions	135 245	103 253
% of total application of funds for the period	8,6%	7,6%	Exceptional Income	20 315	33 370
			<b>OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING</b>	<b>1 260 575</b>	<b>444 041</b>
<b>TOTAL APPLICATION OF FUNDS FOR THE PERIOD</b>	<b>45 154 747</b>	<b>37 364 063</b>	% of total funding for the period	2,6%	0,9%
Unused Committed Income for the period (1)	20 405 266	17 233 946			
<b>TOTAL APPLICATION OF FUNDS (2)</b>	<b>65 560 012</b>	<b>54 598 009</b>	<b>TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDING FOR THE PERIOD (3)</b>	<b>49 134 438</b>	<b>47 471 976</b>
Surplus for the period	451 022	172 336	Utilisation of prior period	16 876 596	7 298 369
			Unused Committed Income (4)		
<b>TOTAL GENERAL</b>	<b>66 011 035</b>	<b>54 770 345</b>	<b>TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDING Loss for the period</b>	<b>66 011 035</b>	<b>54 770 345</b>
<b>TOTAL APPLICATION OF FUNDS UTILISED (2)-(1)</b>	<b>45 154 747</b>	<b>37 364 063</b>	<b>TOTAL GENERAL</b>	<b>66 011 035</b>	<b>54 770 345</b>
			<b>TOTAL SOURCES OF FUNDING UTILISED (3)+(4)-(1)</b>	<b>45 605 769</b>	<b>37 536 399</b>

**STATUTORY AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Year ended December 31, 2008)**

To the Members  
In compliance with the assignment entrusted to us by your Annual General Meeting, we hereby report to you, for the year ended December 31, 2008, on:

- The audit of the accompanying financial statements of the Association *SOLIDARITES*,
  - The justification of our assessments,
  - The specific verifications and information required by the law
- These financial statements have been approved by the Board. Our role is to express an opinion on these financial statements, based on our audit.

**1. Opinion on the financial statements**

We conducted our audit in accordance with professional standards applied in France. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by the management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the Association's financial position and its assets and liabilities as of December 31, 2008, and of the results of its operations for the year then ended in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in France.

Without calling into question the opinion expressed above, and in accordance with the provisions of the Article L. 232-6 of the French Commercial Law ("Code de Commerce"), we draw your attention to sections "VIII - Provisions for Risks" and "XV - Post Balance Sheet Events" presented in the Notes to the Accounts in which are explained the method of accounting for a specific provision related to management's estimate of the risk at the time accounts were established following the Association's expulsion from Sudan. The expulsion occurred after the year ended December 31, 2008.

**2. Justification of assessments**

In accordance with the requirements of Article L. 823-9 of French Commercial Law (Code de commerce) relating to the justification

of our assessments, we bring to your attention the following matters:

- Your Association accounts for Dedicated Reserves according to the French Chart of Accounts for Associations. Section "VII – DEDICATED RESERVES" of the Notes to the Accounts details the movements in these reserves during the year ended December 31, 2008. In particular, on the basis of legal documentation provided and the verification of expenses incurred, we have ascertained that the dedicated reserves are correctly determined at the year end ;
- As explained in section "VIII – Provisions for risks" of the Notes to the Accounts, your Association constitutes provisions to cover the risks associated with its activity. On the basis of information available to date, our assessment of these provisions and amortization is based on : an analysis of the processes put in place by management to identify and evaluate the risks; a review of the risks identified and their estimated financial impact and a review of subsequent events to confirm these valuations ;
- Section "XVI – Statement of Sources and Application of Funds" of the Notes to the Accounts explains the basis used to establish the Annual Statement of Sources and Application of Funds, as provided for in Article 4, Law n°91-772, August 7th, 1991. Lastly, we have ascertained the correct application of these methods to establish the Annual Statement of Sources and Application of Funds.

These assessments were made in the context of the our audit of the annual financial statements taken as a whole, and therefore contributed to the opinion we formed which is expressed in the first part of this report.

**3. Specific procedures and disclosures**

We have also performed the specific verifications required by law. Except for the effect, if any, of the matters discussed above, we have no comments as to the fair presentation and the consistency with the financial statements of the information given in the Treasurer's Report, and in the documents addressed to the Members with respect to the financial position and the financial statements.

Paris, 11 June 2009  
**IDF Expertise & Conseil**  
**NEXIA International**  
**Represented by Eric CHAPUS**

resources were used for specific projects, including a skills partnership for the processes project.

Financing costs reflect the drop in interest costs in 2008 and, even if cash flow did not allow investments, lower costs than in 2007. The foreign exchange impact also evolved

positively. The impact is significant for income and costs individually but is very limited on the net result, going from a net loss of 217K€ in 2007 to a net gain of 5K€ in 2008.

Exceptional charges relate in particular to losses following thefts and attacks suffered by missions in Sudan, Chad and Ivory Coast.

ASSETS (Euros)	31/12/08		31/12/07		LIABILITIES & RESERVES (Euros)	31/12/08		31/12/07	
	Gross	Depreciation	Net	Net					
Intangible Assets	139 403	109 263	30 140	45 132	Prior Year reserves	1 016 898	844 563		
Tangible Assets	571 010	357 745	213 265	227 240	Net retained surplus	451 022	172 337		
Financial Assets	144 627	0	144 627	124 687	Capital Reserves	1 467 920	1 016 899		
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>	<b>855 040</b>	<b>467 008</b>	<b>388 032</b>	<b>397 059</b>	Provisions	926 498	316 774		
Stock	102 670	0	102 670	75 475	Dedicated Reserves	22 016 355	18 210 280		
Debtors - Donor contracts	21 571 447	0	21 571 447	16 669 688	Short term Borrowing	100 361	1 967		
Other Debtors	230 266	0	230 266	85 298	Trade Creditors	936 821	1 419 198		
Short Term Investments	1 998	0	1 998	1 998	Personnel/ Tax and Social Security	734 725	603 290		
Bank and Cash	4 126 649	0	4 126 649	4 545 015	Other Creditors	209 425	404 065		
Current Assets	26 033 030	0	26 033 030	21 377 474	<b>Total Creditors and Loans</b>	<b>1 981 332</b>	<b>2 428 520</b>		
Other (inc Prepayments)	586 843	0	586 843	521 162	Exchange Differences	615 801	323 222		
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>27 474 914</b>	<b>467 008</b>	<b>27 007 906</b>	<b>22 295 695</b>	Other Liabilities	615 801	323 222		
					<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES AND RESERVES</b>	<b>27 007 906</b>	<b>22 295 695</b>		

Provisions for risks have increased greatly from 119K€ in 2007 to 501K€ in 2008 and represent 1% of expenditure in 2008. The most significant items relate to a specific provision for the expulsion of *SOLIDARITES'* mission in Darfur (Sudan) and to various administrative and tax issues in the field, in particular the DRC.

**Conclusion**

The result of 451K€ exceeds the objective fixed for 2008 by the board. Changes in management reporting enable a reactivity which, together with the once-off donation and increased generosity from donors after a call for funds, explains the 2008 result. Nevertheless, other factors call for a certain vigilance:

- This result only represents 1% of total expenditure in the period, requiring an extremely precise monitoring of activities
- The once-off donation and the response from donors at year end underline many

people's attachment to the durability of the association. Nevertheless, such support remains exceptional.

- Funding from the general public is falling and the economic climate forecast for 2009 does not lead to the hope that the trend will be reversed.
- The environment and the very nature of *SOLIDARITES'* activities are subject to climatic and geopolitical uncertainties, of which the violent expulsion from Darfur in the beginning of 2009 was a brutal reminder.

This vigilance is the responsibility of all those who are part of *SOLIDARITES* to enable *SOLIDARITES* to remain concentrated on its reason for existence: assistance to those populations, victims of conflict and natural disasters.

Clichy, 10 June 2009  
Gildas Poirel, Treasurer

# Communication

• COMMUNICATION – CONVEYING AND PUBLICISING OUR COMBAT:

**CONTINUATION OF THE "VOTREGOUTTEDEAU" CAMPAIGN**

In January 2007, the organisation launched a petition campaign to inform and rally public opinion about the worldwide drinking water and sanitation emergency. A campaign website was created [www.votregoutteadeau.org](http://www.votregoutteadeau.org) to collect signatures, and had registered 56,600 by the end of 2008.



The homepage of the website [www.votregoutteadeau.org](http://www.votregoutteadeau.org), a central part of our public awareness campaign on the drinking water emergency throughout the world. The objective of this website is to provide information and collect signatures for our petition.

Our communication activities in 2008 focused on promoting our campaign for drinking water for all: obtaining free advertising space on websites to display our banner "Equation" (created by BDDP et Fils), and free space in a range of press publications. The BDDP agency created a film clip titled

"Unsafe drinking water, leading cause of death in the world". For World Water Day (WWD) on March 22 2008, this clip was emailed to more than 1,500 journalists. Finally, a report titled **«Report on unsafe water, leading cause of death in the world»** was produced and sent to several hundred journalists, political decision-makers and partners.

SOLIDARITES took part in a number of events and shows, which opened up opportunities to publicise our campaign for access to drinking water.

**A key stage in our campaign: on 20 March 2008, our petition was handed to the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Bernard Kouchner, with 51, 464 signatures.**

Several press releases were published in 2008, in particular for World Water Day, and to publicise the humanitarian crises in DRC and Afghanistan. Similarly, a report titled **«Afghanistan: the challenges of humanitarian action»** was sent to several hundred journalists, political decision-makers and partners on the occasion of the Paris conference on Afghanistan in June 2008.



Our special report **« Afghanistan, the challenges of humanitarian action »**, published on the occasion of the Paris conference on Afghanistan in June 2008 and sent to several hundred journalists, political decision-makers and partners.

• INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL COMMUNICATION MEDIA

**Our website [www.solidarites.org](http://www.solidarites.org)**

The SOLIDARITES website, updated every day, informs the public about our humanitarian action carried out by our teams in the field and is also an outlet for our regular communications activities. In 2008, three films about our missions in Afghanistan, DRC and Darfur, were published on-line.

**Newsletters**

At the end of 2008, we had 20,000 subscribers to our email newsletter, which is published on a quarterly basis.

**Activity report 2007**

We printed 3,500 copies of our activity report for 2007. It was sent to 2,455 political and institutional contacts, major donors, opinion leaders, partner companies and journalists.

• OUR PARTNERSHIPS

Partnerships with private sector companies are a vital source of support for our actions. The following are two important examples:

**Chateaud'eau Partnership:** Chateaud'eau, a partner since 2007, provides water fountains for businesses. In 2008 the company contributed 8,000 Euros to our organisation and regularly publicises our activities through its website: [www.chateauedeau.com](http://www.chateauedeau.com)

**Crédit Coopératif Partnership:** For several years, SOLIDARITES has developed a partnership with Crédit Coopératif to provide a charity savings account, the "Livret Agir Urgence Eau", which donates half of the annual interest earned to SOLIDARITES. In 2008, 66,689 Euros were earned from the 397 accounts (compared to 34,494 Euros in 2007).



The **« Livret Agir Urgence Eau »**: this cause-related savings account was created in partnership with the **Crédit Coopératif** to support our humanitarian action to provide access to drinking water for all.

• **FUNDRAISING**

The effects of the world financial crisis in 2008 were felt in private donor funding levels, especially in the third quarter. Given the vital importance of private donations to our humanitarian work, we decided in November 2008 to send a special request to all our donors emphasising our concerns about the consequences of this reduction. The generous response was a source of great satisfaction to SOLIDARITIES and enabled us to end the year with greater serenity. A big thank you to all.

In 2008 we also focused considerable effort on diversifying our means of communication with private donors, offering them choice as to the donation method that suits them. The following points summarize our fundraising activities with private donors in 2008:

- Gross income from private donations was 3.4 million Euros.
- 78,950 loyal supporters had made donations by the end of the year.
- 12 letters to existing donors and 4 letters to recruit new donors were sent by SOLIDARITES.

- By the end of 2008, 6,360 people were making their donations by standing order, compared to 4,690 in 2007, an increase of 35%. A street-marketing test in Paris resulted in a number of new donors supporting us by standing order.

- There was an increase in the average amount of on-line donations, by email and through our website [www.solidarites.org](http://www.solidarites.org). The generosity of the public contacted by email in response to the Cyclone Nargis emergency (Burma, May 2008) was exceptional.



A letter sent to our donors in July 2008 to appeal for donations in response to the humanitarian crisis in Somalia



An emergency appeal sent by email in May 2008 to provide aid for the victims of cyclone Nargis, which had just devastated Myanmar (Burma)

- 28,000 Euros were collected in bequests, especially following the distribution of our information booklet "Offrez la vie en héritage" ("Leave a Legacy of Life").



Our information brochure about bequests: « Leave a legacy of life »

- In 2008 167,417 copies of our quarterly journal for donors were printed.



Two issues of our quarterly journal, which is sent to around 40,000 donors



# Thanks – Contacts

**MANY THANKS TO** : The 79,000 private donors who generously and loyally support all our humanitarian action

## Our institutional partners, especially:

- The French Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Delegation for Humanitarian Action - DAH; Crisis Centre - CDC; Inter-ministerial Committee on Food Aid - CIAA)
- French Development Agency - AFD
- Rhine-Meuse Water Agency - AERM
- European Commission (DG ECHO, EuropeAid, European Development Fund - EDF)
- Department for International Development - DFID (UK)
- Office of US Foreign Disaster Assistance - OFDA (USA)
- United Nations (UNICEF, WFP, HCR, OCHA, FAO, UNDP, OPS, UNAMA, UNJLC) and common humanitarian funding mechanisms, CHF and Pooled Fund.
- IOM (International Organization for Migration)
- **And also:** Swiss Cooperation (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation - SDC); NZ Aid; MRRD (Afghan Ministry for Rural Rehabilitation and Development); French Red Cross; City council of Saint Paul de la Reunion; the NGO Partenaires; REAM (Renewable Energy Association Myanmar - Burmese NGO), the NGO Trocaire (Ireland).



V. PROVOST/SOLIDARITES

## Foundations, businesses, schools. Especially:

- Fondation de France
- Fondation Veolia and Veolia Water Force
- Fondation Future 21
- Crédit Coopératif
- Aquassistance
- Société Chateaud'eau
- Institut Bioforce Développement

## Media partners, especially:

- BDDP & Fils and the TBWA group

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