



# Compter sur demain

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## Activity Report 2013

In 2013, CSD has pursued its projects to access education and to prevent school failure in France and abroad: Brazil, Cameroon and Laos. The organization reiterated its modus operandi; to work exclusively with local partners by providing financial support and, at their request, operational support by sending volunteers, local fundraising and networking.

We present here the summary of our achievements in 2013 and proposals for actions in 2014.

### **1. THE LIFE OF THE ASSOCIATION IN FRANCE**

#### **A dedicated team**

This year, CSD has relied on a team of fifteen volunteers, mainly members of the Board of Directors, and six volunteers of the Service Civique based in headquarters and abroad for 6 to 12 months missions.

#### **New headquarters**

CSD has left its office in the 6th arrondissement of Paris for the rue du Faubourg Saint-Antoine in the 11th arrondissement. From "Bon Marché" to "Marché d'Aligre", the organization is now able to assume a rent in its operating costs. Thank you to our generous sponsors to have facilitated our take off by providing us with an office for 5 years.

#### **Fundraising and financial transparency**

CSD has managed to stabilize its revenue in 2013 – from 184.500€ to 187.320€ (+1.5%) – despite the non-renewal of several non-recurrent donors. The organization must start thinking about fundraising and sustainability of its financial partners.

CSD has reiterated its trust to the accounting office Mazars to audit its account. The latter concluded that the organization was perfectly managed financially. CSD using the generosity of the public, accounting for the fiscal year 2013 also included the establishment of the account of use of funds collected from the public (CER).

### **2. COMPTER SUR DEMAIN ON THE GROUND**

#### **2.1 LAOS**

CSD has pursued its existing programs in Laos and completed several building projects. As every year, Jacques Dorr, administrator and volunteer country director, went into the field to identify, follow and evaluate the actions of the organizations. Those missions have been the occasion to take stock of the programs progress and weaknesses.

Since its creation, CSD has counted on two main partners: the Department of Education of Oudomsay Province, and the Franco-Lao Association Comité de Coopération pour le Laos (CCL), with whom CSD outsources financial management.

## **Improving education in Northern Laos: A priority**

Programs conducted by CSD in Oudomsay and Phongsaly provinces are focused on the education of children from ethnic minorities. They follow local guidelines: educate as many children as possible in primary and secondary schools and improve the quality of education.

### **- Aid to the operation of schools**

CSD has supported 7 schools from the Oudomsay province encompassing around 5,450 children. An operating budget around 150 euros per month and per school is used to finance the salaries of non-tenured teachers, small equipment or enrollment and school supplies for the poorest students. By the end of the year, in accordance with its principle of subsidiarity, CSD has decided to stop supporting three of those schools, now sufficiently autonomous.

### **- Construction of boarding schools**

CSD develops construction of boarding schools projects to promote access to education for children living in remote areas. The association has met its commitments by completing the construction of Namor boarding school in the Oudomsay province. The project consisted in financing four dormitories for students – boys and girls – and one for teachers. Sanitary conditions and environment of the beneficiaries have improved significantly with the construction of nine latrines and the acquisition of 200 batches of equipment (mats, blanket, mosquito net) for the poorest students and the also by supplying the buildings with stable electricity. The project's impact on access to education is very encouraging: in two years, between September 2011 and September 2013, the number of students increased by 13% in primary and 35% in secondary schools. The proportion of girls is now 43% against 39%.

CSD's action covered others schools through the building of two kitchens/canteens in Namor boarding school and water supply work in Ou Neua school in Phongsaly province at the extreme north of the country. An evaluation mission in Ou Tay boarding school, located in the same geographic area, revealed that dormitories financed in 2012 were not fully occupied. The reason: strong animosities between ethnic groups who refuse, among others things, to sleep in the same room. Thus partitions have been provided to divide the dormitories in several areas. For the first time facing this issue specific to this province, CSD will now attach greater importance to ethnic characteristics in the implementation of its upcoming projects.

### **- Teacher training scholarships**

To overcome the lack of qualified teachers in these remote areas, CSD has funded scholarships for teacher training for 31 disadvantaged students - including 23 girls - of the Province of Oudomsay. 23 have already taken up their positions in their district of origin and will be joined in 2014 by recent graduates.

### **- Financing of primary schooling for 6 Yao pupils in the Phongsaly province**

## **Others actions of Compter sur demain in Laos**

### **- Individual students sponsorships**

17 young Lao were able to pursue their studies in Vientiane and Luang Prabang through CSD financial support. Their courses are varied: medicine, engineering, languages etc.

### **- Primary schools in the plain of Vientiane**

CSD has supported 3 primary schools in the plain of Vientiane by providing funds for their operations: school supplies & teacher salaries.

### **- Support for pre-schools in Luang Prabang**

In partnership with Gens du Mekong, CSD supports a Montessori inspired education project for toddlers through teachers training and educational materials supply. 26 classes, in 22 schools, benefit from this innovative program.

Beyond these actions, CSD intervenes at the center for blind and visually impaired children, Home of Light, located in Vientiane, by funding the salary of the local coordinator and equipment. The association is also involved in the Laophtalmo program that trains Laotian ophthalmologists in refraction through missions of French practitioners as well as equipping partner hospitals with specialized equipment.

### **Proposed actions for 2014**

- Aid in the operation of seven schools (Oudomsay province and plain of Vientiane)
- Completion of the water project in Ou Neua school, Phongsaly province
- Construction of four classrooms in Pha Kham school, two new dormitories and kitchens/canteens in Naxiendy school, three latrines and one kitchen in Houa Nam Bak school in Oudomsay province
- Financing the training of seven teachers in Luang Prabang university
- Sponsorship of 15 students in Vientiane and Luang Prabang and six pupils in Phongsaly province
- Ophthalmologic trainings in the Luang Prabang hospital

### **2.2 BRAZIL- Terr'Ativa**

CSD has continued its tripartite partnership between the Brazilian association Terr'Ativa and its French emanation Terr'Active. The President of CSD, Fanny TURPIN, went there in October and was able to realize, with satisfaction and emotion, the work accomplished. Located in the favela Morro do Fuba in the North of Rio de Janeiro, the organization provides tutoring and organizes educational and sport activities for sixty children, mainly aged from 6 to 12 years old.

The important restructuring work of Terr'Ativa, begun in 2012, has continued in 2013. The local team of 5 Brazilians employees, full of part-time, benefited from the presence of a young French volunteer, Emiles PENNES, a young graduate from a business school. His pragmatic approach, especially in financial management, has promoted a more structured approach of work while links with the French community in Rio tightened.

The strengthening and motivation of the team helped stabilize the number and assiduity of beneficiaries while new activities, especially regulars outings, have been systematized for the greatest happiness of the children!

Although maintained, the acquisition of the visitor center, rented by Terr'Ativa since 7 years, did not materialized before the end of the year due to heavy bureaucracy. The fitting out of the computer room will be concomitant with the purchase of the house in 2014 because the organization does not want to start substantial works without owning the house. Thus, Terr'Ativa has initiated an ambitious library project for the beneficiaries of the organization and the community of the favela.

### **2.3 BRAZIL- Emaús Amor e Justiça**

For the second consecutive year, CSD has maintained its partnership with Emaus Amor e Justiça in Fortaleza in the Northeast region of Brazil. Located in the favela of Pirambu, the organization plays a fundamental role to more than 400 families by generating income and employment through a recycling activity. Alongside, it develops a socio-educational program for 250 children and teenagers from the community.

CSD's involvement focuses on a project to build an ecological kindergarten/pre-school to host 60 children and to improve the socio-economic empowerment of their mothers. 2013 has seen the emergence of issues specific to that area of intervention leading to delay in the development of the project. First, the replacement of volunteers on the ground has been postponed by over seven months due to the complexity of procedures for obtaining long-term visas for Brazil. There was also administrative difficulties linked to the land where the pre-school is supposed to be build. Indeed, as in many Brazilian favelas, obtaining property rights turns out to be a tedious process, a challenge that CSD wants to take up with its partner in 2014.

## **2.4 CAMEROON**

*Main dans la Main*, CSD's partner in Douala, pursues its actions towards 80 underprivileged children and teenagers through its orphanage, scholarships and professional sewing training. The construction of the new sewing school started in August 2013. It will host both the professional training for young underprivileged girls and the production workshop, generating incomes for the organization.

The quality of the project has been enhanced through the volunteer involvement of a local architectural firm and the presence of a French volunteer engineer, Sylvain ALLIOT. Thanks to additional funds obtained by our Cameroonian partner, the option to completely rebuild the original building, and not to add another floor to the existing structure, has been chosen to reach a surface of 364m<sup>2</sup>. The project handover is planned for 2014. Supporting our partner in improving the quality of the training and the production workshop is among our objectives for 2014.

CSD also contributed to tuition fees for students from the orphanage and has successfully reiterated sending volunteers for the animation of summer camp.

## **2.5 FRANCE - Le Club Barbès**

CSD is a partner of *Club Barbès*, an organization for tutoring cultural opening in the Goutte d'Or neighborhood in the 18<sup>th</sup> arrondissement of Paris. Thirty secondary school students benefit from educational support and cultural outings.

Convinced by the values of citizenship and equal opportunities promoted by the *Diplomates de la diversité* ("Diplomats of diversity") program, CSD wished to participate in this new edition. This original project consists in intercultural exchanges between young people from the Goutte d'Or and American universities. Comprising several components, it integrates tutoring courses with American students in Paris, then the selection of the futures Diplomats and the preparation of a 10 days travel across the Atlantic. Thus in March 2013, Kenza, Harrison, Inès and Rodrigue flew to the USA where they represented their neighborhood, their culture, their country in several universities in New York and Chicago. On their return, they shared their experience in English during an evening at the 18<sup>th</sup> City Hall. In 2014, CSD wishes to pursue its involvement with *Club Barbès* and particularly on the Diplomats project.

I conclude this report by sincerely thanking you for your trust and your support.

Fanny Turpin  
President