

# Compter sur demain

# **Activity Report 2016**

Faithful to its principles, CSD continued in 2016 its projects to provide access education and to prevent school failure in France and abroad: in Brazil, Cameroon and Laos. The organization reiterated its modus operandi: to work with local partners by providing a financial support and when required, an operational support: sending volunteers, forging partnerships and fundraising locally.

We present here the summary of our achievements in 2016 and proposals for actions in 2017.

### 1. THE LIFE OF THE ASSOCIATION

#### A more structured team

CSD's team is made up of professional volunteers, administrators and members. In 2016 the organization also relied on volunteers from the Service Civique (5) and International Solidarity (1), based in the headquarters and abroad for a 6 to 12 month mission. Several entities (Finance, Fundraising, and Human Resource) were gathered throughout the year to support the projects' management. Although, NCS members will have to gather on a more regularly basis to meet the organization's schedule and deadlines. Administrators and volunteers tasked with projects went on 5 different missions this year. The Auditing Committee met several times in 2016. However working with a team essentially made up of volunteers is a weakness that should not be underestimated and the recruitment of full-time employee should be considered as a priority to scale up our activities.

#### Fundraising and financial transparency

Revenues have increased by 9% from 170.700€ to 186.427€ and are essentially provided by private donators: foundations, NGOs, schools and private individuals. CSD has reiterated its trust in the accounting firm Mazars to audit its accounts. Mazars concluded in a perfect financial management of the organization. CSD also made a call to public generosity; the chartered accounting included the "Compte Emploi de Ressources (CER)".

#### Financial and operational partnerships with alternative charity organizations

CSD carried on its collaboration with several NGOs to collaborate and accelerate the funding of several projects in Laos and Brazil by making them more efficient.

# Privileged relationships with schools

Raising awareness among French pupils about educational conditions of in the Southern countries is part of CSD objectives. About ten elementary, middle and high schools got involved in 2016 along with CSD to collect funds and assets, but also share drawings, mails, and blogs with their counterparts. A field mission in Laos was also organized by one of our regional partner in France (school of Burgundy).

### 2. COMPTER SUR DEMAIN ON THE FIELD

## 2.1 LAOS

CSD respected its promises made in 2015. While this year was a continuum of the historical projects, 2016 has been a transition year for the programs in Laos, in its organizational teams as well as in its intervention areas.

For logistical, expediency and affinity reasons, CSD choose to increase its support to the Luang Prabang province while keeping a few projects in the Oudomsay province.

CSD had also planned to establish its presence in the South of the country. Thus a new volunteer, Philippe LOMBARD joined the team and worked in Champassak province to look after new projects.

2016 saw an increase in spending on the field (+208% compared to 2015) with 148.970€ mainly affected to school related structures (building classrooms, dorms ...).

CSD keeps outsourcing its financial management to its long-term partner, the Comité de Coopération avec le Laos (CCL).

#### Improving education conditions

Programs conducted by CSD in Northern provinces, Vientiane and Southern provinces are mainly focused on educating children from ethnic minorities. Those programs aim to schooling as many children as possible in secondary schools while improving the teaching conditions.

#### - Construction and layout of classrooms

CSD also develops classrooms construction and layout projects to promote access to education for children living in remote areas while improving their education.

In Sop Chiem, village of Luang Prabang province only accessible by boat, CSD has financed a kindergarten school with classroom and latrines. Thanks to several partnerships between France and Laos, CSD has also organized the gathering and distribution of warm clothes and school supplies for the children in the village. The organization has also helped Muang Ngoy High School in the same area by initiating the building of two more classrooms and funding some school furniture. Moreover, a brand new project has begun in the South of the country with the building of some kindergarten classrooms in Phanome Tai School.

### - Water access for remote schools in the north

For health reasons, funding sanitary infrastructures has been one of CSD main goals for years. In 2016, the organization gave support to Na Kok and Phongsay secondary schools in Oudomsay and Luang Prabang provinces. The two projects consisted in bringing water to the schools by routing it from a distant spring, making it drinkable, storing it and distributing it. In Phongsay, as requested by the chief of the village, the water was also brought to a dispensary.

#### - Aid to the operation of schools

CSD has supported 8 schools in the Northern provinces and in Vientiane land. Actions and support modalities vary according to the geographical areas but CSD aims at gradually providing its help to specific needs. In 2016, CSD has financed 470 dormitory facilities for Pha Kham boarder students in Oudomsay province, two computers and a printer to facilitate the management of this 750 students school. In Muang Ngoy, CSD wanted to improve the boarders' precarious living conditions by financing the installation of suspended ceilings. 150 blankets were also provided to palliate the cold conditions in 2016. At Nam Bak ethnic school in Luang Prabang province, and as requested by the school dean, our organization distributed 4 tons of rice and medicine to 600 boarders coming from the poorest families of the district.

- Development of the outreach of the Francophonie

In partnership with the French Embassy, CDS continued its program "Francophonie" with l'Ecole Normale Supérieure (ENS) of Luang Prabang. Two volunteers, relaying each other, contributed in teaching French and organizing socio-educational activities at the ENS and sometimes at the French Institute and to bilingual classes. Two French culture seminars conducted by us were given to teachers and students. True to its mission of helping the most deprived, CSD also awards scholarships to disadvantaged and deserving students.

#### Alternative actions of Compter sur demain in Laos

- Finance primary schooling of 8 Yao pupils in the Phongsaly province
- Individual scholarships for undergraduates

Beyond these actions, CSD finances teachers' salaries, equipment and infrastructure works of the Center for blind and visually impaired children, <u>Home of Light</u>, located in Vientiane. CSD is also involved in the Laophtalmo's program which trains Laotian ophthalmologists in eye refraction through one or two missions per year conducted by French practitioners. This comes in addition to providing specialized equipment to its partner hospitals. This program was brought in by Julien CERDAN in Luang Prabang, Vientiane and Savannaketh.

#### Proposed actions for 2017

- Operating aid for 6 schools (Oudomsay province and Vientiane plain)
- Prospection of new projects in South Laos
- Finalization of the construction and electricity in Muang Ngoy classrooms
- Renovation of classrooms at Phonthong (Luang Prabang province) school and tapping of a water spring
- Building of a Muang Seun Secondary School in Luang Prabang province
- Sponsorship of 8 students in Vientiane and Luang Prabang and 8 pupils in Phongsaly province
- Supporting development of the Francophonie program and sponsorship of 11 poor students

# 2.2 BRAZIL- Terr'Ativa

CSD has continued its tripartite partnership between the Brazilian association *Terr'Ativa* and its French emanation *Terr'Active*.

Located in the favela de Morro do Fubà in North of Rio de Janeiro, the organization provides tutoring, leads teaching and sports activities for almost forty children aged 6-12 and fifteen teenagers aged 13-19.

2016 was a fruitful year for the organization in terms of quality of the projects offered to the youngsters. Thanks to the deep involvement of CSD volunteer Justine LABORDE, the quality of the scholar tutoring and the quality of the activities offered truly improved. Terr'Ativa opened a computer room and recruited a teacher to support the students in various subjects every week. English classes were also provided by an American volunteer, activity which will be sustained next year. About 50 youngsters from the neighborhood are now on a waiting list to take part in the activities of the organization.

Terr'Ativa went on providing cultural activities to its beneficiaries but couldn't provide extra tutoring in 2016 due to a lack of financial resources. The situation changed at the beginning of 2017 and tutoring lessons started.

Rio Olympic Games provided a great visibility at the organization, anchoring its status as a strong Franco-Brazilian organization. The visit of French athletes was a great source of pride and joy for the beneficiaries and helped with the development of new activities such as fencing lessons.

The biggest setback of 2016 was probably the postponement of purchasing the new activity center in the favela to May 2017.

#### 2.3 CAMEROON - Main dans la Main

Main dans la Main, CSD's partner in Douala, has pursued its actions towards 60 underprivileged children and teenagers through its orphanage, scholarships and professional sewing training.

CSD has focused on sewing workshop and students training, financing a free canteen for its beneficiaries, a punctual help for the acquisition of sewing machines for the graduates and the furnishing of raw material for the apprentices.

CSD has again contributed to the payment of tuitions fees of orphans and sent with success young French volunteers to conduct a summer camp.

The organization has chosen not to send a Service Civique volunteer again but to facilitate the stay of a volunteer educator in autumn.

This gap year had the goal to consolidate the missions of CSD in Cameroon and think about the development of new projects in the country. The organization might send more Service Civique volunteers, splitting them in different structures and projects based on educating the poorest. Two new projects have been identified for further help from CSD.

#### 2.4 FRANCE

For years, CSD wanted to develop its actions in France and thus, a new project called **Bourses Rêves d'avenir** was launched in 2016. Financial help and tutoring are the two missions of this project, aimed at providing support to young adults from Aide Sociale à l'Enfance (ASE), a program that helps the vulnerable children in France. For most of them, being over the age of majority means an end of the financial support from the State. Some of them are benefit of State-helped professional contracts until the age of 21. With its new program, CSD wants to help about 15 of these young adults in their professional or personal projects. This will not be in lieu, but in addition to what educators are doing, by

liaising between the young people without a strong familial structure and the professional world.

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

CSD has also renewed its collaboration with the American Embassy on the "Diplomats of diversity" program. This original project consists in intercultural exchanges between young people from the Goutte d'Or district and American universities. This project supports values of citizenship and equality of chances. Made of several components, it proposes tutoring courses with American students in Paris, followed by a selection of the future Diplomats and the preparation of a 10-day trip across the Atlantic.

Thus in February 2016, a new batch flew to the USA and Samuel, Kadi and Medhi represented their neighborhood, their culture and their country in universities of New York, New Jersey and Madison.

CSD also helped the organization by providing support after some turbulences and financed a trip in Auvergne for 7 members of the club.

In 2017 CSD wishes to continue its involvement with Club Barbès, particularly on the Diplomats project.

In conclusion to this report, I sincerely thank you for your trust and support.

Fanny Turpin President