

# Compter sur demain

# **Activity report 2008**

The year 2008 was marked by dramatic situations around the world: rise of raw materials prices, financial disorders due to a crisis still without solutions. Underprivileged populations from the North and the South have been the first victims of this dramatic situation, bringing to light the vulnerability of global balance. Nowadays, solidarity is not only a moral demand but a geopolitical necessity. If we want to reconsider the world today, one of the starting points is the access to education for children.

Created on May 24, 2008 (publication in the French Official Journal), Compter sur demain (CSD) helps give underprivileged children access to education and the ability to live in dignity. With local partners, project initiators and administrators, the association supports programs in Laos and Cameroon.

Monitoring and evaluation tools enable to guarantee the projects' relevance and financial transparency.

In France, a team of voluntary professionals forms *CSD*, thereby reducing the running costs and making possible the transfer of the maximum amount of funds on the field.

The first six months of the fiscal year (June-December 2008) have been dedicated to the setting up of the association in France and to the development of the first projects on the field in Laos and Cameroon. This is a report about our actions on the field and of our suggestions of actions for 2009.

## 1. CSD IN FRANCE

#### A team made of various profiles

The association organisation relies on the help of about 15 volunteers, mainly members of the Board of Directors, and from various professional fields: humanitarian, social, financial, legal, management, public administration, and communication.

Members are dedicated to specific fields and/or programs according to their expertness and their availabilities.

#### The office

A sponsor made available an office of 20m<sup>2</sup> in the 6th district of Paris for free. Completely reconverted for the association, the local is a dedicated place for volunteers and partners. Various sponsors gave office supplies to the association (computing equipment, office supplies, etc.).

#### Administrative tasks

The last few months have been partly dedicated to various administrative tasks: opening of a bank account, procedure with the treasury department and the CNIL (French information commission), registration to the INPI (patent office), etc. so as to make CSD compliant with the French associative context.

#### Communication

Various communication actions have been developed: creation of a logo and a website, creation of greeting cards for Christmas and New Year for companies or individuals.

## **Fundraising**

As well as 30 private donors, many foundations, companies and other NGOs have supported us. To name only a few: La Guilde Européenne du Raid, Aviva Foundation, TOTAL, Gens du Mékong, SSI SCPA Sivex International. Their donations and grants have been mainly dedicated to precise projects on a temporary or long term basis.

# 2. CSD ON THE FIELD

Prospecting projects, selection and launching of our first programs have taken place in 2008. The aim of CSD is to support aid initiatives for disadvantaged children.

Those programs meet with local needs expressed by local partners. The association is working in Laos and Cameroon. The association chose those two countries of intervention because of their real needs, the quality of programs, the reliability of partners and the field knowledge of some of the association's Board of Directors.

# 2.1 Objectives of CSD

# - Promoting education and enroll the most vulnerable

Today, more than 72 million children in the world are not going to primary school and even less to secondary school. But education is a fundamental right as defined in the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Thanks to schooling, professional training and higher education, the programs developed by *CSD* give to disadvantaged children and teenagers the means to become self-sufficient and responsible and also to become actors of their own and their country's development. Moreover, *CSD* pays particular attention to the education of the most vulnerable: orphans, young and teenage girls, children from ethnic minority or disabled children.

#### -Imparting knowledge and skills

Training courses for adults are not a priority for the local institutions and/or NGOs though crucial needs exist on that matter. CSD encourages local actors' training in such fields as health and education. Reinforcing skills and the professional efficiency of adults with extra expertise enable them to optimize their field work.

# -Develop income generating activities

To grant local teams and population requests, CSD supports various programs of income generating activities (GLT) in such fields as production, storage and distribution of agricultural products but also development and promotion of craft industry (sewing and embroidery). Collected funds are dedicated to the financial support of various programs, the training of the local population and to the living conditions improvement while encouraging the autonomy of the subsidized population.

#### 2.2 Laos

CSD supports different projects in the field of education (primary, secondary and university) and of adults training (teachers, educators) in Vientiane, Luang Prabang and the Oudomsay province, in North Laos. The programs' guidelines are decided with local authorities and more particularly with the Education Office of Oudomsay.

CSD is working on the following projects:

- Individual sponsorship of 5 college students in Vientiane;
- Training scholarships at the teacher training school of Luang Prabang for 15 teachers (primary school and high school teachers) from the Oudomsay Province;
- Monthly financial support of 3 schools in the Oudomsay Province (villages of Ban Pang Sa, Houa Nam Bak and Km32) bringing together about 2 000 children;

- Start-up of a construction project: 3 dormitories for the school of Houa Nam Bak;
- Mission preparation for two French psychomotor educators in Vientiane to train the workers of a centre for blind children, in partnership with the GREF (Group of Retired Educators without Borders) and the AFLPA (Franco-Laotian association helping blind people);
- Funding of tuition fees of 28 students for the examination of the Diploma in French Studies (DELF) in Luang Prabang.

Jacques Dorr, CSD administrator, is in charge of the programs developed in Laos. Jacques has a real expertise in field work due to his previous experiences as a country supervisor in other organizations and to his missions in Laos.

CSD has established a partnership with the CCL (Cooperation Comity for Laos), a French NGO officially recognized by the Lao government for more than 20 years. Through this partnership, CSD consequently has access to different structures in Vientiane (office, network and qualified local team) and can contract out financial management (funds reception and distribution, accounting) and administrative management as well (relation with authorities, translation of official and administrative documents: agreements, quotation, etc.).

#### 2.3 Cameroon

CSD has established a partnership with the orphanage Main dans la Main (Hand in Hand) in Douala, Cameroun's economic capital.

In September 2008, a first observation mission was led during one week by Delphine Muller, General Secretary of CSD. This mission has been the opportunity to understand the functioning of the structure, to define the main needs and to set with the local partner the collaboration guidelines for the coming months.

Main dans la Main is responsible for 75 children aged between a few months and 20 years old; 46 of them live in the Centre "Romulus et Remus", either because they are orphans or because their family or social life give explanation for their fostering in such an institution so as to preserve them from a too precarious or dangerous life. Main dans la Main provides all the beneficiaries with financial support, moral support and an affective and social supervision so as to improve their daily life and to allow them to have a regular schooling.

CSD has decided to support training projects and the development of income generating activities:

- Help for recruiting, training and partly funding the salary of the supervisory management;
- Financial support for children medical expenses;
- Financial, structural and logistics help for the launching of the income generating activities (sewing)

# 3. SUGGESTIONS OF ACTIONS FOR 2009

# 3.1 Laos

The programs stability being guaranteed by our local partners (CCL and the Education Directory of Oudomsay), CSD wants to develop the activities while consolidating the existing projects:

- Increase the number of sponsored students in Vientiane (about 15);
- Continuation of the training funds for the 7 secondary and high school teachers of Luang Prabang. The 8 teachers will graduate in June 2009;
- Monthly support of 2 more schools in the Oudomsay Province (Pha Kham and Sibouheuang villages) as well as the 3 schools already supported;
- Completion of the dormitories construction in Houa Nam Bak and start of comparable projects in Ban Pang Sa, Pha Kham and Km 32;

- Development micro-projects in villages or schools: microcredit, technical books purchase, weaving activities, etc.;
- Mission of two psychomotor educators in Vientiane to train the local team of centres for blind children, in partnership with the GREF and the AFLAPA;
- Projects with small schools around Vientiane: funding of the operating costs, sinking of wells, help for waste disposal, etc.

#### 3.2 Cameroon

In 2009, CSD really wants to develop the work relations with Main dans la Main in the 3 following fields:

## Supervisory management of the Centre Romulus and Remus

- Animation mission with young French volunteers in Summer
- Partial funding of the 2 educators' salary
- Regular field mission of educators' trainers (educators for young children, animation educator, nursery nurse...) in the centre.

#### Medical and sanitary aspects

- Funding of mosquito nets for the dormitories
- Funding of small works for sanitary installation (washing clothes and dishes)
- Partial funding of medical costs for children and employees if necessary

## Launching of the income generating activities with a sewing workshop

This field of intervention is essential because it is impactful and helps Main dans la Main to reach financial autonomy. The project needs to be more completed. To do so, CSD will call upon expert French or local NGOs in the field of micro entrepreneurship:

- Definition of a commercial and marketing strategy;
- Improvement of the production quality and volume;
- Development of an order and distribution network;
- Building of adapted places with suitable equipment.

#### 3.3 France

Our projects for 2009 are ambitious and need proper means of action to expand, human and financial means to develop *CSD* communication and to increase the number of private and institutional donors.

We also want to start activities in France with disadvantaged population and in that matter, we are going to find operational partners.

Fanny Turpin

President of CSD



# Compter sur demain

# Financial Report 2008

Compter sur demain (CSD)'s mission is to help underprivileged children have access to education and live in dignity.

So far, the association develops programs in Laos and Cameroon in partnership with local teams, initiators and administrators of projects.

CSD was officially launched on May 24, 2008 by a publication in the French Official Journal. Consequently, the year 2008, truncated, has to be considered as the launching year in terms of fundraising and allocation of those resources.

The functioning of the association is entirely carried out by volunteers, and most of them are members of the Board of Administrators.

Regarding evaluating the work performed and controlling expenses on the ground, regular missions conducted by administrators are essential and will be conducted at least once per year by country.

# **COMMENTS ON THE 2008 EARNINGS STATEMENT**

## 1. Resources

The collected funds during the fiscal year amount to €42,763. We have reached and exceeded the predicted objectives (€37,000) that we had set for the first six months of the association's existence.

The collected funds came from 39 donors:

- 31 private individuals;
- 6 companies;
- 2 associations.

The sources of the contributions are as follows:

- Unallocated funds and subscriptions: 20.375€, or 47.6% of the total;
- Allocated funds for projects: 19.174€, or 44.8% of the total;
- Greeting cards: 3.213€, 7.5% of the total.

In 2008, 13 donors have chosen monthly direct debit. Compter sur demain favors this financing method because it sustains its budget.

# 2. Allocated expenses

In 2008, the allocated expenses were mainly dedicated to our programs in Laos:

- Dormitories construction in Houa Nam Bak (Laos): 15.3k€
- Teachers' training and students' sponsoring (Laos): 6.0k€
- Support of three schools in the Oudomsay province: 0.6k€

#### 3. Overhead costs

The overheads amount to 2.7k€ and represent 6.4% of the collected funds. They include non-recurring installation expenses (1.1k€). In fact, CSD works with volunteers and a sponsor is lending an office.

## 4. Financial management

The association's account is domiciled in French Crédit Mutuel Bank.

When the funds are available on the checking account without any perspectives of use, the money is transferred on a *Livret Bleu* (savings account), with an annual remuneration of 4% net. The interests on that account appear every year on the credit part of the trading account as interests received. For 2008, the amount is 63€.

CSD created a partnership with the CCL (Cooperation Committee with Laos), a French NGO officially recognized by the Lao government for more than 20 years. CSD outsources its financial management to CCL: funds reception and distribution, accounting. The funds transferred to Laos pass through CCL's bank account, and a variable percentage (1% to 5%, depending on the projects) is withdrawn in accordance with a prior agreement. During field missions, Jacques Dorr, administrator in charge of Laos, is liable to check that the funds transferred are used well and managed transparently.

#### 5. Conclusion and perspectives for 2009

The year 2008 is ending with a positive net return of 16.108€ and 17.898€ of available cash. Surplus cash will be used in 2009 and are already part of our commitment to projects in Cameroon and Laos.

For the year 2009, CSD anticipates a projected budget of 80.000€. This budget is the equivalent of twice the collection that took place in 2008; this cautious forecast is justified by the current economic situation.

We already have various agreements in principle with foundations, associations, companies and private sponsors. To name only a few: Aviva Foundation, TOTAL or La Guilde Européenne du Raid.

Thierry Hassanaly Treasurer

# Profit and loss account 2008 and budget 2009 of Compter sur demain

€	2 008	2 009
Income from donors	42 763	80 000
Subscription	220	500
Donations (private individuals)	26 749	22 000
Subvention (associations, foundations & companies)	12 580	53 500
Greeting cards	3 214	4 000
Project's support	(24 000)	(75 200)
Laos	(24 000)	(69 200)
Functioning of schools	(600)	(9 000)
Buildings (dormitories)	(15 300)	(47 000)
Teachers' training	(6 000)	(3 000)
Students' sponsorship	(175)	(7 200)
Misc. Laos	(1 925)	(2 000)
Blind children educators' training	0	(1 000)
Cameroon	0	(6 000)
Main dans la main	0	(6 000)
Operating costs	(2 745)	(4 000)
Settling	(1 103)	
Mail and telecom	(359)	
Miscellaneous expenses (insurance, office supplies, documents,	(337)	
etc.)	(1 282)	
Other incomes and charges	90	(300)
Interest received	188	
Financial expenses	(98)	
Statement of income (1)	16 108	500

Source : CSD accounting

# Balance sheet-12/31/2008-Compter sur demain

194		
17 898		
428	Accounts payable	2 427
15	Captive funds	16 108
	428	428 Accounts payable

Source : CSD accounting