

## JUNE 2020 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING PRESENTATION OF SELECTED PROJECTS



**3 200**

**WOMEN  
 BENEFICIARIES**



**9**

**PROJECTS RUN BY  
 ASSOCIATIONS**



**4**

**COUNTRIES**



**94 200 €**

**OF FUNDING  
 IN 2020**

## PROTECTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT AND FIGHT AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE

### Univers-Sel

Sustainable development of agriculture in mangroves (DEDURAM)

#### THE PROJECT

In the region of Kapatrés, in Guinea Bissau, **women working in salt production boil brine** (extremely salted water) to collect salt, a technique that requires a lot of wood from mangrove forest and is harmful to their health, due to smoke inhalation. The association **Univers-Sel** has developed, with local producers and salt workers from Guérande (France), **a solar salt production method, an eco-friendly technique** allowing them to collect salt by drying the brine on tarps exposed to the sun.

During a first 3-year phase (2016-2019) supported by the Foundation, **48 mentor-producers were trained** to the solar salt production method and then shared their skills with 1 000 women. During a new 3-year phase (2020-2022), Univers-Sel wants to:

- **Reinforce the anchor points and the diffusion of the technique:** setting up baseline exploitations to become technical experimentation and training sites, creating an inter-branch organization in order to coordinate the different actors of the salt production sector, training 20 new women producers who will share their learnings with 500 other women producers;
- And **reinforce and diversify women's skills:** training of 80 women producers in alphabetisation, financial management and good governance, creating 2 village organisations gathering women salt producers to mutualise sale and production, supporting the women through the development of complementary income generating activities, creating new experimentation techniques.

This project has **multiple impacts** for the environment (reduction of wood consumption, regeneration of the mangrove forest) and for the producers (higher income, improvement of their health and living conditions).



**Location:**  
 Kapatres, Guinea Bissau

**Key figures:**

- 1 500 small exploitations managed by women
- 68 women producers trained as mentors
- 50% reduction in the amount wood consumed



**Location:**  
Lesbos Islands, Greece

**Key figures:**  
- 30 women trained to low-tech  
- 6 women sharing their skills with other women

### THE PROJECT

Located on the **Greek island of Lesbos**, Moria is the biggest refugee camp in the European Union: 21 000 asylum seekers live there, in precarious conditions with little access to basic services such as water, healthcare and education...

Despite the physical presence of humanitarian NGOs, their interventions have shown to be very inefficient considering the needs of this populations, particularly for **women who face specific issues** (feeling of unsafety, reluctance to take part in mixed-gender activities...).

In this context, the **EKO!** association undertakes actions to answer these migrants' immediate needs through **low-tech** which are simple, accessible (in terms of required skills and funds) environment friendly (local renewable or second-hand materials, low energy requiring methods...) solutions. The association trains them in the **repair and/or construction of objects that are essential to their autonomy** (boxes, mattresses, lamps etc.) through the recycling of waste found the camp. In spite of their wish to participate in the workshops, women face difficulties to access the tools and materials, often monopolised by men.

This project is a pilot program aiming to **facilitate the integration of women to these activities**, dedicating them workshops adapted to their needs. This will be put in place in collaboration with WISH (Women in Solidarity House), a **women-only community space** located 5 km away from the Moria camp and right in front of the Kara Tepe refugee camp. 2 weekly training sessions will be held in line with **women's priority needs**: wood and metalwork, pottery, plastic recycling, sewing and bike repair.

## EDUCATION AND SOCIAL INTEGRATION

### CIDFF Bas-Rhin 67

Together!

#### THE PROJECT

In **Kaltenhouse**, **sedentary Gypsy families** live in 3 communal properties in very precarious conditions: unfit housing (vans and bungalows) and high poverty rate. The family and women's rights information centre in the Bas-Rhin area (**CIDFF 67**), that has been supporting these marginalised and stigmatised populations for 10 years, notes gender inequalities within this community, where few women have completed school, and a majority of girls become mothers from the age of 15.

The CIDFF 67 team's goal is to intensify their work towards this community through **social and professional integration programs for 150 Gypsy women and girls**, in order to reinforce their autonomy and improve their living conditions. The project plans 20 counselling sessions in a partnering middle school (in the city of Bischwiller) to support girls dealing with learning difficulties, 10 job discovery workshops, 10 workshops on training and employment, 10 workshops for the mobilisation and the valorisation of skills through cultural outings and 10 wellness workshops.

Centre d'information  
sur les droits des femmes  
et des familles

**Bas-Rhin**

**Location:**  
Kaltenhouse, France

**Key figure:**  
- 150 Gypsy girls and women accompanied



**Location:**  
Grenoble, France

**Key figures:**

- 400 women (and their children) hosted in the Local des Femmes every year
- 250 women accompanied towards a greater access to rights
- 150 women receive care services

### THE PROJECT

The **city of Grenoble**, in the prefecture of Isère, is home to an increasingly precarious and numerous migrant population, among which many single women and their children. To offset this situation and the progressive impoverishment of this population it has been supporting for 16 years, the association **Femmes SDF**, specialised on the issue of wandering women, wants to provide a more comprehensive support to the women hosted since 2004 in the "**Local des Femmes**", French for "Women's place" (408 women and 219 children hosted in 2019, of which 70% were migrants).

This project aims to continue the daily hosting service offered by the association and to consolidate new intervention axes to **better meet the specific needs of migrant women** in terms of **access to rights and social integration**. The association plans to host 400 femmes (and children) 3 times per week, to organise weekly counselling sessions to help them access support (health, employment, administrative formalities, housing) as well as activities to develop their self-esteem and encourage citizen participation (writing workshops, movie debates, support groups). Face and body care, as well as hairdressing services, will also be offered to interested women.

## Utopia 56

Guidance, support, accommodation for single women and their children

### THE PROJECT

**Refugees arriving in France** are tired, helpless, disoriented and most of them have suffered traumatic experiences and violence during their journey. Oftentimes, they cannot find accommodation and gather in makeshift camps in the North of Paris and its suburbs. The association **Utopia 56** operates day and night times roundups to meet these vulnerable populations, distribute meals, clothes and hygiene products and inform them about the existing help programs (application for asylum, minor's protection...) and direct them towards relevant structures.

During these roundups, members of the Utopia 56 association have noted that many women – single, in a relationship, with children or unaccompanied minors - **were not supported by accommodation centres**, either due to a lack of available beds, or due to the lack of information on the procedure to seek housing. To remedy this emergency situation, the association has developed a "**solidary accommodation**" facility for these women and girls. This facility aims to establish **connections between volunteering citizens and people seeking for an accommodation solution**, who will be hosted for one or several nights in these citizens' homes. In addition to this temporary solution, all beneficiaries will be accompanied through administrative and juridical formalities.

Moreover, unaccompanied minors will benefit from a tailored medical care in collaboration with the NGO Doctors Without Borders, before being taken charge of by Child protection services.



**Location:**  
Paris, France

**Key figures:**

- 350 citizens benevolently hosting women refugees and minor unaccompanied girls
- 800 to 1 000 nights spent safely by women each year
- 2 500 women refugees met each week in Paris during roundups



## THE PROJECT

For 40 years, the **Maison des Femmes de Paris** (MDF – House of Women), located in the 12th district of Paris, has been accompanying women migrants, women suffering from exclusion and women victims of violence. It hosts women, without appointment, 3 days per week and offers them many other complementary services: social, psychological and juridical counselling, support groups, job search counselling, sports and creative workshops. Every day, about 15 women are welcome and take part in one or several actions led by the association.

The **ability to use digital tools is essential for an efficient socio-professional integration**. Nevertheless, the MDF team notes that many women do not have access to these tools and do not know how to use them. To solve this problem, the association's program has been completed with a **digital inclusion program** including:

- **Group workshops** on the use of IT tools for administrative, social and professional integration procedures (taxes, national employment agency, national family allowances fund, townhalls, social housing) with professionals from these same services.
- **Tailored workshops** to allow women to apply their learnings from groups workshops (creation of e-mail addresses, administrative formalities on the administrative websites, creation of resumes and cover letters...).
- **Online counselling** with free access to computers.

Thanks to an efficient use of digital tools, women will become **autonomous in their administrative procedures**, enabling them to have better access to rights and a successful socio-professional integration.



**Location:**  
Paris, France

**Key figure:**  
- 100 women trained to the use of digital each year

## Intermèdes Robinson

Sociolinguistics workshops



## THE PROJECT

In the priority neighbourhoods and slums located in the **North of the Essonne district**, women and girls face numerous difficulties for their integration, yet they do not have access to programs aimed at accompanying them (language barrier, especially for Rom women and girls, childcare issues preventing them from completing administrative formalities, unawareness of institutions).

The **Intermèdes Robinson** association goes out to meet these women to inform them on the existing programs and offering them access to rights and to integration. During these meeting sessions, Intermèdes Robinson encourages women to take part in sociolinguistics workshops aiming to **improve their French speaking skills and identify issues they face to better solve them**. During these workshops, with more attendants each time, children are taken care of by members of the association.

The project's goal is to develop these actions and allow women to be supported for a long-term period. 80 women will be able to attend **sociolinguistics workshops** (twice a week), as well as support groups each week. They will also benefit from an **individual follow-up** based on their needs. Moreover, 20 Roms girls will be accompanied by the association in order to facilitate their socio-professional integration.

**Location:**  
Île-de-France, France

**Key figures:**  
- 80 precarious women taking part in the workshops each year  
- 20 Rom girls accompanied through their socio-professional integration process

### THE PROJECT

The neighbourhood of Terres Sainville (2 000 inhabitants), located at the heart of the city of Fort-de-France in Martinique, is home to **a low-income migrant population - mainly from neighbouring islands** (Dominican Republic, Haïti, Dominica and Saint-Lucie) – and suffers from poor and aging housing, a lack of services and shops, as well as cases of violence and smuggling (drugs and prostitution). Many women feel compelled to prostitute themselves to survive after escaping poverty in neighbouring Caribbean islands. Oftentimes single mothers, overindebted and isolated, these women have a low level of French and are unaware of their rights and the support they could benefit from.

In 2019, to remedy the lack of support services catered to this vulnerable population, the Martinican branch of the **Mouvement du Nid** association, providing support to people involved in prostitution, accompanied 30 women prostitutes through **French language lessons and practical workshops on the access to social rights**, with the support of the Foundation.

For the **second phase of the project**, the association wants to offer these women a **basic knowledge learning program** (reading, calculations, and digital tools) **revolving around cooking** and to integrate them to the preparation of a public event, “Les saveurs des valeurs” Festival, in collaboration with the cityhall of Fort-de-France, where they will hold a booth (introduction to their personal stories and to recipes).



#### Location:

Martinica, France

#### Key figures:

- 30 women trained to the basics of reading, calculations and digital tools
- 1 public awareness event organised
- 1 recipe presentation leaflet

## YARA LNC

Improving the social status of girls from precarious rural families living in bush villages in the region of Zinder

### THE PROJECT

The **situation of girls in Niger is particularly worrisome**. Indeed, 78% of them get married before the age of 18 and suffer harshly from the resulting social and sanitary consequences: early pregnancy, social exclusion, school dropout... In **bush villages** like those in the area of Zinder, where this project is implemented, **social parameters preventing girls from getting an education are all the more embedded and difficult to counter**. The distance between schools and these marginalized villages contribute to a greater isolation of the girls and to the reinforcement of their precarious living conditions, offering them no opportunities for the future.

In this situation, the association **Yara LNC** leads an action program in Zinder and in the city of Niamey, in order to provide **education to 400 children and young people** – from both cities and rural areas. The association has opened 4 schools for these children and aims at **reinforcing its actions in favour of girls**, through the project presented hereby. This project will allow 106 girls aged 8 to 20, to receive an education and facilitate their social and professional integration. **Supported until the end of their education**, these girls will get a chance to become independent and will see their living conditions improved. The **comprehensive support** offered within the boarding schools will thus have a significant impact on their **physical and mental health**. Actions led across the villages will help **raise awareness among parents on the importance of girls' education** and will guarantee the support of all members of the different communities.



#### Location:

Area of Zinder, Niger

#### Key Figures:

- 106 girls aged 8 to 20 receiving education in the boarding schools of Zinder and Niamey
- The inhabitants of 8 bush villages made aware of the importance of girls' education