

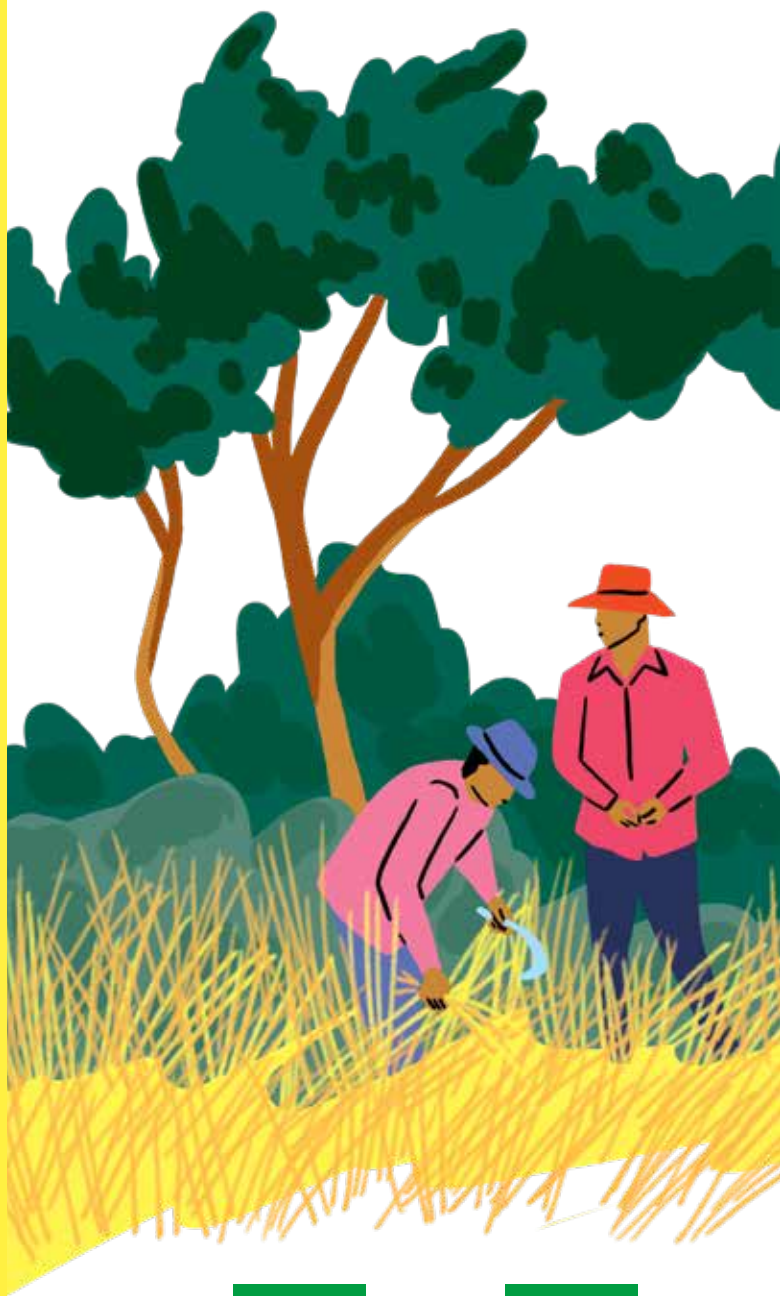


Helping people live off the land sustainably

2022 Annual Report

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**OVER 700,000 PEOPLE
SUPPORTED
IN RURAL AREAS**
(more than 160,000 families)



**80 DEVELOPMENT
PROJECTS**

Looking at ourselves to best help others!

In 2019, our organisation adopted a vision for 2025, reaffirming our efforts to empower and boost the resilience of smallholder farmers who have been hit hard by conflicts, global warming and inequitable globalisation of trade. The new vision underscored our commitment to advocating for solutions and for recognition of the role smallholders play throughout the world. Now, at the halfway mark, we can be proud of the major progress we have achieved thanks to you, our members, our volunteers, our staff, and our technical and financial partners. This new report presents several achievements made in 2022, despite political and security crises in several countries, such as Haiti and Mali, and a war in Europe that has weakened global food systems.

In 2022, those crises also raised questions regarding the model for aid provision, which is seen by some as outdated and accused of perpetuating dependency relationships. The aim of our partnerships with smallholder organisations and civil-society organisations, however, is to not act in lieu and place of legitimate local actors.

These troubled times therefore offer an opportunity in 2023 to reflect on our legitimacy and the best ways to take action in the future, to promote solidarity in order to serve communities and smallholder organisations and help them become more independent. We're counting on you.



Philippe Collin
President



Frédéric Apollin
Executive Director



**PROJECTS
IN 22 DIFFERENT
COUNTRIES**



**297 SMALLHOLDER
ORGANISATIONS HAVE
PARTNERED WITH US**



**88% OF FUNDS
ALLOCATED
TO OUR PROJECTS**
(€22.6m budget)



**87 PARTNERS
FOR OUR PROJECTS**



300 PROFESSIONALS,
87% of whom are
from the countries
where we carry out
our projects

Our vision for 2025...



This summary outlines the main strategic framework for 2025 that AVSF defined collectively at its general meeting in June 2019.

In 2025 AVSF will have enhanced skills and stronger networks, making us a **leading professional organisation in terms of helping agricultural systems and communities transition to agroecology**. We will work to strengthen the resilience of smallholders who have been left vulnerable because of the impact of inequitable globalisation of trade, growing urbanisation and global warming. **Our organisation will have asserted itself as a pioneer in specialised fields such as animal health and**

veterinary public health, within the framework of the One Health concept.

We will be recognised as a key player in the economic revival of rural communities affected by climatic and natural disasters, crises, and conflicts.

We will allow our partners in the Global South – especially smallholder organisations – to play an ever-greater role in its work and governance. As resources become more and more hotly disputed, **AVSF will facilitate and promote partnerships and synergies in both the Global North and South** with other civil-society organisations, local authorities and research entities in order to become more effective. **We will strengthen our financial position in order to become more autonomous. We will**

work to build structured partnerships with other NGOs.

To tackle the urgent and serious problems faced, we will ensure greater and better coordination of **solutions-oriented advocacy** targeting leadership bodies in France and Europe, by working with all the networks that make our organisation so strong. This vision for 2025 will lead us to **reform our governance** in order to better reflect the diversity of personal commitments in support of the cause defended by our organisation, and **exemplary internal operations in line with the values and principles we stand for.**

...and our mid-term progress

Diversification and expansion into new countries

2021

Iraq and Ethiopia

2022

Zambia and Namibia

Definition of an 'organisational social responsibility' policy

2022

Launch of the project by a mixed committee comprising elected representatives, volunteers and employees

→ Objectives

- New Association Establishment Agreement
- Launch a joint project on quality of life and working conditions
- New project underway on AVSF's responsibility with regard to the climate emergency: a carbon-footprint assessment was performed in 2022; its consequences on AVSF's operations will be clarified in 2023

A stronger financial position

- Budget over €20m in 2021 and 2022 (objective set for 2025)
- 15% of funds from private sources (objective of 20% for 2025)
- 15% own funds (objective of 25% for 2025)

Evolving governance

Since 2021

Country-specific policy advice involving partners and leading figures helps AVSF define its strategy in many countries

June 2022

For the first time, an employee from a country in the Global South was appointed to the Board of Directors

→ Objectives

Appoint two representatives and leading figures from the Global South to the Board of Directors, and include more women and young people in our Assembly and various bodies.

Stronger partnerships

12/10/22

Signing of an Alliance Agreement between AVSF and Gret

→ Overall goal

To improve our ability to overcome major challenges, such as social justice and the reduction of inequalities, the climate emergency, the ecological transition and protection of biodiversity, solutions for young people, and the growing power of the social and solidarity economy.

→ Objectives

- Coordinate prospecting and ensure optimal management of competition
- Create a joint laboratory to support innovation
- Improve coordination of our strategies, actions and resources in each country for our partners
- Pool services such as security and contract risk management
- Diversify funding, and mobilise new sources of funding

02/03/22

Signing of a Framework Agreement between Cirad and AVSF at the International Agricultural Show

→ Overall goal

To develop synergies and exploit the potential of research-action and training in support of agricultural and rural development, and their partnership with institutions and civil-society organisations in the Global South.

→ Objectives

- 12 research-action collaborations are already being carried out in six countries
- Ensure increasingly ambitious and thought-provoking joint programmes (One Health, biodiversity, etc.)

Highlighting 8 key moments

Presentation of the Benoît Maria Award



The first-ever *Benoît Maria Award for smallholder agroecology* was presented

to the Ecuadorian organisation **Ayllu Kurikancha** for its initiative to promote diversified smallholder production, agroecology and direct sales, highlighting indigenous culture and expertise. The ceremony was held at the Town Hall in Lyon on 10 December, which is International Human Rights Day, with Mayor Grégory Doucet and AVSF director Frédéric Apollin in attendance. The Togolese organisation Albarka and the Malagasy organisation SoaMiaradiaamin'ny LABS also received awards: the former for its programme offering agroecology training for smallholders, and the latter for the production and marketing of vanilla and pepper in an organic and fair-trade supply chain.

Training programmes to help eliminate pesticide use



The 2021 guide *L'agroécologie pour sortir des pesticides* ("Agroecology as a Substitute for

Pesticides") is used as a reference in training programmes in Mali and Ivory Coast on reducing the use of certain pesticides and veterinary products, and viable alternatives. In 2022, AVSF organised two new training programmes in France and Madagascar for its teams and partners in the Global South and around the world. 135 instructors were trained and were then tasked with offering training and advisory services for projects and smallholder organisations.

Salon du Chocolat: smallholder organisations in the spotlight



The cooperative Ethiquable, the "Symbole des Producteurs Paysans" fair-trade label and AVSF invited over 25 representatives from cocoa

cooperatives around the world to share their experience and expertise at the 2022 Salon. The official programme for the event included the first-ever Smallholder-Produced, Organic and Fair-Trade Cocoa Competition, and ten conferences highlighting the talents of smallholders (who often play second fiddle to the chocolate products themselves) and the urgent need for them to receive fair payment for their work.

Continued support for smallholder organisations in Guatemala



The tragic murder in 2020 of Benoît Maria, an AVSF representative in Guatemala, did not stop us in our commitment to continue to

defend the economic and social rights of indigenous smallholder communities. Three new smallholder organisations are now being supported in the production and marketing of their organic or agroecological products: market gardening and small animals on the urban smallholder market in Totonicapán, coffee, cocoa and other products on high-quality national or export markets in organic and fair-trade supply chains.



Agreement between VSF-International and the World Organisation for Animal Health



In June 2022, the VSF-International network and the World Organisation

for Animal Health signed a framework agreement for collaboration, funded by USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Aid. The goal is to harmonise and gain official recognition for a training reference guide for community-based animal health workers [CAHW]. AVSF represents VSF-International within the ad hoc group of experts in charge of defining guidelines for CAHW skills and training programmes, and within the steering committee for the agreement.



International Forum on Agroecology in West Africa



In December 2022 in Guinea-Bissau, this event brought together 150 participants from 20 countries (smallholder organisations, NGOs, research institutes, ministries of agriculture from ECOWAS member states) to identify ways to introduce agroecology in the sub-region and persuade ECOWAS to implement public policies to promote the transition to agroecology. This is an initiative of the Alliance for Agroecology in West Africa (3AO) and ECOWAS – AVSF is a member of the former and technical assistance of the latter.

Prevention of zoonoses with the Prezode international initiative



Drawing on its experience in the field and its One Health expertise, AVSF and its VSF-International network are partners in the PREZODE initiative [Preventing ZOonotic Disease Emergence]. This international initiative seeks to understand the risk of emergence of zoonotic infectious diseases and implements methods to improve prevention, early detection and resilience, and to ensure a quick response to health risks of animal origin. In this regard, AVSF was identified in 2022 as a CIRAD partner for several research-action programmes in these areas, spurred by the initiative in Senegal, Madagascar, Cambodia and Laos.

More initiatives to promote biodiversity



On the border of Kafue National Park in Zambia, AVSF has partnered with the NGO Melindika to facilitate peaceful cohabitation between elephants and indigenous communities, and help protect their agricultural land.

In Iraq, AVSF and the NGO IGCO are helping communities in the marshlands of Mesopotamia develop fishing practices that will help preserve their fragile environment, and better care for their water buffalo.

In Colombia, AVSF is helping the indigenous organisation SHAQUINAN save smallholder seeds and increase agro-biodiversity in four communes in the Nariño department.

In Bolivia, AVSF is working with CIOEC to help strengthen a self-managed system for the production, storage and exchange of seeds through a network of young female smallholders in the Cochabamba valley.

A professional NGO committed to activism

For over 45 years, AVSF has been supporting ambitious smallholder-farming and agroecology systems in the South that can sustainably ensure the food security of cities and rural areas, reduce inequality and poverty, and promote the economic and social emancipation of men, women, young people, and organisations in rural areas.

As an officially recognised non-profit association that promotes international solidarity, AVSF mobilises professionals in agriculture, livestock farming, and animal health. AVSF offers smallholder communities and organisations technical advice, financial support, and training, and draws on traditional smallholder wisdom, to help them improve their living conditions, sustainably manage natural resources, and participate in local socio-economic development.

Read AVSF's charter at avsf.org



FOCUS ON 3 NEW PROJECTS

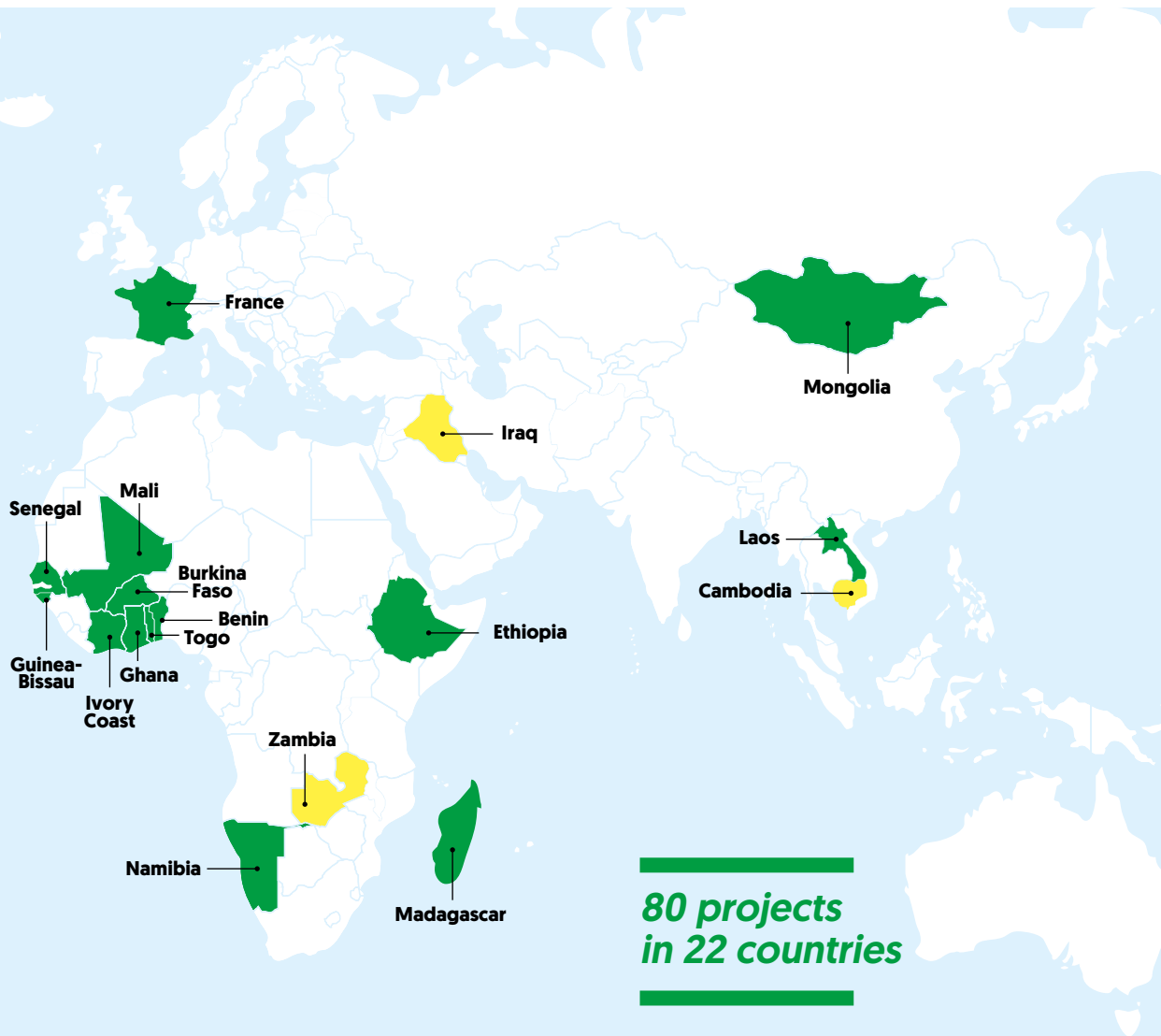
For more information
on all of AVSF's
projects, visit avsf.org

Iraq Water buffalo

Supporting 400 families of fishermen and water-buffalo farmers in the marshlands of central and southern Iraq – an area listed as a UNESCO world heritage site – to improve the productivity, profitability and environmental sustainability of their livestock-farming activities: creation of a mobile health service with transport via small boats, support for non-industrial fishing to help preserve this fragile ecosystem.

Partner: IGCO (Iraqi NGO)

Funding: French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs - Crisis and Support Centre



Zambia

Helping people and elephants coexist

Testing biological fencing and other agroecological practices with 356 indigenous smallholder families in five villages on the border of Kafue National Park in order to improve coexistence between people and elephants and reconcile the legitimate rights of local communities to live off their crops and ancestral lands with the protection of elephants looking for food.

Partner: Melindika (NGO)

Funding: AFD

Cambodia

Food and nutritional security

Supporting over 4,260 smallholders (60% women) in the districts of Ratanak Mondul, Banan and Ek Phnom (Battambang province) to develop the crop and small-livestock production (poultry, grasshopper, etc.) in order to improve their food and nutritional security as part of a "One Health" approach; supporting entrepreneurial activities through microloans.

Partner: smallholder communities, VSF Canada

Funding: Global Affairs Canada

Agroecological transitions



New project **Dundi Ferlo: sustainable** **reforestation on pastoral** **lands in Senegal**

Sustainably restoring 1,000 hectares of forest in three pilot pastoral units in the Ferlo region for the benefit of 9,500 people living in the areas in question using reforestation practices tested and validated through a participatory process and community forest management; increasing the availability of fodder in the dry season, and selling it to livestock farmers; lastly, processing and marketing non-timber forest products.

Partners: 3 pastoral units in the Ferlo region (Labgar, Younouféré and Vélingara), ISRA, Cirad, WeForest, EGAB, ADID

Funding: WeForest, AVSF

PUBLICATIONS



Improving the evaluation of agroecology

Guide pour l'évaluation de l'agroécologie, under the supervision of Laurent Levard, Éditions Quae, 2023. This publication was produced through collaboration between the various members of the "GTAE" working group for agroecological transitions (Agrisud International, AVSF, Cari and Gret), AgroParisTech, Cirad, IRD and Institut Agro Montpellier.

Field-school projects: accelerators of the agroecological transitions

How can the farmer field school approach be used to support agroecological transitions in family farming in the Global South?, Bakker Teatske, Dugue Patrick, Phillips Suzanne, Poisot Anne-Sophie, Roesch Katia, AVSF, Cirad, FAO, 2022.

Methodological recommendations to better evaluate the effects of farmer field schools mobilized to support agroecological transitions, Bakker Teatske, Dugue Patrick, Phillips Suzanne, Roesch Katia, AVSF, Cirad, FAO, 2022.

These publications were discussed in an international webinar organised by the FAO in May 2022.

See all publications at avsf.org

Agroecological transitions are complex and systemic processes that help improve the performance of smallholder agricultural systems and boost both agricultural production and the food and economic autonomy of smallholder families. They also help preserve the environment, climate and biodiversity, reduce health risks and help smallholders adapt better to climate change.



To support the agroecological transitions, AVSF promotes and trains smallholder organisations in agricultural and livestock-farming practices that require minimal external inputs, that are developed from smallholder knowledge and that are informed scientific innovations. Depending on the locality, they may include: companion planting or crop rotations; agroforestry; biological pest control; soil, water and forest conservation; organic fertilisation; integration of crop and livestock farming; or biosecurity and ethnoveterinary practices, etc.

Agroecology requires secure access to natural resources (water, land, pasture, forests, etc.), pre-production services (loans, seeds, organic inputs, infrastructure, etc.), and post-production services (processing, certification, local and regional markets that are transparent and lucrative, etc.) for smallholders.

Promoting agroecological transitions in irrigated systems

AVSF coordinated the study by Costea (scientific and technical committee for agricultural water), which was finalised in 2022, to evaluate and promote agroecological practices in irrigated agricultural systems. Several territories were analysed in Cambodia, Senegal and Algeria.

Irrigation drove agricultural systems towards greater intensification, which is often associated with monoculture and higher use of external inputs. The idea is to maximise yields in order to recover the investments made in hydraulic infrastructure. Agroecology is a sustainable alternative for irrigated crop systems and for managing the vital resource that is water.

The study analysed the socio-economic and agro-environmental performance of irrigated agroecological systems and the conditions for their development. It found that agroecological practices produce higher yields, require less inputs and reduce the risk of annual losses linked to extreme climate events, such as drought. Diversification of production plays a key role in securing and increasing the agricultural income of smallholder families. From an environmental standpoint,

soil and its biological activity respond quickly to agroecological practices.

To promote the agroecological transitions, the study also highlighted the need to really “unlock” irrigation infrastructure, which is too often immobile, in order to allow for more flexible water management and facilitate a wide variety of crop-management techniques tailored to each context.

Beyond the purely technical aspects, this unlocking also needs to occur at socio-political level, by strengthening coordination and local governance to ensure compatibility between water management and the agroecological transitions. The same goes for public policies, which must clearly promote agroecology: funding for suitable irrigation infrastructure and organic fertilisers, protection of the internal market and supply chains in question, etc.

Costea was established through collaboration between AFEID (French Association for Water, Irrigation and Drainage) and AFD (French Development Agency). This study was conducted in partnership with Cirad, Gret, CARI, Isra, Enda Pronat, Cread, Torba, Apeb, the University of Battambang.

AVSF defends the right of smallholders to access those resources and services. AVSF supports the roll-out of agroecology, not only on farms, plots and smallholder livestock operations, but also at regional level. AVSF works with its partners in the Global South and smallholder organisations to advocate

for and encourage commitment and support from consumers, civil society, private and public actors at local, national and international level to support these much-needed transitions.

Livestock farming and animal health

As the first French NGO to offer veterinary expertise, AVSF has two objectives: to strengthen animal-health systems and the role of smallholder livestock farming in national economies. Our projects focus on three main areas and are based on the One Health concept.

Improving the performance and practices of smallholder livestock farms is our first main area of focus. The aim is to improve productivity, achieve food security and boost incomes for families.

Efficient livestock farming requires **ensuring animal health** by improving management and biosecurity on farms, and by strengthening local animal-health services so that they are effective, even in the most isolated rural areas. AVSF trains and structures **networks of animal-health auxiliaries at local level** that coordinate with national veterinary services and private veterinarians to improve the health of animals and strengthen epidemiological surveillance. As veterinary networks are sometimes very unequal from one country to another, **AVSF also supports national, central and decentralised veterinary services.** The goal is to prevent animal diseases and protect public health [zoonosis, quality of meat, etc.].

Lastly, in all that we do, AVSF follows the One Health approach [see interview on next page] with the smallholder communities and international actors in question. This approach recognises and incorporates the interdependence of human, animal and environmental health, and food production.



Thiellal in Senegal: a closer look at the principles of One Health



Mareme Sakho, head of the Thiellal project carried out with the NGOs Solthis and Casades, explains how the One Health concept actually works in practice.

In what context did the project arise?

Agriculture is the main activity in the Vélingara department. The broad development of cotton cultivation based on a production-driven model has led to heavy use of chemical inputs. Livestock farmers in Senegal's second-biggest pastoral region are using antibiotics extensively, sometimes without a prescription. Use of these products is creating real risks for the environment, people and animals.

What is the aim of the project?

The project focuses on risk perception and the uses of "chemical products" by local inhabitants: agricultural pesticides, and human and veterinary medicinal products, particularly antibiotics and antiparasitics. Through its participatory approach, the project brings together local smallholder communities and a wide range of local actors from various sectors (agriculture, livestock farming, human and animal health, the environment) to work together to identify and sustainably tackle health-related issues. The goal is to mobilise communities and encourage them to take action on the One Health determinants.

This is achieved by creating long-lasting relationships between all health actors, strengthening their ability to carry out actions to protect health, and, lastly, developing alternatives for producers in order to reduce the use of chemical products.

What have the initial results been?

The diagnostic studies in 2021 and 2022 showed that almost all crop and livestock farmers use antibiotics and pesticides, and that most pesticides are acquired from unauthorised suppliers. The danger of pesticides has been clearly identified, but people are less aware of the effects of antibiotics. Other problems, such as insalubrity, are also seen as priorities.

Awareness-raising initiatives on antimicrobial resistance and pesticides have reached over 3,000 people. Training programmes covering One Health, antimicrobials and pesticide regulation have also been planned for health professionals.

A financial fund supports the implementation of community actions, such as waste management, access to drugs at dispensaries, creation of agroecological market gardens, prevention of rabies, etc.

Lastly, four agroecological field demonstrations were set up to train 84 smallholders. Three-quarters of them replicated those techniques on their own plots.



Project snapshot Combating African swine fever in Cambodia and Laos

Offering technical assistance to improve biosecurity measures for swine and combat African swine fever in ASEAN countries (Cambodia, Laos, Philippines, Vietnam).

Partners: Multi-partner project with ENSV, FVI, CIRAD, AVSF, IFIP in response to the African swine fever health crisis

Funding: French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs



Sustainable & fair agricultural supply chains

To address the issue of agricultural markets that are highly controlled by agribusiness and not sufficiently regulated, AVSF develops sustainable, fair and transparent supply chains to benefit smallholder families and organisations. Half of the NGO's volume of activity in 2022 was devoted to this objective.



To develop these virtuous supply chains, AVSF focuses on four complementary levers of action. The first is to accelerate **the agroecological transitions**, which offer the advantage of positioning products on high-quality markets that are more profitable for smallholder organisations. **Product certification** [organic, fair trade, participatory guarantee systems] substantiates the upscaling of products on local and international markets offering a better return for the quality of the products and the effort that goes into making them.

For a market to be fair, it needs to promote **the recognition and independence of smallholder organisations** that are capable of defending their own interests and the remuneration of their work; AVSF works with those organisations step by step towards that objective

and helps them establish **partnerships** with all actors in supply chains [processors, buyers, distributors, consumers, etc.] governed by requirements for transparency, equity and justice.

To establish this type of beneficial partnership, AVSF works with smallholder organisations and companies in **sustainable sourcing** initiatives. With extensive expertise in the field, AVSF is able to facilitate networking between French and international buyers looking for high-quality foods and the smallholder organisations that produce them. Each partnership is always conditioned on fair remuneration for producers. Companies such as Valrhona and Ethiquable

[a French cooperative company] source items from cooperatives supported by AVSF.

In addition to its technical and commercial expertise, AVSF does advocacy work in France and in the countries where it carries out its projects (see p. 18) to demand decent and fair prices for smallholders in agricultural markets. AVSF is a member of a number of networks (see p. 22) and sits on the board of directors of **Commerce Équitable France**, a collective of French fair-trade entities, and **Symbole des Producteurs Paysans France**, which promotes the SPP label created by and for producers in the Global South.

Focus on two supply-chain projects

Guatemala

Q'eqchi' smallholder organisations active in markets in Guatemala

Helping two organisations of small-scale Q'eqchi' farmers growing coffee, cocoa and other products from AltaVerapaz (200 and 1,100 producers, respectively) diversify their production and market their products on local and international markets for high-quality certified products; providing organisational support and developing their strategic planning; helping them market their products.

Partners: ASOKAPE, APODIP
Funding: AFD

Senegal

Short supply chains and school cafeterias

Improving the food security and learning conditions for 3,000 children affected by the Covid crisis, by setting up school cafeterias that source products through short supply chains; supporting the economic recovery of 20 agri-food companies and cooperatives in the food system of the Linguère, Ranérou, Kolda and Vélingara departments.

Partners: GRDR, CICODEV, Caritas
Funding: AFD, local authorities



Short supply chains in Peru

“Short supply chains connect producers directly with consumers, guarantee fair prices and support sustainable family farming. In Peru, we support three producers’ associations that operate in smallholder markets and the local marketing of agroecological products through short supply chains in the VRAEM region. The beneficiaries include over one thousand smallholder and indigenous families throughout Peru who can add value to their products and boost their income through direct and semi-direct sales. We are looking to promote responsible and mindful consumption of fresh and healthy foods.”



**Jhoselyn Castro
Martinez**
Coordinator
of the sustainable
food project
in Peru

2 KEY PUBLICATIONS

- *Manuel de préparation à la certification biologique,* Karine Laroche, AVSF, 2022
- *Circuits courts accompagnés par AVSF : expériences et enseignements,* Romain Valleur, AVSF, 2023

See all publications at avsf.org



RESULTS FROM THE ÉQUITÉ 2 PROGRAMME

This ambitious programme is carried out by AVSF and its partner Commerce Équitable France. It supports 37 smallholder cooperatives (over 116,000 fair-trade-certified producers) in six West African countries.

44%

increase in the number of multi-year contracts signed by the cooperatives,

90%

increase in volume sold for all sectors combined.

PURCHASE PRICE 30%

higher than the conventional market.

13 AGROECOLOGICAL PRACTICES

passed on to 26 cooperatives (biofertilisers, biological pest control, diversification of production, etc.).

40%

decrease in the quantity of wood equivalent per unit of finished product thanks to the dissemination of innovative processing technologies.

Results for August 2021 - November 2022.

Crisis prevention & post-emergency initiatives

Political and security crises are becoming more and more serious in many of the countries where we operate, and natural disasters are on the rise, driven by global warming. As a result, rural populations that were already in vulnerable situations now face even greater dangers.

To address the situation, AVSF is focusing on two objectives: helping communities become more resilient and better able to prevent natural disasters and armed conflict, and helping victims start producing again while also supporting their vital economic needs.

In the context of armed conflict, these actions are particularly rooted in the principles of impartiality, independence and transparency. They aim to mitigate the effects of the conflict and seek to help pacify those involved by facilitating face-to-face dialogue between the various actors. The security of the local teams is the top priority. But whenever the level of risk is deemed acceptable, and as long as communities can still be accessed, these actions will continue, whether in the Sahel or in Haiti.

Continuing our work in the Sahel and Haiti

When the French and Malian governments decided to suspend all cooperation in Mali supported by French public funding in November 2022, AVSF was left with no choice but to put and end to its work in the central and northern parts of the country, to the detriment of thousands of agropastoral families and partner NGOs and communities. But thanks to new financial partners, AVSF was able to maintain some of its projects and support its long-standing partner ADESAH.



"For over 20 years, I led initiatives in Mali where communication between rural actors helped clear up many misunderstandings, and helped prevent the spread of violence. But there are more and more crises now, and they are pushing more and more people into poverty. One important factor is that young people in these areas want to play a more active role in local decision-making, which means there is a risk that traditional authorities may no longer be listened to or followed as much as in the past."



Marc Chapon,
National
Coordinator
in Senegal

In Burkina Faso, the rise of radical groups is making it more difficult, and sometimes impossible, to access the agricultural cooperatives that AVSF supports. New monitoring procedures have been put in place to support them in their activities and help them access fair-trade markets.

In Haiti, political instability and growing insecurity in Port-au-Prince due to the proliferation of gangs are hindering the implementation of projects carried out by AVSF and its partners, and posing a serious threat to local teams. AVSF is adapting its organisation and security measures so that it can continue to support smallholder organisations in a country where 4.9 million people currently face food insecurity.

Promoting equal opportunities

Rural communities already suffer from a lack of respect for their rights. But those communities also include people who are even more discriminated against: women and young people. AVSF is working to combat this double burden by helping them gain greater access to resources, training, services and decision-making bodies.

Women: the foundation of agriculture



Fatou Senghor coordinated AVSF's work in Vélingara, Senegal, for over 15 years. She is a gender expert, and she spoke with us about the crucial role women in rural areas play in her country.

Can you tell us about the situation of women in rural areas in Senegal?

Rural women make up 70% of the agricultural workforce, and the FAO (2011) has estimated that they produce between 60% and 80% of household food. But they are the most vulnerable segment to poverty. Their rights are confined solely to the status of housewife, responsible for rearing children, growing rice, raising small ruminants and subsistence market-gardening. Lastly, they have very limited access to the main factors of agricultural production: land; labour; lack of training and adequate information, extension and advisory services for women in various fields; equipment; and financial capital for the most part.

What types of initiatives are carried out for women?

First of all, we offer women training in agroecology and functional literacy to improve agricultural practices, but

also to promote healthy agricultural production in line with sustainability, respect for the environment and preservation of the social fabric. We strengthen smallholder organisations (and promote gender equality within those organisations) by helping them better understand their rights and participate more in governance. Lastly, we carry out advocacy work targeting decision-makers and technical and financial partners to make sure that women's issues are truly addressed in agricultural and territorial development in general.

Project snapshot: "Young People and Rural Communities" in Ecuador

After pushing for the creation of the first-ever technical baccalaureate in agroecology in 2021, AVSF now helps 50 young people from rural communities in Esmeraldas gain access to that programme and develop their own entrepreneurial initiatives in agrifood. AVSF also helps 45 young men and women from the Andean Choco develop productive and sustainable agrifood activities as an alternative to the expansion of mining, which harms their communities and is detrimental to their autonomy.

Partner: Union of Farmers' Organisations of Esmeraldas (UOCE), Choco Network of Young People
Funding: AFD



Main pillars of our advocacy work



Fairer and more sustainable cocoa

Representing Coordination Sud and the French Initiative for Sustainable Cocoa on the monitoring committee for the National Strategy to Combat Imported Deforestation, AVSF draws on its sector-specific expertise acquired through its work in eight different countries to defend the interests of smallholder production and remind people of the core principles of a fair and sustainable cocoa sector: adoption of agroecology and agroforestry practices, empowerment of actors in the downstream segments of the supply chain for greater transparency, and much-needed increase in remuneration for producers, including to offset the higher costs of traceability

and public support to help strengthen their organisations.

In an opinion column published by the newspaper *La Croix* in October, initiated by Max Havelaar France and signed by AVSF, we defended the adoption of environmental standards at European level and denounced pay conditions for producers, which are still far below a living income.

Smallholder farming vs. food crises

In an opinion column published by *La Croix* in May, we addressed the surge in global prices caused by the war in Ukraine and called for greater support for smallholders and their agroecological

transition worldwide to promote greater food independence. An analytical note published in October with Coordination Sud recommended ways to combat price volatility.

As we do each year, AVSF participated in the UN's Committee on World Food Security in Rome. Policy responses to the global food crisis were discussed with the presentation of the report entitled *The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World*. The latest policy recommendations for engaging young people in agriculture and food systems were also approved at the event.

Lastly, AVSF joined **Collectif Nourrir**, a platform with 54 smallholder organisations and French citizens' organisations dedicated to defending fair, democratic and environmentally friendly agriculture and food policies.

Fairer access to land in Ecuador

In Ecuador, 42% of the land is concentrated in the hands of 2.3% of the country's farms, and 63% of farms have access to only 6% of the land: land concentration, which effectively excludes rural populations, is becoming more and more worrying. AVSF and its partners conducted land studies, created an agricultural-land observatory, trained over 300 people and helped smallholder and indigenous organisations at national level define their agrarian agendas and put together a proposal for funding for land at the Ministry of Agriculture. AVSF helped indigenous organisations formulate a more redistributive reform of the "land law", now officially presented before the National Assembly.

Education in citizenship and international solidarity, and association life



While most of its work is in the countries where it carries out its projects, AVSF is also active in France informing the general public about the importance of solidarity and smallholder farming.

Through its Education in Citizenship and International Solidarity initiatives, AVSF was able to raise awareness among **2,500 people**, mostly students in primary, middle and secondary school, and university students from cities such as Rouen, Angers, Nancy, Beauvais and Montpellier, through three different types of intervention.

Aminata pedagogical kits

Over 50 awareness-raising workshops were organised for primary-school students, using three different kits: *Aminata in the Land of Chocolate*, *Aminata and Livestock Farming* and *Aminata's Farm*. At each workshop, students follow the story of a young girl from Ivory Coast and her smallholder family through videos, games and discussions – and the students even get to taste fair-trade chocolate. Fair trade, smallholder crop and livestock farming, and climate issues are addressed in a way that is fun and educational for everyone.

Junior workshop

Since 2018, AVSF's civic-service volunteers have been leading modules for middle-school students to raise awareness about sustainable development through four of the sustainable development goals (SDG):

- **Hunger and sustainable food (SDG 2)** by highlighting the benefits of smallholder farming and agroecology,
- **Health and well-being (SDG 3)** on the *One Health* concept,
- **Access to quality water (SDG 6)**, by addressing issues such as accessing water and reducing water

consumption for smallholder crop and livestock farming,

- **Sustainable consumption and production (SDG 12)**, by demonstrating the importance of agroecology and fair trade.

Students are asked to choose between these topics and create content that they can use to teach their peers. In 2022, **17 workshops** were organised.

Festivals to promote solidarity

AVSF renewed its partnership with Festival Alimenterre with events in several towns (Angers, Clermont-Ferrand, Rennes, Nancy and Montpellier) and several activities during the festival, reaching **over 400 people in total**.

AVSF's volunteers and civic-service workers had a stand at Festisol on Saturday, 3 December 2022 at the Town Hall in Lyon, to raise awareness about the causes defended by AVSF and to organise games for the general public.

ASSOCIATION LIFE



230
MEMBERS



120
VOLUNTEERS



22
SCHOOL
CORRESPONDENTS



10
REGIONAL
CORRESPONDENTS



4 269
VOLUNTEER HOURS
recorded in the Use
of Resources
Statement

Elected representatives and governance bodies

[At 17 June 2023]

The Bureau

Philippe COLLIN: President - farmer, former spokesperson for Confédération Paysanne

Barbara DUFOUR: Vice-President - veterinarian, professor of contagious diseases and epidemiology at Alfort veterinary school

Jean-Michel THOMAS: Secretary-General - agricultural engineer, professor emeritus of agronomy at Institut Agro Dijon

Dominique LEBRETON: Secretary-General - farmer, former regional Confédération Paysanne representative to CESER [economic, social and environmental council], former president of Confédération Paysanne for the Loire-Atlantique department and former vice-president of the Chamber of Agriculture for the Loire-Atlantique department

Elisabeth MULLER: Treasurer - former AVSF administrative and financial director

Michel PROST: Member - agricultural economist, former director of a federation of cooperatives

Alain YVERGNIAUX: Member - economist, former business executive, strategy and organisation consultant. President of Ethicajou [AVSF mandate]

Other members of the Board of Directors

Amélie BAJOLET: agronomist and president of the label Bee Friendly

Moussa BALDE: local development engineer, national coordinator for Togo and Benin, AVSF employee

Patrick CARON: veterinarian, researcher at CIRAD, vice chair of CGIAR's board of directors, director of the Montpellier Advanced Knowledge Institute on Transitions [MAK'IT/MUSE], chair of Agropolis International

Loïc COISNON: former regional director at Crédit Mutuel, corporate auditor

Guy DURAND: agricultural economist, professor emeritus of economics and rural development at Institut Agro Rennes

Olivier FAUGÈRE: veterinarian, specialist in livestock farming in warm regions and veterinary public health, former director of the French National School for Official Veterinarians, former director of "France Veterinary International"

Claire JARRIGES: school teacher, involved in the development of AVSF's association life since 2015

Jean-François LAMOUREUX: Architect, former vice-president of Action Contre la Faim

Jacques LOYAT : honorary general engineer of agricultural engineering for water and forests

Hervé PETIT: veterinarian and former head of AVSF's Livestock Farming, Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health Department

Xavier PEYRACHE: economic consultant

Daniel ROCHE: agricultural engineer, former director of the Esitpa school of agricultural engineering, agricultural training instructor and specialist in agricultural and rural development

Christian TAUPIAC: forester and agricultural economist, specialist in rural development in developing countries

Hugues VERNIER: former head of "agriculture/food" and coordination of the Biovallée strategic and operational project for the Val de Drôme community

International technical teams

[at 31 May 2023]

In the countries where we carry out our projects 275 professionals

10 national coordination offices

Cambodia

NC: **Sophoan MIN**

AFD: **Vuthy CHAY**

Ivory Coast

NC: **Edem KOMLAN**

AFD: **Rasidatu LAWAL**

Ecuador/Colombia

NC: **Sylvain BLEUZE**

Renata LASSO [deputy]

AFD: **Luisa PAZMIÑO**

Haiti

NC: **Jean-Denis SARDOU**

AFD: **Annie SAINT-VICTOR**

Madagascar

NC: **Guillaume PARIZET**

AFD: **Rovan'ny Soa**

RAZAFINOTRONA

Mali

NC: **Damouko BONDÉ**

AFD: **Mama DEMBELE**

Mongolia

NC: **Manon LELARGE**

AFD: **Sukhbaatar BOLORCHIMEG**

Peru

NC: **Javier ALARCÓN**

[representative and regional prospecting in the Andes]

AFD: **Melania VALDIVIA**

Senegal/Gambia/ Guinea-Bissau

NC: **Marc CHAPON**

AFD: **Aboubakrine SARR**

Togo/Bénin

NC: **Moussa BALDÉ**

AFD: **Joël DJOGBEMAH**

8 national representation offices

Bolivia

Telmo ROBALINO

Burkina Faso

Moussa BARRO

Colombia

Gonzalo CARDONA

Ethiopia

Graça ARCHER

Guatemala

Pascal HUWART

Guinea-Bissau

Goya GALDUROZ

Laos

Véronique RENAULT [representative and regional prospecting in Asia]

RAF: **Thavisouk ANOUVONG**

Namibia

Reinhold KAMBULI

In France 30 professionals

Administrative and Financial Department	Cooperation Department	Human Resources Department
	Operations Director Christophe CHAUVEAU	
	Technical Director Myriam MACKIEWICZ HOUNGUE	HR Director Chloé DESGEORGE
	3 technical departments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Smallholder Farming, Natural Resources and Climate Change - Livestock Farming, Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health - Smallholder Organisations and Markets 	
Financial Director Julie CRENN	Sponsorships & Private Funding Christelle BERJOT	
Executive Director Frédéric APOLLIN		
Communications Édouard COUTURIER	Fundraising Nina CLOISEAU	Advocacy Carline MAINENTI

NC: national coordinator
AFD: administrative and financial director

Groups and professional networks

Founding members



avsf.org



vsf-international.org



groupe-initiatives.org



cite-developpement-durable.org



avsf.org

Active members



Creative support



tero.coop



spp-france.fr

Financial partners in 2022

23

Bilateral & multilateral organisations

- AFD [French Development Agency]
- GAC [Global Affairs Canada]
- ADB [Asian Development Bank]
- IDB [Inter-American Development Bank]
- European Commission
 - DG INTPA - Directorate-General for International Partnerships [e.g. DEVCO EuropeAid]
- European Commission - DG ECHO
 - Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
- DCI Principality of Monaco [Department of International Cooperation]
- SDC [Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation]
- ENABEL [Belgian Development Agency]
- FAO [Food and Agriculture Organisation]
- FFEM [French Global Environment Fund]
- IFAD [United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development]
- MEAE [French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs], French Crisis and Support Centre, French embassies [Cooperation and Cultural Action Services]
- UNEP [United Nations Environment Programme]
- UNICEF
- USAID
- WOA [World Organisation for Animal Health, founded as OIE]

French public & parapublic bodies

- AFEID [French Association for Water, Irrigation and Drainage]
- CIRAD [French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development]
- VetAgro Sup / ENSV-FVI: French National School for Official Veterinarians - France Veterinary International

French regional authorities

- Finistère departmental council
- Hauts-de-Seine department
- Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region
- Normandie region
- Metropolitan Lyon – Greater Lyon
- City of Lyon
- City of Arras

Institutions & public authorities in the countries where we operate

- ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] – ARAA [Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food]
- Haitian Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development
- Senegalese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Equipment
- Lao PDR Department of Agriculture
- Ivorian Ministry of Agriculture and Development
- Malian Ministry of Rural Development

Associations & foundations

- CFSI [French Committee for International Solidarity]
- Fondation de France
- Pro Victimis Foundation – Switzerland
- Lord Michelham of Hellingly Foundation
- WeForest
- Nicolas Puech Foundation
- Afrique Espoir
- M. L. Avenir, Atelier Missègle

Companies & corporate foundations

- Crédit Coopératif
- Ethiquable
- Fondation Bel
- Raja Foundation
- EDF Foundation
- Rabobank Foundation
- Alstom Foundation
- Foie Gras Gourmet
- SEVETYS
- Valrhona
- Berlioz veterinary clinic [Nice], Anicoon clinics [Ploemeur, Larmor], Animovet clinics [Maiche, Le Russey],
- Vetsforthem clinic [Bègles], Société Civile Professionnelle des Docteurs Vétérinaires [Châtillon-sur-Seine], Procyon Selarl de Veterinaires [Château-Thébaud]

Fundraising partners

- Prizle
- Benevity
- Heoh
- 1% for the Planet

2022 Financial Report

Despite a volatile international situation in several of our areas of focus, our teams were able to carry out our projects to support smallholder communities in line with the planned budget. Total spending for our projects was €21.5 million, up 11% versus 2021 (€19.4m).

In 2022, 45% of our projects were carried out in West Africa, and despite the suspension of French-funded projects in Mali in November, the volume of activity in that country in 2022 was €4.1 million. The Americas region accounted for 31% of our projects in 2022, and Asia saw a slight increase in activity at 13% (up €1m).

We generated a surplus of €145,000. Operating earnings totalled €216,000, while financial earnings were -€15,000, and extraordinary earnings were -€57,000.

Most of our funding (84%) still comes from public grants, such as the "programme"-type cross-disciplinary funding agreement with the AFD. Donations from individual donors, however, rose sharply in 2022 to €1.5 million, which represents 6% of our total resources. We are continuing our policy of creating sensible, balanced budgets, which, combined with sound budgetary monitoring, allows us to generate surpluses.

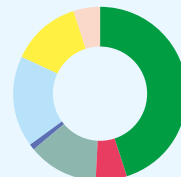
This result allowed us to bring our accumulated fund to €3,289,000. That figure has been steadily growing for several years and now represents 15% of our volume of activity. Crédit Coopératif granted us promissory notes in the amount of €120,000.

Volunteers contributed 4,269 hours to AVSF's mission and operations in 2022, which was valued at €213,000.



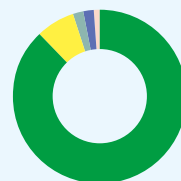
Julie CRENN
Financial Director

BREAKDOWN OF SOCIAL MISSIONS BY GEOGRAPHIC ZONE



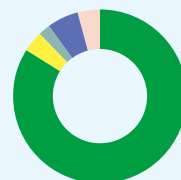
- West Africa - **45%**
- Madagascar & Ethiopia - **6%**
- Asia - **13%**
- Central America - **1%**
- Haiti - **17%**
- Andes - **13%**
- Europe - **5%**

USE OF FUNDS 2022



- Social missions - **88%**
- Operating costs - **7%**
- Fundraising costs - **2%**
- Allowances for provisions - **2%**
- Funds allocated to accumulated fund - **1%**

RESOURCES 2022



- Public funds - **84%**
- Foundations, associations and other non-profits - **4%**
- Sponsorships and private services - **2%**
- Donations - **6%**
- Financial, exceptional and other products - **4%**

ASSETS			2022	2021
In thousands of euros	Gross	Amort.	Net	
Fixed assets	574	111	463	482
Current assets	24 173		24 173	28 538
Accounts receivable	23 871		23 871	28 384
Accrued charges	302		302	154
Currency translation adjustments - assets	756		756	388
Cash	6 653		6 653	12 572
Treasury investments	5		5	5
Available cash	6 648		6 648	12 567
TOTAL	32 156	111	32 045	41 980

LIABILITIES			2022	2021
Association funds			3 289	3 145
Accumulated fund			3 145	2 943
Earnings			145	202
Provisions for risks and charges			618	414
Restricted funds			125	146
Debts			27 125	37 741
Other debts			3 196	2 891
Deferred income			23 929	34 850
Currency translation adjustments - liabilities			754	273
Loans and other borrowings			134	261
TOTAL			32 045	41 980

Notes to the balance sheet

- Our balance sheet shows substantial masses of receivables and debt for projects spanning several years, which have been accounted for under current accounting standards.
- There are significant amounts under assets as accounts receivable. Those accounts receivable correspond to agreements where the contract has been signed but the funds have not yet been received.
- There are also significant amounts of deferred income under liabilities. That deferred income corresponds to funding that AVSF has signed a contract for, but not yet spent on its projects.
- Our accumulated fund increased to €3,289,000 thanks to the allocation of earnings generated in 2022, which brings the accumulated-fund ratio to 15% of the volume of activity for 2022.

Surplus/Deficit Account Indicating Source and Destination of Funds 31/12/2022 (in thousands of euros)

A - INCOME BY SOURCE AND COSTS BY DESTINATION	TOTAL	%	Incl. donations from the general	%
BREAKDOWN OF INCOME BY SOURCE				
1 - INCOME LINKED TO DONATIONS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC	1 750	8%	1 750	99%
1.1 Unrestricted contributions	8		8	
1.2 Donations, bequests and sponsorship	1 742		1 742	
- Hand-to-hand donations	1 483		1 483	
- Legacies, gifts and life insurance	-		-	
- Sponsorship	259		259	
1.3 Other income linked to donations from the general public				
2 - INCOME NOT LINKED TO DONATIONS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC	3 326	15%		
3 - GRANTS AND OTHER PUBLIC ALLOCATIONS	17 225	76%		
4 - READJUSTMENT OF PROVISIONS AND DEPRECIATION	272	1%		
5 - USE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS FROM PAST YEARS	22	0%	22	1%
TOTAL	22 595		1 772	

BREAKDOWN OF COSTS BY DESTINATION				
1 - SOCIAL MISSIONS	19 862	89%	1 390	78%
2 - FUNDRAISING COSTS	500	2%	374	21%
3 - OPERATING COSTS	1 610	7%	8	1%
4 - ALLOWANCES FOR PROVISIONS AND DEPRECIATION	478	2%	-	
5 - TAX ON INCOME	-			
6 - RESTRICTED FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	-		-	
TOTAL	22 450		1 772	
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT	145			

Notes to the surplus/deficit account

The Surplus/Deficit Account was drawn up in compliance with the ANC-2018-06 accounting regulations. The right-hand column shows resources from fundraising and their contribution to our operations. The information here is identical to the information presented in the Use of Resources Statement*.

AVSF allocated 88% of its resources to its development projects in France and abroad. 51% of the expenses for those social missions were for projects carried out in Africa, and 5% were for operations in France.

Most of the resources collected from the public were allocated to social missions and fundraising. Only member subscriptions were used to fund association-life operations. Fundraising costs decreased by 3% compared with 2021.

Other income not linked to donations from the general public mainly includes proceeds from services provided by our teams to cover our coordination costs, and financial contributions from associations and foundations.

* The official detailed versions of the Surplus/Deficit Account and Use of Resources Statement appear in the report prepared by our statutory auditors at Baker Tilly Strego. That report is also submitted to the website of the Journal Officiel after approval of the accounts at the General Meeting. It is available on our website at www.avsf.org





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AVSF is funded by



This report was written collectively by **AVSF**

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