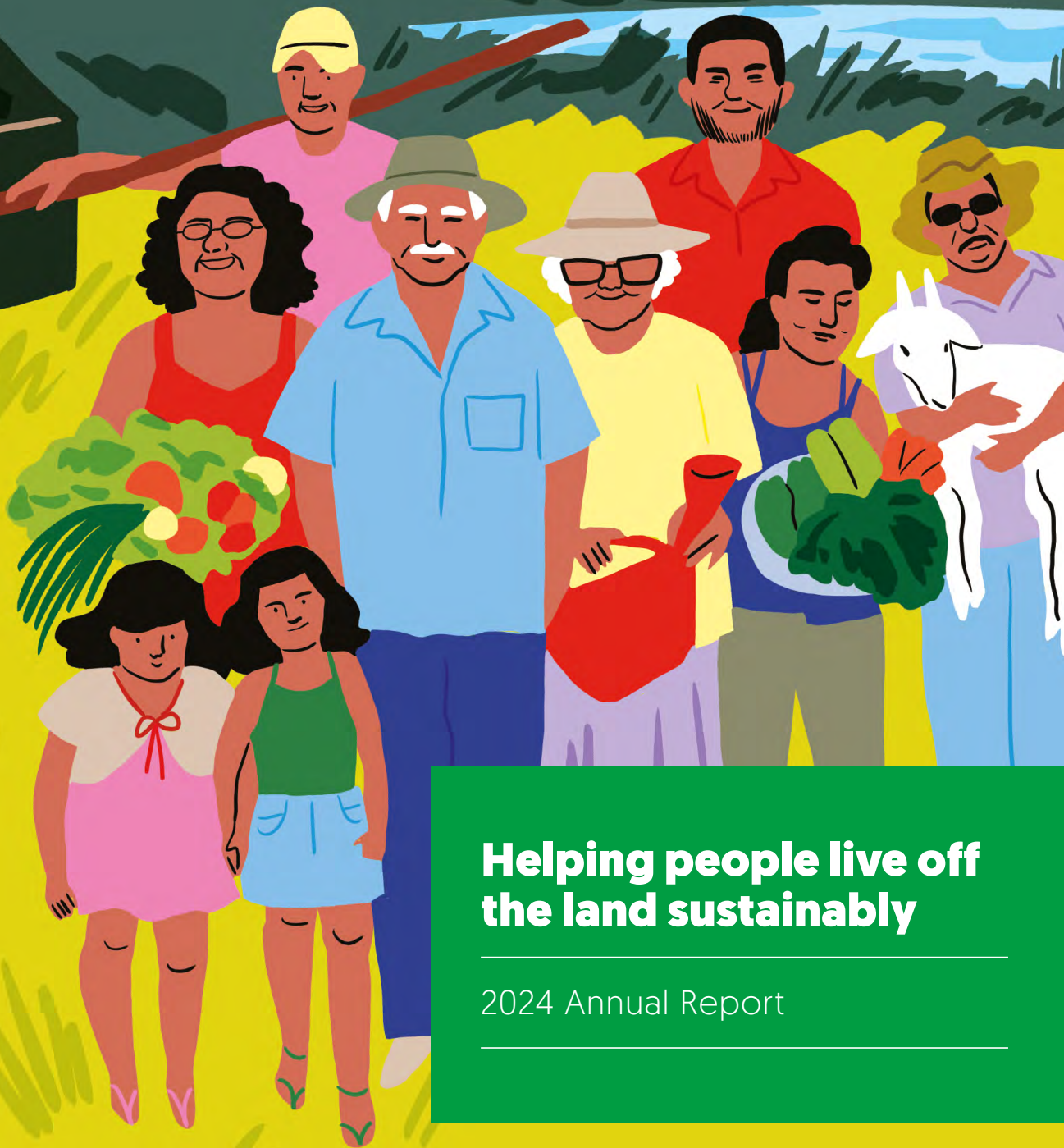




Helping people live off the land sustainably

2024 Annual Report

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**OVER 550,000 PEOPLE
SUPPORTED**
more than 90,000 rural
families



**89 DEVELOPMENT
PROJECTS**

Editorial

In the face of attacks on solidarity, we remain steadfast and determined

Upon his arrival at the White House in January 2025, Donald Trump ordered the suspension of United States aid programs and began dismantling the USAID agency. At the start of 2025, French far-right parties then organised a violent and untruthful campaign against official development assistance (ODA). This followed an initial wave of drastic ODA budget cuts from major donor countries, including France, which had already impacted us. This assault on ODA is an attack on the humanist values of liberty, equality and fraternity; on the fight for human rights; on economic, social and gender equality; on efforts to manage shared resources more sustainably; on efforts to mitigate and adapt to climate change; on wealth redistribution and solidarity among peoples; and on NGOs. All of this impacts the most vulnerable populations, particularly smallholder communities, as well as global stability.

In the face of these attacks, we remain steadfast and determined. In 2024, our teams, supported by our elected representatives and volunteers, implemented more than 85 projects supporting more than 400 smallholder organisations and local NGOs in 22 countries. Together with our partners, they've continued advocacy work to fight for the rights of smallholder communities to improve their living conditions and their participation in the ecological transition and food sovereignty of their territories, and for the protection of the planet's resources. Our causes remain relevant, and international solidarity must be prioritized now more than ever! In this spirit, our "AVSF 2030" Vision, which we are finalising in 2025, will provide direction to further strengthen our legitimacy, governance, ability to act and longevity.



Barbara Dufour
President



Christophe Chauveau
Director General



22 COUNTRIES



478 SMALLHOLDER
ORGANISATIONS
HAVE PARTNERED
WITH US



83% OF SPENDING
allocated to our
projects (€19 million
budget)



73 PARTNERS
for our projects



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

A professional and activist NGO

For over 45 years, AVSF has been supporting ambitious smallholder-farming and agroecology systems in the Global 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. It also draws on traditional smallholder wisdom to help farmers 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

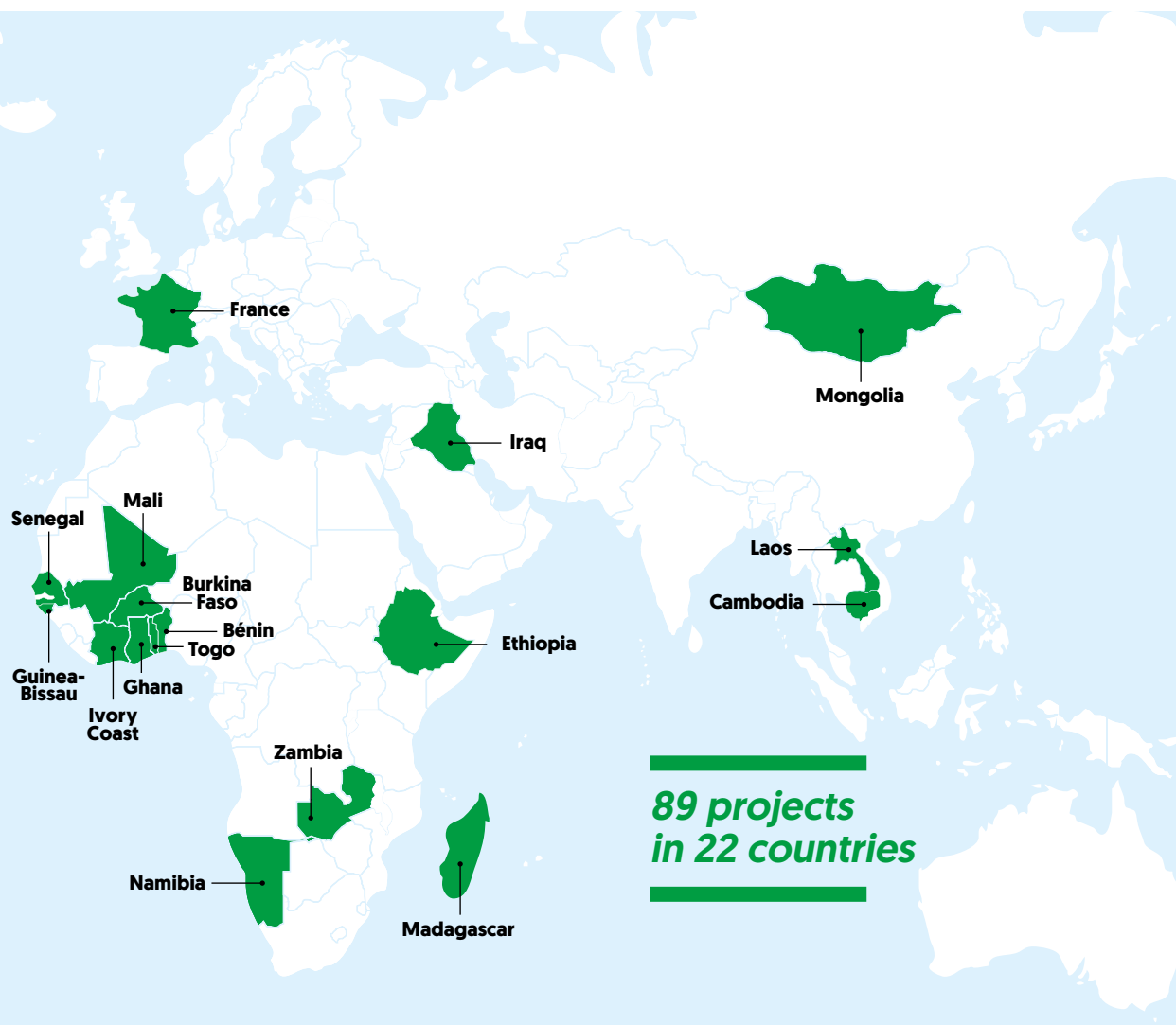
Ecuador

Agroecological innovations in the Kichwa territories

Improving living conditions and food security for 400 indigenous Kichwa families across seven parishes in Imbabura and Pichincha. Women and young people, in particular, are strengthening their skills in production, post-harvest handling and marketing of agroecological products, while also preserving local cultural heritage.

Partners: Autonomous Governments of Pichincha (Lead) and Imbabura, Ministry of Agriculture (MAG) and the Federation of smallholder organisations of Cayambe UNOPAC

Funding: Ecuador-Italy Counterpart Fund



West Africa

Équité III Programme

Strengthening the professionalisation and investment capacity of cooperatives and producer organisations engaged in the agroecological transition and fair trade. In total, the project supports over 30,000 producers in the cocoa, shea, cashew, fruit and artisanal product industries across four countries (Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Togo and Benin).

Partners: Commerce Équitable France, 40 producer organisations, national fair-trade platforms, WFTO, FTI, ESR and SPP labels

Funding: AFD, FFEM

Mongolia

Dairy products as a lever for gender equality in nomadic livestock farming

Developing a quality and sustainable dairy supply chain, led by collectives of young nomadic women farmers from the Arkhangai Herders' Federation (390 families).

Partners: Arkhangai Herders' Federation

Funding: Fondation M'Demain

8 Highlights of the year

June - 2nd edition of the Benoît Maria Award for smallholder agroecology



Over 50 smallholder organisations from Latin America and Africa applied to this second edition to highlight their agroecological initiatives: technical innovations, service implementation, commercial supply chain structures or new food system development. An international jury evaluated these projects and awarded three winners in October. The first award was presented to the Peruvian organisation Chackramanta and its 40 female producers, who are marketing their certified products through a participatory guarantee system in a smallholder market in downtown Abancay. The second and third awards were presented to organisations from Benin and Ecuador, respectively. This recognition is essential for advancing sustainable, solidarity-based agriculture!

July - Technical workshop: Reduce use of pesticides and synthetic veterinary products



In France, at the Cité du développement durable in Nogent-sur-Marne, more than 120 experts on agriculture, animal health and human health from various countries were brought together by AVSF. They shared their experiences from around the world regarding work to reduce the use of these products, some of which are very dangerous. After analysing the harmful impacts, the workshop allowed participants to identify concrete alternative solutions, as well as their conditions of application, in order to highlight practices that are more sustainable, more environmentally friendly and safer for human and animal health.

August - The AVSF-Gret Alliance: A shared security service



AVSF and Gret took their alliance one step further with the creation of their first shared service focusing on security.

The goal: strengthen the efficiency and efficacy of security measures and procedures designed to prevent and manage risks faced by their teams and partners in the countries where they operate. This initiative is especially vital given that more than half of these countries face major security risks. By pooling their strengths, AVSF and Gret reaffirm their commitment to ensuring safe working conditions for their colleagues and partners in the field.

Read the interview with Thomas Jadas, Deputy Security Manager, p. 15.

September - Mobilisation against the official development aid budget cut



France's 2025 Finance Bill calls for drastic cuts to the official development assistance budget. While similar trends are cropping up in several European countries, French funding for NGO initiatives and humanitarian aid is set to fall by 40% compared to the 2024 budget. Alongside the 180 member organisations of Coordination Sud, AVSF is mobilising against this unacceptable political decision, which betrays France's commitments and endangers the most vulnerable populations. In a context marked by an increasing number of climate, security and political crises around the world, this fight is more crucial than ever!

September - International workshop: How can we support the agroecological transition?



In Togo, the participants of this event shared their experiences and methods for effective smallholder participation in the fight against soil degradation, efforts to adapt to climate change and work to secure decent incomes. During this workshop, concrete solutions were debated, such as pastoral units for joint resource management in Senegal, smallholder farm schools for selection of high-performing breeding bucks in Madagascar, or peer-to-peer training among smallholder men and women farmers on the use of forage crops for livestock feed in Ethiopia.





Presentation of the Benoît Maria Award at the Climate Academy in Paris.

September - Round table on animal health and agroecological transitions



What kinds of animal-health service arrangements can best support the local development of agroecology? That was the theme of this exchange in Chambœuf (Loire), which aimed to put experiences from the Global North and the Global South into perspective. In order to do so, veterinary experts and AVSF elected representatives spoke with the FEEVEC [Fédération des éleveurs et des vétérinaires en convention] and the citizens' collective les Amis du Treuil. This experience sharing enriches approaches to collective, solidarity-based and contractual systems for local animal-health services, helping to advance the agroecological transition worldwide.

November - Rethinking support for 21st century pastoralism



In Senegal, AVSF and CIRAD brought together a large panel of stakeholders to discuss the future of pastoralism, which is facing human pressures and the effects of climate change. Among them were experts from AVSF and VSF-International, leaders from livestock farming organisations from the Sahel and Mongolia, ministerial representatives, regional organisations [ECOWAS], as well as financial and institutional partners from Senegal, Togo, Mali and Mongolia [AFD, FAO]. This gathering aimed to define technical priorities and to strengthen policy dialogue to support this essential activity for populations and national economies in geographically challenging areas. It was also a key step in preparing for the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists in 2026.

November - "How can we feed 10 billion people without destroying the planet?"



To mark CIRAD's 40th anniversary, AVSF took part in a conference in Paris organised in partnership with the French daily newspaper, Le Monde, to address this pressing question. It was an opportunity to present initiatives by smallholder organisations in Latin America, supported by AVSF, such as participatory certification of agroecological products and their marketing through urban smallholder markets and short supply chains. The positive impacts measured in the field are leading us to rethink our farming models and consumption patterns, without destroying the environment or increasing the cost of food.

Agroecological transitions

Feeding the world without destroying the planet - that's the goal of the agroecological transitions promoted by AVSF. These complex, systemic dynamics require coordination across multiple levels with all relevant stakeholders.

To carry out agroecological transitions, AVSF defends, above all, the right of smallholder organisations to access essential natural resources, including water, land and pastures, as well as agricultural services. These services include those upstream of production, such as credit, seeds and organic inputs, and those downstream, such as processing, certification and access to profitable markets.

In the face of climate change challenges, health risks and biodiversity loss, AVSF trains smallholder organisations in agroecological practices, drawing on farmers' knowledge and enriched with the latest scientific advancements. These practices range from intercropping and crop rotations to agroforestry, and from alternatives to synthetic pesticides to alternatives to veterinary medicines, which are harmful to the health of ecosystems, animals and humans.

For several years, an internal AVSF working group has been exploring these alternatives and passing them on to technicians and smallholder organisations. After the publication in 2021 *Guide de formation L'agroécologie pour sortir des pesticides* ("Agroecology as a Substitute for Pesticides"), and the 2024 policy note *Réduire l'usage des pesticides et des produits vétérinaires* ["Reduce the use of pesticides and veterinary products"] (all publications are available at avsf.org), this group organised a technical workshop on this topic on 4 July 2024 (see p. 6), featuring rich exchanges between stakeholders from the Global North and the Global

South. All the presentations are available on our website. This research and dissemination work will continue in the years to come.

To amplify and scale up these agroecological transitions, it is necessary to mobilise not only smallholder organisations but also civil society, consumers, and public and private actors at the local, national and international levels. To this end, AVSF carries out advocacy work with its partners at different levels, in France and in the countries where we work (see p. 18).

Measuring the impact of agroecology

In 2024, AVSF carried out an external evaluation of the effects of its cooperation. From 2023-2024, 23 projects were analysed. The evaluation makes it possible, in particular, to measure changes within smallholder populations supported through agroecology.

In the 10 projects carried out by AVSF, 11,564 producers adopted new agroecological practices, which is a 45% increase compared to those who were already using them at the start of the projects. These practices include, in particular, organic fertilisation, intercropping and crop rotations and agroforestry. This significant increase illustrates the smallholders' commitment to agroecological transitions.

Across the 23 projects, adopting these practices resulted in better protection for natural resources over more than 23,000 hectares. This included improvements in soil fertility, tree coverage and agrobiodiversity.

At the same time, in 2023, 22,849 producers complied with the requirements of organic farming,

representing 35,732 certified hectares. These areas are more resilient to climate change and can better protect their biodiversity.

Finally, the AVSF projects led to significant yield increases. The average increase was 60%, with some increases reaching up to over 89%, depending on the type of production, between 2019 and 2023. This growth shows that the ecological benefits of these farming practices in no way compromise farm performance, thus allowing smallholder families to better feed themselves and increase their revenue.

Although the data are incomplete, these figures clearly demonstrate the positive impact of AVSF's projects on ecosystems and on the lives of smallholders. This encouraging finding motivates us to scale up agroecological transitions and confirms the relevance of AVSF's mission to defend robust and effective smallholder agroecological farming worldwide.

PUBLICATION



Sowing coexistence: biological fences for better cohabitation between humans and elephants in communities bordering Kafue National Park in Zambia, Katia Roesch, Innovative Action, AVSF, 2024

Available for download at avsf.org



Guatemalan smallholders during a site visit.

New Project

Colombia

Supporting agrarian reform and smallholder agroecological farming

Strengthen Colombia's system of agricultural training, advisory services and innovation, with a focus on agroecological transition. Strengthen capacity for rural organisation and cooperative work through relevant and adapted public policy instruments. Provide direct support to four smallholder and indigenous organisations in implementing the national

agroecology policy (youth training school, collective marketing of agroecological products and conservation of native seeds). Support the Colombian Agroecology Movement and promote coordination, visibility and multi-stakeholder participation in building public policies in favour of agroecology.

Partners: Ministry of Agriculture, local smallholder organisations (ASOANEI, ASPROCIG, ASPROAL, Resguardo Indígena Cañamomo – Lomapieta), Movimiento agroecológico colombiano (MAC), FranceAgriMer, MASA France

Funding: MEAE/Fonds Équipe France

Livestock farming and animal health

AVSF defends and promotes smallholder livestock farming as a lever for food security and economic autonomy for smallholder families.

Our work is part of the concrete application of the One Health approach.

As the first French NGO with veterinary expertise, AVSF develops its activities around three complementary technical areas.

Improving sustainable, high-performing smallholder livestock farming practices

Whether in small-scale livestock systems, grass-fed livestock farming, or housed livestock systems, AVSF professionals work with livestock farmers to improve livestock management and associated practices: feeding, housing, reproduction, herd biosecurity, and more. Agroecological practices are fully integrated into this approach: sustainable pasture management, agro-silvo-forestry systems, local fodder production, and the use of crop residues, among others. These actions help sustainably increase animal production, ensure food security for smallholder families, and increase their incomes.

In Mongolia, for example, through the new WIFI project, improving the quality of animal production makes it possible to market meat products in profitable markets while also managing herd size to support sustainable pasture management. At the same time, the project directly connects steppe livestock farmers with urban consumers.

AVSF's long-term support has also enabled three Mongolian cashmere-producing cooperatives to sign a three-year commercial agreement with a company in the luxury sector. The key aspects of this contract are the supply of a high-quality raw material and fair payment for pastoral livestock farmers, combined with protection of fragile pastures.

Since it's based on the seasonal mobility of herds, pastoral livestock farming covers nearly one third of the world's land area. This system, low in inputs and with limited pollution, is agroecological by definition, even if it often leads to conflicts over usage (see p. 18).

To clarify policy recommendations from the populations concerned and ways to support them, AVSF organised an internal workshop bringing together its technical experts and livestock farmer organisations, punctuated by a unique exchange between livestock farmers from Senegal and Mongolia. Finally, AVSF co-organised an international conference on agropastoralism. This was an early step in preparing for the International Year of Rangelands and Pastoralists in 2026.

Strengthening local animal health services

Livestock farming communities are often far from animal health services. To remedy this, AVSF trains and organises community-based animal health workers (CAHW). They're chosen from within their community and offer basic but crucial veterinary care.

To expand this type of programme, the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) and Vétérinaires Sans Frontières International (VSFI), of which AVSF is a founding member, worked for two years to develop guides and recommendations for states, governments and relevant

actors on how to train CAHWs and deploy them in their territories. This recognition is a positive step, which will make it possible to fill out existing public and private veterinary services.

Through its projects, AVSF also contributes to strengthening central and local veterinary services in countries where they are lacking to reduce the risks of animal diseases and zoonoses.

Implementing the One Health approach on the field

All these actions are part of the One Health approach, which recognises the interdependence of animal, human and environmental health.

In this context, on 4 July AVSF organised a technical workshop dedicated to reducing and finding alternatives to pesticides and synthetic veterinary medicines (see p. 6). The workshop tackled the intensive use of veterinary medicines, which harm ecosystem health, foster antibiotic resistance and could have global public health repercussions. This underlines the importance of establishing effective epidemiological surveillance systems worldwide, deployed at multiple levels. AVSF is also testing and promoting alternatives to synthetic veterinary medicines, such as ethnoveterinary care based on traditional knowledge.



New Project

Bolivia

Working towards a sustainable, innovative, resilient livestock farming model with zero deforestation

Strengthen technical, social and environmental benchmarks for zero-deforestation livestock farming, anchored in livestock farming best practices and environmental management, through different support mechanisms for livestock farms [technological, financial and training innovations]. Support

more than 50 livestock farmers in developing tools and monitoring procedures needed to demonstrate progress towards sustainable, forest-based livestock farming, in line with policies, requirements and conditions of the global market. Raise awareness among more than 400 students and 80 municipal and regional officials and technicians on the importance of sustainable livestock farming in the Chaco region for forest and biodiversity conservation.

Partners: smallholder and livestock farmer organisations in Chaco, local municipalities

Funding: Agence française de développement

PUBLICATIONS



Handbook for planning and managing CAHW programmes, Vétérinaires Sans Frontières International, 2024

One Health, contributing to the resilience of populations in the field of global health, AVSF, Solthis, 2024

Available for download at avsf.org



Vaccination of chickens by a CAHW in Madagascar.

Sustainable and fair supply chains

In an international context of unfair competition, enabling smallholder families to earn decent and stable incomes from their work requires the construction of sustainable, fair and transparent supply chains.

In the countries where we work

Sustainable and fair supply chains are first rooted in the agroecological or organic production of healthy and nutritious food, which naturally places them in quality markets that are more profitable for producers. Depending on the type of product, agricultural goods enter export supply chains for international markets or shorter supply chains destined for local markets.

In both cases, AVSF advocates for fair remuneration for producers and transparent partnerships with all the actors that make up the value chain. To ensure product quality and fair distribution of profits, AVSF works with numerous fair-trade labels, as well as organic and agroecological certifications (participatory guarantee systems - PGS).

AVSF also supports the integration of smallholder organisations into export supply chains for plant products (cocoa, coffee, spices, shea, fruit, etc.) and animal fibres. Launched in 2016 in West Africa, the Equity Program, run jointly with Commerce Équitable France, has enabled cocoa and cashew producers, for example, to secure new opportunities in fair trade supply chains and, in some cases, increase their incomes by 90%!

The third phase of the Program has just been launched and is being rolled out in Togo, Benin, Ghana and Ivory Coast with the same initial goal:

to ensure better remuneration for producers, making fair trade a driver for accelerating agroecological and social transitions. These transitions materialise, for example, in the promotion of agroforestry practices and the establishment of facilities producing bio-inputs, which increase production and strengthen farm resilience. In the Andean region, a new phase of the Cacao Bioandino project is also supporting cocoa grower organisations in positioning themselves in organic and fair-trade markets (see box opposite).

Shorter supply chains focus on more food-oriented production for regional markets: tubers, cereals, fruit and vegetables, small-scale livestock farming, dairy products, etc. For example, AVSF supports the creation of smallholder markets, where producers sell their agroecological products directly to urban consumers at fair prices (see interview with Nestor Valladolid opposite).

In the Global North

Work to defend and promote sustainable and fair supply chains to ensure better remuneration for smallholders is also underway in France and internationally. To that end, AVSF is a member of the collective Commerce Équitable France (CEF) and participates in the French Initiative for Sustainable Cocoa (IFDC).

Together with its partners, such as CEF and SCOP Ethiquable, AVSF professionals have spoken out on the conditions required for fair remuneration of cocoa producers and for a sustainable supply chain at various conferences and round tables, including the Salon du Chocolat, Natexpo and the International Agricultural Show in Paris. AVSF also shares its expertise through the publication of capitalisation documents (see box opposite) and thematic articles, such as the article in the journal "Grain de Sel," edition no. 87, dedicated to fair trade.

Among the many projects underway, AVSF continues to roll out its diagnostic and activity planning methods and tools to strengthen the capacities of its partner smallholder organisations. At the same time, AVSF monitors and analyses regulatory developments in organic farming and in the new European regulation to combat imported deforestation (EUDR) and their consequences in third countries for smallholder organisations. This monitoring leads to briefing notes and webinars for cooperatives affected by these changes to help them adapt.

New Project

Colombia, Ecuador, Peru

Fine, aromatic, organic and fair-trade cocoa

Contribute to the sustainability, traceability and marketing of fine aromatic cocoa produced by smallholder families within agroforestry systems. This ambition is based on increasing marketing for quality, organic and fair-trade cocoa in international and national markets, ensuring that organisations comply with the new requirements of the European market, and contributing to the development of appropriate sectoral policies.

Partners: PROGRESO, APP CACAO, CESA, SWISS CONTACT, Conservation International, Networks of producer organizations, local authorities, and national public institutions

Funding: French Development Agency (AFD)

PUBLICATIONS



■ *Cambodia: how can we support farmers' organisations in their efforts to create profitable markets?*, Pierre Du Buit, Sophoan Min, Innovation Reports, AVSF, 2024

■ *For a sustainable and fair cocoa supply chain*, Christophe Boscher, Romain Valleur, Technical Paper, AVSF, 2025

■ *New regulations for zero-deforestation cocoa: What are the role and costs of cooperatives in Côte d'Ivoire?*, AVSF, Commerce Équitable France, Fair Trade Advocacy Office, RICE, 2024

Available for download at avsf.org



AVSF AND THE COCOA SUPPLY CHAIN IN 2024



9 COUNTRIES



9 PROJECTS,
including 2 multi-country projects



6 NATIONAL AND 1 REGIONAL
PROFESSIONAL ORGANISATION
supported



NEARLY 50 PRODUCER
ORGANISATIONS
directly supported

Smallholder markets in Peru



Project manager in Peru, Nestor Valladolid, supports smallholder organisations in setting up smallholder

markets in Piura, Huancaro and Lima to strengthen their direct sales channels and increase their incomes.

What challenges do smallholders face?

The producers face several challenges. On the agricultural side, they struggle to ensure continuous production due to climate change, limited water availability and lack of inputs. On the organisational side, weak governance capacities complicate collective decision-making. Moreover,

market access remains inequitable: dependence on intermediaries reduces their incomes, and the absence of a strong commercial identity prevents them from adding value to their products. Finally, logistical issues linked to the geographical dispersion of producers and transport difficulties in reaching consumer centres lead to delays and losses along the value chain.

What is the project putting in place?

We first strengthened the internal capacities of partner organisations through training on governance, management and leadership, to facilitate collective decision-making and enhance autonomy. Then, we promoted the adoption of agroecological practices, such as organic inputs and optimised irrigation systems, among others. From a commercial standpoint, we diversified the sales channels, developed a shared brand identity rooted in smallholder values and raised awareness among consumers. Finally, we lowered logistical

costs by buying inputs in bulk and improving transportation coordination.

What results have been achieved?

The results are very encouraging. Over 250 producers have received training through numerous workshops, which have helped strengthen the governance of their organisations and structure transparent supply chains. Three commercial brands have been created and over 3,700 clients have been retained across the three regions. Economically, producers' monthly incomes have risen significantly, doubling in some cases. Finally, the creation of 17 new processed products and improved logistics have strengthened the sustainability and competitiveness of these short supply chains.

Crises and emergency-response initiatives

Armed conflict, political instability, drug trafficking and rising crime: as of 2024, more than half of the countries where we operate are now exposed to serious security risks. These risks are compounded by the devastating impacts of climate change and natural disasters, which can strike anywhere.

These situations of insecurity are just as diverse as they are persistent.

Many rural areas find themselves caught up in violent conflicts or are severely affected by them. In Ecuador, for example, cocoa producers are trapped by drug trafficking in coastal and border areas dominated by criminal gangs. In central and northern Mali, livestock farmers suffer the devastating effects of clashes between regular armed forces, militias and jihadist groups, which disrupt their movements and endanger their safety. In Haiti, more than 85% of Port-au-Prince is under gang control, leading to violence and extortion along major trade routes and preventing smallholders from accessing the country's largest agricultural market.

These crises threaten both our partners and our teams. Made up largely of national staff (over 90%), our teams are deeply rooted in these territories and share a profound solidarity with rural populations, who are often on the front line in the face of violence. This in-depth knowledge of local contexts enables us to maintain vital services for these populations.

Whenever the level of risk is considered acceptable, and as long as access to communities remains possible, AVSF will continue carrying out these initiatives. These challenges require adapting our methods of support and monitoring, which enabled us to maintain cooperation with all smallholder organisations in 2024.

Strengthening population resilience

Beyond security crises, extreme climate events threaten rural populations, such as cyclones or the dzud – an extreme cold front that severely affected livestock farmers in Mongolia in 2024. For all these crises, the goals of our actions remain the same: preserve and restore production capacities of smallholder populations as quickly as possible while supporting their essential economic needs.

We are also working to strengthen territorial and organisational resilience before and after crisis situations. One key factor is supporting dynamic rural farming economies that generate income and jobs by providing essential services. These economies also offer alternatives for young people who might otherwise be tempted by crime, drug trafficking or armed groups.

Finally, at the heart of every security crisis, **we support local actors who defend the rights of smallholder populations** and maintain spaces for governance and dialogue among all stakeholders.



A shared security service through the AVSF-Gret Alliance

Launched in August 2024, this joint service enables the two organisations to be more responsive to and better prepared for risks, with systems for monitoring, staff training and rapid responses in the event of a security incident. Deputy Security Officer Thomas Jadas works in close collaboration with his counterpart at Gret to ensure team safety from France.



A smallholder family affected by a natural disaster in Haiti.



**€4.8
MILLIONS**

That's the amount invested in 2024 in four of the most dangerous countries: Mali, Burkina Faso, Haiti and Ecuador.



What is the role of the security service?

The role of the security service within the AVSF-Gret Alliance is to ensure that activities are carried out under the best possible security conditions and to create a shared culture of security. Within this Alliance, we operate in an international context in nearly 30 countries with more than 1,000 employees.

In coordination with our local representatives, we ensure that security actions and procedures are properly implemented at headquarters and in the countries where we work. One of the main objectives of our shared service is

to train Alliance teams on security issues. We regularly carry out missions in the countries where AVSF and Gret cooperate to train and advise our colleagues on the ground.

Another important role I hold relates to crisis management. In the event of a crisis, the security service acts as an adviser and support body to the management of the organisation concerned. The executive management makes all final decisions.

How is your work with Gret organised?

This shared security service was born of a common desire to bring together two similar NGOs. It is one of the first building blocks of an alliance that aims to pool other services in the future.

A clear geographical division of responsibilities between the two security officers has been established and communicated to all headquarters and country teams. This allows for broader coverage and more in-depth security monitoring with the countries where we work, especially those going through major crises.

I work on behalf of both organisations under a secondment agreement. In a country where both organisations are present, I carry out my operational monitoring with the national representatives of both AVSF and Gret.

With this service, both organisations ultimately benefit from the mutual exchange of existing best practices. We draw inspiration from these to build our shared security framework.

Equal opportunity

Many of our projects today focus directly on two particular groups: women and young people. Eager to take part in the development of their territories, they nevertheless face multiple forms of discrimination that must be identified and overcome, for the benefit of all.

Women's empowerment is also a food security issue

Women make up more than half of the agricultural workforce in the Global South and are responsible for a wide range of activities, including sowing seeds, weeding, maintaining family gardens, livestock farming, etc. However, social rules and norms restrict their access to natural resources [land, water, seeds, credit, etc.], training, and agricultural advisory services. Since they're often underrepresented in political, community, or smallholder organisations, women must still, very frequently, depend on a father, brother, or husband.

And yet, 45 million people could be spared from food insecurity if gender inequality in agriculture were eliminated [FAO]. That's AVSF's goal - to achieve equal rights and fair distribution of resources, leading to genuine economic autonomy and recognition of women's social and political roles.

In order to do so, our projects include methods for supporting gender equality, such as carrying out gender analyses, ensuring the active participation of women in the planning and implementation of project activities, raising awareness and involving men, providing training, advocacy work, and appointing gender focal points (see the interview with Léonce Yameogo).

Making agriculture more appealing to young people

Two out of three people in West Africa are under the age of 25. Like women, young people suffer from a lack of access to production resources and are under-represented in decision-making bodies. In addition, the arduous nature of the work, the difficulties of getting started and low incomes all erode the appeal of agricultural occupations. The risk is youth leaving rural areas, as they may migrate to cities or other areas, depriving these territories of their creativity and their ability to drive change.

How can this issue of appeal be addressed? Our projects aim to offer real professional prospects for rural youth by listening to their actual needs. Providing strong technical training, as well as cross-cutting skills (entrepreneurship, financial management, marketing, etc.), fostering the creation of both agricultural and non-agricultural jobs (upstream and downstream of production), and advocating for their participation in projects and in the governance bodies of organisations and territories are all key to enabling them to shape their own future and express their resourcefulness.

PUBLICATIONS



Guide to gender mainstreaming in the project cycle, Katia Roesch, AVSF, 2025

Women farmers, key players in global food security, Policy Note, AVSF, 2024

Available for download at avsf.org

IN 2024



35,183 WOMEN DIRECTLY SUPPORTED



24,133 YOUNG PEOPLE DIRECTLY SUPPORTED

New Project:

Guatemala

Q'eqchi' and K'iché' smallholder organisations active in markets

This project supports more than 600 indigenous Q'eqchi' producers, 25% of whom are young people and 40% of whom are women. It aims to structure agroecological supply chains and diversify profitable local and international markets for coffee, cocoa, vegetables, and livestock, while also supporting adaptation to climate change and the preservation of biodiversity.

Partners: les Semeurs, ASOKAPE, APODIP

Funding: French Development Agency - Lord Michelham of Hellingly Foundation

A new gender focal point in Ivory Coast

The Equity Program supports smallholder organisations in fair trade supply chains in West Africa and is entering into its third phase. Gender issues are a central focus. Léonce Yameogo, Gender and Social Inclusion Officer, discusses the main challenges.

What is the



objective of your position?

My position was created to strengthen the integration of gender equality and social inclusion in this third phase. As a first step, a gender analysis will be carried out in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana on the cocoa and fruit sectors with the Empow'Her network. An action plan will be created based on those results. My role will be to support the programme team and partners

in implementation: provide technical support, develop tools, collect data, draft notes and capitalisation documents, etc.

What were the results of Équité 2 in terms of reducing gender inequalities?

The second phase of the Équité Programme highlighted the importance of gender and social inclusion, particularly the inequalities in women's access to resources and opportunities, as well as the informal and hazardous work carried out by children on cocoa farms. The Women's School of Leadership, implemented by Fairtrade Africa, for example, enabled 10 women to gain access to land, set up 14 gender equality committees with 14 related policies adopted within producer organisations, and led to the election of 10 women to decision-making positions (board of directors, executive committee, and delegates).

What are the goals for the 3rd phase of the programme?

In the previous phases of the Équité Programme, it was mainly the Women's School of Leadership that promoted gender equality. The goal for the years to come will be to strengthen and expand training capacities on women's leadership and social and economic empowerment within smallholder organisations themselves, so that women gain recognised expertise and can lead awareness-raising and sharing activities among members of their communities.

Cashew nut processors in Senegal



Our influence and advocacy work

Our commitment also involves defending the cause of our smallholder organisation partners in France, internationally and in the countries where we work. Here are three flagship examples from 2024.

Making smallholder agroecology a lever to combat hunger and malnutrition

To bring this voice into international institutions, in October 2024, AVSF once again took part in the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in Rome, via the Civil Society and Indigenous Peoples' Mechanism (CSIPM).

After a year of negotiations, CFS members adopted new the United Nations policy recommendations on reducing inequalities in food security and nutrition. These recommendations emphasize an intersectional approach and call for greater equity in food systems and for resilient agroecological practices to be strengthened.

2024 also marks the 20th anniversary of the Right to Food Guidelines, which are intended to guide states in concrete implementation of this fundamental right. On this occasion, the civil society presented clear demands: recognition of the rights of indigenous peoples; acknowledgement of the links between debt and the food crisis; and the integration of issues of financialisation and trade. The goal is to address the structural causes of inequalities that threaten this right and food security.

Training smallholder organisations in Madagascar

Advocacy cannot be confined to expert circles or to the negotiating arenas of French or international institutions; it must first and foremost be taken up by farmers themselves in their own regions. That is precisely the purpose of the training workshops organised by AVSF for representatives of smallholder organisations, held this year on Madagascar's east coast.

Over two days, 25 representatives from 22 smallholder organisations - rice farmers, fishers, mareyeuses (women fish traders), and members of Community-based groups for the management and protection of natural resources [COBA] - came together to take ownership of the essentials of advocacy: understanding its mechanisms, mobilising the right tools and the most relevant alliances, and devising an appropriate strategy to defend their interests with the public authorities.

Each group developed a strategy aligned with its priorities. For example, the COBA intends to request that the Malagasy government allocate 15% of the revenue from carbon credits generated by the protection of the forests they manage to fund conservation efforts. The fishers are calling for stronger state control over industrial fishing and an extension of zones reserved for artisanal fishing.

Defending the future of pastoralism

Nomadic livestock farmers face multiple challenges: dwindling resources, climate hazards, conflicts over resource use with settled communities, and security crises. How can we safeguard the future of pastoralism, which supports 200 million people worldwide? By establishing a dialogue with public authorities to ensure that regulations are implemented and adapted to match the scale of these issues.

With this in mind, pastoralism experts - local partners, AVSF professionals and leaders of livestock farmer organisations from Africa and Mongolia - met in Senegal last November. The workshop helped to clarify technical and policy priorities for today's pastoralism, as well as key messages to take to decision-makers.

During national consultations, pastoral livestock farmer organisations play a very active role: they put forward concrete demands, such as revising Senegal's pastoral code, securing access to land and grazing routes, and adopting regulations that work in their favour. They draw on the Nouakchott + 10 Declaration, which calls on states and relevant actors to implement the regional strategy for the development of livestock farming and pastoral systems in West Africa and the Sahel.



Members of the SCEB farmers' organisation in Ivory Coast



**260
MEMBERS**



**120 VOLUNTEERS
5,030 VOLUNTEER
HOURS**

recorded in the Use
of Resources Statement



**16 SCHOOL
CORRESPONDENTS**



**23 REGIONAL
CORRESPONDENTS**



**4 CONFERENCES
WITHOUT BORDERS**

EDUCATION IN CITIZENSHIP AND INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY

In France, AVSF is carrying out awareness-raising initiatives to teach primary school, secondary school, and university students, as well as the general public, about smallholder farming and international solidarity.



**18 FILM SCREENING
AND DISCUSSION EVENTS**
in 9 regions during
the Alimenterre and Festiol
festivals



**2,715 PEOPLE
EDUCATED**

**24 AWARENESS-RAISING WORKSHOPS WERE ORGANISED
FOR 1,730 STUDENTS IN 7 PRIMARY SCHOOLS**



USING 3 WORKSHOP KITS:

Animata in the
Land of Chocolate



Animata and
Livestock Farming



Animata's
Farm



11 JUNIOR WORKSHOPS
were organised
for 289 secondary school
students to teach them about the
**SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT
GOALS**

Elected Representatives and Governance Bodies

[Elections from 15 June 2024]

The Bureau

Barbara DUFOUR

President - Veterinarian, professor emeritus of contagious diseases and epidemiology at the National Veterinary School of Alfort

Jean-François LAMOUREUX

Vice-President - Architect, former vice-president of Action Against Hunger

Alain YVERGNIAUX

Secretary-General - Economist, former business executive, strategy and organisation consultant

Élisabeth MULLER

Treasurer - Former AVSF administrative and financial director

Dominique LEBRETON

Member - 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

Olivier FAUGÈRE

Member - Veterinarian, specialist in livestock farming in warm regions and veterinary public health, former director of the French National School of Veterinary Services, former director of "France Veterinary International"

Cécile BÉRUT

Member - International rural development consultant, former AVSF representative in Haiti

Other members of the Board of Directors

Amélie BAJOLET

Agronomist and president of the Bee Friendly Label

Moussa BALDÉ

Local development engineer, AVSF national coordinator for Senegal, Gambia and Guinea-Bissau

Sophie BARTHELON

Deputy Director of the Ardèche Departmental Directorate for Territories

Michel CHANCY

Veterinarian, former secretary of state for Animal Production in Haiti, and co-founder of the NGO Veterimed

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

Marc CHAPON

Agronomist, AVSF national coordinator for Togo and Benin

Camille CLUZEAUD

Agricultural development and food security project consultant

Loïc COISON

Former regional director at Crédit Mutuel, corporate auditor

Guy DURAND

Agricultural economist, professor emeritus of economics and rural development at Institut Agro Rennes

Jean-Luc FRANÇOIS

Veterinarian, former director of the Division of Agriculture, Rural Development and Biodiversity at AFD

Hervé PETIT

Veterinarian and former head of AVSF's Livestock Farming, Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health Department

Michel PROST

Agricultural economist, former director of a federation of cooperatives

Daniel ROCHE

Agricultural engineer, former director of the ESITPA school of agricultural engineering, agricultural training instructor and specialist in agricultural and rural development

Philippe STEINMETZ

Veterinarian, inspector general of Veterinary Public Health at the General Council for Food, Agriculture and Rural Areas [CGAAER]

Jean-Michel THOMAS

Agricultural engineer, professor emeritus of agronomy at Institut Agro Dijon

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



295 PROFESSIONALS
87% of whom are from the countries where we carry out projects

GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF OUR TEAMS



55 % in Africa
23 % in Latin America and Haiti
12 % in Asia
10 % in France

In Cooperation Countries

10 Coordination Offices

Cambodia

NC: **Sophoan MIN**
AFS: **Vuthy CHAY**

Ecuador/Colombia

NC: **Sylvain BLEUZE**
AFS: **Luisa Viviana PAZMIÑO JARAMILLO**

Haiti

NC: **Jean-Edy THEARD**
AFS: **Donald Andy DUVERSEAU**

Madagascar

NC: **Guillaume PARIZET**
AFS: **Rovan'ny Soa Hajalaina RAZAFINOTRONA**

Mali

NC: **Damouko BONDE**
AFS: **Mama DEMBELÉ**

Mongolia

NC: **Manon LELARGE**
AFS: **Sukhbaatar BOLORCHIMEG**

Peru

NC: **Javier ALARCÓN CERVERA**
AFS: **Melania VALDIVIA MAS**

Senegal/Guinea-Bissau

NC: **Moussa BALDÉ**
AFS: **Aboubakrine SARR**

Togo/Benin

NC: **Marc CHAPON**
AFS: **Ayaovi Gagno DJOGBEMAH**

Côte d'Ivoire/Ghana

NC: **Edem KOMLAN**
AFS: **Rasidatu LAWAL**

8 National Representation Offices

Bolivia

Telmo **ROBALINO CAMPOS**
AFS: **Diana Corina GUTIERREZ**

Burkina Faso

Moussa **BARRO**

Colombia

Gonzalo **CARDONA MARTINEZ**

Ethiopia

Abraham **YOHANESS GEBREMICHAEL**

Guatemala

Pascal **HUWART / Alfredo BERNABE**
RAF : **Jorge Mario LEONARDO**

Guinea-Bissau

Serifo **EMBALÓ**
AFS: **Fernando Paulo OCAIA GOMES**

Laos

Sommay **INTAVONG**
AFS: **Thavisouk ANOUVONG**

Namibia

Reinhold **KAMBULI**

In France



19 employees at the headquarters in Lyon and 10 employees at the satellite office in Nogent-sur-Marne



45 % women
55 % men

Administrative and Financial Department

Financial Director
Julie CRENN

Cooperation Department

Technical Director
Myriam MACKIEWICZ HOUNGUE

3 technical departments
Smallholder Farming, Natural Resources & Climate Change:

Katia ROESCH
Livestock Farming, Animal Health & Veterinary Public Health:
Dr. Sabine PATRICOT

Smallholder Organisations & Markets:
Romain VALLEUR

Human Resources Department

HR Director
Chloé DESGEORGE

Executive Director
Christophe CHAUVEAU

Deputy Executive Director
Frédéric APOLLIN

AVSF's Professional Network

Founding Member



avsf.org



avsf.org



vsf-international.org



groupe-initiatives.org



cite-developpement-durable.org



avsf.org

Active Member



Creation Support



tero.coop



spp-france.fr

Alliance



zebu.net

Financial Partners in 2024

Bilateral & Multilateral Organisations

- AFD [French Development Agency]
- GAC [Global Affairs Canada]
- IDB [Inter-American Development Bank]
- European Commission - DG INTPA - Directorate-General for International Partnerships European Commission - DG ECHO - Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations
- DCI Principality of Monaco [Department of International Cooperation]
- ENABEL [Belgian International Development Agency]
- FAO [Food and Agriculture Organization]
- FFEM [French Global Environment Facility]
- IFAD [United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development]
- FIEDS [Italo-Ecuadorian Fund for Sustainable Development]
- MEAE [French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs], French Crisis and Support Centre, French Embassies [Cooperation and Cultural Action Services]
- WOA [World Organisation for Animal Health], founded as OIE
- USAID [United States Agency for International Development]
- SIDA [Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency]

French Public & Parapublic Organisations

- CIRAD [French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development]
- VetAgro Sup/ENSV-FVI: National School of Veterinary Services - France Veterinary International
- FranceAgriMer [French National Institute for Agricultural and Seafood Products]

French Regional Authorities

- Hauts-de-Seine Department
- Metropolitan Lyon - Greater Lyon
- Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes Region
- Normandy Region
- Syndicat d'Eau Potable Bresse Dombes Saône (*Bresse Dombes Saône Drinking Water Authority*)
- City of Lyon

Institutions & Public Authorities in the countries where we operate

- ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] – ARAA [Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food]
- Autonomous Decentralised Government of the Province Pichincha [GADPP] - Quito/Ecuador
- Haitian Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development
- Senegalese Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Equipment and Food Sovereignty
- Lao PDR Department of Agriculture
- Malian Ministry of Rural Development

Associations & Foundations

- CFSI [French Committee for International Solidarity]
- Fondation de France
- Isocrates Foundation
- Lord Michelham of Hellingly Foundation
- WeForest

Companies & Corporate Foundations

- Animovet Clinics [Maiche, Le Russey], Berlioz Veterinary Clinic
- Société Civile Professionnelle des Docteurs Vétérinaires [Châtillon-sur-Seine], Procyon Selarl de Vétérinaires [Château-Thébaud], Selarl de Vétérinaires des Hautes Eaux
- Sevety's clinics: Clinique de l'Empereur, Clinique Paris Ouest Veto Saint-Prix
- Fondation Bel
- Carrefour Foundation
- EGIS Foundation
- Raja Foundation
- EDF Foundation
- Rabobank Foundation - Rabo Foundation
- Alstom Foundation
- M'Demain, Missegle Endowment Fund
- Valrhona Foundation
- HTH - Holding Textile Hermes
- SCOP Ethiquable

Fundraising Partners

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

2024 Financial Report

In 2024, AVSF recorded an activity volume of €19.1 million, of which €17.1 million were devoted to projects. This is a stable volume compared to the previous year (€17.4 million).

The Africa region continued to account for just over 50% of our activities in 2024. The reduction in our cooperation in Mali following the end of French funding in 2023 was partly offset by strong activity in Senegal and Madagascar. The Americas accounted for 34% of 2023 activity, while Asia stood at 11%.

We generated a surplus of €51,000. Operating earnings posted a deficit of €21,000. Financial earnings totalled €95,000; and the extraordinary earnings recorded a deficit of €11,000. An income tax charge of €11,000 was recognised in 2024 on interest generated by term deposit accounts.

Most of our funding (79%) still comes from public subsidies, such as the "programme"-type cross-disciplinary multi-year funding agreement with AFD. Donations from individual donors is stable at €1.3 million, which represents 7% of our total funding for the year. Finally, we are continuing our policy of creating sensible, balanced budgets, which, combined with sound budgetary monitoring, allows us to generate surpluses.

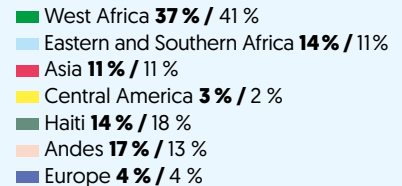
This performance allowed us to bring our accumulated fund up to €3.363 million. This figure has been steadily growing for several years and now represents 18% of our activity volume.

Finally, we'd like to highlight that volunteers contributed 5,030 hours to AVSF's mission and operations in 2024, which was valued at €251,500.

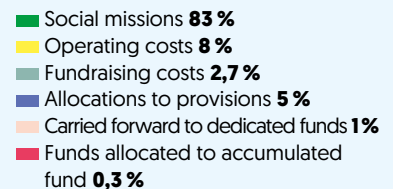
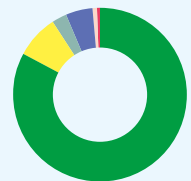


Julie CRENN
Financial Director

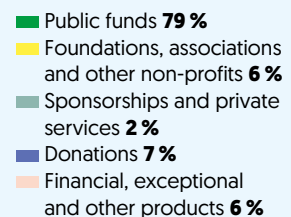
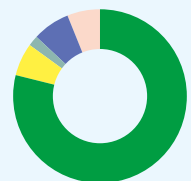
GEOGRAPHIC DISTRIBUTION OF SOCIAL MISSIONS IN 2024 VS 2023



USE OF FUNDS - 2024



RESSOURCES 2024



ASSETS			2024	2023
In thousands of euros	Gross	Amortisation	Net	
Fixed assets	743	214	529	604
Current assets	24 972		24 972	19 407
Accounts receivable	24 800		24 800	19 208
Prepaid expenses	172		172	199
Currency translation adjustments – Assets	651		651	539
Cash and cash equivalents	10 331		10 331	9 326
Short-term investments	5		5	5
Available cash	10 326		10 326	9 321
TOTAL	36 697	214	36 483	32 045

LIABILITIES			2024	2023
Association funds			3 363	3 312
Accumulated fund			3 312	3 290
Earnings			51	22
Provisions for risks and charges			1 414	868
Restricted funds			378	205
Debts			31 051	25 096
Other debts			2 508	2 836
Deferred income			28 543	22 260
Currency translation adjustments – Liabilities			277	395
Loans and other borrowings			0	0
TOTAL			36 483	32 045

Notes on 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 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 has not yet spent on its projects.
- Our accumulated fund has grown to €3,363,000 thanks to the allocation of our 2024 earnings. This brings the accumulated fund ratio to 18% of the volume of activity for 2024.

Surplus/Deficit Account Indicating Source and Destination of Funds 31/12/2024 (in thousands of euros)

A - INCOME AND COSTS INDICATING SOURCE AND DESTINATION OF FUNDS	TOTAL	%	Incl. donations from the general public	%
BREAKDOWN OF INCOME BY SOURCE				
1- INCOME LINKED TO DONATIONS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC	1 647	9 %	1 647	100 %
1.1 Contributions without consideration	10		10	
1.2 Donations, bequests and sponsorship	1 636		1 636	
- Hand-to-hand donations	1 293		1 293	
- Bequests, donations and life insurance	12		12	
- Sponsorship	331		331	
1.3 Other income linked to donations from the general public				
2 - INCOME NOT LINKED TO DONATIONS FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC	3 804	20 %		
2.1 Contributions with consideration	-			
2.2 Corporate sponsorship	-			
2.3 Financial contributions without consideration	905			
2.4 Other income not linked to donations from the general public	2 421			
3 - SUBSIDIES AND OTHER PUBLIC ALLOCATIONS	13 139	69 %		
4 - REVERSALS OF PROVISIONS AND IMPAIRMENT LOSSES	514	3 %		
5 - USE OF RESTRICTED FUNDS FROM PAST YEARS	-	0 %	-	0 %
TOTAL	19 103		1 647	
BREAKDOWN OF COSTS BY DESTINATION				
1 - SOCIAL MISSIONS	15 821	83 %	1 079	66 %
2 - FUNDRAISING COSTS	511	3 %	384	23 %
3 - OPERATING COSTS	1 476	8 %	10	1 %
4 - ALLOCATIONS TO PROVISIONS AND IMPAIRMENT	1 060	6 %	-	
5 - INCOME TAX	11			
6 - RESTRICTED FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	173	1 %	173	10 %
TOTAL	19 051		1 647	
SURPLUS OR DEFICIT	51			

Notes on 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*. In all, 83% of resources are used to cover expenses for development projects in France and in other countries. 51% of the expenses for those social missions were projects carried out in Africa, and 4% were 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 2% compared to 2023. 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 representative offices in the countries where we operate, 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. This report will also be 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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www.avsf.org



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