Helping people live off the land sustainably
activists supporting the most deprived smallholder communities. Those communities are the victims of land-grabbing, resource plundering and globalization of trade, not to mention threats affecting all of humanity (though they are the main victims): conflict and war, out-of-control global warming, exhaustion of natural resources, deforestation, soil erosion and drastic loss of biodiversity.

With its partners, AVSF works in the North and South to develop concrete proposals for taking action and promoting change. In all of these areas, AVSF and its activists make their voice heard: speaking with or to institutions and organizations that have an interest in agriculture, livestock farming, food and the climate, and more and more often before the general public. With other NGOs, AVSF plays its role as a whistleblower, condemning policies and practices that threaten the planet and hinder the development and independence of exploited smallholder communities.

That voice is all the stronger because it is based on our experiences on the ground. For over 40 years, our experts have been proposing and supporting practices for the sustainable and fair management of natural resources, agroecology and organic production, and the creation of fair supply chains in local and export markets. They firmly believe that livestock farming offers benefits for disadvantaged communities, and they propose methods for livestock farming and monitoring health that are adapted to the needs of those communities and to societal requirements. All of their proposals aim to improve the ability of smallholders to prevent and adapt to climatic, economic and political crises.

While experience makes it possible to advance, or even bring about a change in scale, it benefits from continuous contact with research. We work with researchers and smallholders to adapt knowledge and techniques in order to become more efficient in the future.

Being a professional and an activist today means focusing greater attention on those communities that are the victims of exclusion, and yet that can offer major changes. Women, who aspire to find their true economic and political place in society. Young people, who legitimately demand greater social recognition and who are no longer content with projects that ignore them. Young people, who, in Europe too (we are seeing it with regard to the climate), represent opportunity for our timid and unchanging societies and who are ready to bring about change after generations of inaction by those in power. And lastly migrants, by strengthening aspects of our initiatives, such as access to professions, pluriactivity and services, in order to make migration—whether local, seasonal or to cities, neighboring countries or far-away countries—a useful choice rather than an imposed necessity.

Being an AVSF activist ultimately means defending an agricultural model that helps redefine more broadly a society that is fairer, more environmentally friendly and (most importantly) more human.

Michel PROST
President
Frédéric APOLLIN
Executive Director
Editorial

AVSF’s work is in line with the United Nations’ sustainable development goals

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AVSF’s work is in line with the United Nations’ sustainable development goals

**OBJECTIVE 1**
**No poverty**
The transition to agroecology promoted by AVSF and the introduction of high-quality plant and animal products on local and international markets help smallholder families boost their income, ensure their food and economic independence and escape from poverty.

**OBJECTIVE 2**
**Zero hunger**
Smallholder farming, combined with the agroecology techniques promoted by AVSF, helps significantly boost crop yields and animal production in order to ensure food independence and feed smallholder families.

**OBJECTIVE 3**
**Good health and well-being**
The “One Health” approach promoted by AVSF combines animal, human and environmental health. It helps prevent animal diseases transmitted to humans and the spreading of epidemics. In Mali, mixed mobile health teams ensure the health of transhumant livestock farming families and their animals.

**OBJECTIVE 5**
**Gender equality**
AVSF’s work aims to help women in rural areas become more independent. Thanks to agroecology, small-scale livestock farming and the sale of goods through short supply chains and female-run cooperatives, women are becoming real drivers of the economy in their communities. They are gaining not only greater independence but also social and political recognition with respect to men and local actors.

**OBJECTIVE 7**
**Affordable and clean energy**
By introducing methanation as a way of using animal residues and solar energy for pumping pastoral well water or for irrigating land, AVSF supports the development of affordable renewable energies in rural areas in order to reduce the use of firewood and deforestation.

**OBJECTIVE 8**
**Decent work and economic growth**
The development of sustainable and fair supply chains (fair trade, sustainable sourcing, short supply chains, etc.) allows smallholders to receive fair remuneration for their work. Smallholder companies and cooperatives founded with support from AVSF all create decent jobs in rural areas.

**OBJECTIVE 10**
**Reduced inequalities**
By boosting the income and standard of living of smallholder families, those families enjoy access to basic services (health, education, etc.) and essential services (communication, transport, etc.). The smallholder organizations supported by AVSF defend their social, economic and political rights for greater equality in supply chains and in their communities.

**OBJECTIVE 12**
**Responsible consumption and production**
The agroecology techniques developed by AVSF help produce healthy food while respecting the environment as well as human and animal health. The supply chains that are put in place encourage responsible consumption among the companies involved and final consumers in urban areas.

**OBJECTIVE 15**
**Life on land**
Agroecology, agroforestry and smallholder livestock farming make use of all agricultural land, limit soil erosion and deforestation and preserve plant and animal biodiversity.

**OBJECTIVE 17**
**Partnerships for the goals**
To achieve the SDGs, AVSF establishes many constructive partnerships (in the countries where AVSF operates and in the North) that are based on synergies between different areas of expertise and skills: smallholder organizations, local NGOs, professional organizations, local authorities, public services, companies, research, international donors and foundations.

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7 key highlights from 2018

Official recognition for AVSF’s contribution to livestock farming in Senegal

In April 2018, AVSF organized a high-level roundtable discussion in Dakar, under the distinguished patronage and with the participation of the minister of livestock farming and production, on results and methods for the coexistence of smallholder and industrial livestock-farming systems in Senegal and in the Sahel. The event addressed the effectiveness and impacts of those systems, as well as the relevance and feasibility of their coexistence. On 8 December (national livestock-farming day), AVSF was awarded by President Macky Sall for its commitment to developing smallholder livestock farming in Senegal.

Launch of an ambitious project for development and social cohesion in the Sahel

During the second half of 2018, four NGOs from Groupe Initiatives (AVSF, GRET, CIEDEL and IRAM) designed and launched the “3 Frontières” project with the French Development Agency and their African partners along the borders of Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso. The goals were to develop an economic fabric in rural areas, strengthen social cohesion and promote inclusive local governance in areas that have been highly destabilized by fighting and by the activity of jihadist movements and other armed groups.

AVSF teaches students about sustainable development

AVSF organized educational modules for about one hundred high-school students in the Ile-de-France region and at three middle schools in Lyon. The objective was to get the students thinking about four of the United Nations’ sustainable development goals—complex issues which they are not necessarily confronted with often in their daily life but which are nevertheless crucial for their future.

In Paris, the project involved the creation of the awareness-raising campaign Kif Ta Cantine ("love your cafeteria"), designed by young people for young people and circulated on social media to promote local and responsible consumption.
Launch of the collective effort to develop AVSF’s new strategy

In June 2018, in Lyon, more than 70 elected representatives, volunteers and employees from AVSF and partners in the South launched group thinking to develop the “AVSF 2025” strategy, starting with fundamental questions:

- How will societal demands in Europe and in the countries where we operate regarding livestock farming and food be taken into account?
- What impact will migration within and between continents have on AVSF’s mission and work?
- What are the prospects for growth and institutional development?
- What form of governance will help us overcome the challenges we will face between now and 2025?

Stronger collaboration in AVSF’s groups and networks

In 2018, the number of projects by consortiums grew steadily:

- more than 17 projects and services involving members of MOABI Group (formerly AVSF Group);
- more than 11 projects by consortiums organized in partnership with NGOs partnered with Groupe Initiatives; and
- three joint projects undertaken with partners from the VSF-International network. Those groups make it possible to pool complementary skills and offer large-scale projects to bring about a real change in scale for initiatives that support the regions and communities in question.

Transition to agroecology in West Africa: launch of a regional project with ECOWAS

On behalf of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), AVSF teamed up with IRAM to support the implementation of the “PATAE” project by the Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food (ARAA).

It is an ambitious regional program co-funded by the French Development Agency to support smallholder organizations in five different West African countries in their efforts to transition to agroecology and to help shape West African policies to that end.

A One Health workshop to bring together development professionals in Mali

Having first appeared in the 2000s, the “one world, one health” concept highlights the collective awareness of the connections between animal health, human health and environmental health, as well as the heightened risk of pandemics. In November 2018, in Bamako, AVSF and its partners from the VSF-International network organized an international workshop to strengthen cooperation between all actors involved in One Health initiatives, with public and private professionals in animal health, human health and environmental health.
Agronomes & Vétérinaires Sans Frontières in 2018
Working towards greater autonomy for smallholders worldwide

As the very foundation of human societies, smallholder farming is still indispensable when it comes to not only the economic development, but also the social, cultural and political development of countries in the South. By producing over 70% of the food consumed worldwide and by employing one-third of the world’s population, smallholder farming is still by far the leading form of agriculture.

And yet, more than 800 million people on the planet (or about one in nine) still suffer from hunger, with 80% of them living in rural areas. This is because of a number of threats affecting all of humanity, and in particular those suffering from hunger: conflicts and wars, out-of-control global warming, exhaustion of natural resources, deforestation, soil erosion and dramatic loss of biodiversity. Those smallholders are also the victims of unfair globalization of trade, resource plundering, land-grabbing and competition from an industrial agricultural model that makes intensive use of chemical inputs, that creates pollution and that is dangerous for health and the climate.

Smallholder crop and livestock farming, combined with agroecology, provide real solutions to help overcome the challenges of tomorrow: producing sufficient quantities of healthy food that is accessible to everyone, preserving the planet’s resources and the climate and ensuring that smallholders can enjoy dignified and fair living conditions. Those are the goals that AVSF set for itself over 40 years ago.

Agronomes & Vétérinaires Sans Frontières is an officially recognized non-profit association that promotes international solidarity. AVSF supports rural communities and smallholder organizations in the South that are threatened by exclusion and poverty. AVSF mobilizes the expertise and skills of professionals in agriculture, livestock farming and animal health in order to help those communities gain greater financial and food independence and cover their most basic needs.

AVSF offers smallholder communities technical advice, financial support and training, and makes use of traditional smallholder know-how, to help them improve their living conditions, sustainably manage natural resources and participate in the socio-economic development of their region.

Thanks to the smallholder farming that AVSF defends:
- smallholders are able to lead a dignified life thanks to their land and herds;
- smallholder families provide cities and rural areas with healthy foods;
- communities take steps to preserve the environment, biodiversity and the climate;
- smallholder organizations defend the rights of smallholders.

Read AVSF’s charter at avsf.org
Key figures for AVSF

700,000 people supported
(more than 140,000 families)

89% of funds allocated to our projects
(€15m budget)

60 development projects

300 AVSF employees
85% of whom are from the countries where we carry out our projects

80 local partners
in the countries where we operate

18 countries

Guatemala
Haiti
Honduras

Colombia
Ecuador
Peru

Senegal
Mali
Togo
Benin
Burkina Faso
Ivory Coast
Ghana

Madagascar

Cambodia
Laos
Mongolia
Vietnam
AVSF’s professional groups & networks

For effective and efficient cooperation, AVSF coordinates and participates in many different professional groups and networks. Those partnerships are indispensable for sharing and disseminating experiences and best practices, pooling complementary skills, proposing ambitious projects for fair and sustainable development in rural areas and participating in policy discussions for adapting public policies and private-sector practices.

MOABI Group
(formerly AVSF Group)

| Expertise |
| Complementary and cross-disciplinary skills of actors involved in solidarity, expertise and the social and solidarity economy in the sustainable and fair development of rural areas, transformation of food systems and promotion of the social and solidarity economy. |

| Actions |
| • Identification and implementation of rural-development programs and improving dialogue with the public and private sectors. |
| • Provision of services and expertise at national and international level. |
| • Creation of companies with a social mission to provide accessible products and services to organizations and rural communities. |
| • Studies and publications. |

| Members |
| Three NGOs — AVSF, CESA Ecuador, PROGRESO Peru — and the cooperative consulting firm TERO (of which AVSF is a founding member); over 450 experts in total. |

> avsf.org

VSF International

| Expertise |
| Veterinary, zootechnical and agricultural skills with a specialization in livestock farming, animal health, veterinary public health, animal well-being and the One Health approach. |

| Actions |
| • Identification and implementation of programs to support family livestock farming, and consolidation of adapted public and private animal-health systems and veterinary-public-health systems in over 30 different countries. |
| • International policy dialogue on support for family livestock farming, the evolution of the veterinary profession and the control of zoonoses. |

| Members |
| 13 NGOs from Europe and Canada. |

> vsf-international.org

Groupe Initiatives

| Expertise |
| Cross-disciplinary and multi-sector skills for the sustainable and fair development of rural and urban areas. |

| Actions |
| • Development of innovations and promotion of relevant and efficient practices and methods by pooling the skills and experiences of its members and partners in the South. |
| • Experience-sharing, production and dissemination of knowledge by organizing international seminars and a publication program (Collection Traverses). |
| • Identification and implementation of projects through a consortium. |
| • Specialized theme-based expertise. |
| • Policy dialogue in France, Europe and worldwide on practices and policies for development aid and international solidarity. |

| Members |
| 12 professional international-solidarity associations (1,600 experts). Member of Coordination SUD |

> groupe-initiatives.org

GTAE
(working group on the transition to agroecology)

| Expertise |
| Transition to agroecology |

| Actions |
| • Measure the agro-environmental and socio-economic performance of agroecology practices and systems. |
| • Identification of the necessary conditions for disseminating agroecology for rural communities and areas. |
| • Policy dialogue in France and worldwide for public policies favoring the transition to agroecology in the South. |

| Members |
| Four international-solidarity NGOs for development aid: AGRISUD, AVSF, CARI and GRET. Close coordination with NGOs and research centers in France and in the South. |

> avsf.org

Launch of the "Cité du Développement Durable"

AVSF is a founding member of the Cité du Développement Durable (sustainable development campus), which was launched in November 2018 at the Jardin Tropical in Nogent-sur-Marne. It is the only initiative of its kind in France, and comprises 24 actors: research institutes, higher education, non-profits and NGOs, design offices, companies in the social and solidarity economy, etc. That diversity is an advantage when it comes to working towards the initiative’s ambition: disseminating and sharing innovative solutions for sustainable development in all of its dimensions (including among the general public), decompartmentalizing expertise and, ultimately, striving to achieve the United Nations’ 17 sustainable development goals.

> cite-developpement-durable.org

AVSF is also an active member of
AVSF’s newest projects

AVSF carries out 60 projects on three different continents. Twelve new projects were launched in 2018.

**COLOMBIA**

Agroecology for peace

Strengthening 35 community organizations comprising over 2,850 smallholder families in indigenous communities and communities of African descent to improve agroecology production systems in southwest Colombia affected by the conflict.

**Partners:** ADC, FCN, FUNDESUMA, MAELA

**Ecuador & Peru**

Reducing the risk of flooding

Helping 500 smallholder families who are vulnerable to flooding implement more resilient production systems, and helping the public and private institutions in question implement innovative financial mechanisms and construct suitable structures that will reduce risk in sensitive coastal basins in Piura and Portoviejo.

**Partners:** CESA, PROGRESO (MOABI Group)

**Ecuador**

Agroecology and short supply chains

Helping 320 smallholder families within the Pillaro irrigation system transition to agroecology, process and market products through short supply chains while helping improve higher education and public policies.

**Partners:** CESA (MOABI Group), 4 universities (UCE, UASB, ESPOL, UTN) and the Ecuadorian Agricultural Forum

**Mongolia**

Certified sustainable textiles

Helping create a supply chain for the production and marketing of sustainable textiles in Ulaanbaatar and in the provinces of Bayankhongor, Arkhangai and Gobi-Altai for roughly 5,000 livestock-farming families in Mongolia.

**Partners:** National Association of Pasture User Groups, Mongolian Wool and Cashmere Association, Collaborative Center for Sustainable Production and Consumption, Mongolian Center for the Environment and Security

**Cambodia**

Organic rice and organic and fair-trade palm sugar

Supporting palm-sugar producers from the Kampatrace cooperative in the province of Kampong Speu and organic-rice producers from the Union of Agricultural Cooperatives in Preah Vihear Meanchey (PMUAC) in the province of Preah Vihear, to help them obtain organic and fair-trade certification and market their production.

**Partners:** SCOP Ethiquable, Kampatrace cooperative, Union of Agricultural Cooperatives in Preah Vihear Meanchey (PMUAC)

**Guatemala**

Defending the rights of indigenous groups

Protecting the rights of indigenous groups involving 500 ancestral authorities from 100 communities in the exercise of their self-determination, and participating in decision-making for the management and development of their land.

**Partners:** FUNDAMAYA, UTZ CHE’, APROBA SANK
**Restoring and protecting land and forest areas**

Restoring and sustainably managing forest zones and sensitive sites in the Savanes, Kara and Centrale regions for 3,600 producers in order to make them more resilient to climate risks.

**Partners:** INADES Formation - RAFIA – Jeunesse Pionnière Rurale, CAE2D

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**Helping vulnerable households in northern Mali become more resilient**

Supporting 33,350 vulnerable people, eight organizations and 46 regional authorities to maintain a mobile health system for animals and humans, improve access to water infrastructure for nomads and livestock, set up income-generating activities for women and processing of animal products (milk and meat).

**Partners:** Crop and livestock farmer organizations, ADESAH, regional authorities

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**Local development in northern Mali**

Providing technical assistance and supporting regional councils in Timbuktu and Taoudenni in project management in order to identify, formulate and implement projects for investment, access to basic social services and revival of the local economy for the development of northern Mali.

**Partners:** Crop and livestock farmer organizations, ADESAH, regional authorities

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**Fattening sheep in northern Senegal**

Supporting rural households in Matam in the fattening of their sheep in order to improve the sustainable income of 100 crop and livestock farming families.

**Partners:** Livestock farmer organizations, Elevages Sans Frontières

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**Transitioning to agroecology in West Africa**

Supporting actual initiatives of producers and local actors committed to the transition to agroecology, and supporting governments and local authorities to help identify and define public policies as a driver of that transition.

**Partners:** ECOWAS, IRAM (Groupe Initiatives), INADES International

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**Learn more about all of AVSF’s projects**

**at avsf.org**
Our work & expertise
For over 40 years, AVSF has offered a wide range of technical skills, used in our projects on the ground in cooperation with smallholder communities and organizations and in conjunction with the skills of our partners who help the NGO carry out its projects. That expertise helps us identify and solve various complex problems from rural land management and the organization of services and supply chains for crop and livestock farming, to local production and local and international sales, while overcoming the challenges of climate change and biodiversity. One ambitious and unchanged principle guides its mission: to promote the financial and food autonomy of poor smallholder families, improve how they are structured and represented, and build resilient agricultural systems that respect the environment and humans.
The transition to agroecology is at the heart of AVSF’s work

AVSF works with smallholder communities to identify, test, adapt and validate effective agroecology techniques. This work also involves creating the right conditions to develop those techniques in order to profoundly transform agrifood systems.

Many agricultural systems are in crisis. Demographic pressure from humans and animals has often led to the abandoning of traditional methods for sustainably managing natural resources, which has resulted in their gradual degradation. But the agricultural intensification methods promoted by the green revolution [based on intensive use of synthetic inputs and artificialization of the environment] are expensive, and their consequences are now clear: degradation of ecosystems, drop in soil fertility, loss of agricultural and wild biodiversity, risks for human and animal health, etc. The main victims are smallholder families, some of whom are trapped in an agricultural model that they do not have the means to support. They are struggling to feed themselves and to lead a decent life from their own production, especially as global warming is now affecting agriculture too.

That observation calls for urgent measures which AVSF has steadfastly defended for over ten years: the transition to agroecology. That transition is in line with the objective to boost the productivity of crop and livestock farming in order to promote financial and food independence while preserving, and even restoring, the quality of natural resources and ensuring greater resilience to climate and economic shocks and health risks. The idea is to optimize the natural potential of ecosystems, while reducing dependence on external synthetic inputs. Four pillars guide AVSF’s work in its projects to support the transition to agroecology (see opposite).

The transition to agroecology, as developed by AVSF, is a complex and systemic process that is neither instantaneous nor one-dimensional. Instead of applying a universal model for agroecology, the idea is to work with smallholders to adapt and invent proposals that are tailored to the specific conditions of each local area.

GTAE is working to prove the effectiveness of agroecology

The working group on the transition to agroecology [GTAE] was created by AVSF in 2017 with the NGOs Agrisud, CARI and GRET. It has set out to measure and share the results and effectiveness of agroecology through work conducted in conjunction with African and French research institutes [Cirad, IRD and AgroParisTech].

Its efforts began with action-research work and experience-sharing in three West African regions on behalf of ECOWAS, with support from the French Development Agency. That work (which was published in 2017) addressed development factors, agroecology practices and the assessment of their socio-economic and agri-environmental effects. To improve and supplement the methods for assessing the effectiveness of that work, a methodological workshop was held that same year in Paris with some one hundred international experts, and the workshop proceedings were published in 2018 [supported by the French Development Agency and FFEM]. The adventure is continuing in 2019 with the publication of a methodological handbook, a tool that is easy to grasp by development actors to assess the effects and conditions of the development of agroecology.

For more information → avsf.org
The transition to agroecology needs to be expanded to cover different geographic and political scales. Agroecology practices must be adapted to the ecosystems of each parcel of land, farm and region. There needs to be concertation between users at regional level for the sustainable, collective and peaceful management of natural resources. Local authorities and all local actors need to rethink land use, the design of infrastructure, the development of services and companies and the organization of the food system in its entirety. Lastly, at government level, public policies need to ensure the right conditions for smallholder families to make that transition and they need to facilitate regulation between the actors involved: producer organizations, small and medium sized companies, very small companies, industries, communities, public services and consumers.
Animal health

In developing countries, 600 million people earn their livelihoods through smallholder livestock farming, which in some countries represents up to one-third of the national economic production. Complementary to crop farming, by providing additional income, it makes use of areas that cannot be cultivated: for example, 70% of the means of subsistence in mountain, arid and semi-arid regions are from livestock farming. Pastoral livestock farming, which is based on seasonal mobility of animals, constitutes the livelihood of 200 million people and is practiced on roughly one-third of the planet’s surface in fragile ecosystems. And yet, pastoralism is part of an agroecological approach: it uses fewer inputs, is less polluting than sedentary livestock farming, preserves natural resources better, fertilizes the soil, makes use of crop residues and is often highly productive.

But industrial livestock farming in the North still exports massive amounts of meat and cheap powdered milk to countries in the South and competes directly with local livestock farmers in those countries. Moreover, the South is not spared the development of industrial livestock-farming practices, which lead to deforestation, over-consumption of water and fossil energies and environmental degradation, contribute to climate change and make smallholder livestock farmers poorer through unfair competition.

AVSF therefore seeks to promote the independence of smallholder livestock farmers, whose work addresses the challenges of food security, environmental protection and job creation. That’s the focus of AVSF’s Livestock Farming, Animal Health and Veterinary Public Health (ESAP) program, which has three main technical components.

The first component aims to improve livestock-farming techniques: food, housing, reproduction, management of livestock, etc. Those technical improvements boost productivity and income for smallholder families and help ensure their food security: they are effective and sustainable means for promoting local and national food sovereignty.

First French NGO to offer veterinary skills

AVSF’s work focuses on two complementary areas: supporting smallholder and family livestock farming, and helping countries in the South efficiently organize a system for animal health and veterinary public health.
AVSF strengthens or sets up local animal-health services for livestock farmers, particularly those in isolated areas, by training and structuring local animal-health assistants. Those services improve the health of livestock and herds, which are less affected by disease.

At country level, AVSF supports centralized and decentralized veterinary services in order to have better control over animal diseases, protect public health (zoonoses, quality of meat, etc.) and strengthen the role of livestock farming in each country’s economy.

In all of these areas, AVSF is working to develop the One Health concept on the ground. That concept offers a global and systemic approach integrating public, animal and environmental health (see interview opposite).

AVSF also offers its skills to smallholder organizations and other public and private actors in order to ensure livestock well-being, to protect the biodiversity of domestic and wild animals and to save and make use of traditional ethnoveterinary knowledge.

**Interview**

A veterinarian by training, Manuelle Miller joined AVSF in 2018 as a program head after having worked in the civil service. She coordinates the monitoring of projects in Madagascar and technical support for veterinary public health.

*Why did you join AVSF?*

I became interested in international cooperation when I was a student. Having had the chance to participate as a student in a project to support pastoral livestock farmers in northeast Mali, I wanted to work on agricultural issues in vulnerable countries. Plus, AVSF is THE organization in France when it comes to working with small family farmers in the South in accordance with a philosophy that encourages independence, which is in line with my vision of this type of work.

*What is the One Health approach?*

One Health is an approach that recognizes the interdependence of human health, animal health and environmental health. It focuses first and foremost on actors, encouraging professionals in those three fields to work together in an interdisciplinary manner in order to better manage the interfaces between those three “spheres” and take into account the impact that animal health has on human health. For example, the risk of the transmission of zoonoses (diseases transmitted from animals to humans) and the problem of antibiotic resistance. It also seeks to take into account the impact of human activity on the environment, which in return can have a negative impact on human and animal health.

*Can you give us any examples of actual projects?*

Many AVSF projects include the One Health concept, but I will give two examples: in northern Mali, we support the development of mobile health services for humans and animals, which are offered to transhumant livestock farmers in pastoral areas. In Cambodia, as part of a project to support small-scale livestock farming, we teach livestock farmers as well as other groups and actors in the region (including young people) about zoonoses, waste management and the impact of the use of crop-protection and veterinary products on the environment and health. In November 2018, AVSF and its partners from the VSF-International network organized a workshop in Mali for group thinking on how to integrate the One Health approach into their work. Ideas for improvement were clearly identified: for example, to account more for the environmental component.

*One Health focuses on actors: encouraging professionals from three different fields (human health, animal health and environmental health) to work together*

— Manuelle Miller
Building sustainable supply chains and supporting fair trade

The challenge is twofold: helping smallholders receive fair remuneration and building an agricultural system that not only respects the environment as well as human and animal health, but also creates jobs.

The current economic context is playing to the detriment of smallholder communities: they face competition from subsidized agriculture in the North and have little control over local and international markets, which are in the hands of dominant players and agribusiness. To overcome those imbalances, which are pushing smallholders into poverty and food insecurity, AVSF supports the development of fair and sustainable agricultural supply chains through four types of projects.

AVSF helps smallholder communities transition to agroecology [see pp. 16–17], which offers an important competitive advantage: moving upmarket by positioning production on high-quality markets. Plus, crop diversification (which is an inherent part of agroecology) reduces dependence on the fluctuations of a single market and losses owing to climate shocks. It combines export crops and subsistence crops, which are destined for self-consumption and local markets, and diversifies sources of income.

When it comes to export and local supply chains, AVSF encourages promoting the quality of products through certifications [see inset]. Those certifications tell consumers that products comply with rigorous specifications, justify higher prices so that producers can receive better remuneration and therefore are helping transform the agrifood sector. The transition to agroecology also requires transforming food systems in their entirety and relocating trade by favoring short supply chains. AVSF encourages and assists in the creation of smallholder markets for agroecological and organic goods, boutiques and kiosks for smallholder products, etc.

Producer organizations are key players within fair and sustainable supply chains. AVSF improves their organization and how they manage production, processing and sales. The smallholders pool certain services (credit, equipment, inputs, collection, etc.), reduce costs and improve the quality of production and processing. On local and export markets, producer organizations gain the ability to free themselves from intermediaries, nego-

Multi-level certifications

For exports, international organic and Fairtrade certifications provided by third-party organizations help producers to enter more profitable markets. The participatory guarantee systems (GPS) are less costly than international labels and are an option that is suited to local markets: FOs, consumers and local stakeholders jointly define the specifications and ensure their compliance.
tiate directly with buyers, enter transparent high-quality supply chains and promote the uniqueness of their production. On the political front, producer organizations defend the interests of smallholders vis-à-vis communities, governments and private players. AVSF helps those producer organizations establish long-term partnerships as well as fair and transparent contracts with processors and distributors. Those efforts can be part of sustainable sourcing policies, responsible purchasing policies or simply the corporate-social-responsibility policy of the companies in question. In any case, AVSF experiments with agricultural relationships under contract systematically established not with individual producers but with producer organizations. AVSF works with producer organizations to maintain fair commercial relations by getting public authorities involved to defend their rights. Fair trade is the most successful form of contractualization and guarantees long-term commercial engagements and minimum prices that largely cover production costs for producers. Because it also responds to issues relating to the transition to agroecology and the strengthening of strong producer organizations in supply chains and regions, fair trade remains a major part of AVSF’s work.

1 WEST AFRICA
The Équité program: a success story in fair trade
To reduce poverty and strengthen family farming, the Équité program focuses on developing fair-trade supply chains in Burkina Faso, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Mali and Togo. AVSF assists 19 cooperatives in supply chains for shea, cacao, cashew, mango and artisanal goods by building their technical, organizational and commercial capacities and by promoting agroecology and the protection of biodiversity. The progress achieved since the start of the project in 2016 in terms of production, marketing and environmentally friendly practices is already considerable, as can be seen in the results opposite.

Program funded by the French Development Agency and FFEM, and carried out in partnership with Commerce Équitable France and FairTrade Africa (FTA-WAN).

More information [ programme-equite.org ]

2 PERU
Smallholder markets: from the field to your plate
Driven by the precariousness of street vending in Cusco, more than 4,000 smallholders banded together with the help of AVSF to sell their products directly at the smallholder market in Huancayo. The idea behind this initiative is “de la chacra a la olla” (“from field to plate”). Those smallholders offer over 20,000 urban consumers affordable, high-quality foods produced using agroecology techniques—and in doing so, they are able to double, and sometimes even triple, their income! AVSF offered training to teach them about collecting, selling, managing and adding value to their products. They directly negotiated with the regional authorities and were given permission to use a space for selling their goods in the heart of the city. After this success, AVSF decided to expand the model to two other regions in Peru: Piura and Huancavelica.

3 MONGOLIA
Fair and sustainable textiles
The Mongolian economy is undergoing intensification in the cashmere and wool sector to the detriment of small-scale livestock farmers and the environment. Thanks to the Step Ecolab project, launched in 2018 in the Bayankhongor, Gobi-Altai and Arkhangai regions, AVSF supports groups of livestock farmers with three objectives: improve management of pastures and natural resources in order to avoid the erosion of those fragile spaces; boost productivity through improved animal-selection practices, livestock management and animal health; and promote the quality of that fiber and wool on the national and international market in order to benefit livestock farmers.
Published in 2018, the latest report from GIEC (intergovernmental group of climate experts) warned of the disastrous consequences of rising average temperatures. With a 1.5°C increase, 8% of plant biodiversity would be lost (18% with a 2°C increase) and smallholders in sub-Saharan Africa, southeast Asia and Latin America would suffer an alarming drop in agricultural yields. But the effects of climate change are already visible: according to the World Meteorological Organization, over 2 million people worldwide are displaced because of climate-related catastrophes, while over 800 million are undernourished owing in part to long-lasting droughts.

Agroecology practices to combat climate change

In cooperation with smallholder communities, AVSF implements agroecology practices for crop and livestock farming that present at least two advantages: they reduce greenhouse-gas emissions by storing more carbon in the soil and by limiting the use of harmful chemical inputs, and they allow smallholders to better adapt to the effects of climate change.

Smallholder communities are the main victims of climate change and its impacts: considerable losses to their harvests, their herds and their other means of subsistence put them at great danger in terms of food insecurity, even though they generate the least amount of greenhouse-gas emissions.

While about 25% of greenhouse-gas emissions are caused by clearing, agricultural production and fertilization, agroecology is a solution to help prevent and reduce the effects of climate change. That’s why AVSF helps smallholders transition to agroecology by developing practices that are known to improve the resilience of vulnerable families and regions. There are many different agroecology techniques, and they are adapted to each region: diversification of crops relying particularly on agricultural biodiversity, better use of leguminous plants, agroforestry, combination of crop and livestock farming with the use of organic fertilizers, improvement of soil fertility (to increase carbon sequestration) and a sharp drop in, or even elimination of, the use of chemical fertilizers, etc.

AVSF also promotes renewable energies, which reduce in particular the use of firewood and therefore deforestation: in Mali, for instance, small methanization units make use of animal residues as gas for cooking, while using organic fertilizer for the crops; improved fireplaces reduce the quantity of wood used for the cooking of shea processed by women, while solar panels provide the energy needed for pastoral-well pumps and irrigation systems for small market gardens. All of those practices are associated with the strengthening of exchanges between players in the region to coordinate their actions in support of resilient, low-emissions areas.

SENEGAL

An alert system to prevent desertification

The Ferlo region in northern Senegal is an arid and isolated pastoral area that is subject to brush fires, over-grazing, soil degradation and lack of technical supervision and infrastructure. Those fragile ecosystems are also suffering from an insufficient number of watering places, which are exhausted as a result of regular droughts caused by global warming. That situation puts pastoral livestock farmers in danger. To help 2,000 livestock-farming families adapt to climate issues, AVSF is working to restore natural resources. The most original of the initiatives is the creation of a pastoral early-alert system where satellite images inform livestock farmers and policy decision-makers about pastoral resources, weather, the state of watering places, the presence of disease outbreaks, etc. Herdsmen use that information (which is available in real time via internet and mobile phone) when making decisions relating to herd mobility, and decision-makers use it to launch emergency and/or preservation measures.
In addition to suffering from the consequences of armed conflict, rural communities are particularly vulnerable to and regularly confronted by natural disasters and climate crises (whether earthquake, hurricane, drought, flood or insect invasion). Faced with those catastrophes, the most urgent thing is to first quickly restore families’ production capacity so they can feed themselves and support their vital economic needs. That’s the case in central and northern Mali, which is subject to recurrent climate crises and armed conflict. Since 2012, AVSF has regularly supported smallholder and livestock-farmer organizations by distributing seed and tool kits, animals and livestock food. We supported the relaunch and still support a vital mobile health service for humans and animals in pastoral communities. Lastly, we assist and strengthen local authorities in their capacity to invest in the renovation or construction of infrastructure for production: vaccination stations, wells, boreholes, irrigation canals, buildings for storage and processing (such as mini-dairies), livestock markets, etc. Since 2018, as part of the “Trois Frontières” program supported by the French Development Agency and the Crisis Center of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, AVSF supports the relaunch of several agropastoral supply chains and strategic fishing supply chains as a way of ensuring the food security of local communities and the collective and fair management of local resources, and as a way of generating income and jobs (particularly for young people who may be tempted to join the armed conflict and jihadism) and promoting social cohesion in fragile areas.

In the departments of Cauca and Nariño in southern Colombia, the new ECOPAZ project aims to stabilize and build peace and good governance in rural areas that are particularly affected by the internal armed conflict. Supported by the European Union and local authorities (indigenous councils and local communities), the project seeks to strengthen the political, technical and managerial capacities of 35 smallholder community organizations in indigenous communities and communities of African descent. The initiatives focus on promoting agroecology, and the organizations themselves are involved in the design, negotiation and joint execution of community-development plans.

The second major field of action for AVSF is to improve prevention and resilience in communities that are regularly affected by those crises. In Ecuador and Peru, AVSF is involved in the INUNRED program to prevent the risk of flooding, which regularly causes damage to agricultural areas along the coasts of the Piura and Manabi regions. The program focuses mainly on preventive land management with local communities and smallholder organizations, and the implementation of agroecology and diversified production systems, which are more resilient to flooding. The project is supported by ECHO (European humanitarian office) and carried out in partnership with the NGOs CESA and PROGRESO from MOABI Group (formerly AVSF Group).

Post-emergency

Crisis management and post-emergency work

To help rural communities overcome humanitarian crises, AVSF has two objectives: to improve prevention and resilience in communities that regularly experience catastrophes, and to restore the victims’ production capacity.

In Haiti (post-hurricane Matthew), in Ecuador (post-earthquake), in Colombia (post-conflict) and northern central Mali (conflict).
AVSF’s advocacy work: a weapon for peacefully defending smallholders

Two factors guide AVSF’s approach to advocacy: dialogue with public authorities in France and in international forums to help define public policies, and mobilization through group campaigns and public communication to challenge policy and economic decision-makers when certain practices or policies have a negative impact on the food security of smallholders and communities in the South.

At international level
Supporting agroecology for food security, climate and biodiversity
As part of a roundtable discussion on agroecology at the COP24 climate conference in Katowice, Poland, in December 2018, AVSF presented the results of impact measures for transitions to agroecology that have already been carried out in West Africa by the working group on the transition to agroecology (GTAE), of which AVSF is a founding member (see p. 16). AVSF also presented an unprecedented methodological reference document to assess the effectiveness of the transition to agroecology and, ultimately, to convince others as to the importance of that choice. AVSF and GTAE also participated in the annual meeting of the consortium of the 4p1000 initiative, which encourages storing carbon in the soil to mitigate the effects of climate change and sustainably give a boost to agricultural systems. On the agenda: monitoring the finalization of the reference document for the assessment of future 4p1000 projects, for which GTAE made many proposals that have now been taken into account, and examining operational opportunities, particularly through support and funding for concrete initiatives.

Progress towards recognition for CAHWs by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)
With regard to the public-private partnerships to promote in order to consolidate the offer and coverage of veterinary services in many countries around the world, the intergovernmental organization OIE could integrate the system of community-based animal health workers [CAHW] into its recommendations. That progress is the result of three years of discussions led by AVSF and its VSF-International network with OIE. AVSF and VSF-International also published a policy brief to highlight the major role that CAHWs play in terms of animal health and public health in the South.

In the countries where AVSF operates
In addition to carrying out projects rooted in local communities, AVSF supports the development and implementation of policies—often sector-specific policies—that are favorable for smallholders. To do so, AVSF works with government services, in close collaboration with its partners, to offer references and proposals for defining public policies that are adapted to agricultural issues. AVSF also offers direct advisory support to its partners from civil society and their networks in their own efforts to engage in dialogue and advocacy work with national institutions.

In Madagascar, AVSF is working to promote the recognition of community-based animal health workers (referred to in Madagascar as ‘MMAV’) among public authorities within the national animal-health system. AVSF has put together reference documents for the activity, training and certification of MMAVs, which have been tested for several years, revised and validated with the national veterinary services.

As part of the Equité program in West Africa (see p. 21), AVSF and its partners are carrying out initiatives to promote fair trade. The Ivory Coast Network for Fair Trade (RICE) was able to get the tax cancelled that was supposed to be levied on the fair-trade bonus for certain cooperatives belonging to the network, which was a burden for development. AVSF and its partners are also coming up with arguments backed by figures to show the economic and social importance of fair trade and support policy measures that encourage the expansion of fair trade in several countries in the region.

In Mali, the mobile health service for animals and humans that AVSF and its partner ADESAH set up in isolated pastoral areas proved to be effective. Efforts to promote that service before the ministries of health and rural development were also successful: it is now officially included in the regional health program for the newly established region of Taoudenni.

In France
Contributing to ministerial strategies for food security
As a member of the Interministerial Group on Food Security [GISA], AVSF is involved with its partners from Coordination SUD’s Agriculture and Food Commission (C2A) in reviewing France’s strategies in terms of food security. In 2018, the Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs published their new strategies for food security. During the preliminary consultation, AVSF and its partners from C2A emphasized the fundamental role that smallholder farming plays when it comes to ensuring the food security of communities in the South and the importance of the ecological transition in agricultural systems.

Teaching the general public about sustainable development
As part of its educational mission to promote citizenship and international solidarity, AVSF organized public events [conferences without borders, post-mission lectures, film discussions, etc.] that brought together over 800 people to discuss smallholder farming. For example, a representative of the Cambodian smallholder cooperative PMUAC, which specializes in organic rice, and the president of the Guatemalan NGO APROBA/SANK [both AVSF partners], were invited to France to participate in events for the Alimenterre and Festisol campaigns. In all, 250 people got to speak with them after screenings of documentaries on the challenges faced by countries in the South. AVSF also created educational modules to teach high-school and middle-school students in the Ile-de-France region and Lyon about the sustainable development objectives.
6 awareness-raising campaigns for 1 cause: smallholder farming

For the past six years, AVSF has been rolling out awareness-raising campaigns to alert the general public and the media about the urgent need to defend smallholders and support the transition to agroecology in the South. Since its first campaign on local and responsible consumption in 2013, AVSF has explored topics such as the dangers of pesticides (2014), the need to defend smallholder seeds (2015) and smallholder livestock farming (2016), the loss of agricultural biodiversity (2017) and, most recently, a cross-disciplinary campaign showing how smallholder farming is linked to “progress”. New campaigns are already in the works!
The women and men who make AVSF possible
Elected representatives and governance bodies

At 14 June 2019

**THE BUREAU**

Michel PROST
President
Agricultural economist, former director of a federation of cooperatives

Barbara DUFOUR
Vice President in charge of Relations with the Animal-health Sector
Veterinarian, professor of contagious diseases and epidemiology at Alfort veterinary school

Jean-François LAMOUREUX
Vice President of Association Life
Architect, former vice president of Action Contre la Faim

Élisabeth MULLER
Treasurer
Former AVSF administrative and financial director

Jean-Michel THOMAS
Secretary General
Former professor of agronomy at AgroSup Dijon

Sophie BARTHELON
Member
Agricultural engineer, involved in livestock-farming policies within the central administration

Philippe COLLIN
Member
Farmer, former spokesperson for Confédération Paysanne

Jeanine SOCHAS
Member
Former director of a local and social development association in the Savoie department’s Beaufortain region

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Amélie BAJORLET
Agroecology and pesticide-regulation consultant - Head of the Bee Friendly label

Patrick CARON
Veterinarian, researcher at CIRAD, international director at Montpellier University of Excellence (MUSE), president of the High Level Panel of Experts of the United Nations Committee on World Food Security (CFS)

Guy DURAND
Professor emeritus at Agrocampus Ouest

Dominique LEBRETON
Farmer, president of the association for the development of agricultural and rural employment (ARDEAR) in the Pays de la Loire region and advisor from the regional economic, social and environmental council (CESER) to the regional Confédération Paysanne

Jacques LOYAT
Honorary general engineer of agricultural engineering for water and forests, associate researcher at CIRAD

Alexandre MARTIN
Agricultural economist and engineer, involved in agricultural policies within the central administration

David MILLET
Agricultural economist, former coordinator of AVSF Haiti

Véronique MOREIRA
Political ecology activist, president of Women Engage for a Common Future, former vice president of the Rhône-Alpes region, delegate for solidarity-based cooperation

Xavier PEYRACHE
Economics consultant

Claude ROGER
Agricultural engineer, former director of the Institut de l’Élevage and bank executive, consultant-instructor

Juliette SOULABAILLE
Honorary mayor, bureau member of the international think tank Global Local Forum Dakar-Paris, president of the Brittany/Europe permanent delegation to Brussels, vice president of the National Federation of Former French Mayors – FERAM delegate for international relations with local authorities

Christian TAUPIAC
Forest ranger and agricultural economist, specialist in rural development in developing countries

Hugues VERNIER
Head of agricultural initiatives for a local authority – Coordination of the Biovallée strategic agricultural and rural-development project

Alain YVERGniaUX
Economist, former business executive, strategy and organization consultant, director of the international think tank Global Local Forum
AVSF’s volunteers

AVSF’s volunteers in France carry out a wide range of initiatives to teach the general public and young people about AVSF’s values and goals and about the work that we do to promote smallholder crop and livestock farming. Here’s what 12 of our volunteers had to say.

**SHARING... your professional experiences with volunteers:**

The secret of the agricultural dream machine: observe, discuss, share and experiment outdoors; observe and measure in the lab.

— René Billaz,
agricultural engineer and former president of AVSF

**TEACHING... children at schools**

I helped design the educational modules for primary schools, and I tested them in my classes. The goal is to teach young people about AVSF’s work and about the topics that are most important to AVSF. It is always a valuable experience for both the kids and the volunteers—who sometimes get asked surprising questions!

— Claire Jarriges,
teacher

**IMPROVING... volunteer communication**

I’ve been volunteering for one year. My goal is to promote the association, its work and the events that it organizes for the general public, and to improve volunteer communication throughout France, particularly at agricultural schools.

— Tiphaine Sargentini,
agricultural engineer

**PARTICIPATING... in "conferences without borders"**

I gave a conference entitled “Questions on livestock farming” at the Pavillon de l’Eau venue in Paris. It addressed current social questions on the role of livestock farming, global warming, the recommended reduction in meat consumption and the development of veganism. Discussions with people opposed to livestock farming were lively and showed that AVSF still needs to defend smallholder farming in order to be able to support smallholders in the South, when the very existence of livestock farming is challenged in our societies.

— Philippe Collin,
organic farmer and member of the AVSF Bureau

**RUNNING FOR AVSF... the "Course Sans Frontières" charity runs**

There are many different ways to support AVSF. One way is to participate in the Course Sans Frontières charity runs. For me, it is the most active and fun way to get involved as a volunteer. You don’t need to be a champion. You just wear AVSF’s colors, run the distance of your choice and your motivation will do the rest! Running is nice. But running for AVSF is even better!

— Hélène Marrié,
agricultural engineer
CREATING...  
a news roundup  
The news roundup aims to present facts, opinions and studies that concern us as actors in the development of countries in the South, but that have not been covered by major media outlets in France. A three-person team looks for and gathers information, and then sends that information each month in an email to about thirty AVSF elected representatives, volunteers and employees, both in France and in the countries where AVSF operates.  
— Jacques Grimanelli, retired, and Florence Arnold-Richez, retired medical/health journalist

PRESENTING...  
a "post-mission lecture"  
Giving a lecture about a mission to students at AgroParisTech was a first for me after my experience as a technical assistant in southern Madagascar for about two years. The goal was mainly for me to deliver a message of solidarity, including development and sociology. And to illustrate what I was saying with images from on the ground, stories from my experience, surprises and major cultural differences, but especially solutions that came out of agreement with the local communities.  
— Grégoire Pleurdeau, former technical assistant for livestock farming and animal health

ORGANIZING...  
regional "meetups without borders"  
For me, being a local correspondent and organizing meetups is a great way to share my passion and my deep respect for smallholders with a diverse group of people who are not always familiar with issues relating to agriculture.  
— Titouan Pace, currently studying agriculture at IUT in Périgueux

GOING...  
on a trip for members  
AVSF organized for the first time a trip to Senegal for its members—what an exhilarating experience! Everywhere we went, we were welcomed with singing, women dancing in sparkling boubous and expressions of thanks for AVSF. But who were we to deserve so much gratitude? We were just members on that trip, but now we will surely become more involved. It’s the least we could do for them!  
— Christophe Rousselle, toxicologist at ANSES (French Health and Safety Agency for Food, Employment and the Environment)

GETTING INVOLVED...  
as a regional correspondent  
The work I do for AVSF is very important to me, because I find it to be very fulfilling every day. At the evening events that we organize, discussions can last for hours, even after the debate is over. What drives us is all of the positive energy around us—the farmers, researchers, association heads and agricultural organizations that are always willing to speak to the general public. A big thank you to them too!  
— Béatrix Béziat, agricultural engineer

GETTING INVOLVED...  
as an engineering-school correspondent  
As an AgroParisTech correspondent, I run a group of motivated students to present AVSF to others and talk about smallholder farming at various events, particularly conferences. The goal is to inform and inspire future agricultural engineers with regard to AVSF’s values and efforts throughout the world.  
— Manon Kister, agricultural engineering student

AVSF ASSOCIATION LIFE IN 2018

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<th>Regional Correspondents</th>
<th>Student Associations</th>
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AVSF ASSOCIATION LIFE IN 2018

14 Regional Correspondents

15 Student Associations

4 Conferences Without Borders

18 ‘Course Sans Frontières’ Charity Runs

21 Meetups Without Borders
Donors

Despite the tax reforms, AVSF still received lots of generous support from its donors!

Many donors had worries concerning the implementation of the withholding tax in 2018, even though the tax credit for donations was maintained in the reform. Nevertheless, AVSF once again received many donations this year and welcomed a number of new donors.

Donor quotes

Veterinarians Perrine and Pierre celebrated their wedding in June 2018. They decided to donate half of the money they received from their guests to AVSF.

“We are very happy to have been able to make that donation to AVSF! We support all of your projects, whether it’s livestock farming, crop farming or sustainable development. You can use the donation for the projects that you feel need it most.”
— Perrine and Pierre (Bouches-du-Rhône)

“Thanks for restoring our hope in humanity. [...] your work in research and training is essential when it comes to combining tradition and modernity in order to offer the best for everyone.”
— Jeanine (Normandie)

Keeping our donors regularly informed

AVSF donors regularly receive information, by post or by email, about our projects and their results. Four issues of Habbanae, the magazine for donors, were published in 2018, allowing donors to learn about topics that are central to AVSF’s work, such as food waste, livestock farming and agroecology.

Three theme-based letters also informed donors of the issues identified by the association’s cooperation work: dealing with smallholder debt, innovating in the face of climate change, defending the rights of smallholders. All of these publications offer ways to stay connected with our work.

Two labels so that you can donate with peace of mind

AVSF has been approved since 2007 by the ‘Don en Confiance’ label, which attests to the transparency and rigor with which we manage our donations. It is also an indicator of the best practices that AVSF employs when it comes to our ethics charter and traceability of funds. It’s a sign of trust for donors.

The IDEAS label is a symbol of trust for our partners and donors and attests to AVSF’s implementation of best practices in terms of governance, financial management and monitoring the effectiveness of our work. AVSF was the first association to receive the IDEAS label in 2010.

11 200

That’s how many people gave to AVSF in 2018. We would like to thank all of them for their commitment and generous support.

If you have any questions about donations, direct debit, bequests or the projects that you are supporting, feel free to get in touch with Nina Cloiseau, head of Donor Services (Monday through Friday, 10am to 6pm).

You can contact her by phone or email:
01 43 94 72 36
n.cloiseau@avsf.org
Financial section
Financial partners in 2018

BILATERAL & MULTILATERAL COOPERATION BODIES
- AFD (French Development Agency)
- DCI (Department of International Cooperation)
- Principality of Monaco
- DEVCO EuropAid (European Commission)
- [ECH] [Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations - European Commission]
- FAO (Food and Agriculture Organization)
- FFEM (French Global Environment Fund)
- GAC (Global Affairs Canada)
- IFAD (United Nations International Fund for Agricultural Development)
- MEAE (French Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs), French Crisis and Support Center, French embassies (Cooperation and Cultural Action Services)
- SDC (Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation)
- UNDP (United Nations Development Program)
- UNEP (United Nations Environment Program)
- USAID via ILRI (International Livestock Research Institute)
- WFP (World Food Program)

FRENCH PUBLIC & PARAPUBLIC BODIES
- International Cooperation Center of Agricultural Research for Development (CIRAD)
- IRSTEA (National Institute for Research in Science and Technology for the Environment and Agriculture) – COSTEA (Scientific and Technical Committee on Farm Water)
- FVI (France Vétérinaire International)

FRENCH REGIONAL AUTHORITIES
- Hauts-de-Seine department
- Val-de-Marne department
- Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes region
- Normandie region
- Metropolitan Lyon - Greater Lyon
- City of Lyon

INSTITUTIONS & PUBLIC AUTHORITIES
in the countries where AVSF operates
- Cambodia Supreme National Economic Council (SNEC)
- ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] - ARAA (Regional Agency for Agriculture and Food)
- Government of the Pichincha province - Ecuador
- Fund for Employment (FondoEmpleo) of the Peruvian Ministry of Labor and Promotion of Employment
- Haitian Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Rural Development
- Provincial Departments of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries - Cambodia

ASSOCIATIONS & FOUNDATIONS
- Barr Foundation - United States
- CESA (Central Ecuatoriana de Servicios Agrícolas) – Ecuador
- CFSI [French Committee for International Solidarity]
- Diakonia – Sweden
- ESF (Livestock Farming without Borders)
- Alstom Foundation
- Anton Jurgens Fonds Foundation – Netherlands
- Fondation Bel
- Fondation de France
- Fondation Ensemble
- Maagdenhuis Foundation – Netherlands
- Progreso Foundation – Netherlands
- Pro Víctimos Foundation – Switzerland
- Rabobank Foundation
- Raja-Danièle Marcovici Foundation
- GEVALOR
- Idele (French Livestock Institute)
- Inter-réseaux Développement Rural
- Réseau Ecologie Nature Haute-Loire
- SUCO – Canada

COMPANIES
- Crédit Coopératif
- Ethiquable
- Matmut
- Novatim
- Orkeo
- Sogea Satom – Togo
- Valrhona

To support smallholder organizations in countries in the South, AVSF builds strategic private partnerships with companies, corporate foundations and private foundations.

For more information, please contact Claire Benisti, head of sponsorships and private partnerships: c.benisti@avsf.org

Read AVSF’s “Companies & Foundations” charter at avsf.org
VSF’s volume of activity in 2018 was €14,412,000, which is over 90% of the budget validated by the Board. The breakdown by geographic zone is stable compared with 2017, with over 50% of activity in Africa, 30% in America and 9% in Asia.

We generated a surplus of €168,000. Operating earnings amounted to €124,000, and financial earnings were more or less unchanged (up €1,000). Extraordinary earnings amounted to €42,000, comprising mainly bequests and estates (€33,000). Foreign-exchange losses were more under control in 2018 compared with the previous year, thanks in part to a higher volume of activity in West Africa’s CFA-franc zone, which is not exposed to foreign-exchange risk.

As has been the case for several years now, the sound allocation of our structural and staff costs for ongoing projects, a consistently high level of donations (over €1 million) and a “program”-type cross-disciplinary funding agreement with AFD are the pillars of our financial stability. We are continuing our policy of creating sensible, balanced budgets, which, combined with sound budgetary monitoring, allows us to generate surpluses.

This result allows us to bring our equity capital to €2,583,000. That figure has been steadily growing for several years and brings us closer to our goal of covering our working capital requirement of €3 million. We were granted promissory notes in the amount of €600,000 by Crédit Coopératif to cover our cash-flow needs.

If we want to maintain a high budget for the years to come while also dealing with uncertainty at international level, high exposure to various risks [financial, legal, security, etc.] and a growing number of checks and requirements imposed by our donors and by the countries where we operate, then we need to maintain our policy of strengthening our structure by increasing our equity capital, controlling our operating costs, ensuring rigorous and transparent management and improving internal checks.

Lastly, it is important to mention the strong involvement of our teams at our head office and on the ground, which has led to constant improvement in the implementation and monitoring of our projects, budgetary and financial procedures [monitoring of spending commitments, creation of budgets] and internal checks. The support we receive from our partners is also essential to the success of our mission.

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Julie CRENN
Administrative and Financial Director
NOTES TO THE BALANCE SHEET

The association’s balance sheet shows substantial masses of receivables and debts for projects spanning several years. Accounting standards require all financing under contracts (including those entered into with the European Union and AFD) to be accounted for on the date they are signed.

There are significant amounts under assets as accounts receivable. Those accounts receivable correspond to agreements where the financing 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 financing that AVSF has signed a contract for, but not yet spent on its projects.

The level of fixed assets is relatively low.

The association’s net cash flow stood at € 3,867,000 at December 31, 2018. That figure includes € 600,000 of promissory notes granted by Crédit Coopératif.

Equity capital increased to € 2,583,000 thanks to the allocation of earnings generated in 2018, which brings the equity-to-assets ratio to 18%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Asset</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FIXED ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>206310</td>
<td>92892</td>
<td>113418</td>
<td>234260</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENT ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>20668588</td>
<td>20668588</td>
<td>17183814</td>
<td>17148077</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable</td>
<td>20650564</td>
<td>20650564</td>
<td>17148077</td>
<td>35737</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accrued charges</td>
<td>18024</td>
<td>18024</td>
<td>415323</td>
<td>35737</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENCY TRANSLATION ADJUSTMENTS - ASSETS</strong></td>
<td>51669</td>
<td>51669</td>
<td>83628</td>
<td>83628</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CASH</strong></td>
<td>3866795</td>
<td>3866795</td>
<td>4471299</td>
<td>4471299</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasury investments</td>
<td>10122</td>
<td>10122</td>
<td>415323</td>
<td>319845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Available cash</td>
<td>3856673</td>
<td>3856673</td>
<td>4055976</td>
<td>4055976</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>24793362</td>
<td>24793362</td>
<td>21973101</td>
<td>21973101</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Liabilities</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2017</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ASSOCIATION FUNDS</strong></td>
<td>2583225</td>
<td>2415676</td>
<td>2095831</td>
<td>2095831</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Equity capital</td>
<td>2415676</td>
<td>2095831</td>
<td>319845</td>
<td>319845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fiscal-year earnings</td>
<td>167549</td>
<td>319845</td>
<td>319845</td>
<td>319845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment subsidies</td>
<td>447927</td>
<td>318606</td>
<td>447927</td>
<td>318606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>RESTRICTED FUNDS</strong></td>
<td>27432</td>
<td>47244</td>
<td>47244</td>
<td>47244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DEBTS</strong></td>
<td>21004248</td>
<td>18848694</td>
<td>1684618</td>
<td>1684618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other debts</td>
<td>1514010</td>
<td>1684618</td>
<td>1684618</td>
<td>1684618</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deferred income</td>
<td>19490238</td>
<td>17164076</td>
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<td>17164076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CURRENCY TRANSLATION ADJUSTMENTS - LIABILITIES</strong></td>
<td>15771</td>
<td>83452</td>
<td>15771</td>
<td>83452</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>CASH</strong></td>
<td>621867</td>
<td>259429</td>
<td>259429</td>
<td>259429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Owed to financial institutions</td>
<td>621867</td>
<td>259429</td>
<td>259429</td>
<td>259429</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GRAND TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>24700470</td>
<td>21973101</td>
<td>21973101</td>
<td>21973101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## Use of funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fiscal Year Use</th>
<th>Use of Funds 2018</th>
<th>%</th>
<th>Use of Resources from Public, 2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1 - Social Missions (development projects)</strong></td>
<td>12 875 703</td>
<td>89.3%</td>
<td>766 319</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central America &amp; Caribbean</td>
<td>1 890 439</td>
<td></td>
<td>95 124</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South America</td>
<td>1 574 848</td>
<td></td>
<td>115 554</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Africa (incl. Madagascar)</td>
<td>6 484 726</td>
<td></td>
<td>341 039</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>1 048 312</td>
<td></td>
<td>199 255</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France - Europe</td>
<td>573 515</td>
<td></td>
<td>15 436</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social mission management</td>
<td>1 303 863</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>incl. funding for partners</td>
<td>4 328 675</td>
<td></td>
<td>252 469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2 - Fundraising Costs</strong></td>
<td>401 727</td>
<td>2.8%</td>
<td>324 171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.1. Fundraising - general public</td>
<td>324 171</td>
<td>2.2%</td>
<td>324 171</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2. Fundraising - other private</td>
<td>77 556</td>
<td>0.5%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3 - Operating Costs</strong></td>
<td>776 041</td>
<td>5.4%</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I. Total of use written in use of resources</td>
<td>14 053 470</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II. Allowances for provisions</td>
<td>186 535</td>
<td>1.3%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III. Commitments on allocated resources</td>
<td>4 732</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV. Fiscal year surplus</td>
<td>167 549</td>
<td>1.2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>V. Grand Total</strong></td>
<td>14 412 286</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VI. Gross fixed assets financed from public fundraising</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VII. Endowments to offset by depreciation of assets financed from public fundraising from first application of regulation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>VIII. Total Financed from Public Fundraising</strong></td>
<td>1 090 490</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Evaluation of Volunteer In-Kind Contributions</strong></td>
<td>152 600</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Use of Resources Account meets the standards set by the Committee of Accounting Standards no. 2008-12. For greater clarity, the social missions are explained in more detail than in the official version, which appears in the report filed by our statutory auditors, SOFIDIEC Baker Tilly. This report was also filed on 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.

### Social missions
AVSF allocated 89.3% of its resources to its development projects. Social missions carried out in France include costs for advocacy programs and costs in connection with support services in France for our projects on the ground. Africa accounts for over 58% of the actual budget.

### Fundraising through the general public
Our fundraising costs were stable compared with the previous year. Despite the steady growth in our fundraising over the past several years, our fundraising in 2018 was unable to cover the costs of fundraising among other private sources.

### Operating costs
The following are included in operating costs: employee-related expenses not allocated to projects or private fundraising efforts (€169,000), financial fees (€163,000, mainly foreign-exchange losses), operating expenses for the head office (€350,000) and communication expenses (€94,000).

The gross annual salaries of the five highest-paid staff members totaled €249,890 (individual average of €49,978). The individual average salary of the ten highest-paid staff members was €45,638.
Proceeds from public generosity

Gross fundraising from individual donors amounted to €967,000 in 2018. Bequests totaled €33,000. Donations from companies increased by 40% versus 2017. They are broken down (just like for donations from individuals) into unrestricted donations (€26,000) and restricted donations (€44,000) to make them easier to monitor.

Subsidies and other private support

Other private funding totaled €1,065,000 in 2018, down slightly versus 2017 (€1,399,000).

Subsidies and other public support

These totaled €11,012,000 in 2018. French public funds (mainly from AFD) amounted to €5,369,000, down €1,000,000 versus 2017 (€6,327,000). European public funds totaled €4,848,000, and other public funds amounted to €795,000. The 2018 figures are lower than in 2017 owing to a cyclical trend which should reverse in 2019.

Other proceeds

Other proceeds amounted to €1,183,000 and included mainly services provided by our teams, particularly to cover the costs of our coordination work (€936,000), and financial proceeds of €16,000 (mainly foreign-exchange gains), subscriptions (€9,000), and other operating income (€222,000).

**RESSOURCES 2018**

- 76,4% subsidies and other public allocations
- 8,2% other income
- 7,4% other funds from private sources
- 6,9% donations and bequests
- 0,6% adjustments of provisions and allocated resources unspent in previous years carried forward
- 0,5% other income linked to fundraising

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**RESSOURCES FROM THE GENERAL PUBLIC**

- 1.1. Donations and bequests
  - Unallocated hand-to-hand donations: €952,963
  - Allocated hand-to-hand donations: €14,231
  - Bequests and other unallocated support: €33,392
  - Bequests and other allocated support: €33,392

**OTHER FUNDS FROM PRIVATE SOURCES**

- Unallocated hand-to-hand donations (from companies): €25,890
- Allocated hand-to-hand donations (from companies): €44,204

**SUBSIDIES AND OTHER PUBLIC ALLOCATIONS**

- French public funding: €5,369,328
- European funding: €4,847,923
- Other public funding: €794,998

**OTHER INCOME**

- I. Total of resources written in use of resources: €14,330,528
- II. Readjustment of provisions: €57,214
- III. Allocated resources unspent in previous years carried forward: €24,544
- IV. Variance in restricted funds from public: €19,811

**GRAND TOTAL**

- €14,412,286
- €1,090,490

**BALANCE OF FUNDS FROM PUBLIC, UNALLOCATED AND UNUSED AT THE END OF THE FISCAL YEAR**

- 0

**VOLUNTEER IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS**

- Provision of personnel: €152,600
- Volunteer work: €152,600