



AVAID is a Swiss ngo, charity, tax exempt, based in Tessin, and working in international cooperation since 1995.

The mission of AVAID is to **support human dignity in difficult situations**, particularly in poverty, paying special attention to the children and their basic needs: food, health, education, holistic care.

AVAID is founder of AVSI foundation, and associated to its network of 60 NGOs covering about 50 countries, and is member of FOSIT.

AVAID donors are Swiss private families and groups, and public Swiss institutions as well.

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In 2015, AVAID has turned 20 years of history, confirming the values that are at its origin and, at the same time, adapting its approach to contemporary challenges.

The **focus on the dignity of the person** characterized since the origin the work in favour of the most vulnerable, such as children, sustained by AVAID for their **access to education and basic** services in Kenya, Uganda, Ecuador, Haiti and other countries.

The **crucial role of education** is reflected in the support to various **educational initiatives**, such as the Rural School of Manaus, the Little Prince school, Cardinal Otunga, St. Kizito in Nairobi and St. Riccardo in rural area of Kenya as well. Such interventions include social work and vocational training for the families and the local communities.

For greater efficiency and effectiveness, **activities are carried out by local partners** who have a presence in the **"last mile"**, inside the communities in the third countries, and which are accompanied by AVAID in a **"doing with"** that enables mutual growth and capacity building.

This liaison is the core of the **Distance Support Program**, in which Swiss individuals, families or groups accompany children in third countries within a specific project, through a local staff dedicated to the child, who bridges between child and supporter, local community and Swiss supporters.

Further confirmation of the centrality of the person, and the **adaptation of AVAID to the new needs of humanity**, is the increasing attention paid in recent years to **migrants in the Middle East**, particularly in Lebanon, where François Barras, Swiss Ambassador in Lebanon, visited the refugee camp Marj el Koch supported by AVAID with AVSI partners.

To improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its interventions, in 2015 AVAID improved the relationship with AVSI Foundation of which he is a founding member, through which reaches the potential of 60 already experienced partners, while focusing at the moment on a part of these.

**The volunteers are a crucial resource of AVAID.** More than **50 voluntary people are involved in Switzerland** to raise awareness and funds for the beneficiaries of the AVAID projects.

**AVAID annually organizes a Christmas fundraising campaign** called "Tents campaign", shared with AVSI network, which has a thematic focus and some projects to be supported. In this campaign get involved most AVAID volunteers.

**AVAID has a steering committee**, composed by volunteers, and 2 people working part time for projects, fund raising, secretariat. The balance of AVAID is certified according to Swiss standards.

In 2015 the **beneficiaries** of AVAID were **5.000**. Among them, 450 are the children included in the Distance Support Program in Kenya and around 30 in Haiti. The funds managed were about 360.000 CHF.

**AVAID communicate** with donors through reports, website, facebook, newsletter, and the house organ Buone Notizie (Good News), sponsored by businesses, and distributed 12,000 copies of the active and potential donors.

AVAID is member of FOSIT Association and is tax exempt by authorization of Cantonal authorities.