THE NUMBERS IN 2020

- **Employees**: 10
- **Expatriate collaborators**: 17
- **Collaborators in Italy**: 39
- **Volunteers**: 48
- **Territorial operators**: 6
- **Local operators**: 108

**Projects active in 2020**
- **Projects started**: 27
- **Projects closed**: 8
- **Ongoing**: 35
- **Projects approved and launched in 2021**: 27

- **Total income and revenue**: 8,392,399 €
  - **From fundraising**: 19,039
  - **From public contracts**: 5,358,990
  - **From private sector**: 2,994,356
  - **Extraordinary income**: 19,961

- **Direct recipients**: 73,494 people
- **Indirect recipients**: 378,744 people
- **Operating costs**: 11,04%
- **Project costs**: 88,96%

**Countries where ARCS is active**: 11
**Partners**: 184
**Offices in Italy**: 23
**Offices abroad**: 11
**Global networks**: 22
Who we are

Mission and vision

Set up in 1985, ARCS ARCI Culture Solidali APS is a social promotion association for international solidarity, cooperation and volunteering, founded at the initiative of ARCI, one of the biggest Italian Third Sector associations and with a presence throughout Italy.

ARCS promotes processes of social change, education, global citizenship, peace and intercultural and intergenerational dialogue, and strengthening democratic ownership. It builds national and international partnerships based on equal dignity and on respecting diversity and differences to guarantee for everyone, and in particular for those belonging to the most vulnerable segments of the population:

- full social, economic, employment and cultural inclusion;
- affirmation and defence of civil rights;
- gender empowerment;
- mobility and free aggregation;
- humanitarian aid, protection;
- education and training;
- protection of common goods;
- social and environmental sustainability.

ARCS is recorded in the List of Civil Society Organisations of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation under Decree no. 2016/337/000132/3, as a subject as set out in art. 26 of Law 125/2014, and – as from 21 November 2011 – in the National Register of Social Promotion Associations pursuant to and in application of Law no. 383 of 7 December 2000, at number 176.
ARCS acts to realise a world of global rights, peace and democracy, which is just and sustainable, sharing the priority goals of Agenda 2030 for sustainable development.

ARCS’ strategy has as an essential premise the involvement of communities of citizens with the aim of creating value from civil groupings and strengthening their democratic ownership.

Among the purposes in the by-laws are:

- affirming the values of solidarity, peace, non-violence, universal rights, and global justice;
- combating all forms of poverty, discrimination and social and political exclusion;
- the social and cultural promotion of citizens, by affirming participation and democratic ownership and strengthening cooperation among communities and among territories;
- affirming and protecting equal opportunities and gender empowerment;
- knowledge and implementation of the principles of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Convention on Children’s Rights;
- the implementation of international codes and agreements which govern humanitarian intervention;
- the valorisation of indigenous communities and cultures;
- the protection and support for human rights activists;
- the dissemination and valorisation of the founding principles of the European Union;
- the affirmation of socially sustainable and aware lifestyles;
- the protection and valorisation of all common goods.

Values

Solidarity

ARCS acts to realise a world of global rights, peace and democracy, which is fair and sustainable, and to realise an idea of solidarity and social justice starting from people’s concrete needs. The instruments it deploys are numerous: local roots, the solidarity of the network of international relations, know-how and experience acquired in the field of cooperation, culture, rights of migrants and refugees. ARCS is dedicated to protecting rights, to the safeguarding, valorisation and social and economic empowerment of vulnerable people, with particular regard to women, children and the disabled.

Transparency

Since 2011 ARCS has been subject to the Certification procedures of the IID (Italian Donation Institute) in relation to the correct use of the funds collected and the resources deployed in activities in order to guarantee administrative transparency and reporting for public and private donors. The report drawn up the administrative office is presented by the Executive Council to the Shareholders’ meeting and is subject to review by the certification company SternZanin&Avvocati Associati and by the Control and Audit Body, which verify its regularity also in regard to the activities established in the by-laws, following the indications of the Italian Agency for Non-Profit Organisations. In addition, ARCS voluntarily adheres to the European Transparency Register, set up at the Joint Transparency Register Secretariat (JTRS).

Honesty

Everyone in ARCS undertakes, in carrying out their duties, not to pursue personal gain and to constantly seek to act honestly and appropriately in their actions and choices.

Equality

ARCS combats every form of discrimination, valorises differences and, in all its operations, guarantees equal opportunities and uniform treatment, regardless of differences in age, gender, race, physical handicap, religion, in accordance with the principle of non-discrimination.

Responsibility

ARCS has adopted a code of ethics which sets out principles and values which must inspire, guide and regulate the behaviour, conduct and responsibility of all ARCS staff and of everyone who operates on behalf of the organisation. Complete adherence to the code presupposes correct understanding, sharing and commitment in order to realise ARCS’ mission. ARCS recognises in particular the central role of prevention and combatting sexual harassment, abuse and exploitation in order to protect the dignity of recipients of the development cooperation initiatives and of the people who work and operate within the organisation. It condemns every form of harassment, intimidation, discrimination, retaliation, persecution, violence, abuse or exploitation. Protecting the dignity and integrity of physical and moral health is an inviolable right of the individual.
Offices and countries supported

Italian offices
Lazio
• Rome (registered office)
• Rieti
• Viterbo

Umbria
• Perugia
• Terni

Abruzzo
• Chieti
• Teramo

Marche
• Ancona

Liguria
• Genoa
• La Spezia

Emilia-Romagna
• Modena
• La Spezia

Lombardia
• Milan

Campania
• Naples (2 offices)
• Caserta

Friuli-Venezia Giulia
• Trieste

Piedimont
• Turin

Veneto
• Padua

Puglia
• Bari
• Foggia

Sardinia
• Cagliari
• South Sardinia

Calabria
• Crotone

Sicily
• Palermo

EU countries*
Tunisia
Tataouine
Tunis

Morocco
Western Sahara

Senegal
Linguere
Dakar

Rwanda
Brasil
Cile

Cuba
Pinar del Rio
Havana

Nicaragua

Colombia

Egypt
Lebanon
Beirut

Cameroon
Dschang

Mozambique
Tanzania

Rwanda
Egypt

Colombia

Haiti

Countries where ARCS intervened in 2020
Countries where ARCS has intervened in the past
International offices

* France, Germany, Belgium, Finland, Hungary, Netherlands, Denmark and Sweden

Countries where ARCS intervened in the past

International offices

France, Germany, Belgium, Finland, Hungary, Netherlands, Denmark and Sweden

Countries where ARCS has intervened in the past
ARCS can call on a team of 227 people, consisting of employees, volunteers, collaborators, development workers abroad, and local staff. In 2020 each of them, in their own role and duties, helped realise ARCS’ mission.

The overall three-year trend in the work force consisting of Italian and expatriate employees and collaborators has experienced some natural changes due to the variations in planning over the three years, but overall does not fluctuate in any substantial way.

The numbers of volunteers and local staff instead fell markedly in 2020. These two areas were clearly those most affected by the healthcare emergency. The volunteering programs saw a stop to their activities for several months and in a significant number of cases the emergency rescheduling envisaged the postponement of plans directly to 2021.
Staff recruitment

ARCS guarantees equal treatment and equal opportunities to men and women in the process of identifying, selecting, and training staff and in the criteria adopted to establish the career advancement and payment system. ARCS promotes the dissemination of an inclusive culture which intends to guarantee the respect of equal opportunities, reduce situations of fragility and value diversity in thought, which is considered an essential resource for the development and growth of the organisation. Staff recruitment is undertaken on the base of the professional skills and know-how in relation to the needs of the organisation, regardless of personal characteristics – age, gender, sexual orientation, disability, ethnic origin, nationality, political opinions and religious beliefs – in accordance with the principle of non-discrimination.

Gender, diversity, non-discrimination and equal opportunities

In keeping with the principles promoted by the Beijing World Conference (1995) and in particular with that of Gender Mainstreaming, ARCS promotes equity and gender equality not only internally but also through the planning of initiatives and programs of international cooperation aimed at combatting gender disparity. ARCS supports processes to affirm and protect equal opportunities and gender empowerment, adhering to the principles of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women adopted by the United Nations Assembly (CEDAW 1979). It bans every form of discrimination, regardless of differences in age, gender, race, physical condition, and religious belief. It is careful to use language which avoids any expression or manifestation of prejudice or stereotyping and undertakes to guarantee adequate work conditions for each individual.

Code of ethics

ARCS has a code of ethics which was approved on 19 January 2011. The latest revision was approved by the Executive Council on 21 June 2019. It sets out principles and values which must inspire, guide and regulate the behaviour and conduct of all ARCS staff and the obligations which the organisation has towards its stakeholders. ARCS also requires that the companies that supply goods or services acknowledge and apply the ethical values set out in the document. Complete adherence to the Code presupposes the correct understanding, sharing and commitment to realise ARCS’ mission. The document aims to make the NGO’s organisation, management and control model explicit, transparent and effective, in order to prevent risks in terms of its responsibility, conflicts of interest and illegal acts to which it may be exposed in carrying out the activities linked to its mission.
Volunteers

ARCS pays great attention to the precious resource of volunteering. Every year numerous volunteers choose to try out the field of international solidarity through an experience at ARCS. Over the last ten years the organisation has deployed around a thousand volunteers, involving them in the various initiatives launched in over 15 countries worldwide.

Volunteers deployed in 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Types</th>
<th>Women</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Number of donated work hours</th>
<th>Average age of volunteers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>UCS</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2,400</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EVS/ESC</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>16,240</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local operators</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1,920</td>
<td>Figure not available</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other types of volunteering (torno subito)</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>347</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What we do

International development and emergency cooperation

ARCS handles solidarity, international cooperation, emergency, volunteering and global citizenship education projects. These aim to favour and promote the active participation of citizens and communities in constructing peace, democracy and social inclusion processes and in affirming human rights. The commitment to the rights of children and their self-determination, gender economic and social empowerment, environmental and social sustainability in the search for global wellbeing, the conservation and valorisation of cultural and material heritage, the protection of common goods, the active role of minorities and migrants, solidarity in emergencies linked to humanitarian aid: around these key goals ARCS builds its plans to combat poverty, violence and social marginalisation.

Its cooperation is based on the principles of democratic ownership, of gender equality, on the centrality of relations between communities. Partnerships and collaborations are built around the shared agreement on the centrality of active participation in local relations.

Through information-giving and awareness-raising, fundraising campaigns, actions aimed at valourising international volunteering, the exchange of good practice among those working in training and research, ARCS involves above all young generations in a program of awareness and training/self-training on the issues of interdependence and sustainable growth. The lead role of communities in constructing cooperative relations is also seen in ARCS’ attention to involving migrants, protagonists in the processes of building relationships and cooperating with their countries of origin.

The project sectors

• Human rights, democracy, peace
• Intercultural dialogue
• Democratic ownership
• Gender empowerment and equality
• Decent work
• Social inclusion
• Migrations and co-development
• Humanitarian aid and refugees
• Environment, common goods and renewable energy
• Agricultural ecology, rural development and food sovereignty
• Health
• Childhood
• Protection of material and non-material heritage
• Sustainable tourism
• Volunteering and global citizenship education
• Education and training
• Formal and informal education
• Cultural promotion
Volunteering, development and global citizenship education

ARCS values and promotes global citizenship education initiatives, volunteering activities through the organisation of knowledge camps, social documentation workshops, Universal Civil Service (UCS), European Volunteering Service (EVS)-European Solidarity Corps (ESC), and youth exchanges. It organises international training opportunities also thanks to agreements signed with universities and research centres.

Besides promoting volunteering among young people, ARCS has undertaken a program to strengthen its range of associations, operators, employees and local networks.

Through a program financed under the Erasmus Plus scheme and promoted by the French partner FCSF – Fédération des Centres Sociaux et Socioculturels de France, it is realising projects to exchange good practice (Findyourself, C’est possible, UE - Together we can do it!) dedicated to staff and volunteers of European organisations which work with and for young people and adults, in order to learn new methods and to enhance in the organisations involved the ability to act in accordance with a Euro-Mediterranean perspective.

Global citizenship education

The Global citizenship education initiatives aim to combat the occurrence of xenophobic discrimination and to encourage knowledge of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), also by explaining the role and importance of development cooperation in solving the major global issues of our times, in particular those connected to the migration phenomenon.

Universal Civil Service

Undertaking Civil Service abroad offers young people a unique opportunity for personal and professional growth and enrichment and is a particularly effective instrument to disseminate the culture of solidarity and peace among peoples. The first phase of service coincides with a period of training which is undertaken in Italy. It starts with general training which provides the guidelines on what the founding values of the UCS experience are, continuing with the specific training which characterises each project and relates to what the volunteer will go to do, ending with ongoing training. (Prime Minister’s Office, Youth and National Civil Service Department). Civil Service abroad generally lasts 12 months and envisages at least 10 months spent abroad.

Knowledge camps, social photography and workshops

In recent years, ARCS has distilled the work of volunteering camps into demonstrative workshops – videos or photographs – with tutors who are professionals in the sector, in the belief that a visual prompt is an excellent instrument to understand and interpret reality, as well as to create participation and sharing.

A volunteering camp is a unique training experience, which enables direct contact with the daily reality of local situations. For a period of around 3 weeks, Italian volunteers and local communities come together to reflect on values such as social education and respecting diversity.

Lewis Hine, one of the great protagonists of social photography, an American sociologist and photographer, considered photography an instrument of denunciation and an accelerator for social change and these functions also inspire the ARCS workshops. Unfortunately, in 2020 ARCS had to suspend this activity owing to the pandemic. As soon as conditions make it possible again, ARCS will once again organise the workshops for which it has already planned new and fascinating destinations.
In 2020 there were 35 active projects in the intervention areas, covering those closed, ongoing and launched, while 7 were approved during the year but their launch is envisaged in 2021.

Most of them are coordinated by ARCS as the leader, in 10 projects the organisation instead intervenes as a partner, such as for example in some initiatives led by ARCI: these are the Civil Service project “Young people in solidarity with resilient communities” and “TATAOUI: the promotion of young and female entrepreneurship in Tunisia”. The association Piccoli Progetti Possibili onlus leads “AMAM: Environment Micro-business Agrifood in Movement” which takes place in Morocco and “STAR: Sardinia and Tataouine, Support for the Restart in Tunisia.” CEFA onlus is leader for “Business Incubators in Morocco” and “Pinocchio.” “Social Business and innovative development of the agro-industrial sector in the region of Thiès” is run by the NGO ASES, while “Doolel” is led by the Municipality of Rimini. The association Fédération des Centres Sociaux et Socioculturels de France leads “C’est possible UE” and “Findyourself” and, to conclude, the “CETAL” project is headed by Lèris.

The ARCS projects are in the various intervention areas as parts of broader programs, as pieces in more complex designs which answer to long-term intervention strategies. The interventions start from the framework of the Agenda 2030 goals. Some of them can be considered as cross-cutting for all projects and all areas. Specifically, they are goal 5 dedicated to gender equality, goal 10 dedicated to reducing inequalities, and goal 17 dedicated to partnerships for the goals.

Projects in 2020

Main financial elements

In 2020 ARCS recorded income and revenues for € 8,392,399, slightly down on 2019, and a profit on operations of € 1,143.

The main source of income and revenues comes from contracts with public bodies which totalled € 5,358,990, of which € 3,059,612 received during 2020. Costs in 2020 totalled € 8,392,399 euro. 88.96% of the funds was dedicated to the realisation of projects and interventions in areas where ARCS is active: Middle East, North Africa and Africa, Latin America, Europe. The projects can be divided into three large types: emergency, development, volunteering and global citizenship education.

Trend in income and revenues 2018/2020

Trend in profit from operations 2018/2020
Trend in use of funds for administration/projects in 2018/2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Administration</th>
<th>Projects</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>11,04%</td>
<td>88,96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>8,18%</td>
<td>91,82%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>8,32%</td>
<td>91,68%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Uses in 2020 by geographic area in %

- Middle East: 34%
- Africa: 12%
- Latin America and Cuba: 10%
- Italy and Europe: 1%
- Not divisible: 43%

Uses by type in 2020 in %

- Education and information on Global Citizenship: 83%
- Development projects: 6%
- Emergency projects: 11%

Key data in the intervention areas

**Latin America**

**Cuba**

Sustainable development goals

**Current projects**
- Development of the sub-urban agriculture program to guarantee the food independence of the Municipality of Pinar del Río
  Role of ARCS: leader

**Closed projects**
- INNOVA CUBA International and intersectoral initiative to safeguard the country’s cultural heritage
  Role of ARCS: leader
- Lacteos: promotion of the production of cheese and milk derivatives to improve the diet of the population of Pinar del Río
  Role of ARCS: leader

**Approved projects starting in 20211**
- La casa de todos
  Role of ARCS: leader
**Middle East**

**Jordan and Egypt**

**Sustainable development goals**

**Current projects**
- **POWER**: promoting the economic and social empowerment of vulnerable women in Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt  
  **Role of ARCS**: leader

**Closed projects**
- **PRO-ACTION**: Protective and inclusive activities for children with disabilities  
  **Role of ARCS**: leader

**Projects launched**
- **START-WOMEN-UP**: socio-economic empowerment for vulnerable women in Jordan and Lebanon  
  **Role of ARCS**: leader

**Lebanon**

**Sustainable development goals**

**Current projects**
- **DROIT**: Rights, social integration, professional orientation and protection for young adults, women and the disabled in Lebanese prisons  
  **Role of ARCS**: leader

**Closed projects**
- **Ayounkon**: enhancing the access to ophthalmologic services in the Beqaa Valley  
  **Role of ARCS**: leader
- **COVID-19 emergency – Initiative to support the governmental hospital of Siblin Lebanon**

**Projects launched**
- **START-WOMEN-UP**: socio-economic empowerment for vulnerable women in Jordan and Lebanon  
  **Role of ARCS**: leader

**Projects approved and starting in 2021**
- **Resilience and social stability: creation of temporary employment opportunities to support Lebanese municipalities in managing the economic and social consequences of the crisis**  
  **Role of ARCS**: leader
North Africa
Tunisia and Morocco

**Sustainable development goals**

**Current projects**
- SELMA – Support for local agriculture, micro-business and the empowerment of women and young people in Tunisia
  *Role of ARCS:* leader
- IMPRENDI TU: promotion of youth and female entrepreneurship in Tunisia
  *Role of ARCS:* leader

**Projects launched**
- INDIMEJI – Action for economic and social inclusion of young people and women in Tunisia
  *Role of ARCS:* leader
- Post-crisis support for female and young micro-businesses in Tunisia
  *Role of ARCS:* leader
- STAP: Sardinia and Tataouine, support for the restart
  *Role of ARCS:* partner

**Closed projects**
- TerRe: from lands to income, empowerment programs for women and young people in Tataouine
  *Role of ARCS:* leader
- Business incubators in Morocco
  *Role of ARCS:* partner
- TATAOUI: promotion of youth and female entrepreneurship in Tunisia
  *Role of ARCS:* partner

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Africa
Senegal and Western Sahara

**Sustainable development goals**

**Current projects**
- SOUFF – Terra: Support and co-development to strengthen the Linguére community
  *Role of ARCS:* leader
- Dooel: Migrations and Co-Development, Cultivating Social Business in Senegal
  *Role of ARCS:* partner
- Social business and innovative development of the agro-industrial sector in the Thiès region
  *Role of ARCS:* partner

**Projects launched**
- Social business for the socio-economic emancipation of women and disabled young people and the promotion of smallholdings in the poultry sector
  *Role of ARCS:* leader
- Prevention of hunger and improving diet for Saharawi citizens in refugee camps in Algeria and in the freed territories of the Western Sahara
  *Role of ARCS:* leader

**Closed projects**
- PROM-SEN Promotion of food security by strengthening small producers and the introduction of innovative techniques in the Louga region- Senegal
  *Role of ARCS:* leader
- IMPRENDI TU: promotion of youth and female entrepreneurship in Tunisia
  *Role of ARCS:* leader
- Prolift: prevention of hunger and improving diet for Saharawi citizens in refugee camps in Algeria and in the freed territories of the Western Sahara
  *Role of ARCS:* leader
- AGRI.SEN: Agritube system for sustainable development in the Louga region, Senegal
  *Role of ARCS:* leader

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**What we do / Key data in the intervention areas**
**Africa**

**Cameroon**

**Sustainable development goals**

**Current projects**

- ENTER: Appropriate renewables and technologies to access drinking water in a rural setting
  - **Role of ARCS:** leader

**Projects launched**

- ELLE – *Entrepreneuriat Local et Leadership féminin pour l’Égalité des chances*
  - **Role of ARCS:** leader

**Italy-Europe**

**ECG, EVS/ESC, exchanges of good practice, universal civil service**

**Sustainable development goals 2030**

**Current projects**

- PINOCCHIO. Culture, sport, civic participation and social networks against discrimination for greater social inclusion
  - **Role of ARCS:** partner

- P for PARTICIPATION: capacity-building initiatives for participatory sustainable development
  - **Role of ARCS:** leader

- C’est possible, UE – Together we can do it
  - **Role of ARCS:** partner

- Findyourself. Faciliter l’engagement de jeunes!
  - **Supporting youth voluntary commitment!**
  - **Role of ARCS:** partner

**Projects launched**

- CETAL - *Compétences Emancipatrices pour la Transition Alimentaire*
  - **Role of ARCS:** partner

- Young people in solidarity for resilient communities
  - **Role of ARCS:** partner

**Projects approved in 2020 and started in 2021**

- YOU reSTART! (Erasmus Plus, KA2)
  - **Role of ARCS:** leader

- IFS – Fostering Social Justice
  - **Role of ARCS:** partner

**Closed projects**

- Youthquake
  - **Role of ARCS:** leader
Lobbying e advocacy, campagne ed eventi

In 2020 ARCS promoted national and international events, opportunities for dialogue and exchange, and themed campaigns. It was part of NGO delegations and civil society organisations, networks and Italian and European representations and promoted or co-promoted public initiatives and online meetings with institutions and other subjects from the non-profit and profit world, despite the difficulties from the complex emergency caused by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The activities for awareness-raising, information and discussion, lobbying, advocacy and global citizenship education are an important part of ARCS’ work, through which the organisation intends to raise the awareness of the public and to influence institutions on the issues of human rights, cooperation, solidarity and international volunteering, humanitarian crises, peace, democracy and sustainable development.

Events, interviews, conferences, festivals

OPEN COOPERATION, 100% transparent

This year too ARCS is in first place in the Open Cooperation ranking by level of transparency. All the documents and numbers for the activities are available at open-cooperazione.it

Community businesswomen
International home of women

On 31 January ARCS organised the event “Community businesswomen” at the International Home of Women in Rome to talk about economic solidarity with Tunisian women from the “TERRE” projects. An opportunity for the exchange and discussion of good practice.

International Cooperation Forum

In February ARCS was in Brussels for the closure of the International Cooperation Forum (ICF) together with partners of the SOLIDAR network, to discuss new trends in European cooperation and to reinforce collaborative strategies among the various organisations present. Among the issues addressed were the promotion of economic and social rights, the list of priority countries for activities in 2020, and the creation of regional Focal Points.

#SocialJusticeDay

ARCS adheres to the #SocialJusticeDay campaign of the SOLIDAR network. On 20 February during the 13th edition of World Social Justice Day, ARCS reiterated its commitment to promoting the respect of economic and social rights for everyone in order to guarantee decent work, freedom of association, universal social protection, and access to high-quality essential services. ARCS contributed to defining the Statement on Social Justice through a Just Transition.
Launch of the CETAL project – emancipatory skills for the food transition

On 4 March ARCS was in Montpellier for the first meeting linked to the “CETAL – emancipatory skills for the food transition” project which deals with food aid and its role in change, emancipation and inclusion processes. The meeting involved the associations Nonna Roma, Brigata – Unità di strada del Circolo Marea di Salerno, ARCI Turin and other European volunteering organisations.

#IlDonoNonSiFerma

On 17 April the Director of ARCS Silvia Stilli spoke at the first online press conference entitled “The impact of the Covid-19 emergency on donations” organised by the Italian Donation Institute (IID) to present the results of the first monitoring dedicated to the trend in fundraising for non-profit bodies in Italy in the first quarter of 2020 during the COVID-19 emergency. Over 130 non-profit organisations replied to the questionnaire in under two weeks. “Italians have responded generously to the COVID-19 emergency, multiplying healthcare and hospital donations, and non-profit organisations activated projects and initiatives to respond to the numerous needs that exploded. A large-scale movement that is helping the country face the emergency, but which is leaving behind many other sectors on which there is uncertainty in the medium period” (IID), Stefano Tabò, IID Chairman, stressed: “We are working to bring to the fore all the activities undertaken by the member associations: fundraising initiatives and others which provide a snapshot of a sector which immediately took its place in the front line, alongside the people who are fighting this terrible emergency. The project is part of a broader awareness-raising campaign #IlDonoNonSiFerma (The giving does not stop) launched in mid-March which aims to explain how the sector is reacting, also by innovating in the means of interacting with both recipients and volunteers.”

ARCS’ story in an interview broadcast on Radio Gazzarra

On 14 April Federica D’Amico, project manager and contact point for the projects in Africa, spoke about ARCS’ initiatives in Tunisia, Senegal and Cameroon in an interview broadcast on the web radio of Arci Liguria.


In June ARCS took part in the sixth edition of the Festival of Mediterranean cultures, promoted by ARCI, together with ACLI, Caritas Italiana and CGIL, in collaboration with A Buon Diritto, ASGI and Associazione Carta di Roma, with the presence of UNHCR and numerous international networks and subjects, with the support of the UNAR and with the patronage of local and national institutions. “Sabir 2020 Beyond” is an online extraordinary edition which intends to take forward the work of recent years aimed at reducing inequalities among the countries and peoples of the Mediterranean. Numerous events organised (training, international meetings, seminars and conferences) live on Zoom and Facebook Live.

25 years on from Beijing Conference on women

In June Director Silvia Stilli, as AOI spokesperson, spoke at the online event “25 years on from the Beijing Conference” promoted by AOI with Maria Grazia Panunzi (AIDOS), Laura Boldrini (PD member of lower house), Roberta Paoletti (teacher on Master on gender policies, University of Rome III). Gender and difference, empowerment and gender mainstreaming are the three goals still to be realised.

With girls, boys, adolescents, youth

In June the Director Silvia Stilli, as AOI spokesperson, took part in the online event “25 years on from the Beijing Conference” promoted by AOI “With girls, boys, adolescents, youth. What questions and what future vision after the COVID-19 emergency”. Speakers included Paola Crestani (Chairwoman LinK2007), Tommaso Nannicini (Senator) and Federico Zullo (Chairman Agevolando).
The theory of Change for programming and planning

With the project “P for Participation” ARCS continues with its Global citizenship education initiatives by starting online training programs. In June it organised online training on the Theory of Change for programming and planning.

Interview on ripartelitalia.it

In July ripartelitalia.it interviewed Silvia Stilli as the AOI spokesperson and asked a question for the Government: “perhaps it is time for politics to draw more on this reserve of know-how and solidarity which the non-profit sector still is for Italy?”

What feature of your volunteering identity would you never give up?

Carlo di Cicco

“Solidarity (with a capital S!), broken down into numerous initiatives. We are players in volunteering, cooperation and solidarity who operate in Italy and abroad in partnerships to promote the protection of human rights and of those who defend them, in order to build cooperative relations and programs between communities in the name of peace and socially sustainable development, to undertake advocacy and programs to combat climate change: the watchword is active Solidarity in order to defeat every form of poverty and injustice.”

Silvia Stilli

ARCS and Lunaria train social promotion association operators

In August ARCS and Lunaria promoted a training program in Rome for Social Promotion Association operators working in the local area, to enhance their knowledge and understanding of preventing and combating discrimination, propaganda and racial violence. The program is promoted as part of the “PINOCCHIO – culture, sport, civic participation and social networks against discrimination for greater social inclusion” project coordinated by CEFA Onlus.

Franco Uda on the Board of Directors of IFS

In recent years, with youth and good practice exchange projects on active citizenship and on the non-formal education of young people and adults, ARCS has worked a lot with associations in the IFS global network which works for social justice practically in every continent in the world. In August the deputy chairman of ARCS, Franco Uda, was appointed as a member of the Board of Directors of the network, the governing body consisting of 30 members from the United States, Canada, Australia, Sweden, Finland, Hungary, Germany, France, Israel, Nigeria, Morocco, Venezuela and the United Kingdom.

Stop EU Mercosur, CreAccionAmazonica

On 24 September the social movements and organisations of Latin America which created the Global Assembly for the Amazon launched a day of protest. The “CreAcción Amazonica” virtual caravan against the climate crisis was a live event on Facebook and Youtube involving Ecuador, Colombia, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Paraguay, Guyana, Venezuela, Brazil, Suriname, and Europe. ARCS supports the initiative through which it is asked to stop the EU-Mercosur treaty on the day of the Caravan for the Amazon.

Walking in Rome

In October ARCS organised two open-air events, walks with soundtracks for citizens, in the spirit of sociality and inclusion organised together with Guide Invisibili and Laboratorio 53 Onlus. Stories, thoughts, cultural and traditional parallels that are whispered through headphones by migrants who live the city on a daily basis. A unique opportunity for exchange and sharing, to observe the reality from a different viewpoint, with new eyes. This way a narrow street becomes a photograph of Damascus, a water fountain a memory of a far-off village in Guinea. Guide Invisibili is an audio-based storytelling project run by young migrants, who are the authors and voices of the audio guide for Rome, and accompany visitors in the various areas of the capital.
Voices and Faces of “P for participation”

In November as part of the “P for participation” project financed by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies with the online campaign “Voices and faces of P for participation” ARCS collected the first-hand accounts of partners in the project. People took part by telling their story through an object that is dear to them and represents their work and experience on the project. The photo-stories were realised also thanks to the shots taken by photographer Gabriele Fiolo.

«If I had to choose one word to represent the experience of P for Participation, I would use interdisciplinarity because it describes the system of cross-cutting know-how and values which we tried to transmit to participants […]. The subject I chose, and which represents my work in the association and in the experience of P for Participation, is the folder I am holding with the words written on it www.economiacircolare.com»

Read the full contribution: arcsculturesolidali.org/voci-e-volti-di-p-come-participation/

INNOVA CUBA – Habana Espacios Creativos

In Cuba, Habana Espacios Creativos, a workshop for the promotion of youth entrepreneurship, which was created as part of the Innova Cuba project, finally opened its doors to the public in November. «As from October, after a lockdown which seemed to never end, with the spread of the virus fairly well under control, the government finally decided to apply a “new normality” plan which also let Habana: Espacios Creativos open its doors to the public with the realisation of a workshop focussed on new technologies and in particular on use of a 3D printer to support graphics. Although access is still limited, it has been possible to promote the first cultural program. We are convinced that Habana: Espacios Creativos will soon be a reference point not only for creative Cuban youth, but also for all those visitors interested in the art and culture of this splendid country. It is possible to follow all the initiatives promoted by Habana: Espacios Creativos through the Facebook profile»

Federico Mei
ARCS staff, project coordinator in Cuba

International day of solidarity with the Palestinian people

On the International day of solidarity with the Palestinian people on 29 November, ARCS, as a member of the SOLIDAR network, organised an online conference for the recognition of the State of Palestine. Following the announcement of the Israeli annexation plan at the start of June 2020, the members of SOLIDAR reacted and together adopted a resolution on Palestine, inviting the European Union and its Member states to recognise the State of Palestine. The purpose of this resolution, in compliance with international laws and resolutions of the United Nations, was to invite the European Union and its Member states to recognise the State of Palestine. The conference met high-level representatives to remind them why and how the recognition of the State of Palestine is important and essential for peace, security and the respect of fundamental rights.

Mainstreaming Sustainable Development Goals

In 2020, members of the ARCS staff took part in the “Mainstreaming Sustainable Development Goals” training offered by the SOLIDAR Foundation. The training was structured in four sessions which analysed various aspects of the sustainable development goals. The training aimed to facilitate recognition of the role of staff to realise the SDGs and to look in depth at the concepts behind the SDGs.

International day for the elimination of violence against women

On 25 November, on the International day for the elimination of violence against women, the European Union representation to Cameroon housed at the Spanish Embassy presented 4 new projects to enhance the empowerment of women in Cameroon. ARCS was present at the signing ceremony for the “ELLE – Entreprenariat Local et Leadership féminin pour l’Égalité des chances” project which will be realised in the West, East and Adamawa regions in partnership with Cipcre – Cercle International pour la Promotion de la Création, NIDD – Nid International pour le Développement Durable, APCRE – Association pour la Promotion de la création, and AJVN – Association des Jeunes Volontaires de Ngaundere, CMO – Club Media Ouest.

What we do / Lobbying and advocacy, campaigns and events
Young tremors of solidarity

On 10-11-12 December the ARCS Facebook page live hosted the concluding event of the strategic European Volunteering Service project financed by the European Erasmus plus program and by the National Youth Agency. The event was called “Youthquake An earthquake of solidarity” which included a full program of institutional meetings, analyses, shows and documentaries, to tell the story of three years of European volunteering in the areas hit by the 2016-17 earthquakes in central Italy where hundreds of volunteers from geographically distant locations chose to be physically alongside the numerous associations, local bodies, people, collectives, intellectuals, and citizens who bring life to, live and resist in those places and are trying to put back together the strands of communities based on solidarity. The event provided the opportunity to reflect on the progress in the reconstruction, give a voice to local communities, and listen to the experiences of young people.

Discover the complete program: arcculture-solidarieta.org/scosedisolidarieta/

The power of community across Europe

Locality, a British association which is a member of the IFS network, undertook research entitled “Research on experiences of the community response to the pandemic across Europe in 2020” on the activation of our associations during the pandemic. The report contains a contribution from Franco Uda, deputy chairman of ARCS. “During the first lockdown in 2020, Franco explains how local cultural organizations and community centres had to stop their cultural activities, and instead changed their focus to the social needs of their communities. They organized community canteens to provide food to shielding households, focusing particularly on elderly people unable to leave their houses. Particularly in larger cities, cultural organizations coordinated volunteers to support essential public services.”

“We knew before [the pandemic] we were a social actor, but from the first period we discovered how to change our commitments in our communities. We are now more advantaged to face the needs of our community.”

Communication campaigns and initiatives to combat the pandemic

Sono fattu tuo

ARCS supports the campaign “Sono fattu tuo” created as part of the “Pinocchio” project which aims to dismantle false beliefs and to deconstruct stereotypes linked above all to the cultural contexts of migrants’ countries of origin. Starting from daily cases of discrimination against immigrants, and more besides, the campaign aims to show how each of us, every day, has the chance to intervene and combat hate speech. Among the numerous initiatives of the campaign, in 2020 the video came out entitled “A Coca-Cola with a short, short straw” by Lorenzo Baglioni. The Pinocchio projects tries to combat hate speech and discrimination through culture, sport, civic participation and social networks.

Io Accolgo (I Welcome)

ARCS supports the “Io Accolgo” (I Welcome) campaign which was created at the initiative of a broad range of civil society organisations, bodies and unions, to provide a strong and united response to the restrictive policies adopted in regard to asylum seekers and migrants, which violate the principles affirmed by the Constitution and by international agreements. All the info on ioaccolgo.it
ARCS reacted to the emergency in the immediate outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and during the months of lockdown, continuing to take forward its social action by remodulating and expanding its activities, in addition launching new initiatives to respond not only to the healthcare emergencies, but also to the social and economic emergencies of the communities where it operates, with cooperation and solidarity projects in Italy and worldwide. The main initiatives and activities were focussed on combatting the increase in the cases of poverty, exclusion and social fragility, activating broad networks of neighbourhood welfare.

ARCS has tried to provide immediate responses to the essential needs of people and communities, promoting the maintenance and enhancement of social relations in times of serious physical and human isolation, so that no one is left behind.

ARCS chose to reiterate its commitment as part of global citizenship education and capacity-building projects, reformulating its activities and replacing face-to-face training with online training courses. Thanks to the investment in suitable digital platforms, ARCS enabled hundreds of users to take part remotely in courses, classes, workshops on a range of themes, from climate change to effective communication, from the project cycle to the development of soft skills in young people, contributing to enhancing professional and other skills.

ARCS organised open-air events in places where safety measures could be maintained. It remodulated projects on volunteering, the exchange of good practice and civil service, supporting the foreign volunteers who stayed in Italy as part of its projects and who are housed by local associations, undertaking activities completely online during the lockdown (language courses, advanced study of Italian, preparation of communication materials) and then in the open air, engaging with the hosting associations in cultural and artistic activities to support local communities.

As part of the vast program to supply the EU Centres managed by the Lebanese partner NGO Basmeh & Zeitooneh, it provided tablets and teaching material for the online realisation of training courses, reaching around 500 recipients.

In Jordan, as part of the PRO-ACTION project, which focuses on initiatives in favour of disabled children, Covid-19 awareness-raising activities were launched dedicated to disabled children and their families, and personal protective equipment and disinfectant gels were handed out. Over a hundred people benefited from these initiatives.

ARCS took forward its current activities despite the difficulties due to the spread of the pandemic, creating radio adverts together with partners to inform and raise the awareness of the local community, providing individual protection devices and training staff in loco. Together with the staff of the partner ACREST, 50 hand basins were made using local materials which were distributed to all the schools in the area where the ENTER project is implemented in Cameroon. Masks and sanitising products were made by micro-businesses and local craftspeople.

As part of the Innova Cuba program, ARCS intervened on cultural tourism and young entrepreneurship. It helped supply individual protection equipment, thermometers, devices for the sanitising of tourism and cultural sites, materials for the local manufacture of reusable masks for operators of the structures, a latest-generation laser cutter and an automatic bending machine to produce special protective elements, from masks to plexiglass panels and dividers.
Beirut Calling, Nation Station

On 4 August two violent explosions hit the centre of Beirut causing over 100 deaths, 4,000 people injured and over 100 missing. The shockwave hit the most densely populated part of the city, affecting around 750 thousand people within 9 km of the epicentre of the tragedy. Thousands of families were left homeless, without food and even without adequate medical care owing to the overcrowding of hospitals. The country was already facing the healthcare emergency caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and an unprecedented economic crisis which worsened the poverty many Lebanese were already living in, increasing the number of citizens at risk. There was a need for food, shelter, hygiene kits, masks and medicines.

ARCS launched the fundraising campaign “Beirut calling, Nation station” in the autumn. In an abandoned service station close to the Al-Roum hospital, in the Geitawi district, an area badly affected by the explosions, some young people started to distribute food to the inhabitants of the district. This first small gesture of solidarity was soon turned into a fully operational aid centre which provides food and medicines, as well as trying to repair the most seriously damaged homes. Nation Station soon also became a drop-in centre, a space to meet and be together. After an initial emergency aid stage, Nation Station now aims to become a self-sufficient community centre.

Feed Solidarity Gift some shopping with your heart

In April ARCS launched the fundraising campaign “Feed Solidarity – Gift some shopping with your heart” to support the food distribution work of some partners spread throughout Italy: Nonna Rama, Anci Turin and La Brigata – Unità di strada.

### Income from fundraising

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2020</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Collection from Campaign for childhood, adolescence and youth support projects</td>
<td>1,104 €</td>
<td>1,228 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection from Campaign against gender violence and for the empowerment of women</td>
<td>944 €</td>
<td>1,269 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional collection</td>
<td>458 €</td>
<td>542 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collection for volunteering and learning camps</td>
<td>- €</td>
<td>27,800 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaigns for solidarity and dedicated campaigns</td>
<td>16,053 €</td>
<td>2,617 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campaign to promote and support agricultural activities</td>
<td>480 €</td>
<td>- €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>19,039 €</td>
<td>33,456 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Support for Siblin Governmental Hospital

The project, which is financed with funds from the eight per thousand tax contribution for the Catholic Church in Italy, envisaged for healthcare staff the provision of protective devices which are essential to manage the emergency, and basic therapeutic instruments to address the pandemic. Siblin hospital was included in this new initiative in light of the consolidated collaboration with local experts from GENEAH (Genea’s Network for Environment, Art and Health), already an ARCS partner in previous projects undertaken in Lebanon in the health field. It is a public healthcare structure located in a peripheral area of the Chouf district which offers health services to over 200 thousand people in local and refugee communities. Not only were gloves, masks and other personal protective equipment distributed for staff in the front line, but also instruments for diagnostics and respiratory support treatment installed in the hospital’s new Covid-19 ward. The funds received from the Italian Episcopal Conference were used in full to purchase these devices and instruments that were donated to the hospital to guarantee adequate medical care for patients.
Who we work with

Financial supporters

Each year ARCS turns its goals into reality and realises its initiatives thanks to the support of numerous public and private financial supporters. The main ones are set out hereafter.

- AICS (Italian Agency for development cooperation)
- European Union (European Commission, Council of Europe)
- Delegation of the European Union in Cameroon
- UN OCHA LHF (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - Lebanon Humanitarian Fund)
- UN OCHA JHF (United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs - Jordanian Humanitarian Fund)
- National Youth Agency, Erasmus Plus program
- National French Agency, EACEA Erasmus Plus
- Marche Region
- Emilia-Romagna Region
- Lazio Region
- Autonomous Region of Sardinia
- Municipality of Rimini
- San Zeno Foundation
- Terzo Pilastro Foundation
- Cassa di Risparmio di Modena Foundation
- Waldensian Church
- CEI (Italian Episcopal Conference)
- Ministero dell’Interno
- Ministry of Labour and Social Policies – Directorate for the Non-profit sector and corporate social responsibility
- Italian Prime Minister’s Office
- National and international universities and academies
- Private citizens
- ARCI committees
- Bodies, organisations, profit and non-profit associations

Breakdown of funds by percentages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Foreign Ministry Funds (AICS, DGCS, UTL and DGPSP)</td>
<td>53,16</td>
<td>53,52</td>
<td>67,8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EU funds</td>
<td>0,87</td>
<td>1,35</td>
<td>9,53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other public donors</td>
<td>19,02</td>
<td>30,57</td>
<td>20,67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private individuals and other sources</td>
<td>12,32</td>
<td>14,52</td>
<td>16,28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Global networks

Participation and involvement underpin ARCS’ program of solidarity. The ARCS global partnership takes the form of participation in consortia, aggregations of interest, foundations, social networks and representations at Italian and international level. The main ones are set out below.

AITR Italian association for responsible tourism

It is a non-profit association. It is inspired by the principles of democracy and ethics and promotes initiatives to provide solidarity and support to responsible, sustainable and ethical tourism.

Anna Lindh Foundation

It is an international organisation which works in the Mediterranean to promote intercultural dialogue and civil society in order to build more inclusive, empathetic and resilient societies.

AOI Association of Italian international cooperation and solidarity organisations

Its purpose is to represent and valorise the plurality of social actors in volunteering and international cooperation in Italy. It helps build a democratic, inclusive, solidarity-based Europe, to fully take on its international role as a global actor in affirming the values and policies of peace and cooperation.

AsVis Alliance for Sustainable development Working Group 17

It was created at the initiative of the Unipolis Foundation and the Tor Vergata University in Rome to build awareness in Italian society, in economic entities and in institutions of the importance of Agenda 2030 for sustainable development and to mobilise them in order to achieve the sustainable development goals. Currently it brings together over 270 of the most important institutions and networks in civil society.

CCCDR Citizen Committee for Decentralized Cooperation of the Municipality of Rome

It is a permanent structure for meeting and discussion between the Municipality and civil society subjects present locally and engaged in international cooperation.

GCAP Italian Coalition against Poverty

The Italian Coalition against Poverty, which is supported by Italian citizens and by organisations, associations, unions, and civil society movements, is the Italian branch of a larger global movement which has set itself the goal of combating the mechanisms which generate poverty and inequality worldwide, promoting the adoption of sustainable development policies while respecting human rights, the dignity of each person, gender equality, and social and environmental justice.

GCE Global Campaign for Education

It is a civil society movement which promotes and defends education as a fundamental human right. It works at international, regional and national level to put pressure on governments and on the international community to guarantee everyone’s right to free, high-quality public education. GCE is a unique platform, which brings together and echoes the concerns about education of the countries which are facing the greatest development challenges.

CONCORD

It is the Italian platform connecting to CONCORD (Network of NGOs in Europe for development and emergencies), the European federation which represents 2,600 NGOs and associations of civil society which deal with development cooperation and humanitarian aid.

Cooperation Lazio

Association of NGOs and international cooperation and solidarity organisations in Lazio. It disseminates the themes of the culture of peace, international development cooperation and international solidarity through awareness-raising campaigns, seminars, educational projects in schools, publications, and exhibitions; it contributes to the preparation of cooperation strategies and policies in the Lazio Region.

Con.Me Contemporary Mediterranean. For a new Euro-Mediterranean network on intercultural dialogue

A body which brings together organisations which operate in the Mediterranean to incentivise dialogue amidst differences, the processes for making institutional, governance and civil societies democratic, innovative and the study of contemporary means of expression through projects and initiatives which range from research to training, to output on the issue of Mediterranean citizenship.

Triulza Foundation

It aims to represent the requests and proposals of civil society and non-profit organisations. The activities of the Triulza Foundation are centred on initiatives for meeting, study, and research to facilitate dialogue and cooperation among peoples, information-giving and training activities, and to promote among citizens a sustainable economy, ethical finance and responsible consumption.

Forum del Terzo Settore

It represents 86 national organisations which operate in the sectors of volunteering, associations, international cooperation, ethical finance, and fair trade of our country. The Forum of the Non-profit sector has as its main goal the valorisation of the activities and experiences which autonomously organised citizens implement locally to improve the quality of life of communities, through programs, including innovative programs, based on fairness, social justice, subsidiarity and sustainable development.

Forum SaD

It arose from the need to represent, at national level, the organisations which provide remote support. It facilitates moments for meeting and collaboration among all the organisations in the sector, seeks instruments that favour information-giving, transparency, visibility and the quality of the remote support initiatives and dialogues with institutions and international, national and local social organisations to disseminate the culture of peace.

IFS International Federation of Settlements and Neighbourhood Centres

It is a global movement of over 11,000 partner associations which include equivalent community-based organisations worldwide. They work for social justice by connecting, inspiring and supporting an inclusive global community.

ICP Roundtable for Civil Peace Initiatives

It was created in 2007 as a place for dialogue between the Foreign Ministry and the numerous non-violent organisations which were already operating in the sector. Today it continues to play an essential role in dialogue and coordination of Italian civil society which intervenes in a peaceful way in conflict zones. The ICP Roundtable drew up the important document on the identity and the criteria for Italian civil peace interventions.

Italian Donation Institute

It helps disseminate among non-profit organisations excellence in their conduct through operational correctness, transparency and the verifiability of...
the use of the resources made available for social purposes by public and private donors and financial supporters.

**Odiopedia network**

Odiopedia – a CSR project promoted by COP-Chi Odia Paga (Who Hates Pays), developed in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) – brings together on a single large map all the subjects in the non-profit sector who daily undertake to prevent and combat every form of online hatred and discrimination.

**SOCIAL WATCH Poverty eradication and gender justice**

It is an international network of citizen organisations which fight to eradicate poverty and its causes, in order to bring to an end all forms of discrimination and racism, in order to guarantee a fair distribution of wealth and respect of human rights.

**REMDH Euro-Mediterranean Human Rights Network**

It is a network which represents 80 human rights organisations, institutions and activists in 30 countries. It was founded in 1997, following the 1995 Barcelona Declaration, by civil society organisations engaged in promoting human rights and democracy under the Euro-Mediterranean partnership framework.

**SOLIDAR Advancing Social Justice in Europe and Worldwide**

It is a European and global network of civil society organisations which works to promote social justice in Europe and worldwide. With over 60 partner organisations located in 29 countries (24 of which are in the EU), the network is united by sharing the values of solidarity, equality and participation.

**Platform of Italian NGOs in the Middle East and the Mediterranean**

It was created 18 years ago at the initiative of some Italian NGOs active in supporting the populations that are victims of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Its members include 38 NGOs and associations operating in the Mediterranean and the Middle East.
ARCS can realise its mission thanks to the synergy and links established with its partners and stakeholders: institutions, NGOs, associations, unions, research institutes, universities, cultural institutes, academies, cooperatives, and companies. ARCS has always been engaged in realising one of its most important and ambitious objectives: strengthening global partnerships. The theme is broadly shared among organisations and institutions which deal with human rights and social change. In Agenda 2030 the United Nations indicated it as one of the 17 global goals for sustainable development. In this section we present all the partners with which ARCS worked during 2020.

Partners

**Cuba**
- ACTAF (Cuban Association of Agricultural and Forestry Technicians)
- Provincial Delegation of the Ministry of Agriculture
- Graja Urbana
- Municipality of Pinar del Rio
- OMCH (Office del Historiador de la Ciudad de La Habana)
- UFR (University of Pinar del Rio)

**Lebanon**
- Mada Association
- MS (Movement Social)
- NGO AJEM (Association of Justice and Mercy)
- NGO Basmeh & Zeitooneh

**Jordan and Egypt**
- ARDD Legal Aid Organization (Arab Renaissance for Democracy & Development)
- Caritas Egypt
- Noor Al-Hussein Foundation
- NGO Helping Hand to Merge Disabled people into the Community
- NGO Mada Association

**Tunisia and Morocco**
- IRA (Institut des Régions Ariides)
- CRDA (Commissariat Régional au Développement Agricole di Ben Arous)
- FNVT (National Federation of Tunisian Municipalities)
- UNFT (Union Nationale de la Femme Tunisienne)
- UTSS (Union Tunisienne de Solidarité Social)

**Senegal and Western Sahara**
- Regional development agency of Kaffrine
- Regional development agency of Kaolack
- ASDOB (Association Sénégalaise pour le Développement des Organisations de Base)
- ADSY Association
- Association of Departments of Senegal
- Association GIE Le Djilof (Groupe d’Intérêt Économique Le Djilof)
- Association GIE Naatangue De Diolo Ndiaye
- Association GIE Salam (Groupe d’Intérêt Économique Salam)
- BANLIEUE UP
- Chamber of Commerce of Kaffrine

**Partners by type**
- NGOs, Associations, Non-profit organisations, Social promotion associations, Federations
- Institutions
- ARCI network
- Research institutes, international centres of culture, Foundations, Universities, Cultural institutes, Academies
- Companies and cooperatives, Economic interest groupings

**Partners by type**
- **NGOs, Associations, Non-profit organisations, Social promotion associations, Federations**
- **Institutions**
- **ARCI network**
- **Research institutes, international centres of culture, Foundations, Universities, Cultural institutes, Academies**
- **Companies and cooperatives, Economic interest groupings**
• Chamber of Commerce of Kashlak
• Municipality of Boulal
• Municipality of Sablateb
• Departmental Council of Kashlak
• ISRA (Institut Sénégalais De Recherches Agricoles)
• Ministry of Youth of Senegal
• Ministry of Cooperation of the SADR, Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic
• Ministry of Economic Development of the SADR, Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic – agriculture department
• NGO Green Senegal

Other partners
• Anolf Dakar (National Association Beyond Frontiers)
• Anolf Rimini (National Association Beyond Frontiers)
• AOCI (Association of Italian cooperation and international solidarity organisations)
• ARCI Modena
• ARCI Ravenna
• AS-RA (Association of Senegalese of Ravenna)
• Association of volunteers Dolita Onlus
• Boom Project
• Chamber of Commerce of Romagna
• CIM Onnus (Studies Centre) International cooperation and migration, Società Cooperativa Onlus
• CIM/S (Cooperative Sociale Cooperation Internationale et Migration)
• CNR – IBIMET (National Research Council, Institute of Biometeorology)
• Municipality of Pescara
• Municipality of Rimini
• CoopCIM (Cooperative Sociale Cooperation Internationale et Migration)
• • OTHER PARTNERS •

Other partners
• ACR.E.S.T. African Centre for Renewable Energy & Sustainable Technology
• AVJN (Association des Jeunes volontaires de Ngaoundere)
• AMEE – Water and Energy Municipal Agency of the Municipality of Dischang
• APCRE (Association pour la Promotion de la Création)
• CIPCRE (Cercle International pour la Promotion de la Création)
• CMOS (Club Media Guest)
• Municipality of Dischang
• NID (Nat International pour le Développement Durable)
• University of Dischang

Cameroon
local partners
• • OTHER PARTNERS •

Other partners
• AIA (Association of African Engineers)
• APM S.p.A. (Multi-service company of Macerata)
• ARCI Marche
• Association of Pope John XXIII Community – Sharing among Peoples Onlus
• CIRPS (Inter-university centre for Sustainable development research)
• Cooperworld
• NGO TAMAT
• RESEDA Società Cooperativa Sociale Integrata Onlus
• SVM S.p.A. (Development Marche)
• Vita S.p.A.

Europe and other non-European countries
• • OTHER PARTNERS •

Other partners
• A.M. (Association for the Formation et Activity Interculturales pour la Jeuness)
• AIPC Pandora (Association pour l’Intégration et Progress de las Culturas)
• AOCI (Association of Italian NGOs)
• ARCI Local Committee of Perugia
• ARCI Local Committee of Rieti
• ARCI Civil Service Rome
• Asociacion Akuyus Jauninas
• Asociación Cazalla Intercultural
• Asociada Pro Hivos – Central National De Resurse Pentru Voluntariat
• Asociatia Auto Bucuresti – Juventud Bio Network Association – Bulgaria
• Borgo Futuro
• CEFA (European Committee for training and agriculture Onlus)
• Centre Régional Information Jeunesse Nouvelle-Aquitaine – Site de Poitiers Citizens of Europe e.V.
• Municipality of Bologna, Area for new citizenships, social inclusion and boroughs – Office for new citizenships, cooperation and human rights
• Municipality of Macerata
• Coordinaordinar Infantil y Juvenil de Tiempo Libre de Vallecas
• CRJ Réunion (Centre Régional Information Jeunesse)
• Experiment e.V.
• FCSF (Fédération des Centres Sociaux et Socioculturels de France)
• FOL 74 (Fédération des Oeuvres Laïques de Haute-Savoie)
• Frildsforsen Sweden
• Fundación Catalunya Voluntaria
• Fundacjion CAT (Centrum Aktywnosci Twórczys)
• Guaraní – laboratoire d’études et de recherche sur l’intervention sociale
• Le Grain Astil – Belgium
• Lunaria Association for Social Promotion and Social Business
• Mouvement Social
• Mál Nootvironments Arengu Uhing Estyes
• New Laser Cooperativa Sociale Onlus
• NUZS in de UFA-Fabrik e.V.
• OFFACES M S.c. a r.l cooperativa sociale
• NGO TAMAT
• Organisation Alternatives pour l’Enfance et la Jeunesse, Maroc
• Organisation de Amicilia
• Patalac Social promotion association
• PEC Wallonie (Peuple et Culture Wallonie – Brussels)
• ProAtlântico – Associação Juvenil
• RESEDA societa cooperativa sociale Onlus
• Solida Srl
• Stowarsztyn Aktywnosci Obywatelskiei Bona Fides
• Turkish Red Crescent Society
• UISP (Italian Union Sport for all)
• VAP UK (Volunteer Action for Peace)
Recipients

73,494 people in 2020 were recipients of ARCS initiatives worldwide. A result which contributes to the mission of the organisation: to create networks among communities and solidarity-based cultures.

Total direct recipients in 2020: 73,494 people
Total indirect recipients in 2020: 378,744 people

Division of the recipients by gender

- Women
- Men

Female recipients by age range

- 0-10
- 11-17
- 18-25
- 26-39
- 40-59
- 60 and above

Male recipients by age range

- 0-10
- 11-17
- 18-25
- 26-39
- 40-59
- 60 and above

Number of recipients in last three years

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Direct recipients</th>
<th>Indirect recipients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>73,494</td>
<td>378,744</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>10,985</td>
<td>342,466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>85,230</td>
<td>116,200</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CUBA

Direct recipients: 17,587 people (407 women; 766 men; 16,414 people not segmented by gender)

- 326 students and professionals of the OHCH took part in training courses under the Innova Cuba project.
- 15,000 tourists were assisted by the “Centre for welcome and dialogue with visitors” opened in Havana and 50 entrepreneurs signed contracts for tourism services with it.
- 1,000 people benefitted from the events held between 2019 and 2020 in the Visitors Centre and in the Habana Espacios Creativos (incubator for young businesses).
- 14 creative talents won study grants at Habana Espacios Creativos.
- 400 workers at the Visitors Centre received protective equipment (gloves and masks) to do their work safely.
- 340 partners in 4 agricultural cooperatives were beneficiaries of a project to promote the production of cheese and milk derivatives in order to improve the diet of the population of Pinar del Río, as part of which 187 people have already been trained, covering local farmers and technicians, 111 of whom in 2020.
- 262 partners in 4 cooperatives and 56 technicians of the Granja Urbana organisation took part in an agricultural development program in the area of Pinar del Río which also includes the creation of a laboratory for the food processing of fruit. Under the program 507 people including farmers and technicians were trained in the conservation, transformation and sale of agricultural produce.
- Under the projects in Cuba in total 27 new jobs were created.

JORDAN and EGYPT

Direct recipients: 2,752 people (1,272 women; 107 men; 1,373 children)

- 574 prisoners had access to basic assistance services (psychological and legal support) and professional training for social integration.
- 30 women received 30 small grants to launch individual business activities and improved their skills in tailoring, upcycling and creation of accessories by taking part in further courses.
- 143 alumni received educational support or took part in literacy activities.

LEBANON

Direct recipients: 897 people (251 women; 515 men; 131 children)

- 574 prisoners had access to basic assistance services (psychological and legal support) and professional training for social integration.
- 30 women received 30 small grants to launch individual business activities and improved their skills in tailoring, upcycling and creation of accessories by taking part in further courses.
- 143 alumni received educational support or took part in literacy activities.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of direct recipients by country</th>
<th>Number of indirect recipients by country</th>
<th>Who we work with</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Italy and other EU countries</td>
<td>987</td>
<td>694</td>
<td>Senegalese civil society</td>
<td>3,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senegal and Western Sahara</td>
<td>3,041</td>
<td>987</td>
<td>Jordan-Egypt</td>
<td>2,752</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tunisia and Morocco</td>
<td>1,013</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>17,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cameroon</td>
<td>47,217</td>
<td>14,165</td>
<td>Eurose</td>
<td>1,013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lebanon</td>
<td>897</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>Asia</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jordan-Egypt</td>
<td>2,752</td>
<td>1,013</td>
<td>CPR</td>
<td>144</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cuba</td>
<td>17,587</td>
<td>47,217</td>
<td>ARCS</td>
<td>130</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Europe</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>CESTAL</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Direct recipients by geographic area:
- Latin America
- Middle East
- Africa and North Africa
- Europe 70

- 121 women and 40 children received psychological support and case management.
- 11 women and two cooperatives took part in training sessions on launching and managing a micro-business.
- 200 inhabitants of the department of Linguère diversified their income-generating activities by developing an agro-system which integrates protecting the environment and combating desertification.
- 366,000 people
  - Indirect recipients: 353 men; 2,000 people not segmented by gender
  - Direct recipients: 366,000 people

**SENEGAL AND WESTERN SAHARA**

**Direct recipients:**
3,041 people (688 women; 355 men; 2,000 people not segmented by gender)

**Indirect recipients:**
366,000 people

- 400 Sahrawi people were trained on environmental sustainability, water resources, renewables, and agronomy.
- 402 female farmers and livestock keepers in the village of Boulal belonging to 9 female promotion groups were involved in programs to enhance skills in techniques of agricultural ecology, animal husbandry, agrifood processing, hygiene regulations, and basic elements of micro-finance.
- 3 representatives of Senegalese civil society took part in events organised in Emilia-Romagna.
- 2,000 residents in the Municipalities of Modena and Ravenna received awareness-raising activities undertaken locally.
- 36 women representing 9 female promotion groups in Boulal received training, technical assistance and ongoing mentoring.

- 2,700 people
- 144 young women were trained and supported in the process of creating micro-businesses which enabled them to both increase their income and to consolidate and market forms of production which maintain ancient traditions, combining them with modern means of production and marketing techniques. 10 of them set up micro-businesses which generated twelve jobs.
- With the activation of a fund to support the concession of non-repayable grants, ARCS will enhance the stability of 30 companies, will support around 200 people, and will enable four Agricultural Development Groups in the region to take on the status of a company in the Social and Solidarity-based Economy.
- 500 people received awareness-raising training in Modena and Rome involving the Tunisian diaspora.
- 130 people took part in events to exchange good practice.

**TUNISIA AND MOROCCO**

**Direct recipients:**
47,217 people (9,444 men; 14,165 women; 23,608 children)

**Indirect recipients:**

- There are over 42,000 people who, with the ENTER project, will have access to a source of safe drinking water.
- Over 10,000 people were involved in 200 public meetings to raise awareness and community events organised to create committees to manage the drinking water.
- 6,000 alumni received awareness-training on the correct use of the water and on the risks connected to drinking non-potable water.
- 78 people including young technicians, municipal agents and students of the University of Dschang were trained in designing, managing, and maintaining water plants, security, sociology and cartography.

**EUROPE**

**Direct recipients:**
987 people (370 women; 572 men; 210 young people; 45 people not segmented by gender)

**Indirect recipients:**
3,044 people

- 7 classes from two secondary schools in Rome – totalling around 150 children aged 14 to 17 – took part in training programs to combat the phenomenon of xenophobic discrimination in the inclusion processes which characterise contemporary societies.
- 45 people took part in events for citizenship “Pinocchio walking in Rome” organised by ARCS together with Guide Invisibili.
- 694 people were trained under the P for participation project which aims to promote an exchange of good practice and sharing methodologies and instruments among non-profit organisations, and more, with the aim of bringing Italy closer to the targets envisaged by Agenda 2030.
- 80 Volunteers in the Youthquake project (Erasmus+, EVS-ESC) were engaged in disseminating, in the areas affected by the 2017 earthquake and in general in Italy and Europe, the culture of prevention in order to mitigate the impact of environmental disasters.
- 24 operators in non-profit organisations and associations engaged in the theme of education and the development of educational networks took part in the activities envisaged by the C’est possible project to promote the sharing of resources and European practices linked to education and to enhance the respective educational networks.
- 2 young women and 2 young men took part in a universal civil service project in Lebanon and Senegal.
- 10 operators including volunteers, professionals, recipients of food aid from Italy, France, Belgium and Bulgaria were trained as part of the CETAL project which will lead to research/action internationally on the issue of food aid.
ARCS updates partners, financiers, supporters, friends, fans and followers through the news and the information it publishes on its website and its social media channels. To receive information or to ask to be added to the mailing list, write to arcs@arcsculturesolidali.org

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