



Aifo

In the world

Supplement of n. 7 July/August 2011 of Amici di Follereau
Supplemento al n. 7 Luglio/Agosto 2011 di Amici di Follereau



50 years of working together
with marginalized people

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Cover picture by Sunil Deepak



Message from AIFO's President Dr. Francesco Colizzi

*Dear readers,
in these few pages of AIFO in the World, you will find information about AIFO's life, from its projects and their beneficiaries to its inner democratic life that make AIFO so unique. 2010 was another year of worsening economic crisis and life conditions, in most parts of the world, both developing and developed. In such a situation, it may be difficult for persons to understand the work of solidarity organizations like AIFO that are not asking for support based on emotional feelings, for emergencies appearing on the mass-media, but work to promote long term development.*

However, as you will see from our project monitoring data, in spite of the crisis and diminished funds collection, in 2010 our work reached and helped more than 400,000 persons, spread over 83 projects.

After long discussions, we have also our second strategic and operational plan for the period 2011-15, that reconfirms our commitment to fight against leprosy and to work with persons with disabilities, based on principles of human rights. This is the year of our 50th anniversary, that will conclude in October 2011 with an international conference "Experiences of Hope".

This is what AIFO is for us: so many experiences of hope and promised humanity. So collaborate with us, hope with us. So many, too many persons in the world live in painful darkness, asking how much they have to wait for the dawn. So come and become with us, as Don Tonino Bello says, the "fore-bearers of the dawn".

Dr. Francesco Colizzi

President AIFO until June 4, 2011.

From 5 June, the President is Dr. Anna Maria Pisano

AIFO's New Board of Directors

In May 2011, AIFO's General Assembly has elected a new Board of Directors with following 7 members – Anna Maria Bertino, Francesco Colizzi, Simona del Re, Antonio Landolfi, Antonio Lissoni, Anna Maria Pisano and Enrico Pupulin. On 4 June 2011, the Board has elected Dr. Anna Maria Pisano as its new President for the period 2011-2014.

Italian Association Amici di Raoul Follereau (AIFO) is an Italian Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO), registered with Italian Health Ministry. It is recognized by Italian Foreign Ministry and European Commission, and has a Framework Partnership Agreement with ECHO. AIFO is in official relationship with World Health Organisation. The head-office of AIFO is in Via Borselli 4-6, 40135 Bologna, Italy, tel. +39-051-4393.211. Email: info@aifo.it and Website: <http://www.aifo.it/english/>

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1961 - 2011

AIFO celebrates 50 years

AIFO started in 1961 in Bologna (Italy) inspired by the message of Raoul Follereau and celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2011. Its motto since the beginning has been “Against leprosy and against all leprosy”, underlining its commitment to all those conditions that lead to diseases like leprosy – injustice, inequality, poverty and violation of human rights.

AIFO is a special non-governmental organization (NGO), because it is a popular mass-based organization in Italy composed of members and groups, spread all over the country, who are organized in regional coordinations and elect a Board of Directors every three years. This popular base of AIFO ensures that AIFO remains faithful to its ideals. Membership of AIFO is open to everyone who believe in its ideals of peace, justice and human dignity for all persons, especially for those who are marginalized, irrespective of religion, race, political beliefs.

AIFO is recognized by **European Commission** and **Italian Foreign Ministry**, and in official relationship with **World Health Organisation**. AIFO's **vision** is to develop activities that contribute to strengthening and spread of a “civilization of love”. It's **mission** is to promote international cooperation centered on self-development of people through specific social and health sector programmes.

Raoul Follereau was a French journalist who was moved by the plight of persons affected with leprosy, imprisoned in inhuman conditions in leprosy colonies and who has inspired different voluntary associations in different parts of the world.

AIFO has a five years' **Strategic and Programme Plan** for the period 2011-15, approved by its General Assembly in November 2010, that determines its areas of activities and priorities in Italy and in the world, in a flexible manner. For AIFO's work in the developing world, it gives **priority** to work with persons affected with leprosy and persons with disabilities (with special focus on persons with disabilities due to leprosy, persons with mental illness and other vulnerable groups).

AIFO in Italy: AIFO is a membership organization with 65 official groups who together constitute 11 regional assemblies and one national assembly, that elects every three years a Board of Directors of AIFO. At present Dr Francesco Colizzi is President of Board of Directors of AIFO, while new elections are planned at the end of May 2011.

Together the AIFO groups have about 1000 official members, 5000 volunteers and about 19,000 supporters. AIFO is recognized by Italian Ministry of Education and organizes refresher training courses for school teachers on issues related to development and inter-cultural issues in a globalized world.

Apart from its work with school children and teachers, an annual key event in Italy is organization of meetings, seminars, public mobilization in the last week of January, on the occasion of World Leprosy Day. In October 2011, a special international conference “Experiences of Hope” is being organized in Bellaria (Italy) on the occasion of 50th anniversary of AIFO.

AIFO's head-office is in Bologna and Mr. Maurizio Maldini is its' director.





A Letter From Projects

Hello from the International Projects' Office of AIFO. I am Francesca, head of this office. Greetings from my other colleagues in the project office – Giovanni Gazzoli, Simona Venturoli, Silvia Milella, Cinzia Cullice and Felicita Veluri. Sunil Deepak from the Scientific Support Office is also part of our team.

Our work in 2010 continued to be guided by the **International Projects Guidelines** that are available on the AIFO website (www.aifo.it/english/). This means that all our work in developing world is based on three years' Country Programmes decided together with our partners. In countries, where AIFO has a stronger presence, we have AIFO Country Coordinators, who guarantee correct development of initiatives, facilitate processes of monitoring & evaluation and strengthen local partnerships.

AIFO's project support is in two main directions – (1) fight against leprosy and (2) persons with disabilities, with special focus on persons with disabilities due to leprosy, mental illness and particularly marginalized groups, especially children.

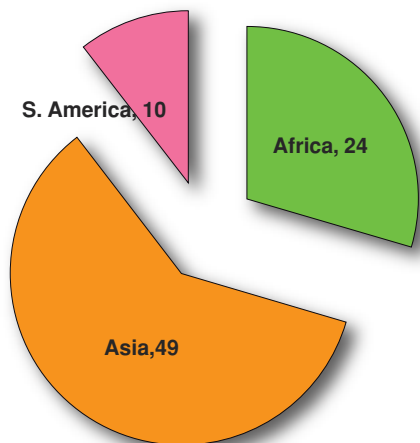
In 2010, AIFO supported 83 projects in

Asia, Africa and South America. The three graphs explain the different characteristics of these projects.

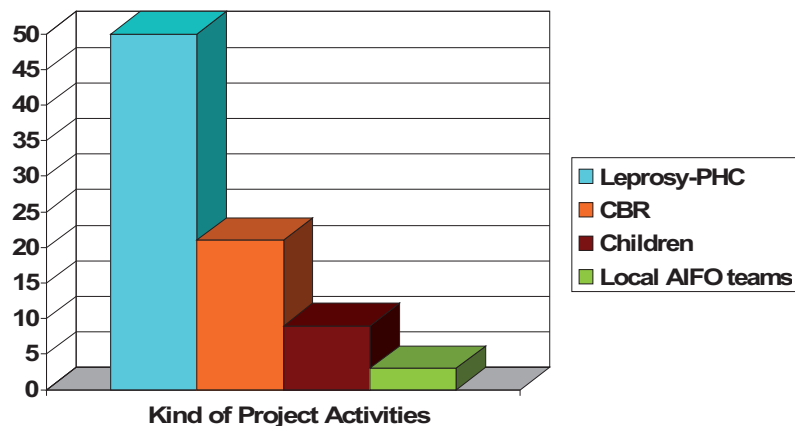
For many of these projects, AIFO received co-funding from Italian Foreign Ministry, European Commission, & Italian Episcopal Conference as shown in table 1 (p. 6). Funding support was also received from ILEP member organizations and different municipal and regional authorities in Italy, while there were also joint activities with IDDC member organizations and other Italian NGOs. You can find some more information about these collaborations under "National and International Relationships" of this report.



Projects in different continents



No. Of Projects for Kind of Activities



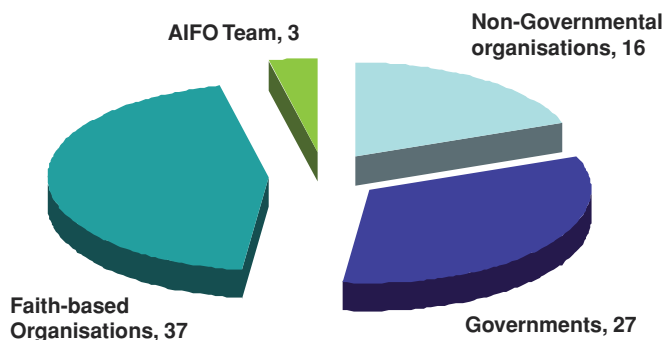
AIFO works in collaboration with different partner organizations in the developing world. All projects supported by AIFO must focus on the most marginalized and poor groups of populations, without any distinctions of religions, castes or creed. From all these projects, AIFO collects information through annual monitoring forms. In addition, all significant projects supported by AIFO are subject to periodic formal evaluations.

Table 2 (p. 8) presents a summary of information about persons benefiting from different AIFO supported projects during 2010. All this information has been put together from the monitoring forms sent to us by our partners. Some times, because of specific problems such as natural disasters or wars, it is not possible to receive this information in time, but I want to thank all our partners for their support in sending this information to us in time.

Our mission is to work with the most marginalized groups of persons, especially with persons affected with leprosy and persons with disabilities. The last couple of years have not been easy because of the financial crises. I know that this has not been easy for our partners in so many countries, and I count on your continued support and understanding.



Projects partners



FRANCESCA ORTALI
Head of International Projects' Office

New Guidelines and Reports

New Community-based Rehabilitation (CBR) Guidelines have been published jointly by World Health Organisation (WHO), International Labour Organisation (ILO), UNESCO and International Disability and Development Consortium (IDDC). Different persons from AIFO head-office and from AIFO supported projects have contributed actively to the preparation of the CBR Guidelines. The Guidelines can be downloaded in English, French and audio format from the following webpage: <http://www.who.int/disabilities/cbr/guidelines/en/index.html>

The first ever “World Report on Disability” by World Health Organisation has been published in June 2011. The report provides the best available evidence about what works to overcome barriers to health care, rehabilitation, education, employment, and support services, and to create the environments which will enable people with disabilities to flourish. The report ends with a concrete set of recommended actions for governments and their partners. The full report can be down-

loaded from: http://www.who.int/disabilities/world_report/2011/en/index.html

Guidelines for strengthening participation of leprosy affected persons in the leprosy programmes: Ensuring that persons affected by leprosy are the central focus of anti-leprosy efforts is identified as a key strategic activity in the World Health Organization’s *Enhanced Global Strategy for Reducing the Disease Burden due to Leprosy 2011-2015*. Whilst this has long been considered essential, this is the first time that it is been written into global anti-leprosy policy. These Guidelines, which were developed in 2010 by leprosy partners including ILEP, The Nippon Foundation, national leprosy programme managers and individuals affected by leprosy, suggest how persons affected by this disease can contribute towards the delivery of leprosy services and raise awareness about this disease among the general public and media. The guidelines can be downloaded from the ILEP website: <http://www.ilep.org.uk/>



Table 1: Co-funding from Italian Foreign Ministry, European Commission and Italian Episcopal Conference in 2010

Project	Co-funding Organisation	Duration Yrs	Proj. Initiated in
China, Yunnan – Leprosy control & rehabilitation	Ital. Foreign Ministry	3	2006
Vietnam, different provinces, CBR	Ital. Foreign Ministry	3	2008
Brazil, Tocantins – Primary health care	Ital. Foreign Ministry	3	2008
India Bidar (Karnataka) CBR	Italian Episcopal Conference	3	2007
Kenya – Kadem, rehabilitation	Italian Episcopal Conference	3	2009
Vietnam, different provinces, CBR	European Commission	3	2010
Liberia, different areas, CBR	European Commission	3	2010
Mongolia, CBR	European Commission	3	2008

National & International Relationships

AIFO has a rich network of relationships and collaborations, at national and international levels, with UN bodies, federations, academic institutions, non-governmental organisations, etc.

AIFO is in official relationship with World Health Organisation (WHO) and collaborates specially with departments of Disability and Rehabilitation (DAR), Mental Health (MH), and Global Leprosy Programme (GLP). In 2010, the significant collaborations with WHO/DAR included contributions to preparation of CBR Guidelines and coordination of a multi-disciplinary research on impact of CBR.

AIFO is a founder member of International Federation of Anti-Leprosy Associations (ILEP) and International Consortium on Disability and Development (IDDC). AIFO has different on-going projects and activities in collaboration with different member organisations of ILEP and IDDC.

AIFO also collaborates regularly with Disabled Peoples' International (DPI) and has an agreement with DPI in Asia Pacific as well as in Italy. In 2010, AIFO with three partner organisations (DPI Italy, FISH and Educaid), created the Italian Disability Network.

AIFO hosts the Italian Society of Leprologists (SIHAN) and the Italian Global Health Watch (OISG). In 2010 in collaboration with University of Genova, AIFO organized a training course on leprosy. AIFO collaborates with the Leprosy Mailing List managed by Dr Salvatore Noto. In 2010, AIFO also collaborated with Prof. Enrico Nunzi and Prof. Cesare Massone for preparation of a new manual on leprosy.

In 2010, a thematic study by office of UN High Commissioner for Human Rights on the theme of international cooperation



and the rights of persons with disabilities, took note of AIFO's work, "AIFO and DPI have carried out a research project assessing the impact of 10 years of two Community-Based Rehabilitation (CBR) programmes in Mandya District, India, reaching out to more than 22,000 persons with disabilities. This research project involves DPOs, federations and university academics as well as local communities and it takes a quantitative and a qualitative approach. Persons with disabilities and local groups control and decide the research priorities and assess the impact of CBR from their own point of view, with technical support from DPI and disabled university academics."

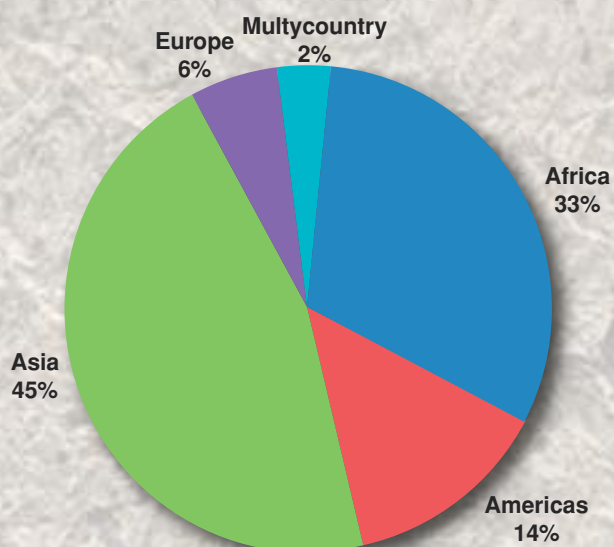


Beneficiaries of AIFO Supported Projects (2010)

Kind of Activities	Africa	Latin America	Asia	Total
Leprosy related activities	6 967	11 590	43 609	62 166
Primary Health Care	178 043	-	54 584	232 627
Community-based Rehabilitation	3 602	304	105 051	108 957
Community development	10	-	22 533	22 543
Marginalized children	3 572	716	4 737	9 025
BENEFICIARIES 2010	192 194	12 610	230 514	435 318

Note: Some project data is missing

Budget 2010 For Geographical area



Budget 2010 For Project Activities

