



AVAID - Association de Volontaires pour l'Aide au Développement - www.avaid.ch is a Swiss ngo, charity, tax exempt, based in Tessin, and working in international cooperation since 1995.

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

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

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

After about 30 years of work, AVAID confirms the values that are at its origin and, at the same time, adapts its approach to contemporary challenges.

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

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

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

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

Further confirmation of the centrality of the person, and the **adaptation of AVAID to the new needs of humanity**, is the increasing attention paid in recent years to crisis, **migrants and victims of the wars in the Middle East**. In Lebanon, after projects to support migrants and local communities, AVAID sponsored the multifunctional center Fada2i wich project has been offered by the swiss architect Botta, in the south of the country. Following the conflict involving Lebanon, AVAID is contributing to the emergency work of the partner AVSI Lebanon in different parts of the country and the Maronite parish of Byblos. In Syria, AVAID has been contributing to the "Open Hospitals" project, which aims to give free treatment to 150,000 indigent Syrian people in 3 hospitals in Aleppo and Damascus and in outpatient clinics spread in communities.

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

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

AVAID has a steering committee, composed by **3 volunteers**, and 1 people appointed for secretariat.

AVAID has managed in recent years an average annual budget of around 750,000 chf, coming from individuals and groups, foundations and public bodies. The annual financial statement of AVAID is audited according to Swiss Gaap standards.

AVAID communicate with donors through reports, website, facebook, linkedin, newsletter.

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