

ANNUAL REPORT

2023



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PREPARING A COMMUNAL MEAL AT THE WRC HOUSE OF FAMILIES – CAMBODIA ©AFORATIVEMEDIA2022



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COVER/**CHILDREN PLAY IN THE COURTYARD AT
CENTRE NRJ – ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR**
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GRAPHIC DESIGN/LA SUPÉRETTE

EDITORIAL

The year 2023 was marked by highly sensitive geopolitical developments in many of the countries where we work, making the daily lives of our partners and the young people and vulnerable families we support even more difficult. The most disadvantaged populations are always the hardest hit by such developments, and **children are still the most severely affected**. This is why we are more determined than ever to give them our support.

In such contexts, and very often because communities lack knowledge, children's fundamental rights are not sufficiently protected and respected. We and our partners continue to place the utmost importance on raising community awareness of child protection needs and promoting the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

The Foundation's primary goal is to improve the lives of children in street situations, in particular by providing them with **holistic support**, whether it be assisting them directly in the street or helping them reintegrate sustainably into their families, society and the workplace. In particular, we are developing **awareness-raising activities among the children themselves** through participatory workshops, as we have done in Madagascar, and initiatives such as the young reporters scheme in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Young people from the Republic of the Congo have also spoken at the United Nations (UN) Committee on the Rights of the Child with a view to making their voices heard by their government.

As part of these efforts, we marked the **International Day for Street Children** on 12 April with a virtual campaign via social media. In 2024, we will once again be organising an in-person event focusing on **access to education for children in street situations**, with contributions from experts and the participation of children, who will tell their life stories.

Helping marginalised young people find employment is also part of our DNA. It remained at the heart of our work, both internationally and in Switzerland, where **our training restaurant, the Birdhouse**, continued to provide instruction and support to young people who have dropped out of school.

The handover of the **FAAI presidency** also took place in 2023. During Jean-Paul Redouin's term of office, the FAAI has developed and consolidated: international cooperation initiatives have made significant progress, and our advocacy work on behalf of children in street situations has gone from strength to strength. Our training restaurant in Geneva, the Birdhouse, opened its doors under his presidency in 2019. His vision, rigour and work ethic have guided the Foundation's development. On behalf of the Board and the FAAI teams, we would like to express our deep gratitude to Jean-Paul Redouin for his six years of service to the Foundation.

We would also like to thank all our partners and supporters for their commitment to our cause. Their trust is both an honour and an obligation: through them and with them, we are pursuing the Foundation's mission to serve vulnerable young people and families with passion and determination.



Jean-Paul Faugère,
President



Mario Fetz,
Secretary General

THE FOUNDATION

The Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil International (FAAI), established in 2013, works to **protect children's rights, educate and integrate** young people in difficulty and **support families**. In partnership with local actors, the FAAI supports the international cooperation projects of the Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil*. The FAAI fosters ties with UN institutions to **advocate for children's rights**, particularly those of children in street situations.

Our international activities focus on four main areas:



Protecting children in street situations and defending their rights

- Preventing children from ending up in street situations
- Raising awareness of children's rights among families, society and the authorities
- Providing children with personalised care and support
- Supporting and building the capacities of social workers



Supporting families in vulnerable situations

- Promoting the family as the primary caregivers, responsible for the development and protection of their children



Providing vocational training and integration support to marginalised young people

- Opening up existing training courses to new target groups, particularly women
- Developing new training courses tailored to the difficulties faced by young people and the needs of businesses
- Training trainers alongside our local partners
- Supporting the social and professional integration of young people following training



Promoting the implementation of children's rights

- Helping our partners strengthen their capacities to influence decision-makers
- Giving young people and families a voice and empowering them to take control of their lives

Through our projects, we are helping to achieve **nine of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals**. Partnership is a founding principle of our international action to ensure its coherence and sustainability.



* The Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil was founded in 1866 in France.

2023 in figures



13
countries



15
projects



25
partners

CHILD PROTECTION



1,050
children hosted at drop-in
centres in Madagascar



1,000 children
in street situations
supported through
mobile outreach teams in
the Democratic Republic
of the Congo



160 patrols carried
out in Cameroon, enabling
234 young boys on the
streets to be identified

INTEGRATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP



96% of young girls
completed a literacy
course in Mali



80% of young girls
given shelter in Cameroon
redirected to vocational
training centres



175 young people
undergoing vocational
training in Senegal

FAMILY AND PARENTING SUPPORT

In total, our 4 Houses of Families located in Burkina Faso, Cambodia, the Philippines and the Democratic Republic of the Congo recorded:



19,467
drop-ins



732
families supported



219
new families assisted

INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY



40 participants
in 2 training sessions
organised in Madagascar
and the Democratic
Republic of the Congo



24 recommendations
submitted to and
accepted by France in
the framework of the
Universal Periodic Review



7 recommendations
submitted to and
accepted by Peru in
the framework of the
Universal Periodic Review



CHILD PROTECTION

The **Convention on the Rights of the Child**, adopted by the UN General Assembly on 20 November 1989, obliges State Parties to **develop and implement** laws and public policies that give effect to the **rights of the child**, in particular the right to protection, a home, an identity, free health care and a quality education. **The root causes of inequality and violence**, even unintentional, are a **lack of awareness of these rights** among the child's close circle and a failure of the authorities **to act decisively to protect these rights**.

Children living on the streets are particularly affected by this situation. They are often **invisible to their governments**, rejected by their families and discriminated against by their communities. That is why **increasing knowledge** of children's rights in the countries where we operate is an essential component of the FAI's **child protection** work. Our mission, accomplished in tandem with our partners on the ground, is to **prevent children from ending up in street situations** and to **reunite them with their families** wherever possible. When this is not possible, we aim to provide the children with support through reception centres or shelters, help them **regain access to school** and enable them to enrol in **training** so that they can **reintegrate** sustainably into society.

REGIONAL PREVENTION AND REINTEGRATION PROGRAMME

Cameroon, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Republic of the Congo

In 2023, we launched a new regional action programme to **enhance our commitment to supporting children in street situations** in Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and the Republic of the Congo. Our partners in Central Africa are facing **similar challenges**, not only in terms of poverty and inadequate social protection but also cultural beliefs that can lead to the rejection of children who find themselves on the streets. The programme aims to provide **comprehensive support** tailored to each child's needs, whether it be providing care on the streets or assisting them in reintegrating into society, the workplace and, whenever possible, their families. The overall goal is to **increase our support** in areas where our partners have already been active for several years.



YOUNG PEOPLE ENJOY A FOOTBALL GAME AT THE PK24 CENTRE – DOUALA, CAMEROON ©CFSN

Douala, Cameroon

The PK24 centre was established by our partner in Cameroon, CFSN*, to provide young boys transitioning from the streets or prison with **care, stabilisation, education and reintegration support**. Most of the beneficiaries are identified by our outreach teams directly on the streets or in prison, where they endeavour to **ensure that these young people have access to their fundamental rights**. After staying at the centre for a year, the boys are either **reunited with their families** or directed to another centre where they undergo an **individualised programme of resocialisation**. One of the main challenges in 2023 was to continue efforts to keep young people at the centre, particularly through **close monitoring**, as there is a high risk of them running away once they leave the streets.

*See Acronyms, p25

Brazzaville, Pointe Noire, Republic of the Congo

Our Congolese partner, REIPER*, provides comprehensive support to young girls and boys living on the streets. It also ensures they **have access to their fundamental rights** by **raising awareness of these rights among the wider community and authorities with obligations** towards the children (e.g. the government, the police, the judiciary). After making initial contact with the children, the mobile outreach service directs them to one or more facilities based on their individual needs. An **emergency hotline** was set up in 2023 for vulnerable children in crisis. It offers **a non-judgemental and sympathetic listening ear**, as well as advice and information on available assistance and care. In addition, REIPER produced **a video report** on children in street situations. The video was shared with the media and public institutions, serving as a powerful advocacy tool.



WORKSHOP ON CHILDREN'S RIGHTS, ORPHELINAT ST-JOSEPH DE GASTON, REIPER MEMBER – BRAZZAVILLE, REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO ©BESNARD/ APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

Kinshasa, Democratic Republic of the Congo

The care provided by our partners, AED, CCN, JOS, ORPER, OSEPER and VTA*, in their prevention centres and shelters ensures that children and young people in street situations receive **protection, essential services and development opportunities** by means of **schooling, vocational training and civic engagement**. Day-to-day activities focus on enabling the beneficiaries to start afresh, supporting their **long-term return to their families** wherever possible, and fostering the conditions for them to **integrate into society**.

Key figures in 2023

- **1,007** children in street situations supported through mobile outreach teams in the Republic of the Congo
- **160** patrols conducted in Cameroon, enabling 234 young boys on the streets to be identified
- More than **2,000** children provided with shelter in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- **70** children placed on vocational training courses in the Republic of the Congo
- **270** children reunited with their families in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- **68** minors visited in prisons in Cameroon

*See Acronyms, p25



CHILD PROTECTION

BUILDING A COMMUNITY OF PROFESSIONALS

Multi-country

One of the pillars of our strategy is to **develop educational resources with our partners**. We therefore prioritise the sharing of experiences and know-how between our partners to **enhance practices and support systems**. Over the past eight years, we have built **a network of child protection professionals** bringing together members of various partner organisations and creating platforms to discuss issues related to supporting and caring for children in street situations. Through this community of practice and knowledge, **everyone can make the most of and learn from each other's expertise** and develop **new educational resources** and tools together.

In October 2023, **25 social workers from 11 countries** met in Brazzaville to discuss the “**personalised child pathway**”. The meeting aimed to deepen understanding of this important approach and what it involves and to enable the participants to share the tools and methods they use in their respective organisations.

Such meetings are supplemented by virtual exchanges so that the participants can forge relationships over the longer term and go into greater depth on the topics covered during the face-to-face discussions. Ultimately, the goal is to enable our partners to organise these encounters themselves at regional and local levels.

The sharing of experiences during these meetings also provides valuable input for our training tools for social workers, especially the Digital Notebooks.

On a personal level, I had many enriching conversations. But I was also amazed to discover that, despite the distances that separate our countries, we share the same goal: to offer children a brighter future and the means to achieve it.

Participant at the meeting in Brazzaville, October 2023



PARTICIPANTS AT THE MEETING IN OCTOBER 2023 – BRAZZAVILLE, REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO ©APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

ENHANCING THE SKILLS OF SOCIAL WORKERS

Multi-country

In most developing countries, **little training is available for personnel** working with children in street situations. That is why we and our partners have developed **training resources for social workers** to compensate for the lack of existing or targeted training in this field. The aim is to equip frontline personnel with the **theoretical, practical and interpersonal skills** that are indispensable to providing high-quality support to children living on the streets or who have migrated. These children have experienced significant trauma and require **specialised skills to support them**, skills that can be acquired through initial or continuous training or on-the-job experience.

In 2023, a series of in-person training sessions for social workers was held in Kinshasa, Douala and Brazzaville. The sessions focused on violence prevention, teamwork and the carer-child relationship, respectively.

We have also developed an **innovative e-learning programme** that matches the **needs on the ground** as closely as possible. It takes the form of online “notebooks” whereby each learner can progress at their own pace. The full version of the first Digital Notebook, entitled “*Who are the children in street situations?*”, was made available online in October 2023. It comprises two modules that **set out the basics of the issue** and provide an **insight into the children’s daily lives** and the **impact** their living conditions have on them. At the end of each module, the user takes a quiz, the results of which count towards a certificate delivered when the whole course is completed.

Further Digital Notebooks are being developed. These will focus on supporting children in a facility, daily care, prevention and awareness-raising.

An **online collaborative space**, the Agora, complements this digital training tool. It allows professionals from different countries to **discuss** their daily work and the problems they encounter. They can also **share inspiring stories, enhance their know-how** and organise joint **working sessions**. Since its launch at the beginning of 2023, the platform has seen an increasing number of registrations and work-related discussions.

The Digital Notebooks aim to reach 2,500 social workers in 65 organisations worldwide, benefiting around 25,000 children in street situations.



[VIEW THE PAGE ONLINE](#)



VISUAL OF THE DIGITAL NOTEBOOK “WHO ARE THE CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATIONS?” ©APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

Through this tool, I have learned more about my working methods. It has also helped me discover and appreciate the perspectives and points of view of other social workers. This has allowed me to see the problems I face from different angles and tackle them more effectively. Thanks to the Digital Notebook, I've improved my techniques for dealing with children in street situations.

Member of REIPER mobile outreach team



CHILD PROTECTION

CARING FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES LIVING ON THE STREETS

Antananarivo, Madagascar

Since 2016, the Sandratra (Living in Dignity) project in Madagascar, run in partnership with Centre NRJ, Graines de Bitume, ONG Manda, HARDI and the PFSCE*, has been providing support to young girls and boys living on the streets and their families through day centres and a night centre. The **complementary nature of our partners** allows us to offer more than just **accommodation**. We also provide **access to schooling** and **social and professional integration support** while **raising community awareness** of children's rights.

In 2023, our partners organised **monthly drop-in clinics** to better meet the needs of **children and families living on the streets** in disadvantaged areas of the capital. The clinics aimed to provide information and, depending on the problems identified by the teams, offer a **basic local service** or refer the children and families to the appropriate services. **Five such clinics were set up over the year**, offering a range of services, including health care, psychosocial support, administrative advice, introduction to support structures, meals and games.



Key figures for 2023

- **1,037** children attended to at clinics
- **846** children hosted in day centres, **317** of whom returned to school
- **45** boys housed in boarding accommodation and **55** children provided with overnight accommodation

I found out about this clinic from the social workers who came to meet us in the street. Two months ago, my son fell ill and was diagnosed with scabies. During the session, the doctors provided free treatment and gave us the medicines he needed. I administered the medicines and followed the doctor's advice, and he is now scabies-free and in great form. Thanks to the clinic, my son has fully recovered. What's more, all the services are free. I'm now applying for my son's birth certificate with the project's help.

15-year-old girl attending the monthly clinic

*See Acronyms, p25

IMPROVING THE LIVING CONDITIONS OF CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATIONS

Cusco, Peru

Qosqo Maki, our partner in Peru, provides **day and night facilities** for children living on the streets as part of efforts to **integrate them into the community**. These services prioritise the children's personal, educational and cultural development.

The organisation has set up a **book and games library** and a **meeting space** to allow local residents and the children to interact and get to know each other. It encompasses a space for intercultural exchange and learning and a **specialised library**, open to all, aimed at **raising visitors' awareness** of the difficulties faced



MICHAEL, 19, IN FRONT OF THE QOSQO MAKI HOSTEL WHERE HE IS STAYING – PERU ©APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

by young people in street situations. These initiatives earned Qosqo Maki three awards in 2023. The organisation also expanded its activities by using comic books to encourage reading.

Key figures for 2023

- **57** young people hosted at the centre
- **70** young people used the library, which received **7,500** visits over the year
- **3** training workshops held on carpentry, bakery and barista skills

SUPPORTING MARGINALISED CHILDREN IN A DIFFICULT SECURITY CONTEXT

Ségou, Mali

Despite the political instability and complicated security situation in Mali, the Horonya Denw (Children of Freedom) project, run in partnership with Caritas Ségou, continued to **provide care and support to and reintegrate children estranged from their families** and living on the streets. To **meet the children's basic needs**, the project focuses on four main areas: promoting their **social and professional reintegration**; **raising community awareness to prevent** them from ending up on the street; housing them; and giving them care and support. To this end, Caritas Ségou's coordinator spent a few days at Apprentis d'Auteuil to attend a working session on advocacy and other issues.



CHILDREN PLAYING AT THE DAY CENTRE – SÉGOU, MALI ©CARITAS SÉGOU

Key figures for 2023

- **29** young people housed and cared for at the shelter
- **159** children received support for their schooling (school fees or school kits)
- **45** young people engaged in vocational training: sewing, carpentry and electricity



FAMILY AND PARENTING SUPPORT

In many countries, deteriorating access to resources, especially financial resources, has heightened the population's vulnerability, negatively impacting children's development and family life. In this context, parents are finding it increasingly difficult to provide the necessary support for their children's education and to meet their basic needs. The family and parenting support programme is designed to **respond to the socio-economic challenges facing parents and support their efforts** to promote **their children's development**. It does so by strengthening the bonds of solidarity while offering alternative solutions. It also aims to improve the practices of professionals in this field so they can better support parents. **The programme seeks to pre-empt or resolve conflict between parents and children by supporting parents and enhancing their knowledge of their responsibilities and children's rights.**

HOUSES OF FAMILIES

Koudougou - **Burkina Faso**, Siem Reap - **Cambodia**, Panay Island - **Philippines**, Kinshasa - **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**

Houses of Families are places where families can meet, chat and relax. Sharing their everyday challenges with others allows them to **find collective responses** and **gain confidence**.

As part of this programme, **four Houses of Families** have been set up in partnership with local organizations: Association Kogl Taaba in Burkina Faso; the Women's Resource Center in Cambodia; Cameleon in the Philippines; and Solidarité Batoto in the DRC.

In November 2023, these organisations took part in an event in France to inaugurate a photo exhibition using the "Photovoice" approach. This approach **gives families the opportunity to express themselves through photography and write about the things that are important to them**. Families living in poverty are often invisible and voiceless. For this exhibition, **families shared their thoughts** on the theme "What do Houses of Families mean to you?".



VIEW THE PAGE ONLINE

I want to say how much my children have flourished since I have made improvements. Family conflicts or disagreements disrupted my children's education and development. Thanks to the organisation and the House of Families, my mentality as a parent has completely changed.

KHAT PHENG, mother supported by the WRC
Family Centre, Cambodia



KHAT PHENG AND HER CHILDREN – CAMBODIA ©WRC

Immersion between organisations

Sharing practices and experiences is also an essential pillar of our family and parenting support programme. As part of this process, we facilitate **placements of social workers** from one partner organisation in another so that they can **get familiar with, ask questions about and learn from the practices** of fellow professionals in a different context. Four such placements took place in 2023. They provided **valuable opportunities for learning and the exchange of ideas among peers**, helping to build a network of civil society actors and develop new and innovative approaches to supporting young people and families.

Highlights of 2023

At the Houses of Families, **parents and children participate in designing and implementing** recreational, artistic, educational and sporting **activities**. In this way, families not only benefit from the activities themselves but can take on leadership roles and work together to improve aspects of their lives, such as self-esteem, communication and motivation. These activities help boost confidence, combat isolation and enable families to share ideas and **find solutions to the challenges they face**.

Examples of activities

In **Burkina Faso**, the main focus of the House of Families was on promoting the facility among families, notably by **organising events to encourage fathers** to become more involved in the activities.

As it was election year in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, the House of Families organised a campaign to **raise awareness of the right to vote**. The campaign was a great success, with over 100 families taking part.

In **Cambodia**, as part of an 18-day public campaign to combat violence against women and girls, the House of Families organised round tables on the topic of positive masculinity. These events allowed participants to reflect on their beliefs and behaviour regarding **gender equality and gender-based violence**.

In its training and awareness-raising activities in the **Philippines**, the House of Families has adopted a **participatory approach**. This approach enables participants to contribute their experience on topics such as maternal health and family law processes.

Key figures for 2023

- **5,945** visits, totalling **140** beneficiary families in **Cambodia**
- **2,518** visits, totalling **200** beneficiary families in the **Philippines**
- **6,538** visits, totalling **107** beneficiary families in **Burkina Faso**
- **4,466** visits, totalling **285** beneficiary families in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**

*See Acronyms, p25



INTEGRATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

In many of the countries where we work with our partners, the socio-economic situation is characterised by persistent instability caused by various economic and security crises. Unfortunately, young people are often the first to suffer the consequences of these precarious conditions. Poverty is also expressed through a lack of access to essential services such as health and education. **Young people tend to have fewer training and employment opportunities**, exposing them to increased insecurity and widening inequalities. Young girls and women, in particular, face additional challenges, as they are often victims of violence, gender discrimination and exploitation. Our integration programmes target young people in highly vulnerable situations who are **often marginalised and have little chance of finding a job** or entering the regular training cycle.

MODERNISATION AND INNOVATION OF TRAINING

Dakar, Senegal

In September 2023, we established a new partnership with JCLTIS*, a Senegalese association that specialises in training **young people experiencing family, cultural, educational and employment difficulties**. The Suxali (Restoring Hope) project aims to improve vocational training by upgrading and modernising its training centre for disadvantaged young Senegalese.

The vocational training centre provides **educational and family support** to young people to help them re-integrate sustainably into society. To enhance the skills of on-site trainers, the FAI organised two simultaneous work placements in November. The association's director and educational manager were hosted by two Apprentis d'Auteuil vocational high schools in France, and a social worker was hosted by two of our partners in Morocco. Thanks to these placements, the participants gained insights into the **various teaching methods**



used in the courses that prepare students for careers in electricity, welding and carpentry, and they found inspiration from the guidance and support systems in place.

Key figures for 2023 (since September)

- **231** young people, **44** girls and **187** boys, enrolled in various training courses at the centre
- **10** training courses conducted, leading to qualifications in electricity, metal construction, aluminium joinery, wood joinery, welding, textiles and sewing

*See Acronyms, p25

PROTECTING AND EMPOWERING GIRLS

Beirut, Lebanon

The Dora centre, located in north-east Beirut and run in partnership with the Sœurs du Bon Pasteur, helps **protect and empower girls** through an approach that combines psychosocial support, the prevention of school drop-out and support to families. The girls attend life-skills workshops covering a range of topics, such as identity and self-knowledge, clear and non-violent communication, the rules of living in society, and the rights and duties of society.

To ensure the girls in its care integrate sustainably into society, the centre also organises counselling sessions for their parents. The sessions aim to help parents fulfil their role through discussions focused on positive parenting.



TUTORING GIRLS AT THE DORA CENTRE – LEBANON
© SÉCOLÈNE RAGU/APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

Key figures for 2023

- **42** life-skills workshops conducted monthly
- **255** parenting counselling sessions conducted
- **225** tutoring sessions conducted (**20** per month)

BOOSTING THE EMPLOYABILITY OF JOBLESS YOUNG PEOPLE

Casablanca, Marrakech, Safi, Tangier, Morocco

The Najah (Success) project, run by our partners in Morocco, 100% Mamans, Al Karam and l'Heure Joyeuse, works towards the socio-economic integration of young people aged 15 to 35. Professionals from these organisations help young people **improve their qualifications** and apply for jobs or provide **guidance on self-employment**. The young people can take part in orientation and integration programmes that offer **specific training** in entrepreneurship. They then receive financial assistance to start their own businesses with seed funding. Alongside, social workers from the various associations regu-



INTEGRATION OFFICER FROM THE 100% MAMANS ASSOCIATION,
INTERVIEWING A MOTHER – MOROCCO © BESNARD/APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

larly take part in training and peer-exchange sessions to improve their practices and better meet the needs of young people.

Key figures for 2023

- **1,067** young people (**557** men and **510** women) received guidance and integration support
- **401** young people (**219** men and **182** women) took part in entrepreneurship training
- **41** young people (**16** men and **25** women) aided in setting up their own businesses



INTEGRATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

SUPPORT IN DEVELOPING AN INDEPENDENT AND SUSTAINABLE LIFE PROJECT

Bamako, Mali

The Djiguiya So (House of Hope) centre, operated in partnership with AJDM*, assists young mothers in **re-integrating into their families** while providing them with **employability support** and promoting their **financial independence**. To achieve this, the centre houses young mothers with their children and provides them with vocational training in an environment conducive to their success. Services include **psychosocial support**, **nutritional support** and **medical care** for both children and mothers. In addition to receiving comprehensive

care, the young women attend **classes in literacy and financial management** and participate in discussions on everyday topics. This support helps them **make informed choices** and equips them with the **tools to address the problems** they encounter in their daily lives. Alongside, AJDM has created a meeting space for vulnerable families, where they receive parenting support, share ideas and mix with their peers.

Key figures for 2023

- **30** girls housed at the centre with their children and placed on vocational training courses
- **29** girls achieved an average grade in their literacy course
- **102** medical consultations and follow-ups conducted



LITERACY CLASSES FOR YOUNG WOMEN – BAMAKO, MALI ©AJDM

HOSTING AND INTEGRATING YOUNG GIRLS

Douala, Cameroon

The New-Bell centre, run by our partner in Cameroon CFSN*, is a **listening and counselling centre** where young girls in street situations can drop in during the day. The centre provides **health and hygiene care**, re-

resher courses, homework support and a **canteen service**. If they so choose, the girls, aged 14 to 23, can enrol in the **“Arts et Style” training centre in Nyalla**, a district of Douala, where they can choose between **dressmaking and hairdressing**. At the end of the two-year course, the girls receive **specialized job-seeking coaching** or personalised support in **setting up their own businesses** to optimise their chances of successfully entering the workplace.

Key figures for 2023

- **43** young girls hosted at the New-Bell listening and counselling centre
- **41** girls enrolled at the Nyalla vocational training centre, including **30** in dressmaking and **11** in hairdressing



YOUNG WOMEN TAKE PART IN A NUTRITION WORKSHOP AT THE NEW BELL CENTRE AS PART OF THE SOLIDARITY CHALLENGE – CAMEROON ©CFSN

*See Acronyms, p25

INNOVATIVE WORK-LINKED TRAINING SCHEME

Antananarivo, Madagascar

As part of the Sandratra project, our Madagascar partner, Graines de Bitume, which operates the **Bureau Pour l'Emploi**, an employment office for young people, has launched a new initiative. The scheme, called SAMIMIASA (Sady Mianatra no Miasa or I Learn by Working) and **designed in coordination with businesses**, alternates periods of training and work experience. It provides genuine added value, especially since apprenticeships

do not exist in Madagascar. The young people, selected based on their motivation to learn their chosen trade, also receive support in overcoming any obstacles they encounter along the way and in preparing for the world of work.

Key figures for 2023

- **9** young people engaged in the scheme
- **3** young people hired by the host company following their six-month work placement



As the name SAMIMIASA (I Learn by Working) suggests, I have to follow a training course, alternating with a work placement. I enjoy this programme, even though, like everything else, it can be difficult, and you have to make sacrifices. The alternating system is confusing because you're undergoing a training period and a work placement. It requires a lot of organisation. I think it's good, but you have to stay focused. Life is a constant learning process, and you have to keep studying. Being diligent is essential in this programme.

Young man training as a plumber as part of the SAMIMIASA scheme, Madagascar



INTEGRATION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

INTEGRATING EARLY SCHOOL LEAVERS

Geneva, Switzerland

The Birdhouse is a training restaurant for early school leavers. It provides **15 young people with apprenticeships in cooking or service** culminating in the Swiss Federal Certificate of Vocational Education and Training (AFP) or the Federal Diploma of Vocational Education and Training (CFC).

The Birdhouse offers these apprenticeships to **young people who have dropped out of school**, many of whom have struggled to keep up with regular schooling. They receive **personalised socio-educational support** throughout their training to help them complete the course, obtain a certificate or diploma and ultimately find a stable job. A **dedicated coach** supports and works

with the young people throughout their apprenticeships and helps them deal with any issues they encounter in their personal and professional lives.

The Birdhouse's unique approach is guided by a desire to **help the trainees achieve self-reliance and independence** and is always tailored to their individual circumstances.

As the Birdhouse is a working restaurant, the apprentices interact daily with customers, gaining valuable **insights into the realities of the working world** as they learn. They also have the opportunity to do placements in other establishments to explore other aspects of their profession.

At the Birdhouse, I've found a great team working in a very pleasant atmosphere. It has taught me that work can be pleasurable and keeps me motivated.

Birdhouse apprentice

Key figures for 2023

- **9** professional instructors in service and cooking
- **1** socio-educational coach providing apprentices with personalised monitoring
- **82%** success rate in earning diplomas (AFP or CFC) since the project began in 2019



TRAINEES AND THEIR INSTRUCTORS IN THE KITCHEN
AT THE BIRDHOUSE – GENEVA ©LOIC HENIN

My job as a trainer is to pass on knowledge at all times, from the moment the restaurant opens until it closes. My daily challenge is twofold: to develop a dynamic among the apprentices by combining training and practical experience and to ensure customer satisfaction.

Julie, instructor in service and room manager at The Birdhouse



KHADIJA DURING HER TRAINING IN CAR MECHANICS WITH L'HEURE JOYEUSE – MOROCCO ©BESNARD/ APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

TESTIMONIAL

Khadija, a young woman receiving career support from l'Heure Joyeuse, Morocco

“

What are you doing here?

It's been a great experience. Before, I knew virtually nothing about cars, how they work or the different parts. But when I heard about the car mechanics course, my interest was sparked. Since starting the classes and work placements, I now know better what a mechanic can do on a car.

What did you do before?

I used to work in the hotel industry, which is the exclusive domain of women and girls. I liked the idea that this course was purely for men. I wanted to take the leap into a male-dominated field.

Is it easy to work with almost only men?

Respect is essential. If there's respect, and men and women work as equals, there's no problem.

What did you enjoy most about coming to l'Heure Joyeuse?

The support and trust we've built between us. At the same time, if you feel tempted to give up, l'Heure Joyeuse won't give up on you. It won't let go of the young people it supports. So, if we're absent even for just one day, they call us. It obliges us to persevere in our training.

What's your dream?

When I've graduated and gained the experience, I would like to set up my own business and get other people to work with me. Perhaps have my own garage.

Did your family support you in this choice? Did they agree?

You have to have a strong character and personality to achieve your dream. Admittedly, my family wasn't supportive. Everyone tried to dissuade me by telling me that it was a male profession and that I had no place in it. But I know that you have to be strong to grow and not stay stuck in the same place. So I'm strong and happy.

”



INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

The FAAL, together with its local partners, is committed to **advocating for young people** with their active participation. We place young people and families at the heart of our advocacy as **giving them a voice** makes them visible and gives them control over their lives.

We support our local partners by:

- Strengthening their advocacy capacities
- Supporting the development and implementation of national advocacy strategies
- Engaging in joint international advocacy through UN mechanisms such as the Universal Periodic Review and the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child.

Our common goal is to present specific recommendations to governments and international institutions to **promote respect** for the **rights of all children**, including those **in street situations**.

CONGOLESE CHILDREN DEMAND THEIR RIGHTS

In March 2023, the FAAL and our partner in the Republic of the Congo, REIPER*, submitted a **report to the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child** as part of the country's review before the Committee. Nearly **200 young people were consulted** on the state of children's rights, in particular those of Indigenous children, children in street situations and children with disabilities.

In May, the Committee's experts invited the REIPER national coordinator to Geneva. It was a significant moment, which also involved a virtual meeting between the **young Congolese who had contributed to the report and the members of the Committee**. During these closed-door sessions with the UN experts, the young people and REIPER presented their recommendations with conviction. Their contribution provided a **unique and essential perspective** intended to guide the government in **improving the protection of children's rights in the country**. These moments of participation and mobilisation are a reminder that in our



REIPER REPRESENTATIVES MR LIKIBI AND MR KABI IN GENEVA FOR THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO'S PRE-SESSION REVIEW BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD IN MAY 2023 ©APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

common quest for a fairer and more equitable future, **every voice counts**.

In January 2024, the Committee submitted the final recommendations for implementing the rights of Congolese children to representatives of the Congolese government.

We're two children at home. Sometimes, there's not enough food to go around. My brother gets to eat first, and I'm told that as I'm a girl I can find something outside or ask my friends. I'm used to it, but sometimes it hurts.

A young girl supported by REIPER

*See Acronyms, p25

PROMOTING CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AT THE UNIVERSAL PERIODIC REVIEW

In 2023, with our partners from Peru and France, we took an active part in each country's **Universal Periodic Review** (UPR). The UPR mechanism enables the UN Human Rights Council to **assess the human rights situation** in all UN Member States. The review is conducted by other States, which then make recommendations aimed at strengthening respect for human rights. The valuable role that civil society actors can play in this process lies in their ability to provide first-hand information and practical recommendations. Their input helps **guide recommendations** for significant improvements to be made before the next review.

Peru

The year 2023 kicked off with the UPR of Peru. The previous year, the FAAl supported its Peruvian partner, Qosqo Maki, in drafting an alternative report on the rights of children in street situations. Our partner presented our recommendations during the pre-sessions, which brought together diplomats from the examining States and civil society.

In total, the Peruvian government received and agreed to implement **seven recommendations** to **improve the rights of children in street situations**, in particular in terms of access to health and education.

France

The FAAl also took part in the UPR of France, supporting the Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil in drafting an alternative report on children's rights. In April, the French advocacy officer travelled to Geneva to represent the views of young French people and present our recommendations during the civil society pre-session at the UN.

To convince the representatives of the Member States to accept our recommendations during France's review, we knew the rules of the game: a five-minute statement from the podium. After that, we had to make our case in the corridors! Taking part in this forum was an essential step in raising the Foundation's profile. It's a great opportunity as not all organisations have it.

Virginie Hoarau, advocacy officer, Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil



VIRGINIE HOARAU, ADVOCACY OFFICER OF THE FONDATION APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL, DURING FRANCE'S UPR PRE-SESSION, APRIL 2023 – GENEVA ©APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

The report was based on a consultation of nearly 5,000 young people and families in France conducted in 2022 by the Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil. It focused on **reducing social inequalities**, ensuring **access to education** for all and **protecting children from violence** at school and in institutions. The majority of young people are victims of violence, regardless of where they live or the form the violence takes. For example, **8 out of 10 young people** consulted said that they had been subjected to violence during their school career. This alarming statistic makes it a priority for us to **protect children against all forms of violence**.

At the end of the process, the French government received **24 recommendations** setting out our proposals on children's rights, which it undertook to implement within five years.

*See Acronyms, p25



INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

Republic of the Congo

Continuing our advocacy work alongside REIPER*, we took part in the UPR of Congo at the end of the year. After submitting an alternative report, Mr. Likibi, REIPER national coordinator, spoke at the UN pre-session. He addressed several key issues, including the **child protection system** in the Republic of the Congo, **violence against children**, particularly against young girls, **juvenile justice** and the **right to health and education**.

In the Republic of the Congo, corporal punishment and ill-treatment persist in family homes, schools and police stations alike. Unfortunately, acts of violence are very rarely reported to the authorities, as the population and children are often unaware of the law.

Joseph Likibi, during the pre-session of the UPR of the Republic of the Congo at the UN in Geneva

After the speeches, our advocacy team was able to **discuss and share our findings** with **30 Permanent Missions** in the hope that they will take our recommendations to the Congolese government during its review, scheduled for February 2024.

STRENGTHENING THE ADVOCACY CAPACITIES OF OUR PARTNERS

Enhancing knowledge of advocacy, Madagascar

In October, our international advocacy team travelled to Antananarivo. This mission was part of the Sandratra project to help the Madagascan network, the Plateforme de la Société Civile pour l'Enfance (PFSCE), develop its advocacy activities.

The visiting team led a **training session** open to all PFSCE members. A total of **20 representatives** from various organisations attended the course, which covered **advocacy techniques, communication** and implementation of the network's **advocacy action plan**.



PRESENTATION OF THE ADVOCACY TRAINING CERTIFICATE, OCTOBER 2023
-ANTANANARIVO, MADAGASCAR ©APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

The trainers then led a **workshop** on the UPR mechanism to prepare the participants for the drafting of the alternative report to be submitted by the FAI and the PFSCE at the review of Madagascar, scheduled for January 2025.

After this training, our next steps will be to promote children's participation within our association and work together to implement our advocacy strategy.

Training participant

Training in children's rights and youth participation, Democratic Republic of the Congo

In July, we ran a training course for our six partners in Kinshasa: AED, VTA, JOS, CCN, ORPER and OSEPER*.

A total of 20 representatives of our partner organisations received **training in the child rights approach and youth participation**, particularly in advocacy activities. They discussed a range of issues relating to young people in street situations, including violence against children, working with families, the current context in Kinshasa and children accused of witchcraft.

OUR CAMPAIGNS: INTERNATIONAL DAYS

World Children's Day (20 November)

To mark World Children's Day, we ran an **online advocacy campaign** on the **right to participation**. The FAAI shared a video of a young Congolese girl calling on teachers, authorities and parents to listen to children.

International Day for Street Children (12 April)

As it does every year, the FAAI organised an advocacy campaign to mark International Day for Street Children. The **#RespectUsProtectUs** campaign focused on the fact that children in street situations are, above all, victims of **discrimination and violence because they are on the streets**. From 5 to 12 April, the FAAI posted advocacy messages and a video testimonial from a young French man formerly living on the streets on its social networks – Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram – and on its website.

For the 2024 edition, we will kick off the campaign with a **conference on 12 March 2024**, which will continue online via our social networks. The event will focus on

access to education and training for children in street situations. It will take place in our training restaurant, The Birdhouse.

Discussions will be led by our **local partner in Madagascar**, accompanied by **two young Madagascans** formerly living on the streets, who will share their experiences and aspirations. **International experts** and a specialist from within the organisation will also provide input. The conference will be further enlivened by video testimonials from young beneficiaries supported by our partner associations around the world.



[VIEW THE PAGE ONLINE](#)

*See Acronyms, p25

20 YEARS OF PARTNERSHIP IN THE REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

REIPER, the leading child protection network in the Republic of the Congo, and the Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil celebrated 20 years of partnership at the end of 2023.

REIPER* was set up in response to the **shortage of qualified and trained staff** working in reception facilities for children. In fact, there was **no training for personnel in this field**. Most people working in child protection did so mainly on a voluntary basis, out of a personal vocation, and therefore did not have a formal qualification.

Our partnership with this network of 23 member associations has helped elevate this response. We began by offering socio-educational training relevant to the care of children in street situations. Since then, we have add-

ed other topics, such as emotional, relational and sex education and advocacy. **Our partnership has also developed towards the design and construction of joint projects.**

REIPER is now a key player in child protection in the Republic of the Congo.

Joseph Likibi, coordinator and co-founder of the network, recalls the importance of our partnership in developing the network.

I think the partnership that REIPER has with organisations like the Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil, and maybe with others in the future, is a great strength. The exchanges we have, our joint projects and the opportunities to get to know other people, if only in Africa, enrich us. Basically, sharing with others thanks to our partnership. In my view, it's a partnership that respects each other's customs and environment.

Joseph Likibi, REIPER coordinator



A REIPER SOCIAL WORKER TALKS TO CHILDREN HANGING OUT BY THE RIVER – BRAZZAVILLE, REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO ©BESNARD/ APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are sincerely grateful to all our **donors and “Friends of the FAAI”**, as well as all those who wish to remain anonymous, for their loyalty and support.

Thank you for being by our side!

FOUNDATIONS AND PHILANTHROPY

Armin und Jeanine Kurz Stiftung
Fagus Lucida Stiftung
FAIRster Foundation
Fameux Fonds Guichard, FFG
Fondation Albatros
Ceres Foundation
Christian Bachschuster Stiftung
Claire Sturwenegger-Jeanfavre Stiftung
Stiftung Corymbo
Fondation Denibam
Fondation Dora
Fondation Paul Dubrule
Fondation Pierre-Henri Ducret
Ernst Göhner Stiftung
Fondation Gertrude Hirzel
Fondation Johann et Luzia Grässli
Fondation Inspir'

Fondation Lord Michelham of Hellingly
Loterie Romande
Fondation Madeleine
Fondation Philanthropique Famille Sandoz
Sunsmile Foundation
Util Stiftung
Fondation VRM

CITIES AND COMMUNES

République et Canton de Genève
Ville de Genève (DGVS)
Ville d'Onex
Commune de Plan-les-Ouates
Commune de Lancy

PRIVATE SECTOR

Geogas Trading SA
SIG Sponsorship Fund

ACRONYMS

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| AJDM | Association Jeunesse et Développement du Mali, Mali |
| AED | Aide à l'Enfance Défavorisée, Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| Centre NRJ | Centre Relais Nouveau des Jeunes, Madagascar |
| CCN | Communauté du Chemin Neuf, Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| CFSN | Chaîne des Foyers Saint-Nicodème, Cameroon |
| HARDI | Harmonisation des Actions pour la Réalisation d'un Développement Intégré, Madagascar |
| JCLTIS | Jeunesse, Culture, Loisirs, Technique, Interventions Sociales, Senegal |
| JOS | Jeunes au Soleil, Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| ORPER | Œuvre de Reclassement et de Protection des Enfants de la Rue, Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| OSEPER | Œuvre de Suivi, Education et Protection des Enfants de la Rue, Democratic Republic of the Congo |
| PFSCE | Plateforme de la Société Civile pour l'Enfance, Madagascar |
| REIPER | Réseau des intervenants sur le phénomène des enfants en rupture, Republic of the Congo |
| VTA | Vivre et Travailler Autrement, Democratic Republic of the Congo |

FOUNDATION BOARD

The Foundation Board

Composed of nine volunteer members (no fees or expenses paid), the Foundation Board is elected for a three-year term and meets at least three times a year. Composition on 31 December 2023.

Jean-Paul Faugère, Chairman (since 30 March 2023)

Senior civil servant

Jean-Paul Redouin, Chairman (until 30 March 2023)

Honorary Deputy Governor of the Banque de France

Bernard Firmenich, Vice-Chairman

Former Supply Chain and e-Business Director, Firmenich SA

Patrick Besse, Treasurer

Former Director of the Institut d'Emission d'Outre-mer

André Altmeyer, Board Member

Deputy Managing Director, Fondation Apprentis d'Auteuil

Laure Burrus, Board Member (since 26 September 2023)

Lawyer

Valentine Denjoy, Board Member

Former Development Officer, Private Funding, Musée du Louvre

Louis Fauchier-Magnan, Board Member

Deputy Director, Banque Mirabaud & Cie SA, Geneva

Marc Mandosse, Board Member

Banker at Goldman Sachs, Geneva

Anna Panka André, Board Member

Lawyer specialising in intellectual property



YOUNG PEOPLE LEARNING THE BUILDING TRADE AT A CENTRE RUN BY CCN, DRC ©APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

FINANCIAL REPORT

Our auditors, A. Gautier, Société Fiduciaire SA, have audited the annual accounts and found nothing that would lead them to conclude that the accounts do not comply with the law and the organisation's statutes.

Balancesheet

as at 31 December 2023 (in Swiss francs)

| ASSETS | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Circulating assets | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | 1,090,205.81 | 1,472,786.99 |
| FSAM c/c | – | 122.50 |
| Withholding tax recoverable | 621.89 | – |
| Accrued assets | 68,471.88 | 14,292.90 |
| Total circulating assets | 1,159,299.58 | 1,487,202.39 |
| Fixed assets | | |
| Furniture and IT equipment | 7,838.42 | 10,426.17 |
| Website | 13,673.59 | 19,269.96 |
| Total fixed assets | 21'512.01 | 29'696.13 |
| Total assets | 1,180,811.59 | 1,516,898.52 |
| LIABILITIES | 2023 | 2022 |
| Short-term foreign liabilities | | |
| Debts arising from the purchase of goods and services | – | 19,269.96 |
| Creditors, suppliers | 33,923.75 | 36,719.85 |
| Unallocated donations to be transferred to the following year(s) | – | 104,262.30 |
| Accrued liabilities | 8,476.36 | 15,123.68 |
| Total short-term liabilities | 42,400.11 | 175,375.79 |
| Earmarked funds | | |
| Projects & funds | 311,488.00 | 437,588.00 |
| Total earmarked funds | 311,488.00 | 437,588.00 |
| Total foreign liabilities | 353,888.11 | 612,963.79 |
| Equity of the Foundation | | |
| Capital of the organization | 100,000.00 | 100,000.00 |
| Profit carried over | 803,934.73 | 554,161.20 |
| Year-end income | -77,011.25 | 249,773.53 |
| Total equity of the Foundation | 826,923.48 | 903,934.73 |
| Total liabilities | 1,180,811.59 | 1,516,898.52 |

Income statement for the year

ended 31 December 2023 (in Swiss francs)

| | 2023 | 2022 |
|--|---------------------|---------------------|
| Net revenue from sales and goods | 3,116,326.77 | 3,290,605.54 |
| Total income | 3,116,326.77 | 3,290,605.54 |
| Project contributions | -2,316,137.40 | -2,148,545.70 |
| Gross result after project contributions | 800,189.37 | 1,142,059.84 |
| Salaries | -784,162.47 | -752,532.74 |
| Other operating costs | -193,409.90 | -238,578.59 |
| Operating result before depreciation and interest | -177,383.00 | 150,948.51 |
| Depreciation and value adjustments on fixed assets | -7,557.54 | -3,828.87 |
| Operating result before interest | -184,940.54 | 147,119.64 |
| Financial expenses | -21,145.59 | -16,473.90 |
| Financial income | 1,776.53 | 13,301.19 |
| Operating result | -204,309.60 | 143,946.93 |
| Non-operating income | 1,198.35 | 1,308.90 |
| Non-operating costs | – | -0.59 |
| Change in earmarked funds | 126,100.00 | 105,032.14 |
| Extraordinary one-off or non-period costs | – | -513.85 |
| Profit for the year before tax | -77,011.25 | 249,773.53 |
| Direct taxes | – | – |
| Profit or loss for the year | -77,011.25 | 249,773.53 |



SOCIAL WORKER FROM THE HOME RUN BY AL KARAM, TALKING TO
CHILDREN – MARRAKECH, MOROCCO ©BESNARD/APPRENTIS D'AUTEUIL

***The voices of children must guide us to continue to
make children's rights a priority. Drive us to ensure
their voices are not just heard, but listened to.***

Volker Türk, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights