



2020 ANNUAL REPORT



emmaus

INTERNATIONAL

ACTIVISTS FOR CHANGE

EDITORIAL



The Covid-19 pandemic has had a heavy impact on Emmaus groups all around the world. Firstly, the disease itself, sometimes coupled with poor health systems, sadly took the lives of many people. There were also economic and social consequences, with an abrupt halt of activities. Although the richest states were able to borrow in order to set up assistance mechanisms for their populations, others, excluded from financial markets, or too disorganised to implement these sorts of systems, left hundreds of millions of people without resources for months. This crisis has once more revealed the general ineffectiveness and injustice of our economic and social systems, and the grave inequalities which persist between developed countries and the others. One year on, the inability of governments to fairly share out the available vaccines clearly shows that no real lessons have been learned from yet another crisis of the deregulated capitalist system.

Emmaus groups have weathered this storm thanks to the simple principles of solidarity and sharing. Solidarity between groups, via a Covid-19 emergency fund which has ensured the survival of all Emmaus groups, and sharing with the most excluded – wherever possible, Emmaus groups have mobilised to provide physical and moral support to local populations. We have faced this together, but now it is time to shout our anger from the rooftops, and make sure decision-makers hear us. The current challenges, whether political, social, economic, or environmental, are too difficult and too important to be left up to individualism and profit-seeking. We must invent or re-invent new forms of solidarity – this has never been more urgent!

Patrick ATOHOUN,
Chair of Emmaus International

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INTRODUCTION

Founded in 1971 by Abbé Pierre, Emmaus International is an active solidarity movement which combats poverty and exclusion. It is made up of 425 organisations in 41 countries, spread across 4 continents. They all uphold the same values of welcoming others, solidarity, openness, respect, and sharing, in their very different social, economic, and political circumstances. They all share the same objective: to tackle the causes of poverty and drive social change by enabling the poorest to take charge of their own lives.

The Emmaus organisations around the world lead actions and political campaigns on three struggles to fight for access to fundamental rights: an ethical and solidarity economy, social and environmental justice, and peace and freedom of movement and of residence for universal citizenship.

As Abbé Pierre's sole legatee, Emmaus International also has the responsibility of protecting and keeping alive Abbé Pierre's legacy and the struggles he tirelessly led throughout his life.

ORGANISATION

EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL
Executive Board/Executive Committee
International secretariat, Montreuil, France

AFRICA REGION

Regional executive committee

Regional Secretariat
(Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso)

THE AMERICAS REGION

Regional executive committee

Regional Secretariat
(Montevideo, Uruguay)

ASIA REGION

Regional executive committee

Regional Secretariat
(Pondicherry, India)

EUROPE REGION

Regional executive committee

Regional Secretariat
(Montreuil, France)

GOVERNANCE

Emmaus International is democratically and internationally governed, represented by elected members from the four continents. Every four years, the member organisations meet for their World Assembly. At this key moment in the life of the movement, the Emmaus groups make decisions on the collective guidelines and elect the Chair. In each region (Africa, Americas, Asia, Europe), regional assemblies elect 24 board members who, together with the Chair, make up the Emmaus International Board. The elected members in the regions steer the implementation of these guidelines, with the support of the permanent staff teams.

EMMAUS INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Chair: Patrick Atohoun (Benin)
1st Vice-Chair Juan Melquiades (Peru)
2nd Vice-Chair Moon Sharma (India)
Treasurer: Pierre Dubois (France)

Secretary: Koné Nantegue (Côte d'Ivoire)
Members: Gloria Zuluaga (Colombia), Maryse Faure (France)
CHIEF EXECUTIVE
Nathalie Péré-Marzano

WORLD MAP



COVID-19 EMERGENCY

In view of the serious consequences of the health crisis, in mid-March Emmaus International decided to release exceptional emergency funding to help groups which had to suspend their

activities and received no public aid from their country or local authorities. Most of these groups were located outside Europe.



Food aid distributed by the Pag-la-Yiri group in Burkina Faso

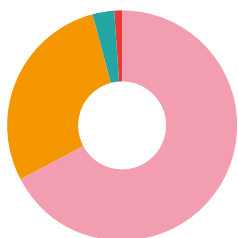


Face shield manufacturing workshop run by the Emmaus Tourcoing community, France

An unprecedented step

With around 90 groups around the world identified as priority, needs were estimated at more than €1.5 million, of which 79% was ultimately raised, corresponding to a total of €1,199,036. More than two thirds of the funds raised (67.4%) were contributed by 47 Emmaus groups and four national organisations. Two foundations also made significant contributions (28.6%) to this emergency fund: the Abbé Pierre Foundation and the San Zeno Foundation. This helped avoid overuse of Emmaus International's reserve funds (from which only 3.1% of the funds were taken) and allowed resources for international solidarity initiatives in 2021 to be conserved. 67 street artists also got involved, and proceeds from sale of their street art works was allocated to the emergency fund (around 1% of resources).

ORIGIN OF FUNDS USED:



- Contributions from member groups and national organisations **67,4 %**
- Foundations **28,6 %**
- Reallocated Emmaus International Funds **3,1 %**
- Street art sales and donations **1,0 %**

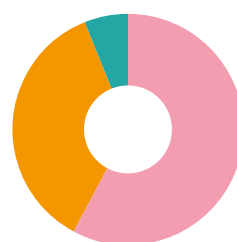


Food distribution by the Emmaus Buenaventura community in Colombia

A vital solidarity approach

These funds were mainly allocated to the “Critical emergency” provision (58.1%), i.e., actions providing immediate aid to the most vulnerable populations, or actions to help Emmaus groups to survive whilst deprived of resources due to the lockdown measures. As of September, this aid was expanded to include more actions linked to “post-lockdown recovery” (35.6%). Finally, specific aid (6.3%) was provided to the mutual health organisations run by Emmaus groups, for the implementation of preventive actions, awareness-raising, and access to medical equipment for mutual members and health centres. All funds were used up over the year, entirely to support groups and their needs.

USE OF THE FUNDS PER PROVISION:



- Critical emergency 58,1 %
- Post-lockdown recovery 35,6 %
- Mutual health organisations 6,3 %

Artists take action

Many street artists have been supporting Emmaus' struggles for years, particularly contributing to raising the profile of Abbé Pierre. When the Covid-19 emergency fund was launched, they responded to Emmaus International's appeal with great generosity, enabling the organisation of an online solidarity street art sale in June 2020, with the help of the gallery KAZoART. In total, 67 artists donated more than 70 pieces of art, and the sale of these raised around €15,000! This was a remarkable show of solidarity, coming from artists who were in difficulty themselves due to this crisis which has profoundly affected all cultural sectors around the world.



COVID-19 EMERGENCY

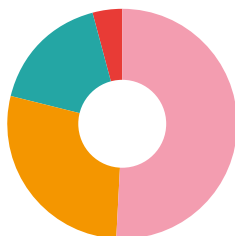
Vital aid for populations

65 of the 410 member groups of Emmaus International received financial aid from the Covid-19 emergency fund, via 240 requests for support. The average amount of aid provided was €4,996 per request and €18,447 per beneficiary group. On average, one third of the aid received by these groups was used for solidarity initiatives for the most vulnerable local populations. Based on the reports sent by each group, we estimate that over 160,000 people benefitted from aid from the Emmaus movement via the Covid-19 emergency fund. This mainly took the form of food aid (51%), as well as medical aid (28%), and access to drinking water (17%). This aid was modest, at around €2.50 per person, but was nevertheless essential, and in some cases even lifesaving.

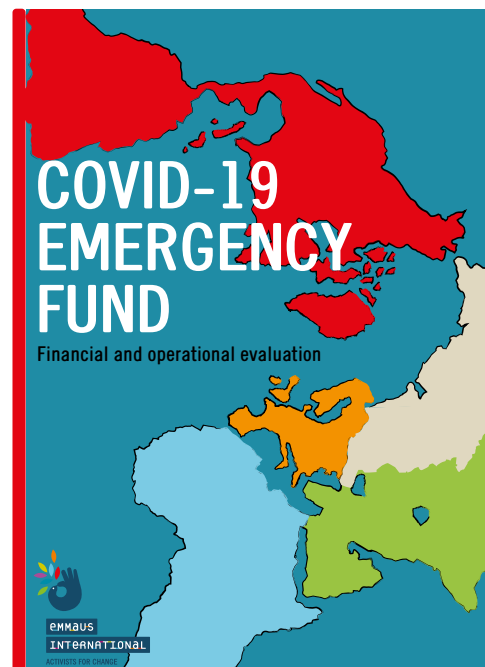


Workshop to make and distribute material masks by Thanapara Swallows Development Society, Bangladesh

DISTRIBUTION OF
BENEFICIARIES BY
TYPE OF AID:



- Food distribution 51 %
- Health actions 28 %
- Access to water 17 %
- Other 4 %



Find out more

A full, detailed overview of how the Covid-19 emergency fund was used, with many examples of actions and personal stories from the different regions, was drawn up and sent to all groups around the world. It is available on the Emmaus International website, in the "Publications" section. You can also watch a summary of this in video format on our YouTube channel.

 [emmausinternational](https://www.youtube.com/emmausinternational)

 [emmaus-international.org / publications](https://emmaus-international.org/publications)

Personal stories from beneficiaries of the Covid-19 emergency fund

I received 35kg of white maize, which I chose. This is a great relief during the covid period. There are restrictions on our movements — we can no longer go to the market as we would like to. This donation provides a bit of relief in our struggle to access food. I would like to thank the Emmaus leaders at all levels.

Nadège Poko, Benebnooma, Burkina Faso

Everything is shut because of the pandemic — accommodation, drinking water access points... Even recycling centres where I could earn a bit of money in exchange for paper and bottles found on the street. It's a 7km walk to the Emmaus Oselya social assistance centre, as public transport is not running. Here, I can have a shower, wash my clothes, and be provided with food and water. The companions are very friendly and supportive!

Ivan, Emmaus Oselya, Ukraine

There are four people in my family. I work as a cleaner in a roadside restaurant and my husband is a cargo handler. Due to the lockdown, we lost our jobs. We have no land and weren't able to find an agricultural job in the surrounding area, as everything was closed. We had to depend on government rations, but it was not enough. During this period, VCDS provided extra rice and grocery provisions. This timely assistance allowed me to feed our family without going hungry.

Vennila, VCDS, India

I'm a former student and a worker at Cuna Nazareth, where I have been working for more than 20 years. I suffer from diabetes and am currently undergoing treatment, so I had to take care with the Covid-19 virus. I'd like to thank the Emmaus groups for the great help they provided which allowed me to buy food to survive during this period. We hope this crisis will soon be behind us.

Beatriz, Cuna Nazareth Foundation, Peru

COMMUNICATION TO UNDERSTAND AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER

IMPLEMENTATION OF REMOTE MEETINGS

➔ As it was impossible to travel and meet in person, it quickly became necessary to find a technical solution to make it possible to hold online meetings with interpretation. A total of 21 Executive Committee meetings were held remotely, during which urgent decisions were made, such as setting up an emergency fund, postponing the World Assembly, budget adjustments, reorganising the work of the Emmaus International Secretariat, etc. As well as managing emergencies, the Emmaus International bodies were able to maintain in-depth discussions on

issues such as preparation of the post-crisis recovery, analysis of the situation of the movement, and preparation of the Global Report.

In this way, we have managed to maintain the international dynamics of the association, which once more demonstrates our movement's capacity to adapt. These meetings also provided an opportunity to discuss the difficulties faced by each person in their country. This was a practical, human, and caring way of showing solidarity, which is a key part of our identity.



A TIME FOR MEETING AND SHARING

➔ On 23rd October 2020, our World Assembly in Uruguay should have been coming to a close. The Emmaus International elected representatives decided to organise a symbolic online event on this day, to stop the pandemic completely depriving us of the pleasure of seeing each other. A video filmed in three communities (Emmaus Rochefort Saint-Agnant in France, Emmaus Norfolk & Waveney in the United Kingdom, and Emmaus Buenaventura in Colombia) was played via streaming after a videoconference, during which many groups shared videos of local cultural initiatives. We estimate that around 800 people in 40 countries watched this live, and 1000 more on social networks, as the video was and still is available online.



A SPECIAL NEWSLETTER

➔ In view of this crisis, the news received by the association's head office every day, and the scale of the difficulties caused by a worldwide lockdown, we decided to take a new approach to internal communication. This took the form of a special newsletter – "Time for solidarity and change" – which highlighted local actions, along with thought-provoking articles, advocacy actions, and inspiring archives, such as a dozen Abbé Pierre conferences which were uploaded as podcasts.

A GROWING MOVEMENT

➔ The pandemic and lockdowns have not prevented the continuation of support to trial member groups. This support, which generally lasts between two and five years, ended in 2020 for six groups which the Board decided to confirm as full members, taking the number of Emmaus International groups to 416 by the end of the year – 376 full members and 40 trial members.

Click the email to view Emmaus



While the health crisis is still ongoing, the world is facing a social crisis on an unprecedented scale, in addition to political crises in many countries which are exacerbating the uncertainties in our future. Against this backdrop, Emmaus International is continuing to send out this newsletter to deepen our understanding of the realities and the far-reaching consequences of this crisis. We are committed to communicating first-hand accounts of actions led by Emmaus groups around the world and promoting the movement's political voice.

For the attention of Emmaus International members

<<First Name>>

KEEP LIVING. KEEP SERVING THOSE WHO SUFFER MOST

And what about the others?

This was the question Abbé Pierre loved to ask when you asked for his autograph. This enigmatic question was always present both in his thoughts and in his heart: what about the others? These questions are faced at a dizzying pace of over-consumption, performance, and superficiality. Even the global health crisis we are experiencing has not brought us back down to earth, to reflect on the essential values at the heart of life. Today we still believe that money can do everything and we continue to exploit human beings and nature.

And what about the others?

In the midst of the epidemics of hopelessness and uncertainties about the future, these others, the poorest among us, are always the ones who suffer the gravest consequences. And this is where the Emmaus communities step in: with their very real practices of dignified living. They value people and diversity, they work and serve those who have the least whilst fighting against the unjust structures which cause this poverty. This is where, together, we must keep developing alternatives to create a fairer society for all.

Our international movement is a constant challenge, in fact. We have a duty to treat each other with respect, valuing our own differences, building bridges for the common good: aware of the social and political reality we have inherited and which calls on us, and obliges us, to give the very best of ourselves.

At the Executive Committee, the Board and the International Secretariat we have been working, discussing, making decisions to promote the presence of our movement as a real alternative to this capitalist system, communicating the values of our communities across four continents.

It is important to keep working together to overcome our differences, assuming the commitment to put our human talents and financial resources to work for the movement and to keep up this fight.

For us and for the others:

Juan Melquides,
Vice-Chair of Emmaus International

Reports from the field !

The Emmaus groups are still active. They continue to be outward looking and have not forgotten those who suffer most. Initiatives are being set up or maintained around the world to guarantee the solidarity of the Emmaus movement. Here are some examples of what is happening in the four corners of the world:




2020 FINANCIAL SUMMARY

Organising to cope with the crisis

Lockdown, economic slowdown, suspension of meetings and travel, postponement of the World Assembly – all of this had an impact on Emmaus International's level of activity. The members of Emmaus International Secretariat had their hours reduced to 60% from April to September, and then increased to 80% until the end of the year. During this period, the French state provided compensation for the 6500 hours not worked, which represented more than €120,000 in exceptional subsidies received by Emmaus International due to the pandemic. As well as this reduction in head office activity, the elected representatives decided to implement budget reduction measures, and a new budget was adopted, 22% smaller than the projected budget.

Changes to restricted funds

New accounting regulation meant that we had to review the organisation of our restricted funds. Now, instead of deciding during the year on how funds received the previous year are to be used, depending on needs, the Emmaus International bodies will have to decide at the beginning of the year on how contributions received from groups during the year will be shared out between the different restricted funds, by setting a distribution key. To make this easier, the restricted funds have been simplified. There are now only 5 (reduced from 18):

- > Support for groups/regions
- > Rights access programme
- > Advocacy initiatives/campaigns
- > Support/alliances and partnerships
- > Heritage

Unfailing support to groups

Meanwhile, the Emmaus groups around the world continued mobilising and continued to support Emmaus International with their subscription payments. Whilst the post-covid budget forecasted a 28% drop in payment of subscriptions, they in fact increased by 5%! The measures taken to reduce the budget at all levels, and the collection of subscriptions, meant that Emmaus International was able to end 2020 with an unexpected budget surplus. This has been allocated to future needs, to allow for a possible reduction in subscriptions in 2021, as these are based on the 2020 turnover of the Emmaus groups.



Food distribution by the Pollee Unnyon Prokolpo group in Bangladesh

DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES AND EXPENDITURE

The operating section of the budget closed with a surplus of €578,185, which is explained by the fact that expenditure was significantly reduced throughout the year, whilst income (particularly subscriptions, which make up the majority of this) was maintained and even exceeded our projections. This surplus has been allocated to:

- > the association's reserves for holding World Assemblies - €230,000
- > the association's operating reserves - €100,000
- > the association's solidarity reserves - €248,184

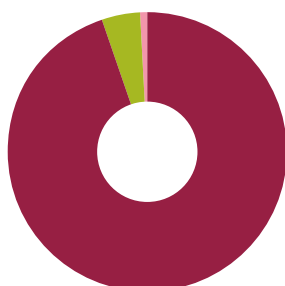
Regarding our solidarity and political commitments, the year 2020 ended with a positive balance of €261,390, which will allow us to finance future solidarity actions.

1 - OPERATIONS AND LIFE OF THE MOVEMENT – SURPLUS: €578 185

INCOME

- Group subscriptions €2 381 098
- Subsidies and sponsorship €110 603
- Donations and legacies €0
- Other income €17 960

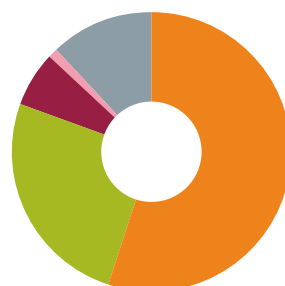
TOTAL €2 509 662



EXPENDITURE

- Salaries €1 064 948
- Coordination of the movement (including preparation of the World Assembly) €493 305
- Social initiatives excluding restricted funds (including support for the Abbé Pierre Centre) €122 835
- Communication €19 503
- Other expenditure €230 886

TOTAL €1 931 477

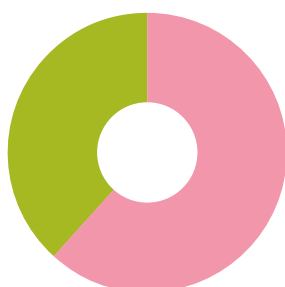


2 - SOLIDARITY AND POLITICAL COMMITMENTS – SURPLUS: €261 390

INCOME

- Contributions to the Covid-19 emergency fund €1 199 036
- Other contributions from Emmaus groups to restricted funds €739 993

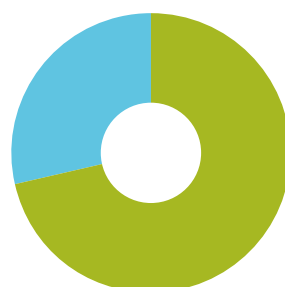
TOTAL €1 939 029



EXPENDITURE

- Payments made from the Covid-19 emergency fund €1 199 036
- Use of restricted funds outside of Covid-19 emergency fund €478 603

TOTAL €1 677 639



BALANCE SHEET EXTRACT (IN EUROS)

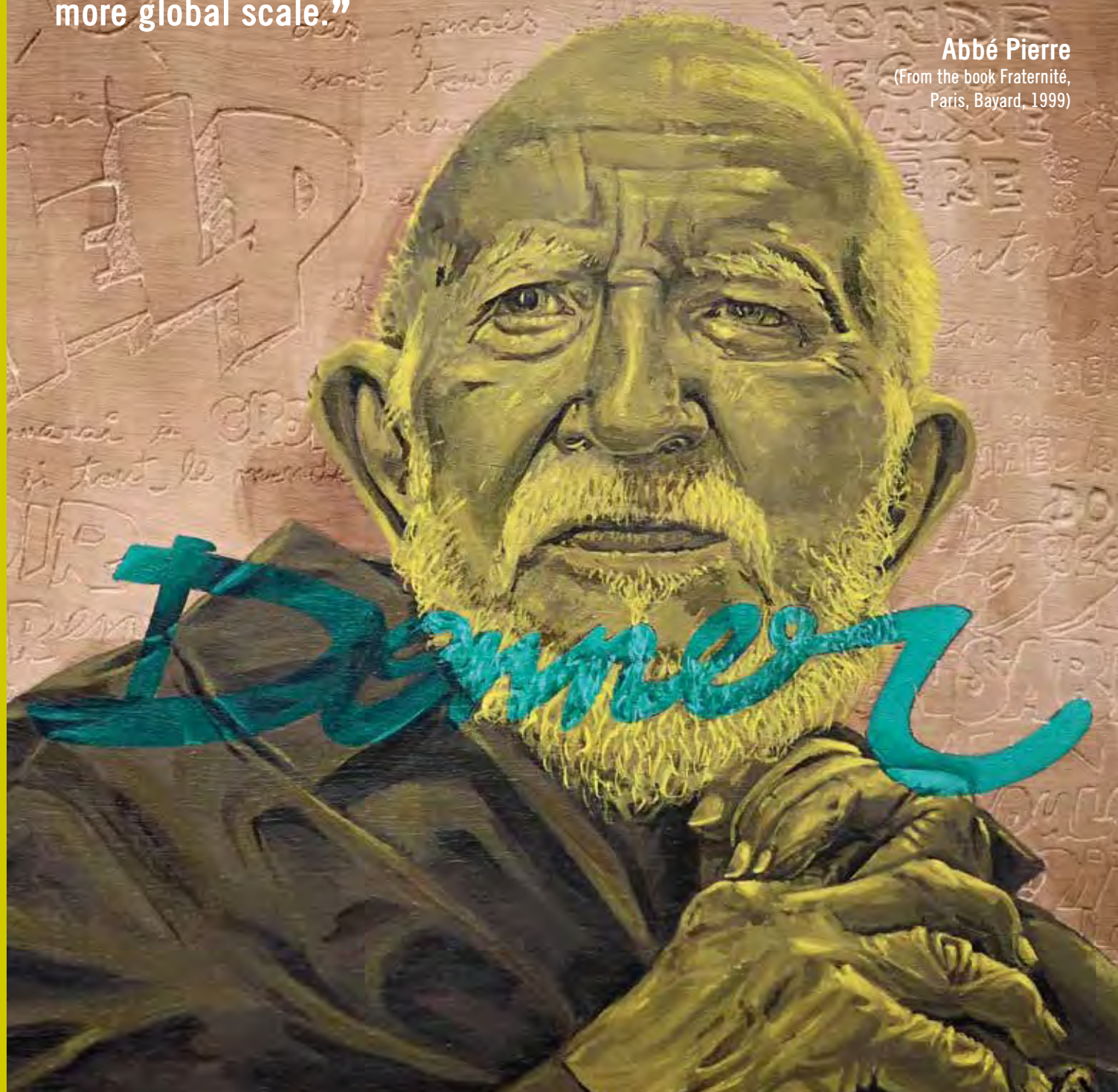
1 - STATEMENT OF ASSETS	ON 31/12/2020		ON 31/12/2019	
	GROSS	DEPRECIATION	NET	NET
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS	€1 587 842	€337 912	€1 249 930	€1 080 785
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	€4 579 044	€24 512	€4 554 532	€3 899 749
OVERALL TOTAL	€6 166 886	€362 424	€5 804 461	€4 980 534

1 - STATEMENT OF LIABILITIES	ON 31/12/2020		ON 31/12/2019	
	NET		NET	
ASSOCIATION'S FUNDS	€2 296 230		€1 718 046	
RISK AND CONTINGENCY PROVISIONS	€37 638		€31 181	
RESTRICTED FUNDS AND FUNDS CARRIED OVER	€2 271 627		€1 935 237	
DEBTS	€1 198 966		€1 296 070	
LIABILITY CONVERSION DIFFERENTIAL	—		—	
OVERALL TOTAL	€5 804 461		€4 980 534	

“Due to globalisation, we are now forced us to make new choices about our civilisation, which involve redistribution of wealth on a more global scale.”

Abbé Pierre

(From the book *Fraternité*, Paris, Bayard, 1999)



“Given is receiving”, an artwork made by the artist Djalouz and donated for the online solidarity art sale organised in June 2020.



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INTERNATIONAL

ACTIVISTS FOR CHANGE

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