

COOPERATE • ENRICH • SHARE

Annual Report

2019-2020



 SOCODEVI

COOPERATE

To develop cooperative and associative enterprises that are inclusive, autonomous, profitable and sustainable

ENRICH

To contribute, in tangible ways, to reducing the vulnerability of families

SHARE

To strengthen skills, reduce inequality and build a better world



Agrifood



Agro-forestry



Sustainable Forestry



Local Economic Development



Agricultural Risk Management



Gender Equality



Environment and Climate Change



Housing and Other Sectors

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Proudly evolving

BY CÉCILE B. PICHETTE, SOCODEVI President



SOCODEVI is charting the course toward a new chapter in its history, enriched by its experience in more than 40 countries and by the credibility it has consolidated with financial partners. Dedication and professionalism have been and will continue to be the cornerstones of our cooperative journey, for the benefit of marginalized populations around the world.

While SOCODEVI is growing and renewing itself, our purpose remains unchanged: to reduce inequalities in a sustainable way and build a fairer world for everyone! Over the past year, SOCODEVI's support to cooperative organizations has directly benefited 100,000 people across four continents — and indirectly impacted more than 500,000 people through **our projects**.

Thanks to the efforts of the SOCODEVI team and our projects' concrete impacts, financial partners have reiterated their trust in our organization by recently awarding us new projects, particularly in Africa. Strategic partnerships with other institutions are also continuing to develop, enabling SOCODEVI to significantly expand the scope and diversity of its activities.

In short, we can be proud of our international cooperation organization!

Staying the course in a world turned upside down

Even at a time when inescapable challenges loom on the horizon, we have the wind in our sails. Over the past few months, SOCODEVI management has been working on a new strategic plan that will focus on sustainable inclusive growth for the organization itself and its beneficiary partners in a world shaken by the COVID-19 pandemic and faced with a pressing need to combat climate change.

We would like to take the opportunity to highlight the creativity and adaptability of SOCODEVI staff, who have been able to rethink their **actions and strategies** in order to continue supporting populations during the health crisis. Radio programs have been revamped into training for members of cooperatives and associations. Technical meetings with agricultural producers have been held by videoconference or individually. Contingency plans have been put in place in collaboration with municipal authorities. New digital information and awareness tools have been created, and more. Nothing has weakened our teams' unwavering commitment or the power of cooperatives to overcome even the greatest of obstacles.

It is clear that the constraints of the pandemic will continue to shape our activities over the coming months. The people we are supporting — who were sometimes already isolated and vulnerable before the crisis — will need our solidarity more than ever.

Taking well-deserved pride!

Cooperation is the key to winning our battles. I am convinced that **SOCODEVI's cooperative and mutual network** will once again demonstrate its commitment to our unique organization so we can all face the immense challenges that lie before us, together. So, let's show our colours! We are SOCODEVI!

This commitment also frequently shows through in individuals' generosity with their time and energy. I'd like to acknowledge the major contributions of several people, including Jocelyne Rouleau (*Confédération québécoise des coopératives d'habitation*), Jocelyn Lessard (*Fédération québécoise des coopératives forestières*); Michel Lafleur (*Fédération des coopératives funéraires du Québec*) and Stéphanie Benoît (*Agropur*), who have completed their terms on the SOCODEVI Board of Directors. We are forever grateful for your invaluable contributions!

This year I am finishing my own term as President of SOCODEVI. Throughout my time at the helm, I have felt privileged to work closely with men and women committed to building a better world. Special thanks to the Board members, our cooperative and mutual organizations, SOCODEVI staff and the general managers with whom I have had the pleasure of working, Richard Lacasse and Jean-Philippe Marcoux. I will miss your enthusiasm, your consideration, your energy and your presence!

SOCODEVI is a valuable organization and there is no doubt in my mind that it will continue to fulfil its mission thanks to the determination of our team and of our entire cooperative and mutual network. I can also tell you that every effort in line with SOCODEVI's mission, no matter how small, can make a difference in the lives of thousands of people. Let's act cooperatively and be honoured to do so!



Cécile Brassard Lichette

Resilience and cooperation

BY JEAN-PHILIPPE MARCOUX, SOCODEVI Executive Director



For SOCODEVI, the past year has been a time of change and evolution. Of course, for the entire world, it has been a year of enormous disruption. There's no doubt that 2019–2020 will leave a mark in history.

The past year has also seen the departure of two of our organization's pillars — Richard Lacasse, my predecessor as Chief Executive Officer, and Alain Plouffe, the head of the Americas, Asia and Europe division. Over the past three decades, both have made remarkable contributions to SOCODEVI's development and to our actions' positive impact on people in dozens of countries. Richard and Alain's work has been instrumental in making SOCODEVI the widely recognized professional organization we know today.

It is with great enthusiasm and immense pride that I joined the SOCODEVI family — a gem of Quebec's cooperative and mutual movement. In this organization, we have something unique, built with determination by Quebeckers. We have a dedicated team working hard around the world and in Canada, day in, day out, to pave a concrete path to a fairer and more prosperous world.

Pride and positioning in the field

I had the opportunity to travel to Colombia to witness **our activities' progress and impact** firsthand. My stay revealed to me the dedication of our teams and the quality of their work, and was enriched by the words of cocoa producers who have seen an exponential increase in their associations' membership since they have benefited from the support of SOCODEVI. A hallmark of my trip was being able to visit the most advanced cocoa nursery in the country, set up, with our support, by a second-tier cooperative—whose creation stands as another of our success stories in Colombia.

Listening to financial partners' testimony about the ties established with SOCODEVI was another huge source of pride for me: “You are the best partner we've ever had in carrying out our projects here in Colombia. With SOCODEVI, we can always count on excellent results for local populations!” This sense of pride is also palpable among our teams and partners in Bolivia, Guatemala, Honduras and Peru, where we also have a positive record of partnerships and support for cooperatives.

In Africa, during my time in Ivory Coast, I was also delighted to witness our organization's positive standing throughout the country.

From the capital, Abidjan, to the Korhogo region in the north, SOCODEVI is synonymous with promising and effective cooperation for local organizations and authorities. This reputation, forged over decades, has been cemented by the encouraging results of our teams and partners in the cashew and cocoa industries.

And yet, we can go even further! In the coming years, we will be strengthening our presence on the African continent; to this end, we plan to create a country division in Senegal. In Ukraine and Vietnam, reports about the impact of our efforts carried out with rural populations are also positive — the prospects for the future are encouraging.

On a related note, **our team** is continuing to grow and renew itself! I'd like to acknowledge the arrival of Catherine Koncsik, in our brand new Human Resources Department, and François Dionne, as Americas, Asia & Europe Program Director. Welcome to the extended "SOCODEVI family"!

The cooperative approach: more promising than ever

More than ever, our collaborative approach is proving its worth by nurturing the resilience of the communities we work with and laying the foundation for a sustainable and inclusive post-pandemic recovery. Far from being overwhelmed, SOCODEVI has responded to the challenge of the pandemic with creativity, innovation and renewed commitment that are sure to lead to future partnerships and innovative multisectoral alliances, continue to spread our name and reputation at home and abroad, and drive ever more impressive results and impacts.

It is important to remember that our chief goal is to make concrete changes in the lives of families in the 15 countries where we are currently working. Although the world is more shaken than it has been in generations, SOCODEVI stands in firm solidarity with partners and families in mitigating the socio-economic disruption caused by the pandemic, and in working hand in hand with them to improve their living conditions.

I would like to note the exceptional work and commitment of all our colleagues, both development workers and nationals, and of all our staff at headquarters. Our deep commitment at SOCODEVI endures in spite of the daily challenges before us and the passage of time. All have shown resilience and creativity in continuing to support partners and families in their economic activities within an extremely difficult context. Hats off: they have my deepest gratitude.

“ We’re continuing to improve the quality of our production. The training is still ongoing and the project is providing us with materials, including healthy seedlings for our plots. We’re not being left behind! ”

PAULA YARCE,
cocoa producer, Colombia

In closing, I would be remiss not to acknowledge our **member institutions**, their staff and their members, and their continued support of SOCODEVI. Working together is a source of resilience, and together, through our network, we are continuing to improve the living conditions of families and build a better world.

SOCODEVI Intercooperation Award

Every year, this award is given to members, managers and employees in SOCODEVI's network of cooperatives and mutuals, as well as to prominent individuals who are deserving of recognition for their commitment and contribution to our projects.

In 2019-2020, SOCODEVI has highlighted the exceptional contributions of:

Pierre Genest

REPRESENTATIVE, SSQ MANAGEMENT MUTUAL

Pierre Genest is passionate about SOCODEVI's mission and ever willing to contribute his experience in order to further the projects and organizations we support around the world.

He has demonstrated his dedication on several fronts, including governance. He was a member of the SOCODEVI Board of Directors from 2006 to 2018 and during support and advisory assignments to Bolivia, Peru, Panama, Guatemala, El Salvador, Paraguay and Mali.

Genest was Chairman of the Audit and Risk Management Committee from 2009 to 2018, a role he assumed with the diligence and professionalism for which he is well known.

A pillar of cooperation and mutual aid, he will always be a SOCODEVI ambassador.

Heartfelt thanks, Mr. Genest!



SSQ mutuelle
de
gestion

Luc Lussier

REPRESENTATIVE, CITADELLE COOPERATIVE

A dedicated cooperator, Luc Lussier has been sharing his extensive expertise in cooperative business management and commercial strategies with our partners in the field for a number of years. His valuable contributions in the Americas (Guatemala, Nicaragua and Peru) and in Africa (Ivory Coast and Mali) have enabled many cooperators to improve their organizations' performance. He has also been a great ally for SOCODEVI here in Canada, helping to welcome delegations from the countries where we are active.

We are forever thankful, Mr. Lussier!



CITADELLE
COOPÉRATIVE DE PRODUCTEURS
DE SIROP D'ÉRABLE



The year in numbers

Nearly
500,000
PEOPLE

directly and indirectly impacted by our
projects around the world



300
COOPERATIVE

and associative organizations
and government bodies supported

40,000

WOMEN AND YOUTHS

improving their living conditions
with our support

A portfolio of some

30

PROJECTS

across

15

COUNTRIES



New projects

A few examples of new initiatives:

Ivory Coast

Increasing resilience to climate change

AdaptCoop is an innovative applied research project that will sustainably boost cocoa cooperatives and member families' resilience to the impacts of climate change in Ivory Coast. The three-year project, funded by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC), will be implemented by SOCODEVI, Ouranos and the West African Science Service Center on Climate Change and Adapted Land Use (WASCAL) and more specifically its CEA-CCBAD Ivory Coast division (African Centre of Excellence for Climate Change, Biodiversity and Agriculture of the Université Houphouët-Boigny), in collaboration with the Agence Nationale d'Appui au Développement Rural (ANADER) and the Centre National de Recherche Agronomique (CNRA).

Project funded by Canada's International Development Research Centre (IDRC).



Morocco

Support for forestry cooperatives

SOCODEVI is returning to Morocco with a new five-year project that will improve the living conditions of at least 10,000 members of Berber communities. The project promoting Women's Empowerment through the development of rosemary and cedar forestry cooperatives in Morocco (COOPFAM) also aims to improve the performance of a dozen worker cooperatives in the forestry sector—with the goal of creating and maintaining 2,000 decent jobs (1,000 for women)—thanks to sustainable structures and rosemary and cedar processing.

Project funded by the Government of Canada and carried out in partnership with Morocco's department of water and forests.





Senegal

Support to help youths and women in Senegal’s agricultural sector to optimize production tools and methods

The FAR project is aimed at improving the living conditions of nearly 15,000 people in agricultural areas through better production tools and methods. The project will also help women and youths adopt climate-friendly agricultural practices and take part in leadership programs.

Project funded by the Government of Canada and carried out in collaboration with the Centre for International Studies and Cooperation (CECI).

Senegal

Access to financial services and agricultural insurance in Casamance

The RESILIENCE project will provide tens of thousands of farmers in Casamance with access to financial services and agricultural insurance. This \$9.8 million project will increase populations’ resilience to climate change by modernizing agricultural practices and implementing innovative approaches to diminish the effects of climate change. The focus will be on women farmers.

Project funded by the Government of Canada.



New projects



Mozambique

Improving women’s living conditions

SOCODEVI is expanding its influence with a new five-year project to improve the living conditions of more than 15,000 Mozambicans, namely women and their families! The Rural Women’s Economic Empowerment Support Project (PAEF) will directly benefit thousands of women farmers affiliated with the Mozambican National Union of Farmers (UNAC) in the southern provinces of Maputo and Gaza. The PAEF will facilitate women’s access to sustainable and climate-smart entrepreneurial activities and structure inclusive living environments in partnership with civil society organizations.

Project funded by the Government of Canada.

Victories and success stories

Turning the spotlight on women in decision-making bodies

Ivory Coast-Ghana-Senegal | PROCED | 8,000 beneficiary families

From the first year of the Development **Program for Inclusive and Sustainable Model Cooperatives (PROCED)** launched in 2019, giant strides were made in the area of women's representation on the boards of directors of two SOCODEVI partner cooperatives in Senegal and Ivory Coast.

In Senegal, the Union régionale des coopératives de construction et d'habitation de Thiès (URCCHT) is now directed by six women and five men! With the support of SOCODEVI, the Union has included a gender parity policy in its statutes and regulations.



“ Their drive, intelligence, persistence and vision have brought visibility to women and helped them hold these positions of responsibility. They have shown skill, courage and openness, greatly helping members to adopt parity. SOCODEVI also highlighted the benefits of this measure. ”

OUSMANE FALL,
communication commission head, RCCHT.

In Ivory Coast, thanks to SOCODEVI's support, women have taken their place in the decision-making bodies of the UCONAKO cooperative for the first time since its inception in 2015. Three women were elected to the Board of Directors and one woman, to the Supervisory Board.

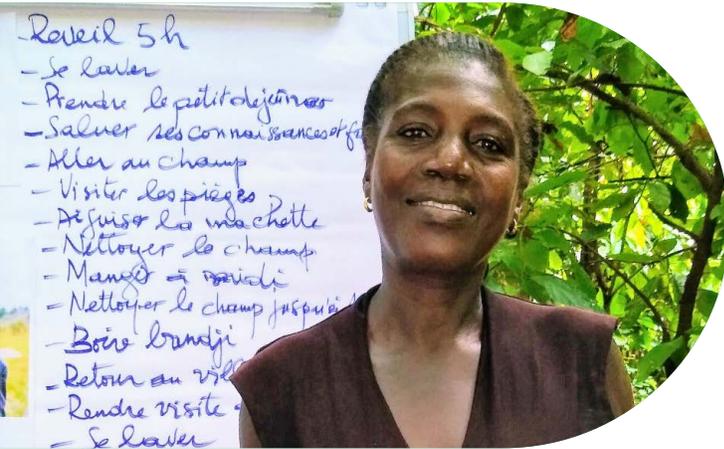
“ I encourage women to get more involved in the cooperative's activities and even aspire to lead it in the future. ”

MS. SILUÉ,
deputy treasurer on the new Board of Directors of UCONAKO.

PROCED is a SOCODEVI regional project funded by the Government of Canada.

“ With the SOCODEVI Field Schools, I realized that I also need to be a help to my wife. Our relationship has improved. We make all our decisions together. We also realized that the misuse of insecticides and other chemicals in our cocoa fields, tree felling and slash-and-burn practices have a negative impact on the environment.”

DJEMELEOU ADHANE ANDRÉ,
FAHO cooperative member, Ivory Coast.



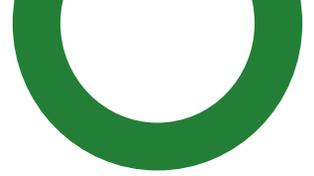
A shift in dynamics

In Ivory Coast, Ghana and Senegal, hundreds of women and men took part in the first cohorts of SOCODEVI Field Schools—our inclusive agri-environmental and gender equality training program for families—and were able to improve their living conditions. Within a few months, people are already seeing significant changes in their family dynamics, self-confidence, entrepreneurial skills and relationship with the environment.

“ Never again will I say, ‘I can’t because I’m a woman’ ”

MIAN KOKO JACQUELINE,
FAHO cooperative member, Ivory Coast.





“ Since he took part in the SOCODEVI Field Schools, my husband has been helping me to parboil rice. Joy has come to our home and I am so grateful to SOCODEVI for this project that has changed my life! ”

AMINA SULE,
BBN cooperative member, Ghana.



“ Now I won't be alone in the apiary in the middle of the night when the bees have settled down. Thanks to the SOCODEVI Field Schools program, my husband now takes part in all my beekeeping activities and we even plan to have more apiaries to meet our needs. Thanks to the training, my husband has started consulting me on decisions that need to be made for our family. The field schools have brought us greater harmony as a couple, because we're communicating more. ”

BINETA BALDÉ,
Senegalese beekeeper.



Women conquering the dairy sector

Ukraine | Dairy Entrepreneurship Program | 150 families

In some parts of Ukraine, it used to be common for a family to own one or two cows and sell surplus milk locally. Today, thanks to the support of SOCODEVI, many families are fully devoted to milk production. One such example is the family of Galyna Ilnytska, who now owns some 20 cows.



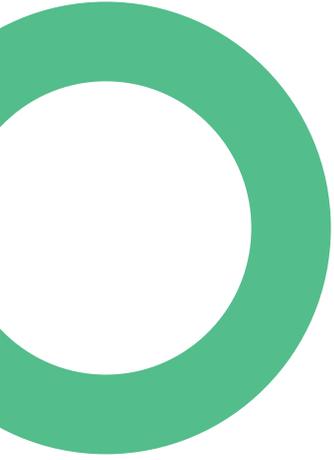
“ At first, I couldn’t imagine our family’s income coming exclusively from milk sales. In our culture, it’s rare for a man to milk cows by hand; this is a task done by women. That’s the main reason why nobody wants to develop family farms — because they involve milking by hand. Now that we have a milking machine, there’s much less to do. So we can focus on production and nutrition! ”

GALYNA ILNYTSKA,
farmer.

The Dairy Entrepreneurship Program in Ukraine helps women and youths to thrive in the dairy industry. Since 2014, more than 150 cooperative member families have received economic support to modernize and expand their farms and acquire new ones. Families also benefit from essential training for their activities, particularly in agricultural accounting.

The program is a SOCODEVI initiative funded by the Government of Canada.





SOCODEVI in Colombia and Peru:

exceeding expectations!

Peru | PRODIVCOM | More than 6,300 beneficiaries - 24 professionalized agricultural organizations

SOCODEVI is completing its project to diversify associative enterprises and enhance their competitiveness in the extractive regions of Peru (PRODIVCOM). The project has racked up success after success on a technical and entrepreneurial level and in terms of the governance of supported enterprises.

Across the 24 agricultural organizations supported, more than 2,200 jobs have been created—almost half of which are now held by women.

Today, these women report having higher self-esteem, making more decisions about resources and other family matters, and playing an active role in their organizations and communities.

The environment has always been part of the equation. A total of 100 modern, environmentally friendly irrigation systems are running and nearly 1,700 hectares have been reforested.

PRODIVCOM was carried out by SOCODEVI from 2013 to 2020 with the financial support of the Government of Canada and private companies in Peru.

“ I will always try to bring back all the good ideas I learned in the workshops we received and pass them on to the new members who join the co-op. ”

VILMA HUERTA,
member of HuarmeyCoop

In seven years, yields on family farms have grown by 100%, i.e., by 77% for the agricultural value chains (asparagus, avocado, coffee, mushroom, lupin, legume, quinoa, pomegranate and passion fruit) and 160% for the livestock sector (guinea pig, milk and derivatives). These efficiency gains have translated into proportional increases in income, helping to provide thousands of families with improved living conditions.



Colombia | PROCOMPITE | 6,000 people from 26 associative enterprises

By now, at the end of this 6-year project, 3,000 families have improved their living conditions. SOCODEVI has helped consolidate the competitiveness of their agricultural, forestry and pastoral activities. To achieve this, SOCODEVI has taken action on improving several key factors, such as access to local, regional and international markets, the entrepreneurial environment, access to quality technical support, women's integration into the local formal economy and the development of sustainable agroforestry and pastoral systems.



2,400 MEN AND WOMEN FARMERS

have undergone training on responsible packaging for their products.

800 WOMEN FARMERS

have completed a leadership and value-chain awareness program.

4 MICROLOTS OF COFFEE

produced by women (Cafe Mujer) have been exported and marketed abroad.

91% PRODUCERS

had increased their income at the end of the project.

99.7% OF THE WOMEN

reported being more confident in applying what they learned in the training courses.

The SOCODEVI project has also enabled cooperatives and family businesses to forge essential ties with other sectors. In all, 66 inter-institutional agreements have been entered into with civil society entities, including universities, to continue sharing knowledge, tools and experience in order to strengthen organizations, particularly in terms of human resources and improved living conditions and internal processes.

Project funded by the Government of Canada and private companies in Colombia.

A new culture of agricultural risk management

Colombia | PASAC | 6 private insurance companies

Thanks to the PASAC project, led by Développement international Desjardins together with SOCODEVI, a culture of agricultural risk management was introduced in Colombia. While convincing insurance companies of the benefits of such programs was difficult at the outset of the project, crop insurance programs for the rice sector and farm income insurance for the cocoa and coffee sectors were gradually developed through a participatory process with local stakeholders.

By the end of the project, the public and private sectors were well equipped to commercialize these programs and boost the resilience of the country's producers.

“ Group crop insurance is an outstanding alternative for insuring rice farmers in the area, with more balanced parameters and an operating model that helps keep frequent problems in the sector (adverse selection and high claims) in check. It provides excellent support for financial risk management in the agri-food sector. ”

RICARDO SERRANO,
Director of Finance and Administration, SIAGRO.

In total, staff from six Colombian insurance companies were trained, as well as government officials from both the Colombian Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MADR) and the Fund for the Financing of the Agricultural Sector (FINAGRO), for whom PASAC represents “a successful experience of coordination between international cooperation organizations, the government and the agricultural sector.”

Project funded by the Government of Canada and carried out in partnership with Développement international Desjardins (DID). SOCODEVI was responsible for all agricultural risk-management activities.

Cooperation during the pandemic

The strength of the co-op network in the face of adversity

Taking action to protect the health of populations

Bolivia | PROMAVI Project | 5,000 beneficiary families

The **PROMAVI** team swiftly put contingency plans in place together with the municipal authorities of the Chuquisaca region in order to counter the socio-economic impacts of the pandemic. The main pillars of this plan are health, food safety and communications. Capacity building was provided for professionals in the health network and a protocol was developed to prevent transmission and ensure the proper management, care and close monitoring of anyone infected with the virus.

Given the pre-existing low availability of agricultural and food supplies in the region, the initiative promptly helped create allotment gardens by providing support and distributing inputs. This fast solution will have long-term positive impacts on the nutrition of populations. In terms of communication, emphasis was placed on awareness-raising and information in order to strengthen trust between the authorities and the population, in particular through radio communications.

“ At the beginning of the pandemic, I wasn't worried, but then the food started to run out. I can no longer go to work, and the bills are piling up. But PROMAVI is helping me a lot, and encouraging me to help out my relatives, other families in the field schools and the entire community. ”

-NATIVIDAD PADILLA, woman leader of the Yaconal community

PROMAVI is an initiative led by SOCODEVI and the Centre for International Cooperation in Health and Development (CCISD) with financial support from the Government of Canada.

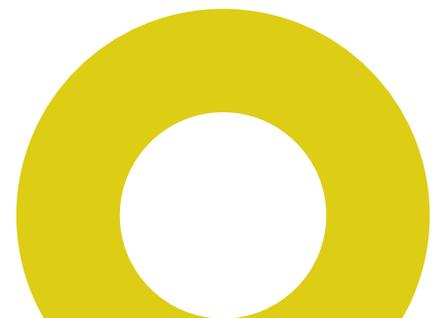
Successful exports and commercialization for cooperatives

VIETNAM | VCED project | 10,000 families supported

Despite the slowdown in world trade, business is picking up for the Green Pomelo and Thanh Binh cooperatives. A contract was signed between the Thanh Binh cooperative and a Canadian buyer following an initial campaign conducted in October 2019 to promote the dragon fruit and pomelos produced by the members of the two cooperatives. A first container of dragon fruit worth US\$20,000 was shipped and received by the Toronto-based customer in April 2020. Following this first successful expedition, the contract was renewed.

The Green Pomelo cooperative has also managed to market its pomelos within a national hypermarket chain and is getting set to export to North America, after registering its pomelos under the Pink Lady label. Our team's presence helped facilitate exchanges and negotiations with clients in English. In order to expand into new markets, the members of the cooperatives, with the help of **VCED project** staff and the support of SOCODEVI specialists at headquarters, are continuing to refine their farming techniques to produce high-quality fruit, preserve their environment and thus improve their living conditions.

Project led by SOCODEVI with the financial support of the Government of Canada.



Stable salaries in spite of the pandemic

Colombia | AGROEMPRENDE CACAO Project | 6,000 beneficiaries across 31 organizations

In Colombia, SOCODEVI efforts via the **AGROEMPRENDE CACAO** project are helping to ensure food security for thousands of cocoa producers. Thanks to the swift adaptation of their associative enterprises, families have obtained stable incomes. Innovative mechanisms have been put in place to ensure operational continuity and cocoa purchases from members.

Thanks to our team in Colombia, 34 cocoa-producing organizations have been supported in meeting their commercial commitments and developing new strategic alliances. As a result, associations have continued to better position themselves on international and national markets in spite of pandemic-related restrictions. All stages of the cocoa value chain have been reviewed to secure continued operations without compromising the health of producing families.

Project carried out by SOCODEVI with the financial participation of the Government of Canada and several private companies in Colombia.



Adaptation of training courses

Guatemala | WAKLIHK Project | over 1,800 direct beneficiaries

Not even the pandemic was able to get in the way of the first year of **WAKLIHK project** activities. Thanks to financial support from the Government of Canada, biosafety equipment was distributed, as well as seedlings to create gardens. The content of the SOCODEVI Field Schools was quickly adapted for a radio format, with the help and experience of our local partner, FEDECOVERA. When gatherings were once again allowed, training activities resumed outdoors while following social distancing and mask-wearing guidelines—sometimes leading to classes being held in picturesque settings.

The WAKLIHK project is being carried out by SOCODEVI, with the collaboration of FEDECOVERA and the financial support of the Government of Canada.

Coffee that really pays!

Honduras | CAHOVA Project | 4,443 member families of 42 associative enterprises

Disruptions in international trade have not spelled the end of the **CAHOVA project**, which has enabled coffee-producing families to obtain three times the market price for their coffee! This feat was made possible by the creation of a working capital fund for cooperatives. Thanks to this fund, 16,000 kilos of coffee were purchased from members at the beginning of the pandemic. The coffee will be destined for the Canadian and American markets, including the 37 roasting houses with which the CAHOVA project has established ties.

To mitigate the effects of the pandemic, SOCODEVI has also set up a program in four departments to distribute biosafety and information materials, an awareness program on domestic violence together with the gender committees of cooperatives, and a red bean production and laying-hen distribution program to ensure family food security. The programs are intended for families working in the wood, pine resin, coffee, cocoa and rambutan value chains.

The CAHOVA project is an inclusive socio-economic development initiative implemented by SOCODEVI with the financial support of the Government of Canada.

The SOCODEVI cooperative and mutual network

Member institutions



Auxiliary member institutions

- Avantis Coopérative
- Conseil québécois de la coopération et de la mutualité (CQCM)
- Coopérative funéraire des Deux-Rives
- Coopérative de développement régional du Québec
- La Financière agricole du Québec (FADQ)
- Institut de recherche et d'éducation pour les coopératives et les mutuelles de l'Université de Sherbrooke (IRECUS)
- La Coop Agrilait
- La Coop Comax
- Mutuelle Assurance des Commerçants et Industriels de France (MACIF)
- Novago Coopérative
- Nutrinor
- Réseau de la coopération du travail du Québec (RÉSEAU)

Our network's commitment

SOCODEVI's progress and success are rooted in close collaboration on the part of the member institutions in our cooperative and mutual network.

Following are a few examples of intercooperation in 2019-2020 :

UKRAINE

Céline Delhaes



Women's leadership in the dairy industry was a main focus of Agropur director Céline Delhaes during an assignment to Ukraine. Delhaes provided advisory support to the women participating in the project and spoke at the Business Women Network's Annual Forum about her experience as a leader of her co-operative.

SENEGAL

André Noël



Previously Executive Director of the Fédération des coopératives d'habitation de Montréal and advisor for the Confédération québécoise des coopératives d'habitation (CQCH), André Noël worked in Senegal this year as a volunteer advisor on housing cooperative management as part of SOCODEVI's support activities, in partnership with the Union régionale des coopératives de construction et d'habitat de Thiès (URCCHT).

VIETNAM

Claude Boisvert



After studying all the cooperatives in the VCED project, strategic project advisor Claude Boisvert contributed his hands-on experience at a workshop presented by the Vietnamese Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development. During his assignment, he supported the development of the country's cooperatives, including by helping to draft a decree on cooperative development.

IVORY COAST

Valérie Ouellet



Valérie Ouellet, Communications Director of the Novago Cooperative, supported communication capacity-building for the teams of the UCONAKO cooperatives (in Korhogo) and FAHO (in Abengourou). This support was made possible by the PROCED project, led by SOCODEVI and funded by the Canadian government.

HONDURAS

Éric Simard



Éric Simard of the Coopérative forestière Ferland-Boileau visited this small Central American country to speak with representatives of a dozen organizations supported by SOCODEVI, thus contributing to the success of their activities.



Cécile B. Pichette
Chair

Director at Citadelle Maple Syrup Producers' Cooperative



Jocelyne Rouleau
Vice-Chair (until March 26, 2020)

Director General of the Confédération québécoise des coopératives d'habitation



René Hamel
Treasurer

President and Chief Executive Officer, SSQ Groupe financier



Jocelyn Lessard
Secretary

Director General of the Fédération québécoise des coopératives forestières



Clément Asselin
Director

Chair of the Board of the Fédération des coopératives d'alimentation du Québec



Stéphanie Benoît
Director (until February 3, 2020)

Director, Agropur Cooperative



Benoît Caron
Director

Director General of the Consortium de ressources et d'expertises coopératives



Jacques Côté
Director (as of March 26, 2020)

President of the Confédération québécoise des coopératives d'habitation



Jacques Cotton
Director

Board member at La Capitale



Céline Delhaes
Director (as of February 3, 2020)
Director, Agropur cooperative



Cathy Fraser
Director
Director, Sollio Groupe Coopératif



Michel Lafleur
Director (until September 2019)
President of the Fédération des coopératives funéraires du Québec



Alain Leclerc
Director (as of September 2019)
Director General of the Fédération des coopératives funéraires du Québec



Suzanne L. Mailhot
Director
Director at Promutuel Assurance



Luc Pellerin
Director
Senior Vice President and Appointed Actuary of UV Mutuelle



Stéphane Rochon
Director
President and Chief Executive Officer of Humania Assurance



Francis Viens
Director
Representative of the Fédération québécoise des coopératives en milieu scolaire - COOPSCO

The Board of Directors was reshuffled on June 12, 2020. Suzanne Mailhot (Promutuel Assurance) was elected Vice-Chair. Alain Leclerc (FCFQ) was elected Secretary and Jocelyn Lessard (FQCF) was replaced by Annie Beaupré as Director.

Management Team



Jean-Philippe Marcoux
CEO



Virginie Levasseur
Africa Program Director



François Dionne
Americas, Asia & Europe program Director



Matthieu Asselin
Marketing, Communication and Business Development Director



Marie-Christine Bélanger
Director Consulting Services & Innovation



Luc Simard
Finance and Administration Director



Catherine Koncsik
Human Resources Director

Representatives and offices around the globe in 2019-2020

Americas

BOLIVIA

Ruben Escamilla
La Paz

COLOMBIA

Martin Blackburn
Caroline Poussart
Maximiliano Sainz
Bogota

GUATEMALA

Hermenegildo Leal Quej
Coban

HONDURAS

Serge Lantagne
Tegucigalpa

PERU

Mario Boivin
Lima

Africa

IVORY COAST

Alexandre Robitaille-Lachance
Abidjan

GHANA

Beatrice Esses
Bolgatanga

MALI

Paul Ankoundien Arama
Aminata Sereme
Segou

Jean-Baptiste Zoma
Bamako

MADAGASCAR

Henri Bérubé
Antsirabé

SENEGAL

Ibrahima Gano
Casamance

Cheikh Ousmane Loum
Thiès

Asia and Europe

VIETNAM

Gaby Breton
Ho Chi Minh City

UKRAINE

Maksym Maximov
Dnipropetrovsk Agricultural
Extension Services

Ivan Pankiv
Lviv Agricultural Extension
Services

More than
300
employees

spread across the planet so they
can support partner organizations
and their family members.

Our activities around the world

2019-2020

Americas

1 BOLIVIA

- Multisectoral Program to Improve Living Conditions in Rural Areas (PROMAVI)*

2 COLOMBIA

- Supporting Rural Cocoa Entrepreneurs in Colombia (AGROEMPRENDE CACAO)
- Support for Agricultural Credit (PASAC) – Agricultural insurance and income insurance component
- Project to Strengthen the Competitiveness of Associative Rural Enterprises (PROCOMPITE)

3 GUATEMALA

- Sustainable Economic Development for Women and Youths in Alta Verapaz (WAKLIHK)

4 HAITI

- Strengthening Agri-food Value Chains and Adaptation to Climate Change (AVETI)*
- Water Management in the Artibonite Watershed (PROGEBA)*
- Project to Strengthen Agricultural Public Services and Farmer Field Schools (RESEPAG I)*
- Agricultural Credit and Insurance System (SYFAAH)*
- Incentive Management and Technical Assistance Support to Farmers in the Nord-Est and Grande Anse Departments (PITAG)*
- National Support Program for Structuring Haitian Entrepreneurship (PANSEH)*
- Rehabilitation of Irrigation Systems & Strengthening Irrigation Associations in the Southern Department (RESEPAG II)*

5 HONDURAS

- Sustainable Economic Development for Women and Youth in the Lempa Region (PROLEMPA)*
- Canada-Honduras Agroforestry Value Chain Project (CAHOVA)

6 PERU

- PERU Diversification & Improvement of the Competitiveness of Associative and Cooperative Enterprises in Extractive Zones (PRODIVCOM)
- Economic Competitiveness and Diversification in Extractive Regions of Peru (PRODIVCOM)

Africa

1 IVORY COAST

- Support Program for Climate Change Adaptation for Cocoa Cooperatives (PCCI-ÉCOCACAO)
- Development of Inclusive and Sustainable Model Cooperatives (PROCED)
- Maximizing Opportunities in Cocoa Activity (MOCA)
- Adaptation of Cocoa Cooperatives in a Context of Climate Change in Côte d'Ivoire (AdaptCoop)*

2 GHANA

- Development of Inclusive and Sustainable Model Cooperatives (PROCED)

3 MADAGASCAR

- Technical Assistance to Agricultural Value Chains in the Hautes Terres (CASEF)*



15 COUNTRIES 4 CONTINENTS

4 MALI

- Commercialization Support for Cereal and Garden Producers (Feere Diyara)
- Support to Small Farms for Market Access*
- Agricultural & Rural Credit (FARM) – Loan insurance & crop insurance component*
- Public Speaking and Leadership for Women (Musoya)*
- Improved Rice Paddy Quality and Quality Niébé Processing for Improved Nutrition and Increased Farmer Development (GAFSP MMI/WFP-SOCODEVI)*

5 MOROCCO

- Projet for Women's Empowerment through the development of rosemary and cedar forestry cooperatives in Morocco (COOPFAM)

6 MOZAMBIQUE

- Rural Women's Economic Empowerment Support Project

7 SENEGAL

- Development of Inclusive and Sustainable Model Cooperatives (PROCED)
- Women & Resilience in Agriculture (FAR) – Climate change adaptation*
- CASA Miel project*
- RESILIENCE

Asia and Europe

1 UKRAINE

- Improving the Competitiveness of and Support for Entrepreneurship in the Dairy Sector

2 VIETNAM

- Vietnam Cooperative Enterprise Development (VCED)

*Projects carried out in the context of various consortiums, partnerships and alliances with the following institutions:

- AECOM
- Alliance agricole internationale (AAI)
- Canadian Co-operative Association (CCA)
- CARE
- Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD)
- Centre de coopération internationale en santé et développement (CCISD)
- Centre d'étude et de coopération internationale (CECI)
- Cultivating New Frontiers in Agriculture (CNFA)
- Développement international Desjardins (DID)
- FAO
- FEDECOVERA
- Fiompiana Fambolena Malagasy Norvéziana (FIFAMANOR) - Centre de recherche et de développement rural en agriculture et élevage
- Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA)
- IMPACT
- Institut de recherche et d'éducation pour les coopératives et les mutuelles de l'Université de Sherbrooke (IRECUS)
- OURANOS
- PAM
- PRODEVA
- SAHA
- Université Laval
- UPA Développement international (UPA DI)

Rallying to provide greater help



BY GAÉTAN JODOIN, President of the SOCODEVI Foundation

Solidarity with the poorest members of society is essential in order to build a fairer world and help us all recover from the unprecedented health crisis in which we are plunged. For us, this is a key moment to concretely appeal to the sixth principle of the cooperative and mutual world: intercooperation.

The purpose of the SOCODEVI Foundation is to optimally support and enhance the organization's actions throughout the world. This year, this has translated into thousands of dollars to:

- Enable young women in Ghana to have access to adequate and dignified facilities where they can continue their studies;
- Support technical training for young people on family farms in Peru;
- Help improve the working and living conditions of women beekeepers in Casamance, Senegal;
- Support the establishment of modern processing and production facilities and equipment for hundreds of farming families in Vietnam.

These are all tangible and sustainable initiatives assisting often isolated communities that believe in our cooperative approach as a way to improve their living conditions.

Noteworthy contributions

In 2019–2020, we were able to count on financial contributions from several partner institutions, such as La Capitale, SSQ, UV Mutuelle and the Fonds Solidarité-Sud. Cooperative workers and mutual organizations from across Quebec also participated in our fundraising activities, including last year's golf tournament and, most recently, the campaign to support Senegalese women beekeepers.

On behalf of men and women cooperative workers and the families supported in all these countries, I warmly thank all the partner institutions and the donors!

Never is our network's firm commitment to solidarity more valuable than in times of economic uncertainty, such as the one we are facing today. We must realize once and for all that we can **make real a difference** and that we have an organization at our disposal to do so: SOCODEVI.

Thank you, Guy!

I would like to highlight the invaluable contribution of Guy Bouchard at the SOCODEVI Foundation. Ever the enthusiastic bearer of the SOCODEVI flame, Guy has been a key player and a pillar in a good number of successful actions benefiting people in different countries. Although he is completing his term on the Foundation's Board of Directors this year, his perseverance and boundless generosity will forever be remembered. We thank you from the bottom of our hearts, Guy!

Board of Directors for the SOCODEVI Foundation - 2019-2020

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Gaétan Jodoin
Chair | • Cathy Fraser
Director |
| • Danielle Lacombe
Vice-Chair | • Suzanne L. Mailhot
Director |
| • Patrick Cyr
Secretary-Treasurer | • Raynald Baril
Director |
| • Guy Bouchard
Director | |



TREE
OF INTER-
COOPERATION

IN 2019-2020



26,527
TREES PLANTED

in Quebec and in Guatemala



5,305
TONS OF eCO₂

offset by plantations

THIS EQUATES TO



1,000 CARS TRAVELING **22,100** KM

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FROM



11 ORGANIZATIONS AND ENTERPRISES AND **24** INDIVIDUALS

A SOLIDARITY-BASED ALTERNATIVE SOLUTION
FOR OFFSETTING AND CAPTURING GREENHOUSE GASES



Calculation



Compensation



Planting



COOPERATE · ENRICH · SHARE

