



Vincentian Solidarity Office

2020 Annual Report



"One of the clear signs that God has great plans for us is the fact that he allows us to suffer desolation and pain . . . The way we conduct ourselves in times of trouble indicates the way we will act in ordinary time" St. Vincent de Paul, "On Patience," (O.C. 11:755, Dodin, 934), quoted in The Way of Saint Vincent is Our Way, 232.

Pictured: Pick-up truck purchased for St. Vincent DePaul Parish at Nausori, Republic of Fiji

The Mystery of the Cross in the Time of Pandemic

St. Vincent de Paul's insight into the mystery of the Cross opens us to hope in this time of pandemic. None of us will forget the global pandemic COVID-19 and the fear, turmoil and suffering as friends and loved ones became sick or even died. We adapted to social distancing, wearing protective masks, and video conferencing with friends. In fact, many Vincentian missionaries and their people are suffering these effects now and the effects

will impact us for some years to come. These events confirm the wisdom of the Cross, to accept suffering as a means of growing in compassion. So we ask ourselves, can we do more to show in action the mystery of the Cross in this time of pandemic? As God leads the world out of the pandemic, the mystery of the Cross teaches us to surrender fear and to labor with our Vincentian missionaries to make hope come alive in projects that say we truly care.

by Fr. Gregory J. Semeniuk, C.M., S.Th.D.
Executive Director of the VSO

In 2020 the VSO supported 37 projects in 20 countries with \$944,705 USD.

The charts below show the distribution by project activity and type.

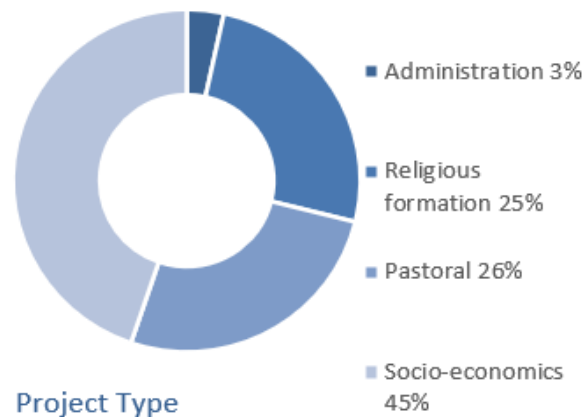
PROJECT TYPES:

Administration: projects directly supporting the Vincentian priests and brothers in the missions
Dollars Spent: \$32,562

Religious Formation: projects for the initial or ongoing training of priests and/or brothers
Dollars Spent: \$240,168.

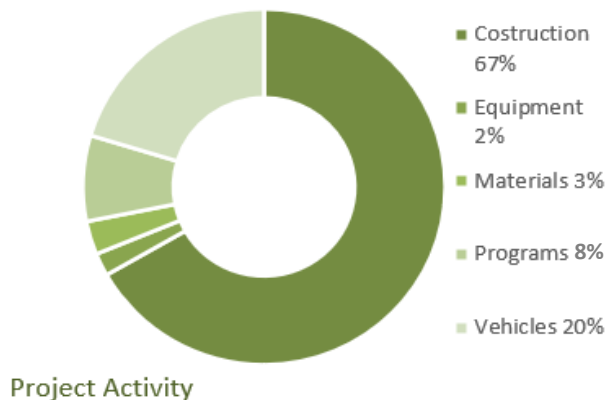
Pastoral Projects: projects supporting the laity's religious instruction, spiritual growth and worship
Dollars Spent: \$248,841.

Socioeconomic Projects: projects supporting the material needs and development of people and communities
Dollars Spent: \$423,134



PROJECT ACTIVITY:

Construction	\$630,751
Equipment	\$19,600
Materials	\$28,732
Programs	\$73,613
Vehicles	\$192,009
Total	\$944,705



Total VSO operating costs in 2020: \$214,348.19
VSO operating costs per dollar distributed in 2020: \$0.23

In all, with the help of our supporters and collaborators:

- We were able to help 5 provinces with transportation needs that included 2 pick-up trucks, 2 small buses and a boat
- We helped with the furnishings or construction projects at 11 schools
- We helped 1 parish furnish its presbytery
- Three projects helped residents with either better quality or quantities of water
- Several parishes were helped with their revenue generating projects
- Five seminaries were aided with either furnishings or building renovations
- We completed projects in 20 countries: 19 in Africa, 6 in Asia, 8 in Latin America and 1 in the South Pacific.

Please continue to read about all the VSO projects on these pages and for more information, please visit our website:
<https://cmglobal.org/vso-en/>.

PROJECTS 2020

These are some of the projects made possible with the help of our collaborators and donors throughout 2020. For even more information on the projects, please visit our website: <https://cmglobal.org/vso-en/>

India:

Construction of the second floor of an English Medium School in the Bapulapadu Mandal, Andhra Pradesh State



India: DePaul Apparel - Manufacturing protective masks for free distribution in twenty villages



India:
Construction of Bairabi Mission Boys' Hostel

ASIA



India: Furniture for the Navajeevan Dhyana Kendra Retreat Center



Vietnam: Water Purifier system for the Vinh Vincentian Community at the Lang Nam Parish

Sierra Leone:
Construction of
a new kitchen
for the
presbytery at St.
Columba's
Catholic
Church,
Moyamba



Tunisia: A summer housing
program for young students at
the Parish of Goulette, Tunis



Cameroon:
Construction
of a water
tower with
tank and
installation at
the
presbytery,
Banengo
Antenne

AFRICA



Rwanda: Construction of the
philosophy building for the
seminary in Gahogo

Tanzania: Updates to the seminary
in Morogoro



Ethiopia:
Purchase of a
pre-owned
Toyota Hilux
truck for the
pastoral needs
of St. George
Parish of Telo,
and six mission
stations, Kaffa
Province



Democratic Republic of Congo:
Construction of presbytery in the Parish of Saint Emile at Kinshasa



Nigeria: Construction of the second floor for the DePaul Secondary School and Deaf Unit Hostel, Oraifite



Tanzania:
Construction of a Boys' Hostel and furnishing a dining hall for the hostels at DePaul School, Mbinga

AFRICA



Nigeria: Increasing food security in formation house with piggery



Ethiopia: School expansion at St. Vincent Dawn of Hope, Bahir Dar

Chad: Furnishing of N'Djamena Minor Seminary Community House



Brazil: Purchase of a boat for the Mission of São Sebastião, Tefé



Brazil: Purchase of a Mercedes-Benz Sprinter Chassis 515 for Our Lady of Grace Seminary, Curitiba



Costa Rica: Formation program for lay people, food distribution to shut-ins of the Parroquia de San Judas Tadeo, during COVID-19 pandemic

LATIN AMERICA



Cuba: Water storage and kitchen improvement for poor families, La Habana, Barrio El Cerro

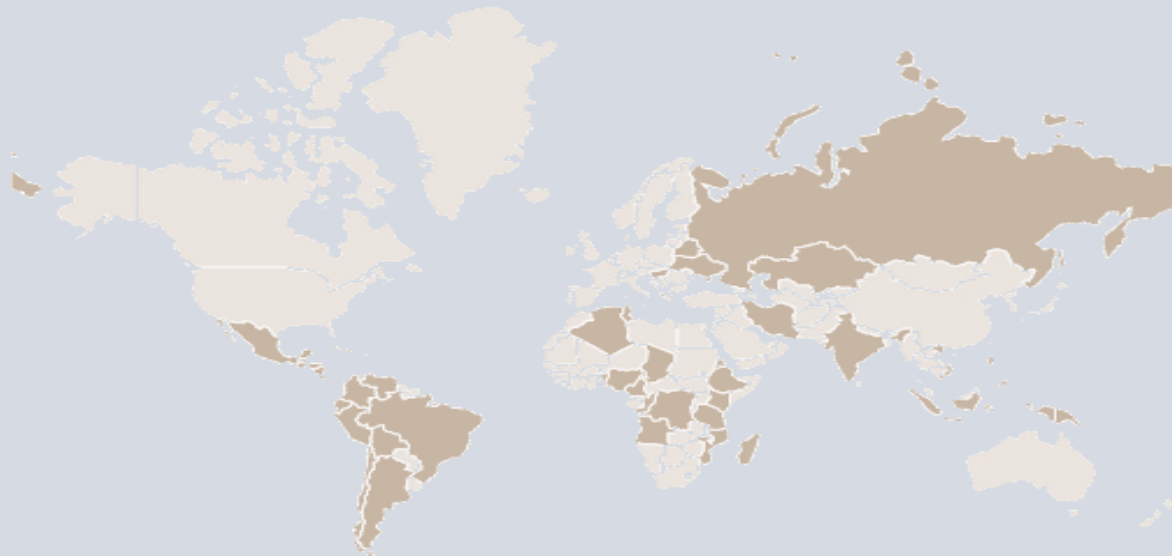


Costa Rica: New Toyota Micro-bus for transporting the seminarians of Casa de Formación, San José

Chile: Purchase of a vehicle for the Pastoral de la Caridad Seminario San Vicente de Paul, Santiago



Map: details areas we serve



More projects from 2020 not pictured:

- Improvements and expansion of a parish coffee plantation in **Rwanda**.
- Purchase of a bookbinding machine for employment of local women in South **India**.
- Funding for computers and televisions for the pastoral mission in **Madagascar**.
- Enhancement and strengthening of livelihoods for vulnerable households in 3 rural parishes of **Kenya**.
- Startup costs for the hostel Towi Porui at Sierra Tarahúmara, **Mexico**.
- Renovation of the Central Administration House in **Madagascar**.
- Installation of a gate and wall for securing the grounds of the COVIAM Inter-Provincial Theologate at Enugu, **Nigeria**.
- Creation of micro-enterprises and food relief for families hit by COVID-19 in **Guatemala**.
- Construction of Presbytery in the Parish of Saint Emile at Kinshasa, **Democratic Republic of Congo**.
- Roof and furniture for the seminary Academie Jean Paul II in **Chad**.

We would like to thank all of our 2020 collaborators:

Catholic Human Services Foundation
Eastern U.S.A. Province of the C.M.
Fr. Sy Peterka's African Appeal for Hope
Franz Foundation
Loyola Foundation
Manos Unidas
MIVA Slovenia
New England U.S.A. Province of the C.M.
The Papal Foundation
Province of Indonesia of the C.M.
Province of Ireland of the C.M.
Province of Poland of the C.M.

Province of St. Vincent de Paul, Spain of the C.M.
Province of Zaragoza, Spain of the C.M.
Spanish Bishops' Conference
Vincentian House in Panningen, The Netherlands
Vincentian International Mission Services (VIMS)
Western U.S.A. Province of the C.M.

~and many individual contributors, namely, confreres,
family and friends of our Vincentian missionaries



Pictured: Newly constructed church building of the Parish of Kanaba, Rwanda. The VSO helped to furnish the presbytery for this parish, some of the new furnishings are pictured above.

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 A 501 (c) (3) organization in the U.S.

