



dai diritti alla salute



CURRENT INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

2022-2023

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NEPAL



RIGHT TO HEALTH PROJECT "RIGHT TO HEALTH"

In 2016, Medici per la Pace launched the **"Right to Smile Nepal"** project, exporting a social dentistry initiative already successfully tested in Verona. Over the years, mobile camps have been set up in the Himalayan country which, thanks to the use of portable equipment, have made it possible to **provide free dental care and oral hygiene education to more than 4,000 people in vulnerable situations in Kathmandu and villages in the most remote areas.**

In 2023, the project will grow and be enriched with a new component: in addition to the mobile dental camps, **mobile gynaecological camps will also be set up in the Upper Pharping area** by the end of the year. During the camps, girls and women in the villages will be able to undergo a free gynaecological examination and cervical cancer screening. At the same time, education sessions on prevention and reproductive health will be organized. In the decade 2010-2020, teenage pregnancies affected 88 out of every 100,000 Nepali girls. Only 58 per cent of deliveries take place in the presence of trained medical personnel. In a study dated 2020, only 27.1 per cent of respondents reported using contraception. **Inequality in access to prevention and reproductive health care has serious effects:** most cases of cervical cancer (the most common among Nepalese women), for example, are diagnosed at an advanced stage, which explains the high mortality rate from this neoplasm in Nepal.

For the beneficiaries of the project, this type of activity often represents the only opportunity to access treatment and screening programmes, which in Nepal hardly reach the entire population.



CHILD PROTECTION PROJECT "CHILDREN IN STREET SITUATIONS"

In 2023, Medici per la Pace completed **a multi-year project for street children in the capital Kathmandu.**

The intervention, carried out in cooperation with local partner CPCS International, enabled more than 200 children to receive first aid thanks to the deployment of **a mobile street unit**. 160 children were accompanied to a First Reception Centre, where they received medical care, education and socialisation support. During their stay (an average of two months), a process of reintegration into the community was set up with each child. The reintegration process, carried out in collaboration with the Nepalese law enforcement agencies and the National Council on the Rights of the Child (NCRC), aims to ensure contact with the family of origin, if it exists, or to re-establish **a link between the child and the community**. If it is considered safe, the main objective is to proceed with **reintegration into the family** in a shared effort that also includes the participation of a team of psychologists aimed at preventing a recurrence of the causes of the removal.

ECUADOR



FOOD SECURITY

PROJECT "STRENGTHENING THE FOOD AND NUTRITION SECURITY OF RURAL AND INDIGENOUS WOMEN AND THEIR FAMILIES IN THE ECUADORIAN AMAZON."

Medici per la Pace started **a multi-year project in 2022 to support more than 200 indigenous women farmers, mostly from the Shuar ethnic group, living in three villages in the province of Morona-Santiago, in the Ecuadorian Amazon.**

The intervention, carried out in collaboration with local partner Fundación Atasim, aims to strengthen the food security of indigenous families, develop sustainable family farming, strengthen the agricultural value chain, and enhance the role of women in the local market. **The initiative focuses particularly on the role of women as key actors in the socio-economic development of communities, promoting local agro-ecological business spirit** while preserving the heritage of knowledge, traditions and values of the indigenous culture. The agricultural development component is flanked by **a healthy nutrition awareness and education programme** run by Medici per la Pace volunteers and targeting pregnant women and children in the communities.

Indigenous women face triple discrimination related to gender, poverty and ethnicity. The beneficiaries of the intervention are selected from among the most vulnerable families, following a general criterion of level of involvement in community life and interest in participating in specific initiatives.

The activities in which the project is articulated refer to **the transmission of good practices on nutrition** and healthy and balanced food; **the improvement of knowledge and differentiation of nutritional contributions** in the diet of the beneficiary communities; **technical training in food production for self-consumption and commercialisation**; **the generation of alternative sources of income** for families; **the improvement of the market** through the valorisation of the agri-food value chain.

SLOVAKIA



SOCIAL AND HEALTH CARE

PROJECT "NADEJ - HOPE FOR THE HOMELESS"

The "Nadej" project, launched by Medici per la Pace in 2023, aims to contribute to **improving the health and social situation of 1,200 homeless people in the Slovak capital**, in line with the intervention strategies envisaged by the City of Bratislava.

The project targets people with **interrelated health-related difficulties** (difficulties in accessing medical care, exposure to risks related to the living environment, psychological difficulties) and **social difficulties** (deficiencies in the field of prevention of marginalisation, lack of support in social emergency and housing situations).

The project is part of a multi-annual intervention strategy in the country and **aims to progressively reinforce the tools already activated on the ground by the local partner, OZ Vagus**, by supplementing them with qualified services and consolidating their capacity to respond effectively and decisively to situations of hardship.

Although the last official count, dated 2016, indicated the presence of 2,064 homeless people in the city, pre-pandemic estimates of the actual number of homeless people put the total at over 4,000 people, which is likely to have grown further as a result of the current social and health crisis: it is therefore assumed that approximately **one in every 100 people in Bratislava is homeless**. Of these, 10% are minors, 36% are women and, according to a conservative estimate, more than 20% suffer from psychiatric disorders.

CONGO



HUMANITARIAN AID EMERGENCY PROJECT

In response to the **severe humanitarian emergency** in North Kivu in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Medici per la Pace activated immediate aid in collaboration with its partner Pont de Solidarité/APSO, **delivering food to the population fleeing the conflict in the Goma area.**

Thanks to the intervention, **139 families received 5 kg of maize flour**, a staple of the local diet used to prepare fufu, a traditional meal of high nutritional value and easy to prepare even in an emergency context. The same flour is also used by mothers to prepare food for their children.

Since the 1990s, the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo has been devastated by armed conflict, especially in the provinces of North Kivu, Ituri and Tanganyika. **More than 25 years of conflict, rights violations and natural disasters**, such as the eruption of the Nyiragongo volcano, **have led to great instability, insecurity and poverty in the country.**