



## LETTER TO FRIENDS OF SISTER EMMANUELLE

N°130



CHRISTMAS 2016

*"We must learn to love God and our brethren in humanity through the simplest acts accomplished in our everyday life"*

Dear friends,

after Hurricane Matthew devastated south Haiti early October, ASASE's Executive Committee decided to make an additional donation to our partner Haiti Cosmos to enable his vice president, Jean Claude François, who has been on site for several months, to provide appropriate assistance.

The Central Plateau, where are located the development programs supported by ASASE since 20 years, was the region least struck by the hurricane. Hence the influx, in the city of Hinche, of displaced people from the South, who have lost everything (one estimates the number of displaced people in the country at one million).

**Jean Claude quickly organized vocational trainings (electricity, plumbing...) for thirty of them.** He bought the needed equipment in Port-au-Prince. The courses started early December and are given in the afternoon, within the premises of Polytec, our technical school in Hinche. A nominal participation of 200 gourdes (3.20 CHF) is requested.

Thanks to ASASE donation, a mechanism providing micro-credit facilities to the displaced women has also been set up. Haiti Cosmos lends them 200 to 300 \$, a sum of money that enables them to start an independent retail, like buying and selling potatoes, corn or fruits...

Moreover 8000 bottles of Diarrhix - the herbal medicine against cholera, that has been produced by our laboratory - have been distributed (partly free) to Haitian NGOs operating in cities affected by the epidemic: Les Cayes, Jérémie, Port-de-Paix, Jean-Rabel, Léogâne and Jacmel.

Other news of our programs in Hinche: the number of applicants to the Jean Price-Mars University and to the Bethesda secondary school has increased, as a result of the closure of the state university and of the two public secondary schools of the city, following the non-payment of civil servants teachers salaries.



Preparation of guavas for the production of Diarrhix against cholera

**In South Sudan, preparations needed for the erection of the fence around the agricultural land in Nyarjwa** (126 ha) have started in November.

All materials - 46 tons, including two containers containing 1440 pools (18m x 2.10m) and 960 supporting angles - were imported from China via Mombasa, Kenya.

The containers have then been trucked via Uganda. One of the trucks arrived in Juba mid-October.

Given armed attacks that took place in October on the roads, we were much relieved to learn, early November, the safe arrival in Lologo of the second truck that had been detained in customs because of an excess load.

Early December have started the excavation work, within the Lologo Vocational Training Centre, of the future **guests house**.

This guests house will be built with special bricks (interlocking without mortar) produced by the Hydraform machine (see photo) owned by our local partner, the Saint Vincent de Paul Society (SVDP), Juba.

This will promote this type of bricks and develop their sales.

All furniture will be manufactured by the carpentry workshop: therefore the guests house will also be a showroom for the products of this income generating program that started this year.

A new employee has been hired early November by SVDP: **a sales manager for the Income Generating Programs** created to increase our partner's self-funding. We expect much in this new post to increase the sales of the products and services that have been developed during the last two years.

A new hiring is expected in January to improve the statistical treatment of the follow-up of the Lologo Vocational Training graduates.



Informed by my parish, I recently visited a gymnasium, in my town, that is temporarily hosting about thirty **migrants**. Most of them are **Sudanese** (all men) who fled the brutal repression that is still raging in Darfur after thirteen years.

The poor men told me a little about their journey: a boat from Libya, Italy etc. As you know, we have stopped supporting programs in (North) Sudan two years ago. But the Sudanese are in our hearts, and I found, in these refugees I met, the kindness, the dignity and the courage that mark their people. They attended diligently small ad hoc sessions of introduction to French language, and ASASE provided them some pocket dictionaries.

We wholeheartedly thank you for your continued support, and we wish you a beautiful and peaceful Christmas.

**Patrick Bittar**  
Director

