# ANNUAL REPORT 2020 ACTING FOR CLIMATE SOLIDARITY





ust like the Afghan woman with a solar cooker on the cover of our annual report, Geres concentrates diffuseenergysothatitcanbeused to enhance human well-being. To bring about shared prosperity and greater Climate Solidarity, that's our goal every day, acting collectively, reducing our carbon footprint and supporting activities designed to provide better energy services to the most vulnerable. Together, we support the energy transition and help as many people and economic operators as possible to find themselves in a safe and just space, under the sustainable ecological ceiling and above the minimum social floor (see page 5). In this approach resolutely geared towards more justice and solidarity, the management of our common home cannot be solely a matter of flows and stocks, but rather of interactions between human beings. When you read this annual report, you will find that all the activities carried out by Geres teams fit in with these dynamics of collective work and focusing of human energies to do things better. Mindful of environmental considerations, we work alongside local people, in a partnership and capacity-building approach which takes full account of the territorial and economic dimensions. And when emergency needs arise, we adapt to take action alongside these local stakeholders, as can be seen from the efforts made in the context of the pandemic. In Africa, as in Asia and France, our work is done in partnership with civil society organizations, small farmers, artisans or companies and local, national and international administrations. We seek synergy and complementarity with them in response to diverse, evolving issues and to achieve the sustainable development objectives we have set ourselves together. Guaranteeing quality, these alliances mean that we can implement significant programmes and improve the effectiveness

and impact of our operations while diversifying resources.

In 2021, despite the difficult circumstances we face - health crisis exacerbating competition in fundraising, return of a military regime in Myanmar, troubles and insecurity in Mali and Afghanistan - we continue to pursue the same ambitions. And we shall continue to take action to maintain the impact of our work in the long term, with for example the establishment of a social enterprise to operate the ZAEs (green business areas) in Mali. At the same time, mobilization of the general public, commitment to an OSR approach and our active participation in groupings of organizations are some of the activities helping to reinforce the impact and soundness of our association. For more than a year, faced with the planetary health crisis, billions of us humans have been able to demonstrate on a day-to-day basis our ability to make living together a priority ahead of our personal interests. It's not always easy, but we're getting there because we can see that every one of us is clearly responsible for all, with all of us standing in solidarity. Climate Solidarity is not an inaccessible dream. We're counting on you to make it tomorrow's reality.

> Marie-Noëlle Reboulet, President, and Laurence Tommasino, Executive Director

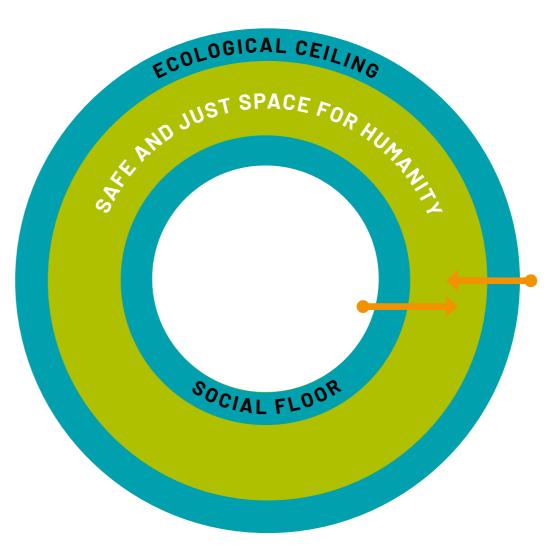
Set up in 1976, Geres is a development NGO working in France and internationally with a twofold mandate: to combat both poverty and climate change. As a field operator, it puts in place innovative solutions for a fair energy transition in a dynamic process of ambitious societal change.

Find out more about our

manifest

## THE ENERGY TRANSITION AT THE SERVICE **OF CLIMATE SOLIDARITY**

At Geres, our work draws on the donut model developed by Kate Raworth, a professor at Oxford University. By working practically and on a day-to-day basis for the energy transition and climate solidarity, our ambition is to help as many people and economic operators as possible to find a safe and just space, under the ecological ceiling and above the social floor.



Geres has made the rational decision to focus its attention on five areas of expertise which, taken together, contribute to its twofold mandate to bring about shared prosperity.

To maintain and extend the impact of its work

in the long term, Geres works alongside local stakeholders, in a partnership and capacity-building approach taking full account of the territorial and economic dimensions.

> **Find out more** about our expertise



#### **ENERGY ACCESS**

Providing access to energy services as a precondition for sustainable economic and human development.



#### SUPPORTING **CLIMATE/ENERGY** POLICIES

Supporting climate and energy policies in response to territorial issues and in the interests of human well-



#### MANAGING **ENERGY DEMAND**

Helping stakeholders to adopt social, technical and economic solutions for greater energy sparing and efficiency.



#### **DEVELOPING RENEWABLE ENERGY SOURCES**

Facilitating the rollout of renewable energy through appropriate, sustainable solutions.



#### **MOBILIZATION**

Mobilizing all stakeholders around Climate Solidarity and encouraging them to take action and offer sup-

#### PRESENCE

## The women and men of Geres

## The organization chart at 31 May 2021

Marie-Noëlle Reboulet **PRÉSIDENT** 

Laurence Tommasino EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Laurent Collinet-Brdys

Gilles Martin-Gilis

Anne Eveno Le Fur DIRECTOR

WOMEN

WORKING IN THE UE, OF WHICH:

55 EMPLOYEES IN FRANCE

COMMUNITY SERVICE VOLUNTEERS 2 EMPLOYEES IN BELGIUM

2 INTERNS

PEOPLE WORKING OUTSIDE UE, OF WHICH:

88 LOCAL CONTRACTS

LOCAL INTERN

EXPATRIATE EMPLOYEES

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY VOLUNTEERS

### In France and internationally EUROPE **CENTRAL ASIA** MEDITERRANEAN MONGOLIA FRANCE TAJIKISTAN TUNISIA AFGHANISTAN MOROCCO WEST SOUTHEAST **AFRICA** SENEGAL MYANMAR MALI CAMBODIA BENIN SHORT SHORT INDIA PAKISTAN BURKINA FASO

## The board of directors

Frédéric Bœuf

Sophie Ibos

**TREASURER** 

**VICE-PRESIDENT** 

The Board of Directors of Geres is composed of volunteer members elected in general assembly.

#### THE BOARD

DIRECTOR



Marie-Noëlle Reboulet PRESIDENT



Éric Buchet **SECRETARY** 



### OTHER MEMBERS

Jean-Louis Bal Luc Bonnamour **Violaine Bousquet Thierry Cabirol** Jean-Claude Chassagnoux **Pierre Ducret** Julie Fardoux-Chassing **Alain Guinebault** Michel Hamelin Anne-Claude Morin Silvia Pariente-David Vincent Priori

## The operational teams

#### **EUROPE-MEDITER-**RANEAN

GHANA NIGER

SHARED GOVERNANCE

#### **Geres France**

Alexia Hébraud ENERGY FROM RESIDUAL **BIOMASS CONTACT PERSON** AND SHARED GOVERNANCE LIAISON OFFICER

Marie-Maud Gérard **ENERGY AND BUILDINGS** CONTACT PERSON

**Geres Morocco** Virginie Klein COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

#### **WEST AFRICA**

Anne Lancelot REGIONAL DIRECTOR

### Geres Mali

Simone Teggi COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

**ZAE Programme** Grégoire Gailly PROGRAMME MANAGER

#### CENTRAL ASIA

**Quentin Moreau** 

#### Geres Afghanistan M-Riaz Ramin

ASSISTANT COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

#### Geres Mongolia **Beatriz Maroto** Izquierdo COUNTRY REPRESENTA-

Geres Tajikistan Viktoria Demidova COUNTRY REPRESENTA-TIVE

#### SOUTH-EAST ASIA

Marco Van Grinsven REGIONAL DIRECTOR

#### Geres Cambodia Richard Scotney COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

Geres Myanmar Marco Van Grinsven INTERIM COUNTRY REPRE-SENTATIVE

#### **GERES EXPERTISE**

Julien Jacquot

Energy access Alexis Caujolle

Climate & development Saverio Ragazzi

Climate & territories Clémentine Laratte

**Economic** developement Romain Cres

Inclusion Marina Dubois

**OUALITY & OPERATIONAL PARTNERSHIPS** Laurence Teissier





## **Combating energy** poverty in Marseille

Geres launched a fundraising campaign in association with the participatory funding platform Les Petites Pierres, dedicated to inclusive housing in France. Objective: to facilitate access to finance for the hardest hit households and help them reduce their energy consumption while sustainably improving their level of comfort. As a result of this initiative, funds were collected to pay for improvement work or replacement of defective heating systems in several residential buildings in Cabucelle district.



## **ZAEs making news in Mali**

In response to the health crisis, Koury Green Business Area took up the manufacture of local cotton masks designed for people taking part in field activities. In 2020, two new GBAs were set up, in Diaramana (Bla Cercle, Ségou Region) and Madina (Kita Cercle, Kayes Region). These new facilities, built using the Nubian Vault technique with compressed earth bricks, include more than 620 m<sup>2</sup> of professional buildings and 41 kWc of solar fields. They are intended for the 15 or so rural VSEs identified during 2020 which have received development support.

## COVID 19: an exceptional aid scheme in Tajikistan

With support from the Abbé Pierre Foundation, Geres launched an exceptional operation to reduce energy poverty and improve the living conditions of vulnerable households severely affected by the COVID-19 crisis. Around one hundred families received



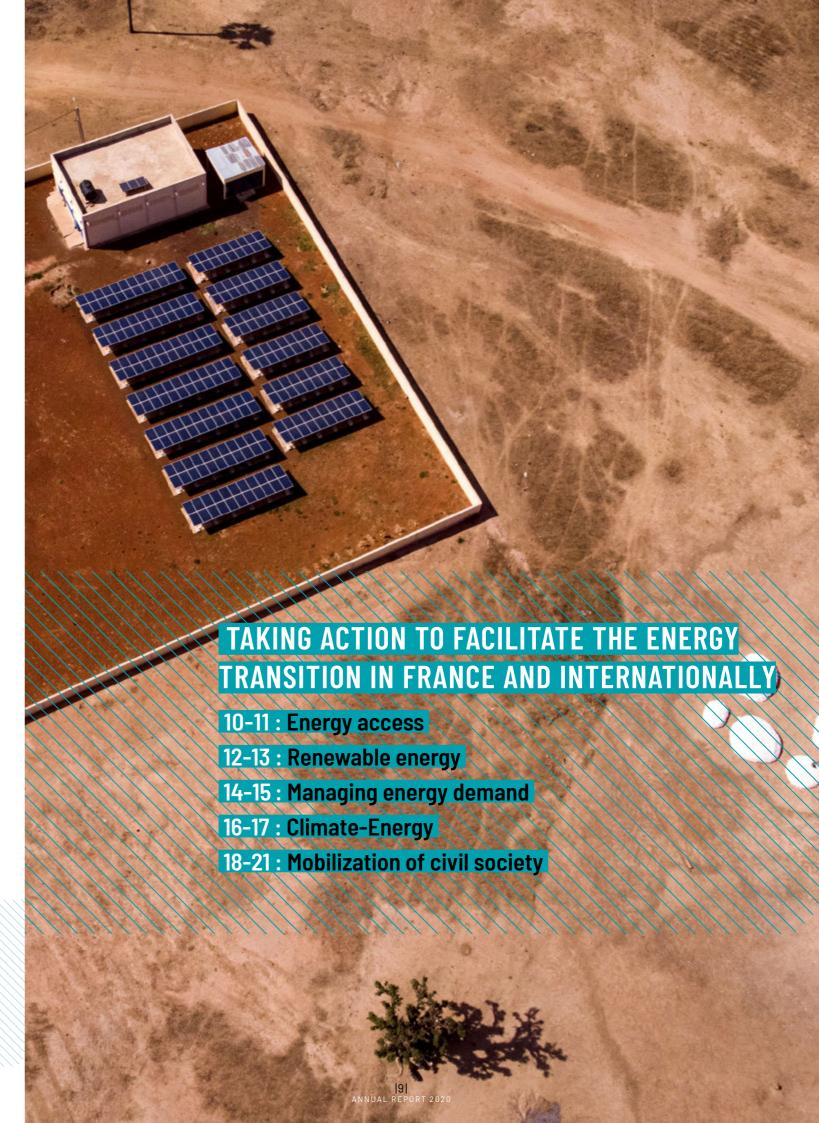
## **AFGHANISTAN:** raising awareness of energy poverty and climate change

As part of its Kabul Green Homes programme, Geres and the National Environmental Protection Agency (NEPA), with support from the European Union and French Development Agency, organized a national conference attended by 170 people. Objective: to pool solutions combating energy poverty, climate change and atmospheric pollution in the country.



### **PROMOTING METHANATION IN** THE PROVENCE-ALPES-CÔTE D'AZUR REGION

As a member of the Métha'Synergie collective, which brings together public, economic and voluntary sector operators in the region's methanation industry, Geres took part in preparing a practical guide to aid understanding, analysis and action.





# **Creation of a social enterprise in Myanmar**

Recently obtained access to electricity provides an opportunity for many households in Myanmar to improve their living conditions. But they still need access to efficient appliances at an affordable price, especially in isolated villages. A challenge Geres is keen to take up by establishing a social enterprise.

## **Our operations in 2020**

The first phase of our project identified and tested appliances for potential distribution and established an initial network of 16 women entrepreneurs to sell domestic electrical or energy appliances. This means that we can now move to set up the Ah Lin Tan social enterprise, which will be the missing link between suppliers and women distributors in the villages.

## 50,000

the number of future beneficiaries of the products.

+ see our web site : geres.eu

## **Prospects**

The military coup that took place in Myanmar in February 2021 justifies even more our intervention in direct support of the population and without any link with the power in place.

The Ah Lin Tan company will gradually build itself up with a view to achieving financial stability in three years' time. In the longer term, it will be able to rely on a network of 100 women distributors to sell a broader range of low-energy appliances. Appropriate financial mechanisms will also be put in place so that the most vulnerable households can access the appliances.

### **SENEGAL:**

# electrification as the key to rural economic development

In Senegal, the development of economic activities is held back by the fact that no more than 30% of rural people have access to electricity. In response to this situation, Geres is providing technical support to the NGO Le Partenariat and the Saint-Louis Regional Development Agency, helping them to develop energy platforms for the electrification of local entrepreneurs' businesses and the irrigation of vegetable crops.



## Our operations in 2020

In 2020, Geres provided its expertise in the selection process for both men and women entrepreneurs and their installation on the site of the Mbiddi platform. Drawing on its experience in capacity-building for local stakeholders, Geres also supported the establishment of an appropriate governance model. Objective: to ensure the long-term viability of the infrastructure. The provision of technical assistance and management training for the platform operator means that the initial results can be accurately monitored.

# 11 VSEs electrified

7 MWh used in 6 months



## **Prospects**

Geres will continue its technical assistance to Le Partenariat until 2023, to ensure monitoring of the pilot platforms and support replication of these models in the regions of Saint-Louis and Matam. As a result, new energy platforms will be developed in Senegal to promote the expansion of local businesses and economic development, as well as improve rural living conditions.

| 10 | ANNUAL REPORT 2020 ANNUAL REPORT 2020





methanation units

in operation

in 2020

Together with the its partners in Métha'Synergie, Geres is striving to ensure coherent, exemplary development of methanation in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region, taking account of five critical success factors: adequate installation site, outlets for digestate, outlets for biogas, usable organic resource and efficient governance model; and three key cross-cutting factors: good technical command: financial stability; social communication and acceptance

> \*Methanation is a natural biological process whereby organic matter is broken down by micro-organisms in the absence of oxygen (anaerobic treatment). This process produces biogas, primarily made up of methane, and digestate which is like a fertilizer or organic soil improver.

## **Our operations in 2020**

Many different aspects have to be taken into account when setting up a sustainable methanation\* project consistent with the needs of the territory. In view of this, Métha'Synergie has created the MéthaZoom mapping tool, with its partner AtmoSud. This tool provides an initial preliminary assessment of a given area and can serve as an aid to decision-making for users, enabling them to visualize the strengths and weaknesses of the territory on the basis of the critical success factors identified by par Métha'Synergie. Users can also view already operational methanation units and their main features.

Find out the tool

## **Prospects**

Between now and 2030, 30 exemplary methanation units should have been put in place. At regional level (excluding wastewater treatment plants), this represents 1,000,000 tonnes of usable resources, as well as a potential output of 2 TWh, which could provide some 440,000 households with biogas heating. To optimize the tool, regular updates are also planned to guarantee reliable, accessible data.



objectives To promote the supply of high-quality local energy services, Geres helped to establish a business maintaining photovoltaic equipment in the regions of Ségou and Sikasso. On the basis of diagnostics and mapping of operators in the six cercles where the programme operates, 24 solar technicians were identified, trained and equipped. Their tasks: to undertake preventive and curative maintenance of photovoltaic equipment and basic maintenance of the IT and pumping equipment of the vegetable production schemes, as well as the solar dryers.

A reminder of the

## **FCFA**

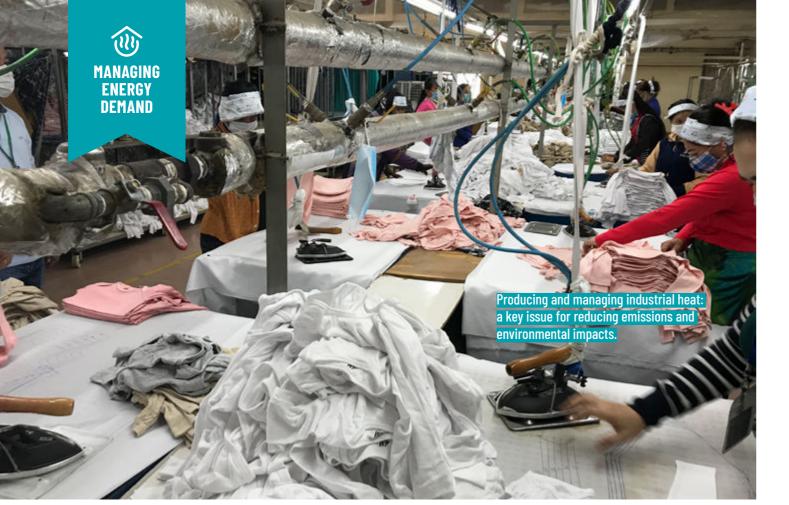
The annual turnover of the maintenance co-operative for 2020

## **Our operations in 2020**

With a view to facilitating discussions and relations with customers, Geres supported the process of structuring and formalizing the maintenance scheme, which resulted in the establishment of a Simplified Co-operative Society for Photovoltaic Solar Energy Maintenance, with headquarters in Ségou. In 2020, the partnership with the Co-operative Society of Maintenance Technicians resulted in the purchase of six motorcycles (one per cercle), the provision of a stock of high-quality spare parts and the fitting out of a storage warehouse. A maintenance guide was put together and a WhatsApp group set up to encourage discussion and sharing of experience between the maintenance technicians of the co-operative and Geres. In addition, the latter has provided the co-operative with support and assistance to put in place maintenance service agreements with the territorial authorities, along with monitoring tools (maintenance register and monitoring platform on KoBoCollect).

(1)

23,600,000



## **CLOTHING SECTOR:**

# Promoting sustainable energy practices in Cambodia

With more than one million employees, garment and footwear production is the leading industry in Cambodia. Its development does, however, have serious environmental repercussions. Faced with a constrained, demanding market, factories need to adopt more sustainable energy practices.

## Our operations in 2020

Begun in May 2020 and funded by the European Union, the programme is expected to end in 2024. Various activities have already been undertaken, including:

- A review of industrial energy efficiency measures appropriate for garment factories in Cambodia.
- A presentation of efficient and/or renewable energy solutions.
- Discussions with three international brands committed to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in their production chains.
- Visits and meetings with the teams at the first eight factories.
- Preparation of energy audits and support for the factories.

-20% energy cost per tonne produced

## **Prospects**

With the global crisis severely affecting the garment industry in 2020, economic and environmental performance concerns have become ever more pressing. The project plans to carry out audits in 50 factories in 2021, which will then benefit from tailored support in implementing targeted measures to increase energy efficiency and integrate renewable energy sources. Online training and webinars for stakeholders in the sector are also under preparation.

# Combating energy poverty, a public health issue

In Mongolia and southern France, where the health crisis is simply deepening the poverty and worsening the living conditions of vulnerable households, Geres is endeavouring to offer affordable energy-saving solutions to improve thermal comfort in their homes.



## **Our operations in 2020**

IN MARSEILLE, France, where the mild Mediterranean climate in winter does not encourage landlords to carry out energy improvement work, the homes of low-income families can only be described as thermal sieves. The use of polluting oil-burning stoves to provide heating at an affordable cost exacerbates this situation, with a worrying impact on physical (respiratory diseases, cardiovascular risks and so on) and mental (social isolation) health. In 2020, as part of its efforts to combat energy poverty and via the European EmpowerMed programme, Geres has been involved in creating information media. At the same time, it has begun work with local stakeholders to aid understanding of the problem and offer appropriate solutions: low-energy appliances, carrying out basic repair work and thermal renovation..

•5 organizations partnering the project in Marseille

IN MONGOLIA, in the Ulan Bator region where temperatures can fall as low as -30°C in winter, people use poor quality charcoal for heating and cooking. This pollutes the atmosphere and causes respiratory ailments. Launched by Geres in 2018, the Switch Off Air Pollution project offers affordable, certified insulation solutions to vulnerable households in the outlying districts of Ulan Bator already hard-hit by by the COVID-19 crisis. A survey conducted amongst several households benefiting from insulation work highlighted the programme's positive results: feeling of warmth; healthier indoor air quality; fewer temperature fluctuations; and halving of day-to-day consumption and expenditure relating to the purchase of charcoal.

## 37 houses

insulated in Mongolia thanks to private investments and green loans

|14| | REPORT 2020





# Improving the energy efficiency of school buildings

In Morocco, Mongolia, Tajikistan and France, Geres is working with local authorities managing school buildings to improve thermal comfort for pupils and teaching staff and reduce energy consumption and expenditure, while building the capacity of professionals in the sector.

#### IN MOROCCO

In Midelt province, new classrooms meeting energy efficiency standards and users' needs will be built in four primary schools identified with the aid of the Provincial Education Department.



#### **IN MONGOLIA**

Following a study of energy consumption in the 241 public buildings in Arkhangai province, the committee chaired by the assistant governor selected two nursery schools where pilot energy renovation work will be undertaken.



In both countries, a "territory/climate/energy" programme is trialling technical solutions to be used for demonstration purposes, while encouraging local authorities to take more account of energy efficiency in their public procurement, monitoring and audit procedures. On-site schools will be organized in 2021 with local professionals and make an active contribution to raising awareness of energy and climate issues amongst the public authorities, associations and citizens.

#### IN TAJIKISTAN

In the town of Vahdat, Geres took part in the thermal renovation of six classrooms in a school for blind and visually impaired pupils. Insulation work, replacement of the ceiling and electrical heating installations and the introduction of bioclimatic principles have helped to improve learning conditions for 80 pupils.

Through these projects, Geres helps users of public educational services to adopt less energy-hungry behaviour. This is crucial for optimizing building performance on a sustainable basis and forms the core of the energy management strategy promoted by Geres.

#### **IN FRANCE**

In the Bouches du Rhône département, awareness campaigns and measures relating to electricity consumption were undertaken in three middle schools with the departmental authorities. The resulting methodological guide for the educational teams and local institutions will be published in 2021 to serve as an example for other middle schools.

4°0

The lowest temperature recorded on winter mornings in some school classrooms in Midelt Province

15%

The share of the budget of Arkhangai governorate allocated to heating costs



### AGR'AIR:

# the best agricultural practices to cultivate high-quality air

In the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur Region, 47% of the population is exposed to concentrations of PM10 particles exceeding health standards, while 85% of regional ammoniac emissions come from agriculture. Apart from their deleterious effects on the environment, these emissions not only contribute to climate change but are harmful to people's health.

## **Operations in 2020**

The Agr'Air IRAEE project, co-ordinated by Geres and developed in partnership with stakeholders in the agricultural sector, has two main priorities. It aims, firstly, to help vine and tree growers develop shredding facilities for the residue from renovating plots and, secondly, to reduce ammoniac emissions. Geres has focused in particular on energy recycling in a biomass boiler equipped with smoke filters. Other recycling options such as shredding, mulching and composting have also been explored by stakeholders in the agricultural sector. To this end, synergies have been established between equestrian centres and farmers to encourage organic fertilization in conjunction with optimization of horse manure management.



farms supported

5 demonstration sites organized

## **Prospects**

After initial efforts to lead by example, the challenge for the coming months is to promote and encourage wider adoption of these changes in practice by mobilizing farmers, equestrian centres, providers of shredding services and operators of industrial biomass boilers.







# **General mobilization for Climate Solidarity**

In 2020, Geres strengthened its teams and stepped up its efforts to mobilize civil society around the global changes needed for greater climate solidarity. If success is to be achieved, what the planet needs next is more general mobilization and Geres is already there waiting to take part. We look back at a year boasting many commitments with and alongside citizens as well as partner companies in Climate Solidarity, without whom wider-scale involvement would be impossible.





Find out more and get involved

## Solidarity or climate? Geres chooses both.



"At Geres, we are convinced that combating climate change is indissociable from solidarity. This is the paradigm we want to see and which represents the common theme of all our operations, with two indissociable, complementary objectives: helping vulnerable groups to escape energy poverty while reducing the ecological footprint of those most responsible for CO2 emissions  $_2$ ", explain Romain Donda, the new citizen mobilization manager. "It's this message of reconciliation we wanted to get across in our campaign calling for public generosity in December, but also more widely through all the awareness campaigns we have run in 2020".

## Christmas 2020: celebrating without destroying the planet.

On the fringes of its major annual campaign, Geres undertook several awareness initiatives around the theme of Christmas. Objective: to promote original, innovative, concrete ways of combining pleasure with commitment.









"I joined Geres with the aim of motivating citizens to commit alongside us in the Climate Solidarity movement, to help them launch projects and enhance impact still further. My credo: striving to restore hope for a more desirable world tomorrow"

Romain Donda, Citizen Mobilization Manager, Geres

| 18 | I | 19 | I | 1



# A community committed to Climate Solidarity

Members of the Climate Solidarity Community, developed and facilitated by Geres, include local authorities, associations and companies committed, along with us, to taking concrete steps to limit climate change through a socially just, ambitious energy transition.

# CHANGE AGENCY: AN INVOLVING, CONSISTENT APPROACH



Estimating one's emissions and reducing one's impact on the climate through measures which contribute to the collective effort to achieve carbon neutrality; and laying the foundations of a sustainable development approach.

#### Mobilizing colleagues and stakeholders

through advocacy campaigns and mobilization mechanisms.

#### PARTNERSHIPS TO INITIATE CHANGE

Geres ambition is to lead members of the Community in a process of improvement of their practices to reduce their impact on the climate. It also aims to influence their colleagues and stakeholders in connection with their activities, encouraging them to change their day-to-day behaviour.



## **Tools for use by companies**



To assist its partners in implementing the approach, Geres provides tools and its expertise.

### 16 ANALYSES OF CO2 EMISSIONS CARRIED OUT

The first step in reducing one's impact on the climate is to measure it! To this end, we help our VSE or SME partners to gauge their carbon footprint so that they can understand the impacts, identify the most important elements and come up with a plan of action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. In 2020, 16 enterprises took part in the exercise.





## 8 GOOD PRATICES CONTRIBUTING TO CLIMATE SOLIDARITY

As the go-to for energy and climate expertise, Geres publishes analytical briefings on these issues for the benefit of its partners, to raise awareness of the issues, mobilize and establish virtuous approaches at company level. Two articles came out in French this year.

8 bonnes pratiques pour contribuer à la Solidarité climatique. >> Read the article La Sobriété numérique en entreprise : éclairages et bonnes pratiques.

>> Read the article

#### MOBILIZING COLLEAGUES AT CARRÉ BLEU

Involving colleagues is the key to collective commitment around causes supported by the company. When they have a stake in the organization's sustainable development, colleagues take on the challenges in both their professional and their private lives.

Through the Mão Boa platform, the Carré bleu group, a Geres partner, has set CSR challenges for its colleagues and, for each challenge overcome, made a donation to Geres in support of the women's entrepreneurship project in Myanmar.

>> Find out about the project >> See the video



## Facilitation, meetings, sharing experience



## THE WEBINARS OF THE CLIMATE SOLIDARITY COMMUNITY

Geres has brought back the Climate Solidarity breakfasts! As lockdown proceeds, we facilitate our first webinar with Geres patronage partners: on the theme of digital sobriety. Companies are increasingly taking up this issue and awareness has risen sharply with the 2020 health crisis.

What is the digital balance sheet? What does sobriety mean?
What practical steps can be taken at the office to reduce that impact?
>> See the replay

|20| ANNUAL REPORT 2020 ANNUAL REPORT 2020



Two new studies to combat energy poverty

IN MYANMAR, Geres is presently conducting a study, in partnership with GRET, on living conditions in the mountainous region of Chin State. People face problems in accessing energy and have to cope with harsh winters in homes which are difficult to heat. The feasibility study will help develop a body of knowledge and a plan of action for the launch of a project designed to combat energy poverty by improving housing and access to domestic energy

IN VIETNAM, in six provinces, Geres and a team of local consultants are looking at the availability of biomass residues as a possible substitute for fossil fuels to power the industrial boilers of the main suppliers of the H&M group. The study is designed to identify the technical options and appropriate locations for more sustainable production, reducing the environmental impacts and especially the emission of greenhouse gases.



# Improving access to healthcare services in Mali

In a situation where healthcare facilities are inadequate and against a backdrop of multiple crises accentuated by the severe effects on Mali of the COVID-19 pandemic, Geres is assisting the rollout of measures designed to enhance the response and resilience capacities of the community healthcare and maternity centres in the south of the country, by 2022.

### The aim of these operations: to

bring about a sustainable improvement in access to essential services such as drinking water and energy, ease the working conditions of the medical teams and diversify the supply of healthcare services.

#### **Concrete impacts**

Implemented in partnership with the local authorities and federations of community health associations, this project should make it possible to look after 140,000 patients per year, 55% of them women, spread over the 13 healthcare and maternity centres in the localities concerned.

+ Find out more at geres.eu

## Supporting the emergence of a market for sustainable cooking appliances in Morocco

Since 2016, Geres has been helping to develop a local supply chain for high energy performance (HEP) ovens with low gas consumption. Our partnership with three industrialists in the sector has led to the creation of the 'Faraneco' label (Faran = oven in Arabic). To ensure the continuity of this supply chain, which has already equipped 28,000 Moroccan households, and stimulate demand for sustainable cooking appliances at national level, Geres has set itself three major targets for 2023:

- Developing the production and distribution chain for professionals with a view to equipping 300 bread production units.
- Strengthening the marketing network, by establishing a network of women sellers, to promote and distribute products under the FaranEco label with the creation of 20 «green» jobs for women
- Consolidating the institutional environment to encourage the scaling up and sustainable transformation of the market for gas-fired cooking appliances in Morocco.

+ Find out more at geres.eu



## DISTRIBUTION OF IMPRO-VED STOVES IN BENIN

As part of a Climate/Energy programme, Geres and the Groupement Intercommunal des Collines (GIC) are supporting the distribution of cooking stoves for the food processing sector, through a self-build training scheme. Objective: to promote the use of local materials, mastery of construction and repair techniques by women processors and the implementation of appropriate technologies.

# TAKING ACTION FOR THE ENERGY AND CLIMATE TRANSITION IN FRANCE

For the last 10 years, Geres has been co-ordinating the IRAEE (Agriculture, Energy, Environment) network, made up of professional operators in the agricultural sector of the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region. Its mission: to support regional agriculture in the energy and climate transition by developing practices to reduce energy consumption, mitigate climate change and adapt farms. In 2021, to take its approach further, the IRAEE is becoming an association within the meaning of the French law of 1901.



# Promoting energy efficiency solutions in Afghanistan

Towards the end of 2020, Geres began a new operation in Badakhshan region to lift 1200 families out of energy poverty by means of solutions designed to improve the energy efficiency of their homes. This operation, supported by GIZ and conducted in partnership with the national NGO Rural Movement Organization and in co-ordination with the local authorities, aims to limit firewood consumption while consolidating jobs in vulnerable communities. It is based around a network of 180 artisans who will receive training and access to a new market. This project, due to end

in April 2022, is the only one still ongoing in Afghanistan, reflecting the difficulty in raising funds for development work in a situation where support for civil society is nevertheless sorely needed. Let us wager that, despite the difficulties, the financial partners of international aid will not abandon the Afghan population and will invest in boosting its resilience through the necessary humanitarian action. That's our dearest wish.

|22| INNUAL REPORT 2020 ANNUAL REPORT 2020



of development projects and takes multiple forms, with issues specific to each type of co-operation and stakeholders, whether voluntary sector, institutional, university or corporate.

"In implementing its projects, Geres seeks synergy and complementarity with all its partners in taking up the various challenges involved in local development. These alliances make it possible to manage large-scale programmes, improve the effectiveness and impact of our operations and diversify resources", comments Laurence Teissier, the association's Quality and Partnerships manager. Partnership is based on a dynamic process, a relationship which evolves over time and needs to be cultivated. At the mid-term of projects, a cross-cutting evaluation provides an opportunity to take stock of co-operation and suggest avenues for improvement with a view to strengthening links and enhancing the quality of relations with our partners.

# Monitoring effects and impacts: a shared ambition

As regards monitoring impacts, Geres has established a monitoring & evaluation system for the biomass-energy resource management project in the Cardamom mountains in Cambodia. Objective: to monitor the results in terms of socio-economic development, combating climate change and limiting impacts on the forests. This system has been worked out in liaison with the Maisons du Monde Foundation.



2 questions for Lisa Mimoun,

project co-ordinator at the Maisons du Monde Foundation

Can you tell us some more about the system of monitoring and measuring impact you have set up within your Foundation?

The Maisons du Monde Foundation offers medium-term partnerships with a view to helping associations to organize and creating a leverage effect on projects. At the end of the partnership, a joint balance sheet is drawn up to assess the results and impacts of the project since its inception. In this regard, we have co-built a measuring tool based on a proposal grid with 48 indicators or "impact map" structured around 6 classes of impacts: preservation of forest ecosystems, combating climate change, preservation of biodiversity, involvement of local communities, creation of economic activities, social and societal change. This grid should not only apply to all projects and all associations but also bring out the specific features of the operational strategies of each association and the quantitative and qualitative impacts, whether expected or unexpected, whether positive or negative.

## How do you see the results of this first implementation phase with the partner NGOs?

For us, measuring impact is a tool for dialogue with partners and thinking about the prospects for renewing partnerships. It also gives us a better grasp of whether our endowment fund is actually achieving its social purpose. For project developers, it's a useful way of reflecting, helping them to stand back and take stock, as well as an aid to decision-making and project management. It's also a strategic tool for highlighting the association's operational strategy.



Hem Kean is leader of Chiep commune.

She battled for years to recover ownership and use of the forest in order to protect it and has been successful: the forest has now become a protected community area which she is endeavouring to develop with support from the authorities and Geres teams.



Inclusion
means combating discrimination and inequalities so that everyone can take part

# Geres commitment to inclusion

Making women's contribution to development activities more visible helps to combat stereotypes and trigger women's societal commitment. Portraits of four women involved in the biomass-energy sector and committed to a sustainable approach alongside Geres.



their two children.

Sokha Khiev has been working for Geres for 3½ years. Born into a low-income family, she was able to continue her studies with the aid of her uncle and big brother. Every day, she talks with rural women who have not had that opportunity and are reluctant to take part in community activities due to their lack of self-confidence.

« During the gender awareness session for the Geres teams, I was surprised to learn that men and women have the same rights, particularly in terms of access to professional opportunities. So now I encourage women to play a bigger part in the biomass-energy sector because it's an income source for them! ».



chances of preserving that resource ».

|24| UAL REPORT 2020 ANNUAL REPORT 2020 FINANCIAL REPORT

The budget stands at €7.3M. Owing to the effects of the global coronavirus pandemic, it has fallen by 9% compared with 2019 (-€748,000). West Africa and Central Asia, Geres main operational areas in 2019, recorded falls of -€294,000 and -€137,000. They accounted for 38% and 17% respectively of Geres actual uses of funds in 2020. The Europe-Mediterranean region recorded a strong increase (+€263,000, +28%) and becomes our second most important operational area. South-East Asia 's share continued to fall (-€218,000, -33%) and the cross-cutting expertise unit, which has focused more on our country projects, recorded a 40% drop, accounting for 5% of actual uses of funds.

## Geres operational regions (excluding HQ)



### The bottom line

Geres posted a surplus for the 2020 financial year, with a bottom line of €110,000 representing a decrease of €66,000 (-37%) compared with 2019. This result was obtained despite a slowdown in activities: the significant decrease in operating costs (-€145,000, -15%), together with the increased income from carbon finance, explains why Geres still achieved a surplus in 2020. Carbon finance generated a surplus of €20,000, up from €4000 in 2019.

As in previous years, we set aside provisions to cover the risks we identified and particularly those related to co-funding needs. These appropriations/recoveries had a positive impact on Geres bottom line: +€18,000 as against -€59,000 in 2019.

On the balance sheet, the amount of provisions covering all the identified risks is largely unchanged, totalling €464,000 as against €482,000 a year earlier.

## €7,3M

**Prospects** 

The crisis caused by COVID-19 has impacted our activities in 2020 (cf. the clarification on page 27) and will do so in and undoubtedly beyond 2021.

At the end of 2020, in accordance with our strategy plan, we recruited a Citizen Mobilization manager to help us move forward on Climate Solidarity issues and we hope to be able to put our strategy into full operation in 2021.

We are still confident of our ability to mobilize companies around these issues within the framework of their organizational social responsibility (OSR), even though 2020 was not as good a year as 2019.

### **Financial transparency**

Operating and fundraising costs accounted for 14.1% of the total budget as against 14.4% in 2019, while the budget fell by 9%, resulting in a significant decrease (-€135,000, -12%). Geres has been able to bring down some of the costs of its operations: some leavers were not replaced and some planned recruitments were deferred, while travel and training expenses were significantly affected by the lockdown measures in France and abroad. Our annual seminar did not take place.

Geres accounts were signed off by the Board of Directors on 7 June 2021 and have been certified by the auditors Llinas Audit.



The IDEAS label confirms the quality of our practices in terms of governance, financial management and monitoring the effectiveness of our work. It is awarded by an independent committee..

## The balance sheet

ASSETS	2020	2019	VARIATION 2020-2019
NET FIXED ASSETS IN €	354,407	356,457	-1%
Stock of services	9,296	43,152	-78%
Stock of finished products	50,689	60,153	-16%
Receivables	8,468,384	9,628,168	-12%
Accrued incomes	74,083	40,877	81%
Prepaid expenses	7,589	10,968	-31%
Cash	4,182,598	3,877,469	8%
ACTIF NET CIRCULANT EN €	12,792,640	13,660,787	-6%
TOTAL NET ASSETS IN €	13,147,047	14,017,245	-6%

EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	2020	2019	VARIATION 2020-2019
Social fund	1,255,967	1,080,318	16%
Operating results	109,851	175,649	-37%
ASSOCIATION FUNDS IN €	1,365,817	1,255,967	9%
Provisions for end-of-service allowance	39,539	39,210	1%
Risks provisions	464,209	481,720	-4%
Dedicated funds	445,138	342,567	30%
PROVISIONS IN €	948,886	863,497	10%
Due to credit institutions	17,186	84,093	-80%
Due to suppliers	203,947	234,265	-13%
Tax and social security	420,453	387,186	9%
Deferred income	10,190,757	11,192,237	-9%
CURRENT LIABILITIES IN €	10,832,344	11,897,781	-9%
TOTAL NET LIABILITIES IN €	13,147,047	14,017,245	-6%

The balance sheet total decreased (-6%), falling from €14M to €13.1M.

As in 2019, this is primarily due to the reduction in receivables under assets and deferred income under liabilities. This is reflected in a decrease in

the «reserve» of activities, mostly for 2021 but also 2022. Despite this, deferred income remains at a high level.

Furthermore, the fact that deferred income still exceeds receivables, as in previous years, means that Geres can incur expenses while receiving the necessary cash advances from donors, optimizing its cash flow. The latter continues to increase, rising from  $\[ \in \]$  3.9M to  $\[ \in \]$  4.2M in 2020 (+ $\[ \in \]$  305,000, +8%).

Annual instalments amounting to  $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{e}}67,000}\]$  were paid on the loans contracted in 2015. Amounts due to credit institutions now stand at only  $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{e}}17,000}\]$ . Following the deferral of one instalment, the final balances will be paid in 2021 rather than 2020.

### Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

Although it is difficult to get a very precise measure of the impact, the pandemic and the restrictions it engendered (lockdown measures, impossible or difficult travel, home working) led to a reduction in Geres activities. The budget achieved in 2020 is therefore lower than 2019, whereas it had been growing since 2017. In October 2019, we had planned to achieve a 2020 budget which would be  $\ensuremath{\epsilon}$ 500,000 higher than actual uses in 2019. In the end, there was a  $\ensuremath{\epsilon}$ 747,000 decrease. Some new activities such as citizen mobilization had to be delayed, others such as mobilizing companies around Climate Solidarity slowed down. Budgeted prospecting costs could not be spent, delaying some portfolio developments. Even though restrictions may remain in force in 2021, positive dynamics can be seen and should lead to new projects to complement those already agreed at the end of 2020 (GIZ in Afghanistan, EU-funded project in Tajikistan).

|26| ANNUAL REPORT 2020 ANNUAL REPORT 2020

## **Uses of funds**

USES	2020	%	2019	%	VARIATION 2020-2019	Follow-up of funds collected from the public and used in 2020
1-ASSOCIATION'S PURPOSE	5,739,571	78.8 %	6,357,793	79.1 %	-10 %	61 764
France & Europe	888,147		708,135		25 %	25,000
Developping countries	4,851,42		5,649,657		-14 %	36,290
- Morocco & Tunisia	302,743		220,201		37 %	8,334
- West Africa	2,582,919		2,876,565		-10 %	9,724
- Central Asia	1,176,029		1,313,349		-10 %	8,334
- Southeast Asia	442,152		660,070		-33 %	9,897
- Expertise	347,581		579,472		- 40 %	-
2 - FUNDRAISING COSTS	174 ,59	2.4 %	164,519	2.0 %	6 %	1653
Costs of appeals to the public for donations	33,394		32,994		1%	
Other private fundraising costs	140,965		131,525		7 %	1,653
3 - OPERATING COSTS	849,506	11.7 %	994,257	12.4 %	- 15 %	474
4 -DAMORTIZATION CHARGES PROVISION AND DEDICATED FUNDS	411,638	5.6 %	340,639	4.2 %	21 %	5,000
SURPLUS FUNDS FOR THE PERIOD	109,851	1.5 %	175,649	2.2 %	-37 %	
TOTAL USE OF FUNDS IN €	7,284,925	100 %	8,032,856	100 %	-9 %	
						63,417
TOTAL ACTUAL USE OF FUNDS IN €	6,762,971	93 %	7,515,762	94 %	-10 %	

Activities in West Africa, Geres foremost region (€2,583,000), went down by 10%. The project funded by Luxembourg Co-operation has come to an end; the one funded by Swedish Co-operation to develop «Green Business Zones» and establish the «Green Biz Africa» social enterprise is continuing in 2021. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, a new project was launched in Mali with support from AFD/MAEE. The aim is to improve the treatment capacities of the community healthcare centres by providing them with energy and water supply infrastructure.

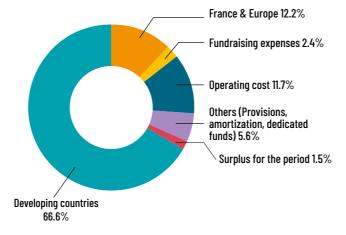
The Europe-Mediterranean region saw an increase in activity: +28% to €1,191,000, making it the second most important region for Geres. The countries concerned are France (+€180,000, +25%) and «Morocco – Tunisia» (+€82,000, +37%). This change is due to the start of the SIEC programme to develop Local Energy and Climate Information Services in Morocco and Tunisia. In France, projects carried out in the south of the country are funded by ADEME and the Regional Council, which stepped up their input in 2020. Funded by the EU, the «Empowermed» project, which aims to strengthen women's role in the fight against energy poverty, is making a contribution to the region's development.

**Central Asia** (-10%) is the third most important region for Geres, with the continuation of two programmes, funded by the EU, AFD and the Abbé Pierre Foundation. They aim to develop innovative, appropriate energy solutions for homes. In this region, two new programmes began in 2020, the first in Kabul, Afghanistan, with GIZ and the second in Mongolia, with EU funding and in partnership with AVSF, to help women develop vegetable production with the aid of passive solar greenhouses.

**Southeast Asia** (-33%) now accounts for only 7% of actual uses, with three important projects. Two in Cambodia, one on sustainable charcoal, funded by the Nordic Development Fund and AFD, and the other on the textile sector, funded by the EU. In Myanmar, phase 2 of the project funded by AFD to improve energy access by developing a network to distribute appliances came to an end. Phase 3, which began in 2021 to ensure the continuity of operations via the establishment of the Ah Lin Tan social enterprise, will be adapted depending on the political situation in the country.

**The Expertise unit** experienced a 40% reduction in activity. In view of the health crisis, expertise mainly benefited the projects implemented in the various countries. The unit continues to co-ordinate the cross-cutting components of the programme agreements signed with AFD.

### **DISTRIBUTION OF USES IN 2020**



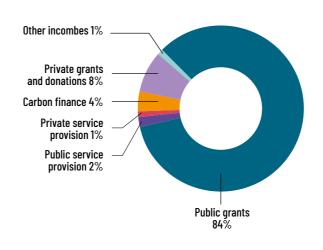
ASSOCIATION PURPOSE: 78.80% HQ: 14.05% SURPLUS & SUNDRY: 7.15%

## **Funds**

FUNDS	2020		2019		VARIATION 2020-2019	Follow-up of funds collected from the public and used in 2020
1 - FUNDS COLLECTED FROM THE PUBLIC	68,417	0.9 %	71,592	0.9%	-4%	63,417
- Unrestricted individual donations	-		-		-	
- Earmarked individual donations	68,417		71,592		-4%	63 ,17
2 - GRANTS	6,345,200	87.1%	7,121,452	88.7%	-11%	
- Public	5,869,988		6 352,254		-7%	
- Private	455,211		769,198		-41%	
3 - PRODUCTION SOLD	514,99	7.1%	287,693	3.6%	79%	
- Carbon credits	305,584		36 ,02		746%	
- Service provision	209,215		251,591		-17%	
4 - OTHER INCOME	356,510	4.9%	552,119	6.9%	-35%	
- Carry forward of unused funds from previous years	8,418		27,515		-69%	
- Stock of finished products	- 42,854		51,738		183%	
- Recovery of provisions	300,049		281,242		7%	
- Other operating income	90,897		191,564		-53%	
INADEQUACY OF FUNDS FOR THE YEAR	-					
TOTAL FUNDS IN €	7,284,926	100%	8,032,855	100%	-9%	
Total funds collected from the public						63,417
TOTAL ACTUAL FUNDS IN €	7,019,313	96%	7,672,301	96%	-9%	

# ORIGIN OF ACTUAL OPERATING FUNDS IN 2020

(Excluding recovery of provisions, dedicated funds and stock variations)



PUBLIC FUNDS: 85.6%
PRIVATE FUNDS: 14.4%

Actual operating funds amounted to €7 million in 2020, a fall of €653,000 (-9%) compared with 2019.

Grants accounted for 90% of actual operating funds, as against 93% in 2019, with an almost identical proportion of public grants: 84% of actual operating funds as against 83% a year earlier.

Sales of carbon credits rose significantly, from €36,000 to €305,000 in 2020, with the sale of some of the Carbon Credits generated by the

«Wassa» improved cooking stoves in Mali which gained the Gold Standard label in 2020.

Turnover from service provision decreased (-&42,000, -17%). As in 2019, it came essentially from three regions and services: Southeast Asia, Europe-Mediterranean and the Expertise unit. The latter was able to provide more services in 2020 despite the circumstances: +&22,000 (+29%). Two studies began, in Niger (funded by the World Bank) and the Sahel (funded by AFD) respectively. They relate to access to efficient, «clean» cooking systems, reflecting the biomass-energy strategies of these two donors in the Sahel. Individual donations generously given by the public continued to account for only a small proportion of total funds (&68,000, 1% of actual operating funds) and were slightly lower than in 2019 (-&3000). It is worth noting the &5000 raised as a result of a campaign run via the «Petites Pierres» endowment fund. This money could not be used in 2020 because of the pandemic, but has been allocated to a dedicated fund in connection with implementation of our programme to combat energy poverty in 2021.

Other income ( $\[mathred]$ 356,000) has fallen significantly ( $\[mathred]$ 4196,000). This trend is primarily due to the variation in the stock of carbon credits in Mali and ongoing service provision ( $\[mathred]$ 59,000), as well as other operating income ( $\[mathred]$ 6101,000). For example, income from partnerships concluded in respect of mobilization of companies for Climate Solidarity has decreased, going down from  $\[mathred]$ 119,000 to  $\[mathred]$ 56,000.

|28| ANNUAL REPORT 2020

# **Our financial partners**

Geres is keen to pay tribute to the commitment, trust and loyalty of all its financial partners, without whom its activities and those of its technical partners could not proceed.

#### **LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

- Aix-Marseille-Provence Métropole
- Département des Bouches-du-Rhône
- Parc naturel régional des Alpilles
- Région SUD Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur

## FONDATIONS AND ENDOWMENT FUNDS

- Abbé Pierre Foundation
- · Eurofins Foundation
- Legallais Foundation
- Nexans Foundation
- Prince Albert II de Monaco Foundation
- Raja Foundation Danièle Marcovici
- Rexel Foundation
- Valorem Foundation Watt for change
- Fonds d'Action pour la Sécurité Electrique (FASE)
- Itancia Endowment Fund
- · Les Petites Pierres Endowment Fund
- Qualitel Endowment Fund
- Solinergy Endowment Fund
- Synergie Solaire Endowment Fund
- Maisons du Monde Foundation

## COMPANIES, SCHOOLS AND ASSOCIATIONS

- Acting for Life
- AgroSup Dijon
- · Air France KLM Flying Blue
- Animine
- CCE&C
- Concept Emballage
- Cowater Sogema
- Ecodis
- ekwateur
- ethi'kdo
- Extende
- GRDF Gaz Réseau
   Distribution France
- GRTgaz
- GSE
- Le Pal
- Mão boa
- Muskhane
- Novespace
- Orphoz
- Solagro
- Someform
- Thales DIS France

#### **CO-OPERATION AGENCIES**

- AFD French Development Agency
- ASDI Swedish International Development Co-operation Agency
- World Bank
- Mali-Luxembourg Co-operation
- FFEM French Global Environment Facility
- GIZ German International
   Development Co-operation Agency
- NDF Nordic Development Fund
- European Union

#### FRENCH PUBLIC BODIES

- ADEME Environment and Energy Management Agency
- · ADEME Provence-Alpes-Côte-d'Azur
- FNAB National Federation of Organic Agriculture

We also wish to thank all the citizens who supported us in 2020 with their donations and memberships. Our association considers their involvement invaluable.

You can find the comprehensive list of our partners on our website:

www.geres.eu/en/about/our-partners/

# Our partner networks

Our presence in over 20 associative networks contributes to the sharing of experiences. It also shows our willingness to look for synergies that will help us conduct our actions with more efficiency.



#### **Groupe Initiatives**

Set up in 1993, Groupe initiatives (Gi) is a collective of professional international solidarity associations with 12 member organizations. A forum for exchanging and sharing experiences and practices, it helps to inform the thinking of development cooperation players and put forward public policy recommendations. Its work and expertise rest on three main pillars: promoting relevant, effective practices and methods; capitalizing, producing and disseminating knowledge; and driving forward international solidarity practices and policies.



#### **Coordination SUD**

Coordination SUD coordinates French international solidarity NGOs. It brings together more than 130 associations working on emergency humanitarian action, development aid, environmental protection, defence of human rights and advocacy. Since 2013, Geres has headed the Climate and Development Committee, a working group of some thirty member organizations, which aims to strengthen the national and international efforts of civil society engaged in the fight against climate change.



#### F3

F3E is a voluntary sector network entirely dedicated to improving the impact and quality of decentralized cooperation and international solidarity work. Made up of around one hundred NGOs and territorial authorities, it brings together major players in the development and international cooperation sector keen to share their practices to boost their capacity and give a better account of the effectiveness of their activities. Geres is a member of the F3E board.



## **CLER** - Réseau pour la transition énergétique

CLER is an association bringing together 150 energy professionals spread across French territory. Its mission is to organize a network of field operators, provide the latest information on renewable energy, promote renewable energy development and energy efficiency projects and support job creation in those sectors.



#### ACCESS

ACCESS is a coalition of international organiztions aiming to enhance the visibility of NGOs committed to universal energy access. ACCESS advocates access to safe, reliable, affordable, sustainable energy for people living in poverty. Geres takes part in that coalition's advocacy work.



#### **Territoires Solidaires**

Established in Marseille, the Territoires Solidaires network strives to develop and enhance decentralized cooperation and international solidarity activities undertaken by public and private players in the Provence-Alpes-Côte d'Azur region. It supplies methodological tools and training, promotes consortiums and supports the preparation of joint programmes.

#### THE OTHER NETWORKS OF WHICH GERES IS A MEMBER

- Admical Association pour le développement du mécénat industriel et commercial
- ARE Alliance for Rural Electrification
- ATEE Technical Energy and Environment Association
- $\bullet$   $\mbox{\bf CFF}$  Centre Français des Fonds et Fondations
- Comité 21 French Committee for the Environment and Sustainable Development
- CTCN Climate Technology Centre and Network
- Energy Practitioner Network
- Envirobat Méditerranée
- GACC Global Alliance for Clean Cookstoves
- Global Compact

- GOGLA Global Off-Grid Solar Energy Industry Association
- Graine PACA
- Inforse
- IRAEE Inter-Réseau Agriculture, Énergie et Environnement
- Nexus Carbon for development
- RAPPEL Réseau des Acteurs de la Pauvreté et de la Précarité Énergétique dans le Logement
- Réseau Cicle
- Réseau Compost Citoyen
- Translators Without Borders



## www.geres.eu











2 cours Foch - 13400 Aubagne - France Tél: +33 4 42 18 55 88 contact@geres.eu