**Co-partners in development:** *building up and enhancing multi-actor partnerships and synergies for the mainstreaming of effective, participatory and human rights based development strategies addressed to vulnerable youth in 36 ACP Countries –*



The *“Co-partners in developmen*t” project, presented during 2012 by VIS - *VolontariatoInternazionale per lo Sviluppo* in partnership with other Salesian NGOs, to develop Salesian PDOs in 12 provinces in Africa and 2 provinces in the Caribbean, has been finalised from the point of view of the European Commission, after more than a year and a careful selection that saw approved at world level only a few other proposals in the same group. The project will last 4 years and began with the signing of the contract with the European Commission in February 2014. This has of course also been due to your commitment to the project and the great relevance and breadth of partnership presenting it.

**THE PROJECT IN THE CONTEXT OF THE JOURNEY TOWARDS STRENGTHENING THE PDOs – ROAD MAP 2015**

The *“Co-partners in development”* project intends contributing to the pursuit of the objectives established at the conclusion to the international seminar of PDOs at Hyderabad in 2011, its purpose being to solicit various provinces to develop and/or reinforce their planning and development offices *PDO*) in the service of the Salesian charism and to help them work together. The seminar reaffirmed the central role that each PDO must play in putting into place Salesian formative strategies (OPP and SEPP) aimed at reducing poverty and addressed in particular to more marginalised youth. Such strategies must be characterised by effective development (transparency, *accountability, networking*), built up by using an holistic approach based on human rights and aimed at guaranteeing full and significant participation of beneficiaries in the development process itself.

On the basis of what is envisaged in the **Road map 2015, the PDOs must succeed in being an integral part of the Salesian structure of animation and government of the province**, keeping in mind the Overall Strategic Plan (OPP or OSP); from this perspective the VIS project aims at achieving the following fundamental objectives:

**1. STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY OF THE PDOs:** Enabling internal structure, ways of operating, strategic project and planning skills of individual PDOs, with a view to developing development programmes and reducing poverty on behalf of the most disadvantaged young people, and characterised by principles of efficiency and a holistic approach to development and promoting human rights.

**2. ENABLING COORDINATION AND REPRESENTATION OF PDOs:** Putting process of dialogue and partnership into place at national and local level with institutional partners, civil society, the world of work, at the same time developing for continental level PDOs guidelines, approaches and development activities shared on behalf of the most disadvantaged youth in the sectors of education, formation and *youth work*.

**3. REALISING CONCRETE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES**: Starting awareness campaigns at all levels that envisage direct involvement of young people, promoting and monitoring the use of the Salesian approach based on human rights and the holistic development of the young person in the context of activities and strategies carried out at local and national level by Salesians in the countries involved and in educational and formative *settings*, promoting their insertion at continental level in institutional processes of *policy-making*.

The project was presented by VIS and will be implemented by it as indicated in the contract signed with the EC; nevertheless from its first steps the project has seen the involvement of all the members of the Don Bosco Network, Salesian partners in the provinces involved, and partners and associated belonging to international and civil society organizations working with us in the 36 ACP Countries targeted. The project represents a unique opportunity to realise the strengthening of PDOs as agents of all-round development and an integral part of the Salesian structure of animation and government desired by provinces, but demands of each province in the work of planning and execution within it, in cooperation and sharing with all the other provinces involved. Therefore, considering the complexity and importance of the project for the whole Salesian Family, we are asking you as partners to cooperate immediately as much as possible with VIS over the next 4 years to realise it.

**Kick-off meeting in Kenya –**

**Nairobi - 14 / 18 July 2014**

Dear participants and partners**,**

We are glad to have you here in Nairobi for this important meeting which will involve all your partner and associated organizations of the project, coming from all the Provinces of the Africa/Madagascar Region of two Caribbean Countries, Haiti and Dominican Republic, and the whole salesian family. The international meeting will have two main objectives:

1. **Kick-off of the project aiming at building capacity of the salesian PDOs in the Africa/Madagascar Region, and in Haiti and Dominican Republic**

**Objective:** To officially start up the project “Co-partners in development” implemented by VIS – *Volontariato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo*, and co-funded by the European Commission; The project, officially presented to the Provincials in Rome last 15th May 2014, will involve as partners, among the others, the salesian PDOs of 14 Salesian Provinces (12 in Africa/Madagascar and 2 in the Caribbean Countries) and the NGOs of the DBN - Don Bosco Network, and will aim in the next 4 years to develop and implement a comprehensive capacity building plan of the **salesian PDOs**  ***(Planning and Development Office*),** in line with the conclusions of the **international seminar of the PDOs** held in Hyderabad in 2011, and following the expectations of the strategy detailed by the **Road Map 2015** for the strengthening of the salesian PDOs.

**Beneficiaries:** the beneficiaries of the meeting are the Responsible/Directors/Coordinators of the PDOs involved in each Province, who will be in charge to coordinate the project activities dealing with their PDOs for the next 4 years.

1. **BTA – Bosco Tech Africa**

**Objective:** To define the operative strategy leading to the formal establishment of the **BTA – Bosco Tech Africa,** the upcoming salesian network of the salesian TVET (Technical and vocational education and training) Centres of the Africa/Madagascar Region. The meeting will be held following the conclusion of the first operative project strategy (BTA short term strategy), whose results, presented to all the Provincials in Rome last 5th of April 2014, will be further deepened during the meeting, and will represent the background analysis needed to define the steps ahead leading to the upcoming formal establishment of the BTA network.

**Beneficiaries:** the beneficiaries of the meeting are the **TVET Responsible of your Province,** (preferably the same responsible who was and will be in charge for the BTA initiative), who you already nominated last year to cooperate with the two external consultants for the first operative steps of the project, that is the assessment of the state of the art and the analysis of the training offers delivered by the TVET Centres of your Province.

Please find attached the draft programme of the meeting, further to the list of participants.

Kind Regards,

VIS – Volontariato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo

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| **EU Project “co-partners in development”, Grant Contract DCI – NSAPVD/2013/287-010 – ACP Salesian PDOs’ capacity building –**  **Draft program of the Kick-off meeting in Kenya – Nairobi 14-18 July 2014** | | | | |
| **Days** | **Activities and participants** | | | |
|  | **Morning Sessions** Session 1 (09.00 – 10.30); Session 2 (11.00 – 12.30) | | **Afternoon sessions** Session 3 (15.30 – 17.30); Session 4 (17.30 – 19.00) | |
| **14th** | **Arrival** | | | |
| **15th** | Greetings and introduction to the program and objectives of the meeting; presentation of the PDO project; presentation of the BTA initiative | All participants | Presentation of the BTA Report (short term strategy)  Session 4: 1° Panel on CapacityBuilding “ Salesian quality VET and employment oriented systems for sustainable development” | All participants |
|  | Objectives: to present the two initiatives (background, rationale and points of contact) | | Objectives: to let PDO’s directors know the state of the art of the Salesian VET systems in Africa and, following to the 1st Panel, the importance to develop effective VET strategies in their strategic plans | |
| **16th** | **Session 1: 2° Panel** “Capacity Building TVET for development”: Salesian partnerships for development: good practices of multi-actor TVET actions  **Session 2: 3° Panel** “Capacity Building TVET for development”: the PDO Role (planning and development office) into the co-planning of effective TVET and development strategies | All participants | Introduction to the BTA sessions: strengths and opportunities of salesian VET–Building the network and understanding its role and links with Provinces and CIVAM | BTA Group |
| Introduction to the PDO working sessions – Presentation of the project working group, organization, activities, expected results, tasks and financial resources | PDO Group |
|  |  |  | Comparison among Provinces: development of VET strategies and the role of PDOs | All participants |
| Objectives: to share with BTA members and PDO directors’ significant experiences dealing with activities, partnerships, networks and projects run by salesians in the field of vocational training, as an important part of their mission and strategies for international development cooperation | | | Objectives: BTA: to define a draft structure of the upcoming BTA (1° working session presented to the Provincial during the General Chapter in Rome).  PDO: to get into details of operational plan, phases, tasks, costs and internal organization dealing with the 1st year of project. | |
| **17th** | BTA – Activities and services to be provided  BTA: a shared Handbook for the salesian TVET in Africa, guidelines | BTA Group | BTA: a shared Handbook for the salesian TVET in Africa, guidelines (part 2)  Working group: draft strategic plan for BTA 2014-2016  h. 17.00: end of the session and free time | BTA Group |
| Feedback on the project from participants -  Presentation of the self-assessment process and tool | PDO Group | Self-assessment - Working groups | PDO Group |
|  |  |  | Comparison among Provinces: development of VET strategies and the role of PDOs | All participants |
| Objectives: BTA: defining the activities and services which will be provided by BTA (2° working session presented to the Provincial during the General Chapter in Rome); PDO: presenting the self-assessment process and tool to be used during the first project activity (missions of self-assessment by VdBconsultants) | | | Objectives: BTA: defining the bullet points (also following the input gathered during the 3 Panels executed) for the future development of shared guidelines and BTA strategy for the enhancement of the Salesian VET in Africa (2° working session presented to the Provincial during the G.C. in Rome) PDO: Start working and familiarising with the self-assessment | |
| **18th** | BTA – defining the outputs of the 3 working sessions | BTA Group | Return the results of the two working groups to the assembly…. “What’s next?” | All participants |
| 2nd Peer Learning - Working group  3rd Peer Learning - Working group | PDO Group |
| Objectives: BTA: to sum up results and develop shared conclusions of the working sessions for the upcoming institutionalization of BTA  PDO: Sharing and highlighting common issues on PDO strategic planning and identify shared topics to be dealt with in the first capacity building path (Oct.2014) | | | Objectives:  BTA: Presentation of the results to the assembly (institutionalization of the BTA Committee) and definition of the steps ahead (next meeting of the CIVAM – October 2014, Addis Ababa)  PDO: Presentation of the results to the assembly and definition of the steps ahead | |
| **19th** | **Departure** | | | |

**EU Project “co-partners in development”, Grant Contract DCI – NSAPVD/2013/287-010 – ACP Salesian PDOs’ capacity building –**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS AND CONTACTS**

|  |  |  |  |  |
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