Job creation to fight inequalities: success stories in Africa and Europe

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ITALY - In partnership with the food chain Panino Giusto that created a network with some of the biggest Italian food & beverage brands as Lavazza, to give refugees and asylum-seekers access to the labour market with fair conditions for a real integration in the society.

IVORY COAST - in collaboration with CSO-LA and with EU funds, to support the work of 5,000 artisans with a focus on women and HIV+ patients.
Vocational training and work as means to overcome inequalities

Both projects involve marginalised groups. In Ivory Coast: 5,000 direct beneficiaries above all women, youths with disabilities and HIV+ patients. In Italy 48 refugees and asylum-seekers were trained and 21 of them were hired in the last 2 years, thanks to the collaboration with 20 companies.
The projects respond to the same SDGs in Africa and Europe

The reduction of inequalities is tackled holistically by including vocational training, inclusion and women empowerment. Through job creation, the projects contribute to the EU fight against poverty and discrimination within and outside Europe, endorsing the European Pillar of Social Rights.
In Ivory Coast (2015-2017) AVSI supported 5,000 artisans, raising awareness on labour laws and allowing 55,000 artisans to access the labour market.

The results:

- 20 local NGOs strengthened;
- registration to the Chambre nationale de métiers de Côte d'Ivoire of 50,000 artisans;
- formalization of 50 professional associations of craftsmen;
- Practical support to 300 of the most vulnerable artisans;
- awareness-raising courses for 50,000 craftsmen on child labour;
- creation of 200 savings groups;
- also the artisan families were supported with education for 3,500 children and draft of 5,000 birth certificates.

The most significant result was giving the artisans the tools to improve their living conditions, becoming a model for other cities and contexts.
Key measurable results / Italy

In Italy (2016-2018), the 20 companies involved in “Cook to restart” project trained 48 refugees and asylum seekers: 39 did also an internship and 21 were hired. The beneficiaries learnt a job, gaining technical and linguistic skills to integrate in the Italian society and rediscovering their value. A real win-win synergy between no-profit and profit actors has ensured the project’s success.

The involvement of the private sector has set an example of aggregation and virtuous best practice towards a model of inclusive business where NGOs and companies work together for a sustainable development.
Since 1972 AVSI implements cooperation projects in various sectors with a preferential focus on education. Each project is conceived of as an instrument to promote this awareness in everyone involved, has in itself a need for communicating and sharing, and creates an impact capable of generating positive change.

AVSI by numbers

169 projects
31 countries
1,593 staff
2,600,000 direct beneficiaries
7,800,000 indirect beneficiaries
24,338 children involved in distance support program
700 local partners
55,538,380 € aggregate financial statement
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