AVSI, created in 1972, is a non-profit organization which carries out development cooperation and humanitarian aid projects throughout the world.

**Vision**
AVSI works for a world where the person, aware of his/her value and dignity, is the protagonist of his/her own integral development and that of his/her community, even in crisis and emergency contexts.

**Mission**
AVSI implements cooperation projects in various sectors with a preferential focus on education, meaning that the person is accompanied towards self-discovery and recognition that the other person is a resource. Each project is conceived 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 a positive change.

**Method**
In project implementation, AVSI uses the following approach:
- to start from the value of the person, who is never defined by the circumstances in which s/he lives
- to consider the person always in his/her family and community context
- to do with: accompany and let ourselves be accompanied, recognizing that we all share the same human experience
- to involve all stakeholders: encourage the participation of beneficiaries, providers, partners, donors, and the private sector
- to learn from experience and capitalize on the lessons learned.

**Commitment**
AVSI operates in various areas: education and social development, urban development, healthcare, vocational training, job creation, micro-entrepreneurship, agriculture, food security, energy, environmental protection, humanitarian emergencies, migration, democracy and human rights.

**People for development**
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**Projects**
199

**Countries**
32

**Staff**
1,733
- 59 people in Italy
- 1,674 people abroad (of which 1,546 local staff)

**Total budget**
68,097,472
- 26% private funds / 74% public funds

**Direct beneficiaries**
3,690,244
- 10,160,075 indirect

**Distance Support Program**
23,731
children around the world

**Local partners**
700
governmental, educational and healthcare institutions, NGOs, religious organizations, local authorities
AVSI began operations in northern Uganda in 1984. Now its interventions reach all the regions of Uganda, focusing on education, economic empowerment and livelihoods, health, disability, HIV and AIDS, nutrition, child protection, energy, humanitarian emergencies, sanitation and hygiene.

AVSI remained a direct supporter of communities and partner organizations throughout the two-decade civil conflict in the northern region of the country, demonstrating commitment and capacity to adapt to volatile circumstances. Today, through public private partnerships, AVSI engages with private sector players, government and communities to build capacity of children, youths and households across Uganda through a comprehensive family-centered approach that builds resilience and contributes to sustainable development, responding to the real needs of people.

Since 1986, AVSI has remained committed to ensuring the protection, health, education, shelter, livelihoods and other living conditions of refugees and host communities to help them become protagonists, even in their circumstances. AVSI’s established and coordinated emergency response mechanisms enable our interventions to cope with unforeseen humanitarian crises. The case-by-case emergency planning and trained personnel ready for immediate deployment to the field is a strong competency AVSI holds to manage emergencies.