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.
AVSI SIERRA LEONE

AVSI began operating in Sierra Leone in the late 90's assisting and integrating into society children affected by war. Now, AVSI works in 4 districts (Western Area, Bombali, Tonkolili, Port Loko) to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education.

IMAGES - Improving MAnaGement of CSOs in Education Sector
AVSI and its partners Family Homes Movement and St. Mary’s Home of Charity enhance the contribution of civil society organizations (CSOs) in the education sector to trigger development processes in Sierra Leone thanks to IMAGES project funded by the European Union. School staff, social workers and CSOs receive specific training packages aimed at improving teaching and learning techniques, as well as CSOs’ constituency and accountability. The action involves youth at risk of marginalization, especially young mothers, to improve their job readiness.

Distance Support Program
AVSI guarantees an education to pupils from preschool to the secondary level through this program. AVSI mainly operates in two schools in Calabatown area and Tabai village, both characterized by high vulnerability levels and inequalities. Thanks to AVSI’s social workers, we ensure psychosocial support to children and their households, as well as medical, nutritional and material assistance.

Y outh Entrepreneurship and Employment Program
AVSI, in partnership with Lattanzio KIBS and Fondazione Giacomo Brodolini, works to strengthen entrepreneurship and create employment for young people by supporting, among other activities, technical and vocational education and training.

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