

North-South Cooperation

Non-governmental organisation (NGO) accredited by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs, Directorate for Development Cooperation and Humanitarian Affairs



North-South
Cooperation

2024 Activity Report

Our projects in Luxembourg



Projet APES

« Accompagnement Personnalisé pour l'Emploi dans les Structures d'accueil »

(January 2024 - December 2025)



Our project A.P.E.S. is financed by the European Union and the Ministry of Family Affairs, Solidarity, Living Together and Reception of Refugees.

In 2024, we completed **68 customized professional projects**. **60** participants attended **basic training**, including language courses, Soft Skills training, and professional training. **18** participants started their **first professional experience in Luxembourg**.



A huge thank you to the mentors and coaches who supported and trained refugees in 2024!



There is still a lot to be done, and **we need more mentors** to support all our participants in their preparation and job search. If you have a significant professional experience in Luxembourg and would like to share your skills with refugees, write to us at apes@cns-asbl.org



Sharing and supporting vulnerable people is a very rewarding experience!

Chrysalis

(January 2023 - December 2024)

Its main **objective** was to develop a program aimed at **improving the well-being** of asylum seekers and beneficiaries of international protection (DPI and BPI) residing in a selected sample of temporary reception facilities in Luxembourg.



This project is financed by the European Union and the Ministry of Family Affairs, Solidarity, Living Together and Reception of Refugees.

The project primarily focused on **mental health** and the beneficiaries' **ability to respond calmly and confidently to the daily challenges of their integration**, with particular attention to learning local languages, which is considered a major barrier to their integration.



Chrysalis achieved its main objectives by involving multiple stakeholders and defining a diverse range of functional tools and activities to address key identified needs. It particularly pursued a **long-term goal** by **strengthening beneficiaries' sense of confidence and empowerment**.

- Thanks to the **linguistic support** of a wonderful group of volunteers
- **Thanks to the tutoring** provided by our fantastic volunteer high school students, who devoted their Saturdays to young people of their own age who had come to Luxembourg in search of safety
- **Thanks to the sharing** of food, music, sports, etc.
- **Thanks to individual and group psychological support**

The project was aimed at adults and young adults living in **four facilities** located in different parts of the country, representing various age groups and third-country origins: **Bridel, Wecker, Heiderscheid and Bourscheid**.

The project also targeted a **large group of unaccompanied minors** accommodated in various facilities in Luxembourg and responded to their **need for socialisation, learning and personal growth within the peer group**.

163 people received **support, an attentive ear and a warm welcome**, including **98 minors**, the majority of whom were unaccompanied by their families.

The cooperation with the staff of the facilities and the institutional partners was both enriching and fruitful.



Bien plus qu'un visage

(January 2024 - December 2024)

This **global citizenship education** project includes:

- The **participation** of young and adult beneficiaries in **workshops and conferences** on the **fundamental rights of marginalized** women and children in the Global South, as well as refugee women and unaccompanied minors (UAM) in the Global North.

- The **promotion** of teachers as key **multipliers** in raising awareness among their students about human rights.

- **Awareness-raising** within the school community by a **group of student volunteers** as part of our refugee integration program.

With the support of MAEE (Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs)



The "Bien plus qu'un visage" project has shown the **994 beneficiaries** reached the potential for resilience, personal growth, and autonomy that exists within two of the most vulnerable groups: women and minors in the Global South.

Through our exhibition and workshops, we presented concrete actions that can be taken both in the South and the North to defend the freedom, dignity, and autonomy of these women and minors.

After this journey from South to North, filled with information, testimonies, and stories, we provided our target groups with the tools to take action and advocate for the rights of the most vulnerable.



During this year, 2024, we were able to organize workshops in 11 high schools and 1 university.

Following our workshop on the situation of unaccompanied refugee minors in Europe, two young girls from Belval High School launched a campaign to collect French, German, Luxembourgish, and mathematics books. These books became valuable resources for our academic support group for young refugees.

Two girls from Fieldgen Secondary School contacted us to work on their school project about the SDGs of the 2030 Agenda. For two months, they conducted a survey among their peers on perceptions of gender equality. As part of their project, they also had the opportunity to meet refugee women and children in a reception center.



Following our workshops on asylum rights and the situation of unaccompanied minors arriving in Luxembourg, **15 new young people joined our group of volunteers, working alongside young refugees.**

Lulu addressed students from five high schools, as well as students and professors from Miami University in Differdange, and spoke at the "Women Leading Change" conference. She highlighted the outstanding work of paralegals in the remote villages of the Longido region, where they help Maasai women and girls seek justice when their rights are violated. These meetings were filled with valuable insights and helped broaden the perspectives of the young participants.

In December, we had the honor of welcoming **Ms. Lulu Ng'wanakilala, CEO of LSF, our local partner in the women's empowerment project in Tanzania.**



Lulu inspired her audience as she spoke about raising awareness among young Maasai boys, who have become ambassadors for the rights of their female peers.



Our projects in Africa



Protect children: stop child trafficking in Karamoja

(December 2023 – November 2026)

With our project, we will drastically reduce child trafficking from Karamoja. The project's expected results are:

- A survey on child trafficking is carried out.
- Local schools increase their intake of pupils.
- Social acceptance of child trafficking and exploitation is significantly reduced in Napak district.
- Number of children (especially girls) on the streets in Kampala from Napak district is reduced by 50%.



Local partner: Women and Equal Opportunities Desk from Moroto Diocese

With the support of: MAEE, ICMSA, Commune of Beckerich, Actions sans frontières, Commune of Lorentzweiler, Parents' Association of Lorentzweiler, NIF Foundation and Diddeléng Hëlleft.

Study and Dissemination of Results on Child Trafficking

The study on child trafficking has been completed.

During dissemination meetings involving 532 participants (teachers, religious leaders, local authorities, and community leaders), the government of Napak committed to integrating the study's findings into its policies and consulting the Attorney General to facilitate the reintegration of children into schools.



Social Acceptance and Community Support
Community volunteers have been **trained to support victims** with a trauma-informed approach. Parents, who were made aware of anti-trafficking laws, participated in discussions that led to the creation of "**Village Education Task Forces.**" Additionally, two radio broadcasts and simplified brochures have further strengthened awareness efforts.



Reduction of Child Presence on the Streets of Kampala
The construction of a transit center is underway. A total of **130 children** have been **reintegrated** into the Napak district. However, community visits have highlighted persistent challenges for these children, such as trauma.

Community actions led to the demolition of illegal shelters, the prosecution of 88 traffickers, and increased awareness of the illegality of trafficking.

Awareness and Schooling

A total of **9,655 children** have been **educated** about the dangers of trafficking and the importance of education. A four-point plan was developed with school directors to integrate the issue of trafficking into school committees, establish school gardens, create child rights advocacy clubs, and prevent school dropouts.

Advocacy clubs are already operational in five schools, with a coordinated follow-up plan to ensure their expansion.



Improving maternal and infant health services in Napak District, Uganda

(September 2021 - August 2024)

The project's achievements have far exceeded all expectations. The direct beneficiaries of the project are 96,338 people.

Local partner : Matany Hospital

With the support of: MAEE, NIF Foundation, Rotary Club Esch-sur-Alzette, City of Luxembourg, ESM Making a Difference a.s.b.l. and Diddeleng Hëlleft.



One of the greatest outcomes of the project is that people's behavior has changed; they have developed a "health-seeking attitude," thanks in particular to the health education sessions. This means they no longer wait to seek medical help when they are ill, and pregnant women are attending prenatal visits.



"This project came at the right time. We desperately needed better maternal care," said one of the beneficiaries.

Project Results in Figures:

People who accessed health services through mobile clinics:

- Expected number: 21,960
- **Actual number** of beneficiaries: **88,746**

People served by ambulance services:

- Expected number: 1,980
- **Actual number** of beneficiaries: **3,790**

People who benefited from emergency obstetric interventions:

- Expected number: 1,650
- **Actual number** of beneficiaries: **3,781**

Nurses and midwives trained:

- Expected number: 20
- **Actual number** of beneficiaries: **21**



The diligent work of the Matany Hospital team has had a direct impact on infant and maternal mortality rates:

↙ The **infant mortality rate** in the Karamoja region dropped from **102** per 1,000* to **26** per **1,000**** live births (which is better than the **national average** of **36** per **1,000**).

↘ The **maternal mortality rate** in Karamoja decreased from **588** per 100,000* to **71** per **100,000** live births***, with a rate of **50.1** per 100,000 in the **Napak district**, where **Matany Hospital** is located, which is better than the **national average** of **189** per 100,000****.

STAR of Health (Karamoja, Uganda)

(September 2024 - August 2027)

24.000 beneficiaries

To give women and children in the Napak district access to high-quality, affordable healthcare and sanitation services, this project builds on previous experience with the Matany Hospital.



Local partner: Matany Hospital

With the support of: MAEE, NIF Foundation and Soroptimist Knokke-Heist.



Matany Hospital operates in a **particularly challenging context**. The health sector in the **Karamoja region** faces significant challenges, **lagging far behind** the rest of Uganda

Additionally, only 65% of established healthcare positions are filled, mainly due to **difficulties in retaining staff** because of the **region's remoteness, poor infrastructure, and limited electricity coverage**.

A highly committed local team is working with an extremely impoverished population, almost entirely unable to contribute financially to healthcare services.

The intervention strategy is based on three main pillars:

Capacity Building

We plan to **strengthen human resources in the health sector** in order to provide high-quality maternal and child health services throughout the Napak district.

Providing Comprehensive and High-Quality Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care

These services will be made accessible and expanded to reach the poorest and most vulnerable populations in the district.



24 women from the villages have been **trained in making sanitary pads**, which will be distributed to girls in the region's schools.



Improving Hygiene and Sanitation Conditions for Women and Children

A comprehensive strategy also focuses on **preventive measures**, such as improving hygiene and sanitation, particularly among vulnerable groups (women and children).

Women empowerment in Karamoja (Uganda)

(June 2022-May 2025)

The programme has 4 components:

- **Economic empowerment** through community-based food production and savings schemes.
- **Social empowerment** through participation in womens' cooperatives and mentoring programmes.
- **Literacy** (in English and the local language) and numeracy training.
- **Improving girls' education** by providing quality education facilities and sufficient teachers for a safe and effective learning environment.



6 villages - 1,488 direct beneficiaries

Local partner : Comboni Missionaries

With the support of: MAEE, Commune of Differdange, NIF Foundation and the city of Luxembourg.

Savings Groups Activities and Community Resilience

This year, the savings groups have solidified their central role in the lives of women, providing them with a space to save, borrow, and address issues such as domestic violence and family management. In the face of the drought, which caused famine in the villages, the greenhouse and irrigation field enabled the cultivation of various vegetables (tomatoes, greens, eggplants, papayas), thus reducing malnutrition and food insecurity.



Women's Leadership and Local Governance

The annual elections of cooperative presidents have strengthened members' involvement in community management. These female leaders play a key role in collective decision-making and organizing meetings. The renewal of group registrations in the Napak district has enabled women to actively participate in government programs.

Adult Literacy Program

The mid-term evaluation revealed significant progress despite some challenges. The program attracts women with little formal education, maintains high participation rates, and generates strong satisfaction. Based on the evaluators' recommendations, teacher training and a tailored curriculum have been implemented, further enhancing its positive impact.



Kangole Girls' Primary School

The school recorded a record number of students for 2024, with 1,035 enrollments. Efforts to improve infrastructure—including dormitory renovations, provision of school supplies, and completion of the teachers' residence—have created a conducive learning environment. These initiatives, combined with excellent academic results, have positioned the school as the district's best in the final 7th-grade exams.

Empowerment of Maasai women (Longido District, Tanzania)

(November 2022 - October 2024)

Project objectives :

1) Economic empowerment of Maasai women:

- Establishment of women's cooperatives;
- Provision of business training;
- Facilitating market access.

2) Social empowerment of Maasai women through awareness-raising activities.



3) Quality secondary school and girls' empowerment:

- Construction of dormitories;
- Establishment of girls' clubs to encourage empowerment;
- Provision of durable sanitary towels.

3,923 beneficiaries

Local partner: Legal Services Facility (LSF)

With the support of MAEE, Actions sans frontières, Fondation NIF, the Commune of Differdange and Betzder Hëlleft.

In 2024, the Wanawake Tunaweza project significantly **improved the socio-economic well-being of women and girls** in the Maasai communities of Longido, Tanzania.

The main initiatives included mentorship programs, training in business management, financial literacy, and entrepreneurship, as well as the construction of dormitories for girls.



Student-led events helped develop leadership skills and addressed issues related to sexual and reproductive health as well as gender-based violence. These activities boosted their self-esteem and leadership abilities, encouraging many girls to **continue their education while understanding the consequences of early marriage and pregnancy.**



Eleven women's economic groups benefited from refresher training, **strengthening their knowledge of business and financial management.** These groups sustained their activities, achieving over 50% profit from the distributed capital. Additionally, 30% of women accessed loans and started **small businesses**, enhancing the **economic stability of their households.**

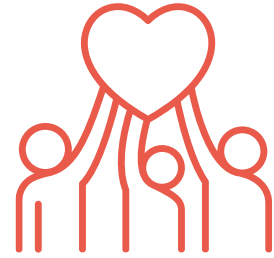
The **construction of dormitories** in Namanga and Lekule provided **safe housing for 240 girls**, reducing overcrowding and creating a conducive learning environment, which significantly improved their academic performance.

Overall, the project empowered women and girls by promoting **economic independence, leadership development, and educational progress.** By providing essential skills and resources, the initiative ensured long-term sustainability and a better quality of life for Maasai women and girls.



Events:

Thanks to our many volunteers, we were able to organise various awareness and fundraising events: K-Run, Marché du monde in Dudelange, Festival des Migrations, the Christmas market at Linklaters and at Lycée Vauban, our annual party...



Thank you

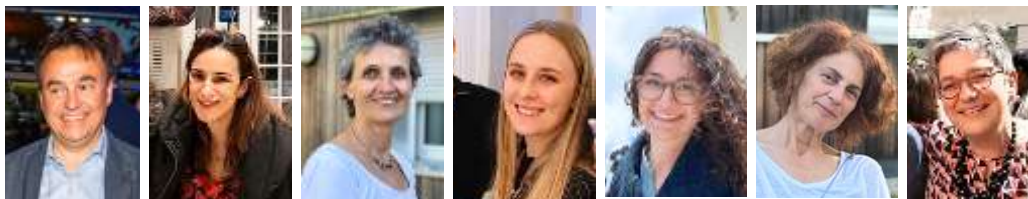
*to all our volunteers, company
partners and donors!*



Our team



Coumba Fall (chairwoman), Fabrice Bernard (deputy chairman), Michele Bernardi (treasurer), Jacques Scheller (secretary), Maria Archilla (member), Claude Metzdorf (member), Oliver Bornstein (member), Nicola Chiumarulo (member).



Roberto Marta (general manager and head of the professional integration programme for refugees), Simona Palladino (projects manager), Elisabetta Lano (Chrysalis and APES), Teresa Marta (assistant APES), Mia Blacklaws (communication specialist), Tiziana Tamborrini (Chrysalis), Josiane Hoffmann (projects manager).

The Annual General Meeting of North-South Cooperation was duly held on June 29th, 2024.

+ 65 committed
volunteers

Thank
you!

How to support our projects?
You can show your generosity
by making a donation to
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North-South
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