

# SUMMER 2020

#### **OUR OBJECTIVE**

To bring about lasting change in the countries where we operate in order to eradicate extreme poverty.

#### **OUR APPROACH**

FXB provides families with the tools to become socially and economically independent.





The COVID-19 crisis has made people brutally aware of the fragility of our globalized world. It spares no one!

But, once again, the situation is different in fragile countries, in slums where generations are confined to a cramped space, without toilets, no running water and big difficulties finding food.

Women are the first victims of a crisis of any kind. They carry the burden of the family unevenly, or on their own when it comes to single parent families. They must face increased economic insecurity and find themselves even more exposed to domestic or sexual violence and to exploitation.

However, this crisis has mainly highlighted their leading role through the world. Women occupy more than 70% of front-line stations, often the least valued, in the professions of health, education, maintenance and sale or social assistance.

In the countries where we operate, our collaborators were the first to engage in the struggle. Courageous, creative, they quickly organized actions of prevention, food distribution or simple soaps that can save lives in remote communities.

Women entrepreneurs that we support manufacture masks for their communities or share their harvesting vegetables with their neighbors.

We want to pay tribute to all these women for their combativeness and resilience. We believe that this crisis is also an opportunity to change, in depth, the causes that lead to social injustice.

Thank you for putting your steps in ours and to help us ... change the world.

Christine Eggs General Director



The FXB story began in 1986, when Albina du Boisrouvray and Bruno Bagnoud's son, François-Xavier, a helicopter pilot specialized in rescue, tragically dies at the age of 24 during a helicopter mission in Mali

Three years later, surrounded by family and friends, Albina creates an association that will bear the name of her only son and to which she will dedicate the ¾ or her assets.

FXB International's Objectives are based on the values of generosity and compassion that guided the life of François-Xavier Bagnoud. "Neither we, his parents, his family, nor his friends know how François would have led his life, but we know with certainty what were the values that guided him. He would have been proud and happy of what has been accomplished on his behalf for the past 30 years. »

## INDIA INFORMATION; THE ROOTS OF PREVENTION



In India, since 1990, FXB has been developing poverty alleviation, protection, education, health and WASH programs.

### More than 600 million people suffer from malnutrition.

In this time of crisis, they fear hunger even more than COVID-19. In the slums, millions of migrant families are crammed together. Social distancing or confinement is impossible. They find themselves without resources to feed themselves and, out of fear of starvation, some have walked hundreds of kilometers along the roads to return to their villages - also contributing to the spread of the virus.

FXB India has been remarkably responsive, overcoming the restrictions imposed by the general lockdown, to disseminate accurate information about the virus to these communities, which they also trained on barrier gestures, made difficult by the lack of water and promiscuity.

They distributed several thousand hygiene kits, rations of dry food and milk for babies and organized medical consultations, particularly for people suffering from diabetes. They have also remained on the front line to respond to the incessant distress calls from children and women suffering from domestic violence through our "Childlines", available 24 hours a day.

« Although everything is uncertain, we are counting on the action of the communities we have formed, on their spirit of solidarity, so that no one is left out during this crisis.»

Mamta FXB India Director



#### COVID-19

Since the early months of 2020, the world has been experiencing a special period, that of the COVID-19 pandemic, which first hit Asia and rapidly spread across the globe. While developed countries have been hit hard by the virus, it has not spared the countries in Africa and Asia where we are intervening.

FXB remained fully engaged in these countries. We reacted very early to support vulnerable communities, but also to protect our collaborators in the field. Everywhere, our teams mobilized with exceptional dedication.

They raised awareness on the risks of the virus and the steps to be taken to protect themselves from it, and distributed food and hygiene kits to several thousand families. In addition, FXB offers psychological support to deal with the anxieties and tensions exacerbated by lockdown, which may have resulted in violence against children and women. Depending on the context and the needs of the populations, our teams in each country have implemented strategies to reduce the devastating effects of the virus on the lives of the poorest.

### <u>RWANDA</u>: PARTICIPANTS' MANAGEMENT OF COVID-19

COVID-19 remains a source of difficulty for many people around the world, including our beneficiaries. Painful losses and the economic downturn have become daily challenges. However, there are examples that give hope, such as the one of Marie Rose, a participant in our FXBVillage - SKOL poverty reduction program that is in its final year of implementation. This mother and head of a family of 6 children has managed, thanks to the savings generated by her microenterprise and the Savings and Credit Group of which she is a member, to provide for her family during this pandemic.



Marie Rose was forced to cease her activities on March 21 2020, when the Rwandan government decreed lockdown in order to combat the spread of the coronavirus. This courageous mother recounts:

" My name is Marie Rose and I live in the Karukoro district of Kigali. My husband is in prison and I have to bear alone the burden of raising 6 children. We were very poor before we met FXB, almost three years ago, but since then I have received a lot of training and support that has allowed me to greatly improve the well-being of my family.

In the first year, I received training in finance and project management as well as a small amount of seed capital that allowed me to start a vegetable business. Now all my children are healthy and have returned to school. Before lockdown, I was able to earn up to \$5 a day and save regularly.

The program has also taught me how to plan for the future. I am part of a Savings and Credit Group created by FXB. Shortly before the crisis began, we had already managed to save \$1,200! We decided to use those savings to help us get through this crisis without having to cut into our personal savings too much. Thanks to this, my family is not suffering too much from this crisis at the moment. During these difficult times, the staff of FXB Rwanda remains in regular contact with us, at a distance, by phone".

When asked if she is happy to participate in the program, she answers, "I am very proud to be part of the FXB Rwanda family. It's true that we are going through a difficult time during this COVID-19 crisis, but FXB had prepared us to face crises".

#### **SOUTH AFRICA**

FXB has been working in South Africa since 1999 in communities characterized by unemployment, violence, crime and HIV infection.

Our programs aim to limit the consequences in the daily lives of our young participants, alleviate their moral distress and build the resilience of tomorrow's adults.

## FXB South Africa Director Stevie Megens explains how the organization managed the COVID-19 crisis:

" As soon as the virus appeared in China, the FXB team reinforced its activities related to hygiene, especially handwashing, and encouraged children to teach the barrier gestures they had learned in their families.

Before the schools closed, they received supplements or larger food packages for their families composed solely of children. They all also received soap to continue practicing systematic handwashing.

To stay close to our beneficiaries, a Whatsapp group was created where young people can reach us 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. They can talk to us about their fears and receive advice on how to manage this crisis.

We help them with their schoolwork and create remote play activities to limit the stress and boredom of children who find themselves confined to their makeshift homes. In the slums, people are hungry and this causes a lot of tension. FXB has already delivered food parcels and hygiene kits to more than 300 families living in extreme poverty.

They have also asked us to help them make masks to make up for the shortages or the high prices. We found models that were easy to make, seamless, and taught them how to make masks out of old T-shirts, kitchen towels or any other material available at home".

Stevie FXB South Africa Director

#### **WATER, SANITATION & HYGIENE (WASH)**

We will not be able to defeat any of the infectious diseases that afflict developing countries until we have won the battle for drinking water, sanitation and healthcare.»





As part of FXB's HEALTH intervention, access to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) is one of the essential pillars for a dignified life. It aims to fulfill Goal 6 "Clean Water and Sanitation" of the UN's SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals). It starts from the observation that in the world:

- 3 out of 10 people do not have access to drinking water services.
- 6 out of 10 people do not have access to sanitary facilities.
- Nearly 900 million people practice open defecation which considerably increases the risk of transmission of diseases such as cholera.

The programs developed by FXB promote access to these human rights and the reduction of community vulnerabilities through 4 key elements: (1) water supply to communities, (2) sanitation and hygiene awareness, (3) capacity building, (4) construction, (5) training and sanitary facilities (toilets, showers, hand-washing stations).

In Rwanda, WASH deficiencies affect thousands of people every year. People, especially children, who die from diseases related to WASH infrastructures malfunctions. It is to remedy to this situation that FXB intervenes in the strongly affected districts of Nyanza, Huye, Musanze and Burera.

#### RWANDA

FXB has been present in Rwanda since 1995, a few months after the end of the genocide, with the objective of fighting the multidimensional causes of poverty. The 92 FXBVillage economic and community development programs developed in the country have enabled 65,000 adults and children to escape extreme poverty and gain access to sanitation facilities. In the districts of Nyanza and Huye, about 100 kilometers south of Kigali, FXB also combines several programs aimed at reducing the health vulnerabilities of the population.

Since 2012, the Turengere Abana (*Let's Protect Children*) program, supported by USAID, aims to improve the nutritional status of 80,000 children under 5 years of age and 55,000 pregnant and lactating women. More than 50'000 families have also gained access to WASH through the construction of latrines and hand washing stations and training in good hygiene practices.

As part of the Gikuriro program, FXB has set up "Hygiene Clubs" in 420 villages in the district, with a demonstration site in each of them, to improve hygiene and sanitation behaviors and practices for 50,000 families.

Finally, the Kura Mwana (Growing Up and Thriving) program has helped strengthen the nutritional status, particularly through the creation of Farmers Field Schools and access to water, sanitation and hygiene for more than 65,000 children under 5 years old and pregnant and nursing women in the Huye district.

The combination of these programs makes it possible to substantially reduce the risk of transmission of diseases such as malaria and cholera.

Quote from Marie, a FXBVillage program beneficiary:

"The government is raising awareness among citizens about handwashing to protect themselves from coronavirus, while it was already part of our daily life."

FXB is committed to helping families living in extreme poverty, vulnerable women and children, displaced persons, ethnic minorities, and people living with HIV/AIDS and other diseases through 4 areas of intervention:



**Economic and Community Development - FXBVillage** 

Burundi, Myanmar, Mongolia, Namibia, Rwanda and India.



**Education Programs** 

South Africa, China, India, Myanmar and Rwanda.



Health, Food Safety, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) **Programs** 

France, India, Niger, Uganda and Rwanda



**Protection Programs** 

India, Myanmar, Rwanda, Gaza and Switzerland

#### Organize an event to help us continue to make a difference in the lives of those most in need.

The 1989 initial investment that led to the creation of our organization has been used to help 18 million adults and children around the world, and the continuity of FXB's mission now depends entirely on external fundraising. The task is enormous and the challenge's ahead of us continue to grow.

Because eradicating extreme poverty, hunger and injustice is everyone's business, you may wish to get involved in organizing support operations in our favor? Whether it is a support evening, a sponsored sports challenge, a cake or toy sale, a car wash or any other initiative, the organization of support operations by individuals, classes or various associations (sports, school, cultural ...) help us to make a difference in the lives of the most vulnerable!

Why should you join FXB? Because we are and will remain a human-sized organization and because we accompany our beneficiaries towards autonomy, without creating dependency on outside help.

If you are interested in such an action, do not hesitate to contact us through our various communication channels. We will be happy to answer your questions, listen to your suggestions and accompany you in the organization of your event.

#### THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS

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Zewo recommends supporting the Association François-Xavier Bagnoud - FXB International whose goal is to fight against poverty. Supporting organization in the long term, for example by becoming a donor, allows it to act effectively over the long term.



Your donation in good hands





