

Itaka Escolapios

Red internacional
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Newsletter



October 2017

Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Itaka-Escolapios Foundation

On June 23rd an ordinary meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Itaka-Escolapios Foundation took place. The main point of the agenda was the discussion and approval of the Plan of Action for the upcoming year 2017-2018, considering the progress made in the previous year and the challenges that Itaka-Escolapios is facing in its projects and headquarters. In addition to that, a 4.5 million budget was approved in order to take forward the contents of the Plan of Action. The meeting also had the chance to review the novelties of the year in the different countries and teams, as well as to continue the reflection on the organizational changes in the Itaka-Escolapios network.



A picture of the Board meeting held in June.

First steps of Itaka-Escolapios in Congo

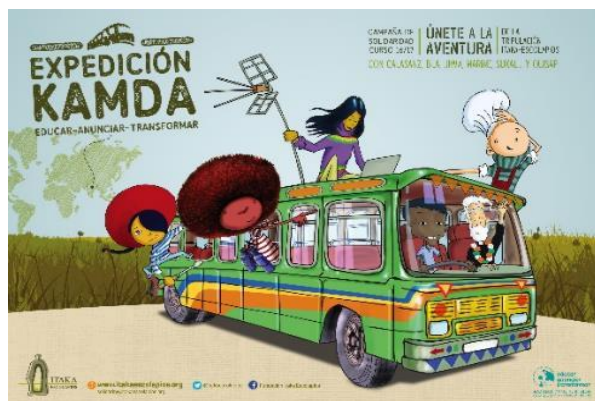
This new year Itaka-Escolapios in Africa is giving an important step: the beginning of our mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo. It is a country in which the presence of the Pious Schools is very recent and in which both the needs and the opportunities to grow the Piarist mission are huge. For now, the Piarists are in the capital Kinshasa (vocation house and pre-novitiate) and in Kikonka (a parish with four parochial schools), and new steps are expected for the next two years, 2017-2019. In this context, at the proposal of the Order and the Province of Central Africa, Itaka-Escolapios began its labour in the country with the appointment of a team in Kinshasa, which will be part of and collaborate in the impulse of the promising Piarist presence in Congo.



Children of the Piarist presence in Kikonka, Congo.

Balance of the solidarity campaign

Under the motto "*Kamda Expedition. To educate – proclaim – to transform*" the Itaka-Escolapios network has carried out the 2017-2018 solidarity campaign. The main goal has been, as usual, to raise awareness and promote solidarity with the Piarist mission with the most impoverished. This time we have approached the reality of India, offering our economic help to the school of Kamda. We must once again congratulate ourselves because the campaign has been a success and has received solidarity contributions from many Piarist presences in Spain, Brazil, Bolivia, Indonesia, Cameroon, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. The economic balance is also positive, with more than 185,000 euros raised to support the project. We will soon have news of the solidarity campaign for the new year, which will look at Senegal on this occasion.



Poster of the latest solidarity campaign for Kamda.



to educate
proclaim
to transform

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1617-2017 / SCHOLARUM PIARUM



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Ulises program: volunteering experiences

Throughout the months of June and August, 21 young people of the Calasanz Movement and the Piarist Fraternity from various cities in Spain have lived their volunteering experience as part of the Ulises program. This program offers a two-years formative and vocational itinerary, focused on the life and mission of Piarists in impoverished countries. On this occasion, the destinations were Anzaldo and Cocapata (Bolivia), Atambua (Indonesia), Bamenda (Cameroon), Campache (Mexico), León (Nicaragua) and Quito (Ecuador). Special thanks are due to the Piarist communities in these places that have welcomed these young people, whose experiences now need to be shared and deepened.



Ulysses' youth in Bolivia, at a meeting in Anzaldo.

New online training platform

Within the framework of the renewal and expansion process of the EDUCA project (pedagogical resources for education in values) a new initiative will soon be launched: the first online training course organized by Itaka-Escolapios. That course will discuss on co-education applied to formal and non-formal educational spaces. This course will take place between the months of October and January and will be tutored by a team of experts, mostly volunteers of Itaka-Escolapios. After this first experience, the own online training platform created for this purpose will be available to create and offer new courses on various topics, thus responding to the needs identified by the training team of the Itaka-Escolapios network.



Meeting on Project Management and Sustainability

On July 13, Itaka-Escolapios received the visit of László Szilvássy, delegate of the Fr. General for Project Management and Sustainability, accompanied by Géza Svastits, member of the team of this new Secretariat of the Order. Throughout the day, they held meetings with the heads of Itaka-Escolapios in terms of fundraising and management, where the fundamental lines of our network's work in these areas were explained. A meeting was also held with the Executive Committee of Itaka-Escolapios, in which we were able to discuss the main challenges from the Order and from Itaka-Escolapios in relation to the objectives of the Secretariat.



László Szilvássy and Géza Svastits, with the Executive Committee.

Convening of the Advisory Board

The III Advisory Board of Itaka-Escolapios is already convened, which will take place in Madrid on 7, 8 and 9 May 2018. This is the most important meeting that we hold in our network and it takes place every three years, to reflect and guide the lines of action of Itaka-Escolapios at the international level. In addition to the General Congregation of the Order and the General Council of the Fraternity, the Advisory Council also includes all the demarcations and fraternities that are members of Itaka-Escolapios, as well as our international teams and other specially invited persons. Over the next few months we will receive all the details about this important meeting.



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