

## E D I T O R I A L

*In his overview of activities, the Director, Denis Schultz, showed us how, throughout its 20-year existence, the Institute has remained loyal, to its founding values and principles of Rhine-valley humanism which base the idea of development on education, science, knowledge, solidarity, sustainable partnerships and strong commitment from local and regional authorities.*

*We can also see that in 2007 the Ircod's activities changed scale: cooperation work grew significantly as a result of our know-how in the institutional field with the French Development Agency (AFD), the ACP-EU water facility programme in conjunction with the European Union and the three-year contract with the French State on behalf of Alsatian local authorities and which strengthened the Ircod's coordination action. This increase in the amount of action undertaken in the field, notes the director, has been accompanied by an increasing number of requests for work with national or international institutions. This recognition regularly calls upon the volunteers and salaried employees of the Institute and also brings into question the amount of time that a small team can give over to this work however available and reactive the team may be.*

*With human resources remaining constants, this recognition brings the risk that we may disappoint. But we have no doubt that the scale of our mission will also galvanise our action in the future. For the South, the essential need is to gradually and locally obtain governance which is able to deepen relations between public institutions (local authorities and representatives of the State), civil society and the private sector with the aim of defining local mutual interests and promoting economic development projects which fit in with regional potential. Alsace has long been renowned for its tradition of international openness and its attachment to decentralisation laws.*

*For 2008-2009, France, in conjunction with the European Commission, has initiated a Charta on local governance and decentralised cooperation in developing countries. The first draft of this project highlights the fact that the role of catalyst in local development played by local authorities must be supported by:*

- Helping to analyse the current status and potential of a region and putting together a local development strategy with all players in local governance.*
- Encouraging a multi-sector approach which integrates economic development into other local development issues (such as public services) and which strives for complementarities between areas (national/ regional/ local, urban/ rural, intra-urban).*
- Opening up access to all essential services.*

*In the long term, we will therefore have a general European Charta and, after in-depth discussion, a specific Ircod Charta.*

*Let's not forget that promoting integrated territorial development which goes beyond the project approach and encourages coherence between locally organised projects should nonetheless be based on relevant projects which encourage technological transfer. With this in mind, it is essential to include in our network universities, Electricians without frontiers, Engineers without frontiers, the Engees, Bas-Rhin water board, the technical services of large towns and cities, the university hospitals, Rhin-Meuse Water Agency and advisory councils.*

*It is clear that in the future, decentralised cooperation for the fight against poverty through development will remain an uncharted and risky adventure whose cornerstone to success is human hope.*

Pierre Giersch

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# OVERVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

## CHAPTER 1



Farming organisation in Yanfolila (Mali).

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

### 1 A LONG-TERM PARTNERSHIP COMMITMENT

*"We have to change the psychology of our relationship inherited from colonial and post-colonial experience"* asserted Louis Michel, European commissioner for development and humanitarian aid, during the European and Pan-African parliament conference in Lisbon, on 7 December 2007. This is indeed a fundamental challenge. Removing complexes from relationships between peoples which are, sometimes, already a little biased on a purely psychological level, is what we are striving to do as part of our cooperation work between Alsace and regions in the South. We must rid ourselves of the relationship of giver and receiver of assistance, of sponsor and sponsored and move on to a relationship of partnership in which we share the idea of advancing side by side towards clearly defined development objectives formalised by contract following a mutual analysis of both the situation and the means available for progress.

An approach such as this must involve mutual commitment. It places both partners in the position of active player where the one from the South must initiate actions and projects in his territory and the one from the North must stand beside him and support him, if he should wish, in his project. Only this vision can bring long-term development and respect the dignity of each partner. We must rid ourselves of paternalistic approaches used by many humanitarian movements and share a vision of development which respects not only the environment but also, and above all, one another's culture.

During his visit to Haiti, on 31 December 2007, The French Secretary of State for Cooperation and the French-Speaking World Jean-Marie Bockel, stated that *"decentralised cooperation can act more easily in the long-term than the State. It enables irreplaceable human links to be woven essential to development and which, itself, is above all a question of human resources. It is a school of democracy"*.



Visit of farmers from Yanfolila to Alsace.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

It is this movement and approach which the Ircod has been promoting for more than 20 years and which it plans, with its partners, to promote in June 2008 as part of its 20th anniversary celebrations. The Institute will show the wealth of these partnerships, its diversity and the development of its approaches which it regularly improves both by internal and external reassessment.

The Ircod is tackling 2008 with the strong convictions we have just mentioned but also with the will to improve the approach and the positioning of players in Alsace with their partners in the South. It is not always easy and, given the scale of the task and sometimes the immense institutional disorganisation in some countries, an enormous amount of perseverance and long-term commitment is necessary. We have this consistency thanks to the continued loyalty of our main partners in Alsace: The Regional Council, the General Councils and the communes or other public establishments responsible for intercommunal cooperation and who are loyal in their commitment to the Institute. We also have this consistency from the State which, even if it has changed the way it allocates its financial support, has renewed and enlarged its three-year commitment to the Institute.

## ② THE IRCOD'S ACTIVITIES MOVE UP A SCALE IN 2007

The action of the Institute has changed a great deal over the last few years. The involvement of regional partners and the quality of the work carried out through the Ircod has gradually attracted the attention of new players and above all of the State. As an example, the French Development Agency (AFD) whose mission has been profoundly restructured and reinforced over the last few years approached the Ircod to implement three substantial programmes:

- Since 2004, we have been contractually linked to the Agetipa in Madagascar, with the AFD funding, to give support restructuring the management of the main markets in the town of Mahajanga. This programme, amended in 2007, will be pursued until August 2008 in close partnership with the Town of Mulhouse.

## CHAPTER 1

- In 2006, the Institute worked with the City of Strasbourg to define a cooperation programme with the town of Jacmel (Haiti) to support town management of projects and services for the population. This project is taking place as part of a wider programme to develop and invest in the town funded by the AFD. This four-year project started in June 2007 and is closely monitored by an Ircod employee in Jacmel.
- Finally the Ircod is coming together with the AFD to carry out projects in the health sector in Sofara in Mali. This could lead to a contractual relationship and mutually beneficial partnerships with the commune of Fakala.

At the request and with the participation of the communes involved, the Ircod also decided in 2006 to reply to the call for proposals by the European Union as part of the funding structure for the ACP-EU water facility programme. The chosen project involves the implementation of decentralised management in the rural areas of Mbam and Inoubou in Cameroon. The Institute has undertaken this programme over a four-year period with the aim of structuring inter-communal project management in the field of water. It has brought together Alsatian technical partners such as Bas-Rhin Departmental Water Supply and Sewerage Treatment Board (SDEA), the National School of Water and Environmental Engineering (Engees) as well as an NGO from Cameroon (ERA Cameroon) to accompany Cameroon local authorities in this project. The AFD has also agreed to take part. A project leader from the Ircod, who arrived at the end of last year, has been monitoring this large and ambitious programme which is considered to be a pilot project by the Cameroon Ministries involved.

This project funding is part of more sustainable approaches structured around other long-term funding from local and regional authorities in Alsace. Indeed, this more “structural” regional funding is enabling us to ensure more long-term projects with our partners in the South and to provide real coaching where we can take the time to do things properly. This funding was consolidated at the end of 2006 by the State through the State-Region contract which provided for an annual participation from the French Foreign Ministry of 154 k€. In 2007, the State changed the rules, effectively suspending the use of the above contract and introducing a “call for proposals” system. The

Ircod now makes an application on behalf of member local authorities in Alsace and was chosen for a tri-annual contract. This contract has practically doubled the annual participation of the State over these three years and has also strengthened the coordination and Alsace local-actor training work allocated to the Ircod and carried out in partnership with the Cefode.

The allocated means have therefore increased significantly over a one-year period as a result of the large amount of work undertaken by the permanent team of the Institute since 2006. In 2007, the team was strengthened by the arrival of a new supervisor. The Ircod’s volume of activities rose substantially, notably financially, as the following graphs show.

This rise in the amount of projects in our partner countries has been accompanied by an increase in the number of requests to work with national and international institutions. It is a recognition which regularly calls upon our paid and voluntary human resources. This also brings into question the amount of time that a small team can give over to this work however available and reactive the team may be.

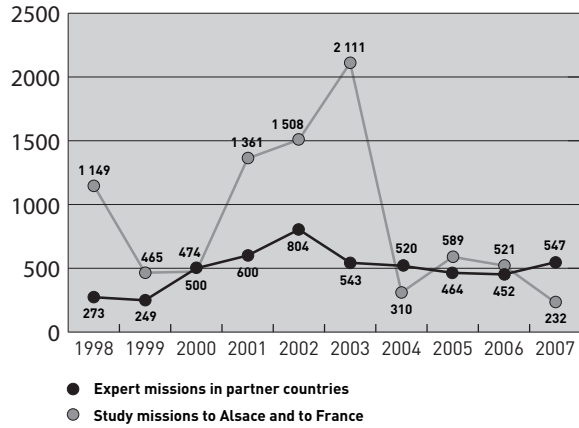
Finally it also encourages the Institute to think carefully about capitalising on its acquired know-how and its experience so that it can apply them to new actions it carries out itself or to actions carried out by other structures faced with the same issues in the field.

An initial capitalisation project in partnership with the AFD is planned for 2008 on how to lead structuring projects and to manage covered markets.

This development means the Institute has to reorganise its head-quarters from 2008 onwards in order to be able to take on the new responsibilities and commitments it has committed itself to over the last two years.

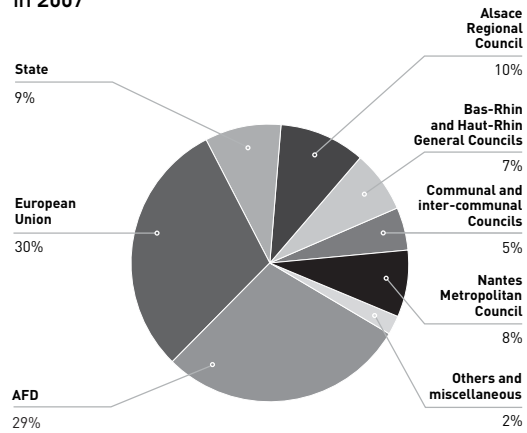
● GRAPH 1

Change in participation represented in Ircod partner mission or hosting days between 1998 and 2007



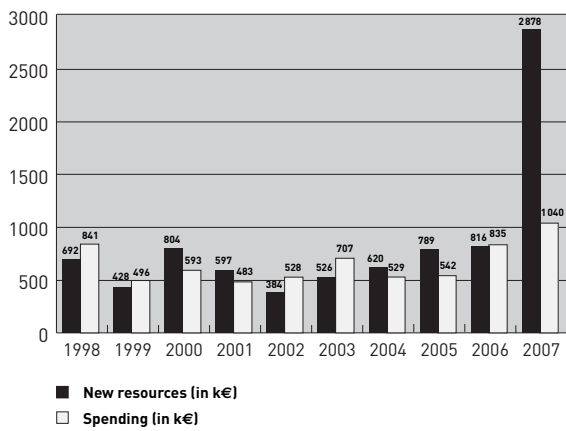
● GRAPH 2

New resources acquired by the Ircod in 2007



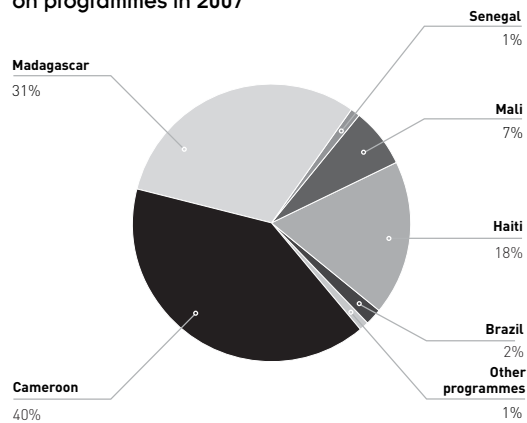
● GRAPH 3

Change in new resources and spending on programmes (excluding head-office activities) between 1998 and 2007



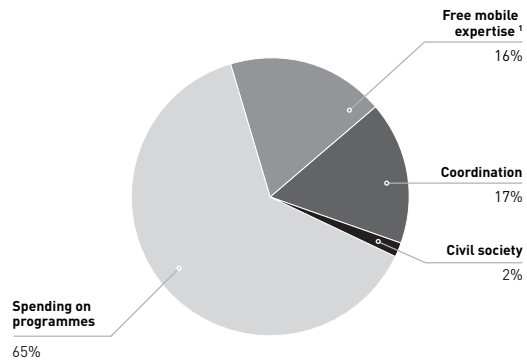
● GRAPH 4

Break-down in spending by country on programmes in 2007



● GRAPH 5

Means implemented by the Ircod in 2007



<sup>1</sup> estimated on the basis of 500 euros per day and per mission and 250 euros per day and per stay in Alsace

### 3 MOBILISING PARTNERS

Implementing projects is an immense task which calls upon rich and varied expertise in Alsace and elsewhere. But, assessments carried out on our project management support for local authorities in the South have led us to increase the involvement of experts in the South even more. Nevertheless, decentralised cooperation is based on exchange between people of the same trade, sharing their experience and, with outside input, encouraging reflection and innovation as a basis for development.

In this way, through the Ircod, Alsace has joined forces with a wide variety of actors in diversified and structure-giving partnerships. This consistent commitment by these actors can be seen in **graph 1** which shows the number of days of expertise abroad and in Alsace given by partners of the Institute. The drop in the number of hosting days is linked to the present project cycles. It is offset by the fact (not shown on the graph) that the Ircod is host to four Senegalese and Madagascan students as part of current cooperation agreements for initial training with the Engees and Alsatian universities.

**Graph 2** shows the relative share of funding by direct partners in the 2007 budget. This graph shows exceptional figures in that all project funding (AFD and EU) has been counted in one time when the projects will actually take place over a four or five accounting year period. Participation by Alsatian local authorities, notably from the Alsace Region, and from the Foreign Ministry, has nonetheless progressed this accounting period but this is not shown on this graph. The explanation for this is given on **graph 3** which shows how contractual resources have increased significantly during this period. In 2008, as these commitments have already been recorded, the graph will return to its usual form and show the basic structure of Ircod funding. However, it is the level of spending, increased by 24.5%, which is the real indicator of the Institute's activity growth. It should continue growing in 2008.

The consumption of funding by country (**graph 4**) shows that the involvement of Alsatian actors remains predominant in Cameroon (40%) and in Madagascar (31%), countries in which the Ircod has been heavily involved for a long time. But the start-up of the cooperation between Strasbourg and Jacmel in Haiti (18%) and the large commitments in Mali (7%) as part of the partnerships with the Haut-Rhin General Council and the Town of Mulhouse can be seen. This structure of partnerships and financial commitments should remain stable over the next four years. These countries also now benefit from the presence of Ircod employees.

If expenditure on programmes for the South make up 65% of funding implemented through the Ircod, **graph 5** shows that in-kind funding (the value of free expertise which is provided) represents a not insignificant part (16%) and should be factored in. The Ircod's coordination of actors for steering and managing projects also represents a large financial investment. It is a guarantee of the coherent and well-structured implementation of Alsatian cooperation projects.

# PROJECTS UNDERTAKEN IN 2007

## CHAPTER 2



Market in Sa'a (Cameroon).

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



Well digger in Soa  
PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

## 1 IRCOD PROJECTS IN CAMEROON

*The decentralisation policies implemented by the Cameroon government since 1996 are gradually gaining strength. In addition to the laws of July 2004 on the organisation of decentralisation, the National decentralisation council and the Inter-ministerial committee for local services – in charge of monitoring and assessing the implementation of decentralisation and monitoring the transfer of competencies and resources to decentralised local authorities respectively – will soon complete the regulation framework.*

*As part of this, support given to strengthening the management capacities of Cameroon local authorities remains the fundamental aim of Ircod projects in Cameroon. Several events have marked 2007:*

- *the Commune of Soa, near Yaoundé, the capital, has joined the group of authorities which benefit from the help of the Alsatian town of Ostwald and of the Institute to organise the urban planning of its territory,*
- *the presidential decree of 13 April sanctioned administrative reorganisation by creating new communes and communities of communes. Regarding Ircod projects, Limbe was thus divided into three communes (Limbe I, II and III) overseen by the Limbe Metropolitan Council. In addition, two other communes were created in the department of Mbam and Inoubou, Kiiki and Kon-Yambetta,*
- *the municipal elections in July drastically changed the political spectrum for the elected politicians in place in almost all partner communes except Yaoundé VI. At national level, more than 80% of town councils were reformed. The run-up to these elections, their intense electoral campaigns and the time required to install the new councils did however greatly hinder the progress of Ircod programmes,*
- *the application for funding made by the Ircod to the the European Union to implement a project to improve access to drinking water in the department of Mbam and Inoubou was successful. The project was implemented in the fourth quarter of the year.*

*The Institute pursued the implementation of the Urba.cam project assigned to it by Nantes Metropolitan Council. The objective of creating the Centre for manual and urban trades in the town is gradually being reached.*

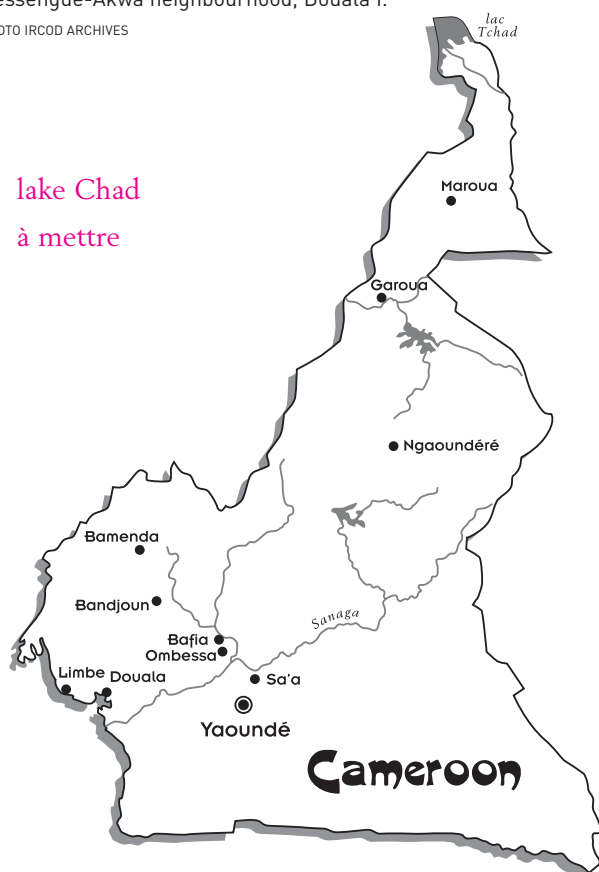
*In the field of university technological training development, relationships are being consolidated whilst awaiting possible openings within the university free zone project planned by the Government.*



Bessengué-Akwa neighbourhood, Douala I.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

lake Chad  
à mettre



**Vital statistics**

- 475 440 km<sup>2</sup>
- Paul Biya, president
- 18.5 million inhabitants
- 41.6% of population live in urban areas
- 54.6% of population under 15
- 49.8 years life expectancy at birth
- 41.8% literacy in adults
- 2 299 \$ US GNP/inhabitant
- hdi 0.532

Source: World report on human development 2007-2008, PNUD

Hdi: Human development index, calculated on the basis of three components (life expectancy, education level and GNP per inhabitant)

**PARTNERSHIPS  
WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

**In urban areas:  
projects carried out with other actors  
of development and cooperation**

With the *Douala I Borough Council*, the cooperation started in 1998 had the main aim of improving services provided by its Public Records Office. Thanks to the involvement of the commune of Lingolsheim and its Public Records Office as well as their counterparts in the Strasbourg Metropolitan Area, The borough of Douala I is a pilot in Cameroon in computerising birth, marriage and death certificates. The service works autonomously and ensures the maintenance and renewal of equipment and the purchase of supplies itself. This successful experience was the subject of a study ordered by the French Embassy in Cameroon in 2006 and used by the Cameroon Ministry for Local and Regional Administration and Decentralisation in its project to restructure and modernise the national Public Records Office. The conclusions of the final report were validated by Cameroon authorities at the end of 2007 and they are now looking for the necessary funding to implement the project on a national scale.

This partnership also aims to implement an overall urban development plan for the Bessengué-Akwa neighbourhood. This plan has been drawn up with its inhabitants through its development committee (CDBA). Social engineering developed by Doual'art (the local NGO and partner of the Ircod) and technical engineering provided by the services of the Douala Metropolitan Area (CUD)

## CHAPTER 2



Drinking water fountain, Douala I.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

enabled this development plan to be finalised and validated in 2005 by all the parties involved (CUD, Douala I, CDDBA, and the world bank). It focuses mainly on the creation of pedestrian walkways and improving the supply of drinking water. This will be funded by the World bank which has become very interested in the projects carried out in this neighbourhood. In 2007, two drinking fountains were built as part of this project and work on building pedestrian walkways was started. A new think-tank was launched with the new political executive to extend this experience to other under-privileged neighbourhoods in the town from 2008.

Support to local primary schools in Douala I has also been included in this cooperation programme. Teachers from these schools visited Alsace and successive expertise assignments were carried out in 2005 and in 2007 by the principals of the Tulipes primary school and the Vosges primary school in Lingolsheim. These led to school development projects which started in 2006 and continued in 2007 with the financial help of the Ircod. In addition, Ircod funding has also enabled the purchase of new furniture more suitable for children this year. This action will be continued in 2008 concurrently with municipal-funded projects to renovate local schools. Finally, exchanges between schools in Lingolsheim (Tulipes and Vosges primary schools) and Douala I (six nursery schools and Bali Group 2 state school) have been widened to include Bonamouang state school and have gradually been extended to more people involving teachers, children and their parents as part of development education.



Street children in Douala.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

The signing of partnership agreements between the Ircod, the *Douala IV Borough Council* and Strasbourg in April 2005, was the final stage of well thought-out and structuring decentralised cooperation in the social, health and AIDS prevention fields. The project also involves Strasbourg university hospital and the Cameroon national committee for the fight against AIDS (CNLS). The Ministry for Social Affairs (Minas) provided an agent for the borough of Douala IV responsible for coordinating the social activities bureau which was set up as part of this cooperation.

The diagnosis carried out during technical assignments by people from Strasbourg during the course of 2004 and 2005 and numerous exchanges with the Municipal Council and technical agents involved during stays in Alsace, have enabled a certain number of shortcomings to be identified in the efficiency of health and social services as they are organised currently on the territory of Douala IV (services offered on a scattered basis, lack of follow-up for users, lack of means etc.). The building of a pilot inter-sector social centre (CSI) bringing together health and social services under one roof in the neighbourhood of Mambanda is a response to the concern of the Municipal Council to serve its citizens. The inhabitants of this neighbourhood and local leaders have been associated with this idea and have actively contributed to drawing up specifications defining the assignments of the CSI. The Minas has been following this innovating experience very closely as it fits in perfectly with its orientations.



Melen neighbourhood in Yaoundé VI.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



Camp Yéyap state school in Yaoundé VI.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

The first stone of this building was laid in February 2006 during the visit of a delegation from Alsace led by the Mayor of Strasbourg . The funding for this centre is ensured by the City of Strasbourg, the Alsace Region, the French Embassy in Cameroon, the Commune of Douala IV, the Douala Metropolitan Council and the Minas. The recruiting process for the technical management of the project and for Cameroon companies was completed in 2007 by Douala IV technical services with the support of the technical services of the City of Strasbourg. The building work is due to start at the beginning of 2008.

Unicef has become associated with this project through both its delegation in the Bas-Rhin and its representation in Cameroon by offering its collaboration to the Social activities bureau in Douala IV, to the City of Strasbourg and to the Ircod to put together and cofund a project to reintegrate into society children living in the street. Unicef will participate in funding equipment at the CSI. A Unicef Cameroon leader, the director of the social activities bureau and the mayor of Douala IV came to stay in Alsace in 2006 and this led, in 2007, with the help of a technician from the City of Strasbourg, to designing a database management software for data on children living in the street. This software also enabled those involved to familiarise themselves with the procedures for taking care of children. In 2007, information meetings enabled different groups of social actors and administrations present in the commune area to get involved in the project.

The municipal library also received Ircod support and was provided with a wide selection of school books and regularly receives donations from the health services of the City of Strasbourg for its information area on AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

In March 2007, accompanied by several of their colleagues, the principals of Oberlin and Couffignal secondary schools met their counterparts at the Bonabéri comprehensive school in Douala IV. A programme of action was drawn up as a direct consequence of their exchanges. It aims to set up and equip a computer room in the Cameroon secondary school and also to provide several other support projects in particular subjects. Links are also being encouraged between the pupils of the three schools involved as part of development education.

Obstacles to progress within the *Borough Council of Yaoundé VI* were gradually removed at the beginning of 2006 following the reorganisation of the Municipal Council.

The partnership between the Borough Council of Yaoundé VI and the town of Erstein was relaunched following the election of a new Municipal Council in July 2007. The complete urban reorganisation project for the neighbourhoods of Melen 7a, Melen 7b and Nkolbikok 2 associating the inhabitants through a federation of development committees – the Facod – led to the implementation of the first structuring project which aims to improve street lighting within these three neighbourhoods, focussing particularly on unsafe areas identified by the inhabitants. In 2007, and in close collaboration with the inhabitants, the technical services continued to identify priority areas for improvement to roads and pedestrian walkways in 2008.

revoir coupes ?

## CHAPTER 2

The development education programme has been extended by increasing and widening exchanges and implementing concrete projects for Cameroon establishments (help in fitting out school libraries, purchase of hygiene and drainage equipment). It involves more and more schools in both Alsace (Romain Rolland secondary school, Anne Franck school, Pierre and Marie Curie school) and in Cameroon (Etoug Ebé science and industrial technique school, Camp Yéyap state school and the Toche bilingual school complex).

These two parts of the partnership are led by a local NGO, the Centre for Public Education and Development Projects (Cepad) and whose leadership of development projects is subsidised by the Ircod.

In 2005 and 2007, the municipal library received several donations of school books under funding from the Ircod and the Town of Erstein. For its part, the Commune of Yaoundé VI completely renovated its public reception area and successfully acquired new books from other partners.

The future of the drainage network restoration project in the Biyem Assi neighbourhood now depends on a funding plan which has yet to be drawn up. The Ircod will provide support to the Commune of Yaoundé VI as it looks for funding.

The partnership with the *Metropolitan Council of Limbe* is focussed around support given to defining and implementing a policy for developing tourism on potential sites around Limbe. The training course followed in Colmar (the partner in Alsace) by an agent of the Fako Tourism Board (FTB) in 2004, was used by local partners to develop a series of projects to structure the range of tourist activities on offer. A delegation from the Town of Colmar, including notably a representative of the Haut-Rhin Department Association for Tourism, stayed in Limbe in February 2007 and worked with the FTB to draw up a list of concrete projects to take this subject forward (signposting sites, setting up a web site, training guides, etc.).



Young boy in Limbe.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

The FTB then received technical support from a retired professional training expert when he stayed for two months in Limbe at the end of 2007 to organise work around these projects.

In 2006, the youth training and development support centre (Cajad) and the services of the town developed the part of the partnership aimed at defining and then implementing a policy of urban development in the pilot neighbourhood of New Town East, now part of the *borough of Limbe I*. Work in the field together with the inhabitants led to defining needs in urban development. Technical and financial files now have to be put together to find funding before work can be carried out. In 2007, work by the Cajad led to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood setting up an association to represent them and this association now communicates directly with the Municipality for any issues concerning urban development in their neighbourhood. The Cajad's work is funded by the Ircod.

Synergies need to be developed with the Urba.Cam project led in partnership with Nantes Metropolitan Council and started at the beginning of 2006 and for which Limbe is a pilot town. This project aims to carry out project training based on carrying out small structuring projects. In addition, the town development contract signed between the Metropolitan Council of Limbe and the Cameroon Ministry for Urban and Housing Development provides an institutional framework for promoting consultation between actors working in the municipal area.

Exchange programmes between schools in Colmar and Limbe should also be launched.



Training in Bafia hospital.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



Rural market in Sa'a

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

In 2005, the *Commune of Bafia, the county town of Mbam and Inoubou*, welcomed a delegation from the town of Thann which included the Mayor, his deputy for social affairs and the general director for communal services. This mission enabled the participants to define areas on which cooperation will focus. This cooperation work was confirmed by the signing of an agreement in January 2006 during a visit by the mayor of Bafia to Alsace.

The part of the project focussing on the improving drainage systems in the Commune of Bafia started in November 2006 with a visit led by the councillor responsible for health issues and also associated personnel from the hospitals in Thann and Cernay as well as a member for Alsace Electricians without frontiers (ESFA). A programme of actions was agreed upon including above all the renovation of the hospital electrical wiring. The hospital was provided, using the funding of the Ircod and its Alsatian partners, with a small emergency electric generator and a water pump was also repaired to ensure a minimum public service when the national water supply is cut. Studies were then carried out for the completion of this renovation work using greater financial means and associating both the Ircod and ESFA (wiring and higher-powered generator). In November 2007, a second similar mission was carried out by people from Alsace and worked with hospital leaders in Bafia on organising training on the perinatal period which may be implemented in 2008.

The part of the project devoted to promoting municipal socio-cultural and sport policies has helped to improve the town library's collection of books by donating a large number of school books. This led to a sharp increase in the number of young people from schools in the town using the library.

School exchanges as part of development education have been steadily increasing with the involvement of two schools in Thann (Scheurer Kestner secondary school and Bloesen school) and in Bafia (Technical College and five primary schools).

**In rural areas:  
in the departments of Mbam and Inoubou,  
Lékié, Méfou and Afamba**

Since 2000, the Ircod has been working with the Community of Communes of Sélestat to provide support to the *Communes of Sa'a (Lékié) and Ombessa (Mbam and Inoubou)* for an urban development project on a communal market in each of its communes. Initial financial estimates have however shown that it was better to carry out the work in stages to attract the optimum additional outside funding. Based on a restructuring study carried out by the Cameroon NGO ERA, applications for funding from Cameroon's Social fund for development have been made to the French Embassy. The application submitted by Sa'a in 2007 attracted the fund's attention and may lead to the funding of a part of the work in 2008. Contacts have also been maintained with the Feicom, bank of the communes. For Ombessa, it has been agreed with the new Municipal Council to revise the project's initial ambitions by studying ways to nonetheless maintain the hygiene and public health improvement objectives which the implementation of this new market will ensure.

## CHAPTER 2



Municipal centre in Sa'a.

PHOTO P. LUTZ / IRCOD ARCHIVES

The relaunch of exchanges between schools as part of development education has worked well in Ombessa where three establishments (Essendé nursery and primary schools and Boyalong two primary school) have regular contact with their counterparts in Selestat (Froebel nursery school, Central Primary School). In Sa'a, this activity has mobilised the state school which developed links with Jean Monnet school in Selestat in 2007.

In November 2006, with the financial support of the Ircod, the Commune of Sa'a undertook renovation work on the municipal centre and continued to do so in 2007. This is an important tool which, with the help of professionals from Selestat, will serve as a basis to develop an attractive socio-cultural policy to develop several activities (Library, cyber centre, municipal hall etc.).

The Ircod replied favourably to the request from the *Commune of Soa (Méfou and Afamba)*, just next to Yaoundé, by involving the Town of Ostwald in building up cooperation between the two local authorities. A delegation led by the Mayor of Ostwald met with the Municipal Council in Soa in February 2007. They set down the content of their partnership which focuses on urban planning and building links between civil societies of both communes around the subjects of water and the environment. The director of the research consultancy Topos, in Obernai, gave its support in the form of expertise in the area of planning. In January 2007, the diagnosis of the situation drawn up during their visit to Soa, led to proposals for projects and they also offered to accompany the local actors in their work to implement these projects in the coming years.

Since 2003, seven out of the eight communes of Mbam and Inoubou, the *Commune of Bafia and the rural Communes of Bafia, Ombessa, Ndikiminéki, Bokito, Nitoukou and Deuk* came together to form an association of communes of Mbam and Inoubou (Ascomi). This association is the start of a future intercommunal organisation which will ensure real project ownership for the management of water on its territory. The Ircod has undertaken to help these local authorities by involving Alsatian groups under the technical responsibility of the ERA Cameroon, students from the Engees, members of the ISF and, in 2005, students from the École nationale supérieure polytechnique in Yaoundé (ENSP) carried out a study on the current technical and social status of all existing water supplies in the department. This study was used as a basis for work to prepare a seminar in Bafia on water governance in the Mbam and Inoubou department.

Studies carried out with all actors involved in water management in this department and with Cameroon State services to define a cooperation programme in this field were used as basis when the Ircod and the ERA Cameroon, partner of the project, made the application for funding as part of the second call for proposals by the ACP-EU water facility programme issued by the European Commission. This Commission granted the funding which was supplemented by the French Development Agency, the Rhin-Meuse water board, the Bas-Rhin water board (SDEA), the Alsace Region, the commune concerned in Cameroon and the Ircod. The recruitment of a project leader based in Bafia in October 2007 enabled the project to get underway.

### **INTER-UNIVERSITY COOPERATION**

Since 1993, the Ircod and Alsatian technical Colleges have participated in the development of technical colleges in Cameroon and particular attention has been paid to the technical college in Douala. In-depth collaborative work was carried out on this establishment which also benefited from funding from the World Bank. Technical colleges in Alsace decided to include the two other Technical Colleges of Bandjoun and Ngaoundéré in their project and thereby help them to match the equipment and organisation offered by Douala building on previous experience. During the course of 2005 and 2006, both technical colleges received donations of equipment for the biological engineering departments (Ngaoundéré) and the civil engineering department (Bandjoun) under funding from French bilateral cooperation and the State of Cameroon. To accompany this project, the colleges involved in Alsace worked hard to collect and send pedagogical equipment to Cameroon for the civil engineering department of the Technical College in Bandjoun adding to other local donations. Successive missions in 2004 and 2006 by a teacher from the civil engineering at the Robert Schumann Technical College in Illkirch helped to set up this equipment and give structure to the department. The first year of students in this new course which is unique in Central Africa at this level of university study will arrive at the Technical College in January 2008.

The ambition of the government to create a University free zone opens up new perspectives which will call again upon the help of Technical Colleges in Alsace but undoubtedly also upon the help of further education establishments in Alsace such as the INSA in Strasbourg or the National School for Water and Environment Engineering in Strasbourg (Engees).

Missions to Cameroon in 2006 and 2007 by the director of the Technical College in Haguenau and by a representative of the Engees enabled them to define the fundamental concepts of such a project and to suggest ways in which to collaborate with



Douala technical college.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

partners in Alsace.

### **OTHER ACTION**

Cooperation work with *Douala General Hospital* did not develop during the year. The project could be relaunched via other commitments from Strasbourg in the town of Douala but the General Hospital must first clearly express what it expects from cooperation with Alsace.

*Inter-company cooperation* led by the Ircod in Cameroon is being given to the Société industrielle de transformation du coton (Sitraco, cotton transformation company) which aims to set up a production site for cotton-based products (compresses etc.). In 2006, the Ircod granted them a loan to accompany European funds to co-fund a technical and economic feasibility study. This, along with support and advice provided by the Alsatian partner Hartmann, enabled the promoter to create a pool of Cameroon shareholders in 2007 and to mobilise foreign funding bodies around this initiative.

The joinery workshop is now functional and is gradually increasing its production output. The support and advice provided by the company Boeckel from Mittelbergheim continues remotely.



Metzinger valley in Mahajanga.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

## 2 THE ACTION OF THE IRCOD IN MADAGASCAR

*In 2007 several significant events took place in Madagascar including the revision of the Madagascan constitution by referendum on 4 April 2007. This marked the end of the provinces, the setting up of the Regions and the increase in importance of the role of the Fokontany (neighbourhoods).*

*In September, nearly 7.5 million electors went to the polls for a single-round general election on a majority basis.*

*The party in power Tiako i Madagasikara (TIM) had an overwhelming victory in the five biggest cities in the country. Finally town council elections took place on 12 December 2007.*

*The Ircod Office located in the commune of Mahajanga in the old province of Mahajanga now known as the Regions of Boeny and Betsiboka, continued its programme in 2007 giving multi-sector support mainly to the urban communes of Mahajanga and Maevatanana, and to a lesser extent to the rural commune of Ambato-Ambarimay.*

*In Mahajanga, the first half of 2007 was marked by strong political and administrative instability. The council was dissolved following the departure of seven department directors and so a new organisation was set up under the leadership of an operations director and a financial director. The latter position however remained empty for the whole of 2007. This context made all political validation and any work requiring strong commitment from the municipality extremely difficult.*

*However, political and administrative stability can be expected following the nomination of new leaders in Fokontany in June and the election, in December, of Doctor Jean Nirina Rakotoarimanana, in charge of the Municipal Hygiene Office, as mayor.*



View of Maevatanana.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

*In **Ambato-Ambarimay**, a teacher was elected as new mayor and in **Maevatanana**, the mayor was re-elected.*

*Projects being conducted received technical and financial support from several Alsatian local authorities (Department of Bas-Rhin, the Towns of Mulhouse, Hochfelden, Saint-Louis and Haguenau and the Community of Communes of Plaine de la Sauer and Seltzbach) and financial support from the Alsace Region and the State as part of the call for proposal 2007-2009.*

*2007 was marked by a variety of expert assignments by the Town of Mulhouse, the École polytechnique fédérale in Lausanne (EPFL) and by the town of Hochfelden for the market project, by Strasbourg, Colmar and Haguenau University Hospitals, and finally by the Bas-Rhin Department Library and a printer in Strasbourg to produce a French-Madagascan pictorial dictionary in November 2007.*

*In addition, the deputy mayor of Mulhouse and the vice-president of the Ircod went to Mahajanga.*

*At the same time, study missions in Alsace were organised for the director of the Municipal Hygiene Office of Mahajanga and for a Madagascan emergency doctor.*



**Vital statistics**

- 587 040 km<sup>2</sup>
- Marc Ravalomanana, president
- 20 million inhabitants
- 26.8% of population live in urban areas
- 43.8% of population under 15
- 58.4 years life expectancy at birth
- 70.7% literacy in adults
- 923 \$ US GNP/inhabitant
- dhi 0.533

Source: World report on human development 2007-2008, PNUD

Hdi : Human development index, calculated on the basis of three components (life expectancy, education level and GNP per inhabitant)

## CHAPTER 2



Mahajanga market.

PHOTOS IRCOD ARCHIVES

## **PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

### **With the Metropolitan council of Mahajanga**

The Ircod's support to this commune is multi-sector and concerns urban planning, taxation, markets, education and the fields of social culture and hygiene.

Started in 2007, the mission to improve social project management and institutional organisation for the *project to restore the main markets in Mahajanga* has been extended until the 31 August 2008. The Ircod is associated with the Town of Mulhouse in this project, funded by the French Development Agency (AFD), and reports to the delegate owner, the Agetipa, the agency responsible for carry out public interest projects.

At the end of this three-year project in December 2007, the local merchants were installed in two of the three markets (Mahabibo and Tsaramandroso) after being moved to a temporary market during building work.



The market service renamed Market Department, was given its own budget and has been working autonomously since 1 January 2007. The commune fixed stall rental and entrance fees for the new markets. In addition, four market associations were founded and are managed autonomously.

Various expert missions have been carried out by:

- the expert from the École polytechnique fédérale in Lausanne (EPFL) on market pricing and management,
- Hochfelden fire brigade to set up an emergency fire and safety prevention plan for the new markets,
- the finance director from the Town of Mulhouse to assist in preparing an autonomous budget,
- the health inspector and the market management director of the Town of Mulhouse,
- the deputy mayor of the Town of Mulhouse responsible for commerce, trades and international affairs.

The director of the Municipal Office for Hygiene (BMH) carried out a study mission with the Municipal Service for Health and Hygiene (SMHS) of the Town of Mulhouse. His report enabled him to clarify his role with the markets and work on the organisation and operation of his department with the other services in the commune. He was also able to complete his knowledge on food hygiene within the particular context of markets. With support from the UDAC (a local association), the director of the BMH gave an initial round of training courses on food hygiene to the members of the three traders' associations at the main markets.



Fire and rescue service

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

The Ircod continues to give *support to the finances* of the commune, focussed on reorganising and equipping the department of economic and financial affairs and training personnel. This support aims at increasing municipal income by improving local tax and licence fee collection. Training in accounting and computing for personnel has also been given as part of this market renovation project.

In the field of *urban planning*, the Bas-Rhin General Council and the Ircod encouraged the development of local and regional urban and country planning policies by restructuring services and helping the commune to secure and replan the Metzinger Valley, the main floodable and inhabited area of the Town of Mahajanga.

The Ircod also strives to strengthen or encourage the creation of neighbourhood associations as part of the *socio-cultural support* it provides. As there is no director for cultural, sport, leisure and youth affairs, only a study of the current state of infra-structures and their management was carried out. Proposals were drawn up for the types of partnerships which could be developed with associations in the Fokontany neighbourhood.

The town of Hochfelden, its fire station and its fire brigade association's work has contributed to restructuring the *municipal fire and rescue service (SIS) in Mahajanga* and to improving all services to its inhabitants. The Deux-Sèvres department fire and rescue service (SDIS) has been working on fire safety.



Metzinger valley in Mahajanga.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

Apart from work on the markets, 2007 was a year of observation and training. An audit of the fire station and a study on the current situation led to the drawing up of proposals for actions in 2008. A study of the transport services available to move accident victims to hospital in Mahajanga proved how essential the work of the SIS is in this field and how important it is that the service be free of charge.

Finally, the joint work of the Deux-Sèvres SDIS and the Ircod will be replaced in 2008 by two distinct partnerships with the Madagascan commune as presented by the delegation from the Deux-Sèvres during its mission in October 2007.

Following a mission in July 2003 to Madagascar, the Bas-Rhin General Council set new objectives for decentralised cooperation on the subject of education. The overall aim of this programme is *to facilitate access to good-quality basic education for the population of Mahajanga* as part of the objectives of the education plan for all. This national programme sets down objectives to be reached in this field by 2015. These objectives include renovating State primary schools (EPP) in Mahajanga and coordinating all partners in this field in the commune (Education platform). In 2007, two EPPs in Mahajanga were renovated, Mahabibo and Fiofio, and were chosen as a priority because of the urgency of the work to be carried out.



School in Maevatanana.

PHOTOS IRCOD ARCHIVES

### With the Urban Commune of Maevatanana

Maevatanana, a town of some 24 000 inhabitants and located on the main road from Mahajanga to Tananarive in a region with great economic potential, has to cope with high demographic growth in a region lacking in infrastructure, equipment and service. In this difficult context, the Ircod, in partnership with the Bas-Rhin General Council and the Community of Communes of Plaine de la Sauer and Seltzbach, has undertaken with the Commune of Maevatanana *to improve its abilities to manage projects* in urban planning and local development. The cooperation focuses on giving support to developing local taxation, drawing up approaches and tools for urban planning and programming and constructing public buildings in different parts of the town.

In 2007, support was given to reorganise services, define the job description of the General Secretary, archive data and computerise the financial data of the commune, and support continued as before to financial departments by assigning regular missions to the financial director of the Commune of Mahajanga.

Following the installation of *drainage infrastructures* in 2006 (water kiosks and wells), 2007 was spent learning how to manage this equipment correctly.

A Madagascan engineering student at the Engées carried out a two-month placement (June and July) at the regional head office for rural development in Maevatanana I: current status and recommendations for better management and preservation.

Finally, this year provided the opportunity to create exchanges between the Towns of Maevatanana and the Town of Mahajanga on its market project.

The *programme of support for education*, funded since 2004 by the Bas-Rhin Department, enabled projects to begin on schools in two neighbourhoods in the commune, Ambalarano and Morarano, with the construction and equipping of two classes in each school. Locally, this project associates the commune, parents' associations and the education department. In this way, it brings together not only building and equipment aspects of the project but also issues concerning their management and operation i.e. teacher training, teaching tools, follow-up of subsidized teaching positions, monitoring of contributions from parents to pay teachers.



Public library programme.

PHOTOS IRCOD ARCHIVES

### In the regions of Boeny and Betsiboka

The action to *promote public library system* among young people in Mahajanga, Maevatanana and Ambato-Ambarimay, initiated with the technical support of the Bas-Rhin General Council Lending Library (BDBR) in 2000, intends to render existing municipal libraries more attractive by providing donations of books and organising special events for young people and also by developing the impact of these libraries by working through networks especially for training librarians (improving their French and training in facilitation techniques).

In addition, since 2006, part of the project has been giving support to local printers with a view to stimulating interest for *locally printed media*.

In 2007, the most striking project was the preparation and printing of a Franco-Madagascan pictorial dictionary (Noro and Jao pictorial dictionary) in cooperation with a Madagascan publishing house (Tsipika) and a French one (Callicéphale). This work was accomplished with the involvement of two librarians from the BDBR and French and Madagascan publishers. We would also like to thank the volunteer of the Cefode based at the Ircod offices in Mahajanga who coordinated and monitored all stages of the work. This book was officially published in France in November and will be available in Madagascar at the beginning of 2008.

Support was also given to the creation of a bilingual Madagascan story book called *Lova*.

French-Madagascan pictorial dictionary, printed by Tsipika and Callicéphales éditions..

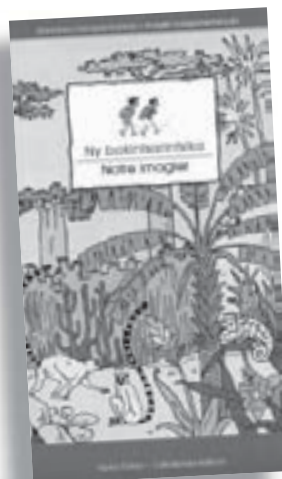


### Development of cooperation with the Public Office for Intercommunal Cooperation (OPCI) in Ambato-Boeny

The Ircod provides support to the Commune of Ambato-Ambarimay (OPCI d'Ambato Boeny) through a public reading project funded by the Bas-Rhin General Council.

In 2007, a number of projects covering the next few years were discussed for this commune. In addition, certain local authorities in Alsace have expressed interest in taking part in targeted decentralised cooperation projects.

So it was deemed necessary to carry out a status study on the needs of the commune of Ambato-Ambarimay and of the OPCI of Ambato Boeny, and to study in more depth projects which could receive support through this cooperation. A consultation was launched in December to find a Madagascan consultancy with a view to starting a diagnostic study at the beginning of 2008.



## CHAPTER 2



Water kiosk in Maevatanana.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

### Support for further education and decentralised water management

The Engees, the Ircod, the CNEAGR and the Ministry of Agriculture in Antananarivo have agreed on a partnership to encourage the yearly training of Madagascan students in rural engineering and who, once they have qualified, will be appointed to decentralised positions in local Madagascan authorities.

In September 2006, a Madagascan student received a grant to continue his training at the Engees. In June and July 2007, he carried out a placement in Maevatanana studying water resources jointly organised by the CNEAGR and the Ircod. Two further grants have been awarded for 2007-2008.

### Creation of a support centre for communes

As part of its policy to provide support for decentralisation, the Ministry for Decentralisation and Local and Regional Planning (MPRDAT) in Madagascar is involved in setting up support centres for communes (CACs) which aim to provide means to help communes in their responsibilities (support for project management and local taxation etc).

The Bas-Rhin General Council has undertaken with the Ircod to help set up a CAC within one of its partner communes subject to the results of a feasibility study. An agreement was signed with the cooperation and cultural action department at the French Embassy (SCAC) in 2007 for the creation of a CAC in 2008 depending on the results of the feasibility study launched at the end of 2007.



Casualty department at the University Hospital in Mahajanga.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

### INTER-HOSPITAL COOPERATION

Started in 1995, *cooperation with the University Hospital Centre in Mahajanga (CHUM)* has mobilised practitioners from the University Hospitals of Strasbourg, Colmar and Haguenau and various other financial partners. It mainly aims to improve the *organisation of the casualty and intensive care department (SUSI) and of the medical analysis laboratory of the university hospital in Androva*. In 2007, following the departure of French cooperation, the Ircod led a group with the CHUM to rethink its position and have a more overall approach for its support coordinated with other programmes in the health sector. 2007 saw the continuation of the training part of the partnership with a special support mission to the SUSI. An A&E doctor from Alsace helped to rethink the current organisation of the department. Two doctors in biology gave support to the laboratory. A two-month study mission was organised in Alsace for a doctor from the SUSI at the SAMU and casualty department of the Civil hospital in Strasbourg.

Concerning support given to building work and equipment, one of the big events of the year was the donation of an ultrasound scanner to the SUSI (co-funded by the Lion's Club, the Rotary Club, the CHUM and the Ircod as part of a revolving credit) and a flame photometer to the laboratory thanks to funding from the City of Basle.



View of Yanfolila.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



### 3 ACTION OF THE IRCOD IN MALI

*Cooperation with Mali was increased following the commitment given by the Haut-Rhin General Council and the Haut-Rhin French farmers and international development association (AFDI) to provide support to the Yanfolila Circle Council which plans to encourage rural development in its region.*

*Commitments given by Electricians without frontiers, the Town of Mulhouse and the AFDI in Alsace also strengthened the partnership with rural Commune of Fakala in the Mopti region.*

*The increase in Ircod activity in Mali requires that we improve monitoring in the field in 2008 when it is planned to recruit a second volunteer.*

#### Vital statistics

- 1 240 000 km<sup>2</sup>
- Amadou Toumani Touré, president
- 12.3 million inhabitants
- 30.5% of population live in urban areas
- 47.7% of population under 15
- 53.1 years life expectancy at birth
- 24% literacy in adults
- 1 033 \$ US GNP/inhabitant
- hdi 0.380

Source: World report on human development 2007-2008, PNUD

Hdi : Human development index, calculated on the basis of three components (life expectancy, education level and GNP per inhabitant)

## CHAPTER 2



Drinking water conveyance in Fakala.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



Well in Fakala.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

### **WITH THE COMMUNE OF FAKALA**

2007 was marked by the visit of a joint mission of partners from Alsace to the Commune of Fakala, led by the mayor of Mulhouse. This visit confirmed the undertakings of the partners in Alsace to support local authorities and the population of Fakala.

In the field of urban development, 2007 was marked by the integration of the Commune of Fakala into a ***drinking water supply and drainage programme*** in 18 communes in the Mopti region, implemented by the French development agency. This decision was taken as part of the AFD's policy to explore new ways in which to provide support taking advantage of decentralised cooperation partnership.

The Town of Mulhouse and the Ircod are committed with the AFD to providing projects complementary to that of ensuring access to drinking water by leading drainage installation projects (domestic waste water and rain water management).

Concerning drainage, a project for the management of solid waste has been defined and the Town Hall in Sofara has been equipped with horse-driven carts to collect domestic waste. This initial action has given the opportunity to organise the drainage system by neighbourhood and will serve as a framework for future work.

***Support provided to protect river banks*** in the town in 2006 has led to emergency work being carried out this year. The houses most under threat have been protected. This action has enabled the Mali public authorities to be alerted about the problem of erosion faced by the town of Sofara and has led to Mali State intervention through the Niger basin authority (ABFN). In 2008 the ABFN will implement an overall management project for the river banks in the town funded by the World Bank.

In the rural sector, commitments given by Alsatian AFDIs with the Town of Mulhouse enabled support to be provided to the creation of a Fakala Sényirawaton rice growers' cooperative which brings together producers from seven villages who work in the rice paddies of Sofara. This action provided support which will ***increase the rice growers' production capacities*** in 2008 and thus increase yield. With the redevelopment of the rice paddies in Sofara providing total water management (operational in 2009), the support given to rice growers really starts to have meaning. As soon as total control is gained of rice retailing the rice growers will be able to take maximum advantage of this rice paddy redevelopment.



View of Yanfolila.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

**WITH THE CIRCLE OF YANFOLILA**

The Haut-Rhin Department and the Haut-Rhin AFDI have pursued their commitments with the Yanfolila Circle Council and the support they provide to farming organisations in the region through the local rural consultative committee.

Missions by the AFDI 68 have enabled continued ***support to be given to promoting mango production and sale*** as well as setting up savings and loan cooperatives for local producers.

Commitments given by the Haut-Rhin General Council ***providing institutional support*** has focused on:

- support for defining a policy for redeveloping waterways with special emphasis on initial studies for the construction of a dam,
- support for schools and improving teaching conditions,
- improving project management by the Circle Council and especially temporarily covering the cost of a development agent.



Farming cooperative in Yanfolila.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



Converting production.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



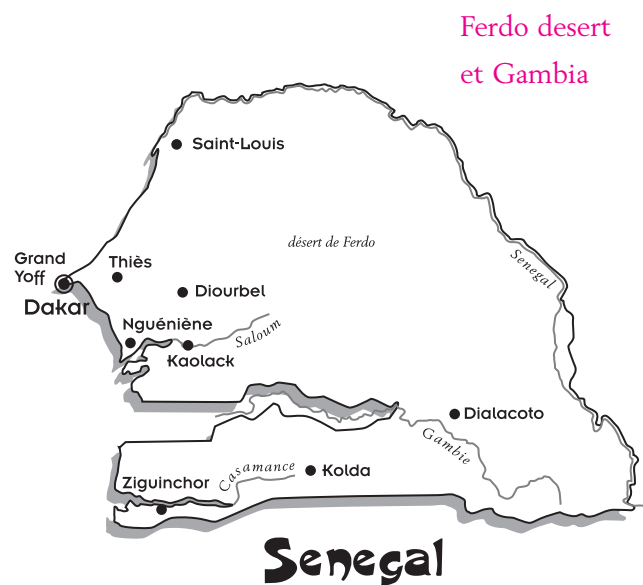
Rural community of Nguéniène.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

#### 4 ACTION OF THE IRCOD IN SENEGAL

*The many difficulties encountered by the Institute in its partnerships with Senegal have led the Ircod to take a step back and think about its commitment and that of its partners both in Alsace and in Senegal. It is necessary to redefine objectives and strategies in this country.*

*Given the unsure political and institutional scene in 2007, the Ircod completed the first phase of a status report on partners in Alsace and launched the second phase with partners in Senegal. In 2007 an initial operational agreement was signed between the Commune of Bennwihr and the rural Community of Nguéniène.*



#### Vital statistics

- 196 722 km<sup>2</sup>
- Abdoulaye Wade, president
- 12.8 million inhabitants
- 41.6% of population live in urban areas
- 42.2% of population under 15
- 62.3 years life expectancy at birth
- 39.3% literacy in adults
- 1 792 \$ US GNP/inhabitant
- hdi 0,499

Source: World report on human development 2007-2008, PNUD

Hdi : Human development index, calculated on the basis of three components (life expectancy, education level and GNP per inhabitant)



Exchange with the Blaise Senghor cultural centre in Dakar.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



Regional centre for professional training in Ziguinchor.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

## **REPORT ON ACTIONS**

The first part of the report focuses on Alsace, collecting the opinions of the different local structures involved in programmes in Senegal.

To summarise, the partners in Alsace point out the relevance of the actions implemented, especially in the field of economic integration and professional training, and also the enthusiasm of the beneficiaries of the action.

However, the lack of support from institutions and politicians for the actions undertaken by local and regional authorities in Senegal casts doubt over the sustainability of the actions which have been started.

The unstable national and local political climate and the sluggishness of the decentralisation and support process to local and regional authorities explains in part the problems encountered in gradually bringing institutions to support the actions undertaken.

The second part of the report on partnerships with Senegal was conducted by the Ircod through a mission sent to Senegal. It aims to meet with institutional and operational partners in Senegal and to collect their impressions and points of view on the lack of continuity and stability of the actions undertaken.

The objective is to encourage all actors, both in Alsace and in Senegal, to take position on the next steps which should be undertaken to pursue the programmes, their content and their implementation strategies.

## **WITH THE REGION OF ZIGUINCHOR**

The partnership started with the Alsace Region in 1998 to give multi-sector support to the Ziguinchor Region, slowed down operationally in 2007 due in great part to the assassination of the President of the Regional Council and the institutional and political disorder caused by this event.

The *programme of support to professional training in the wood industry* made no significant progress. The loan taken out with the Crédit Mutuel bank in Senegal to support the purchase of equipment for the independent joiners involved in the action has not yet been used.

The *programme of grants awarded* to students from Casamance for short technical and professional training and funded by the Alsace Region came to an end in 2007. The two students awarded grants finished their training in two years. One of them is now following further training in France and the other is working in the hotel industry in Senegal.

A *medical expert mission by Mulhouse Hospital to Ziguinchor* had provided clear identification of the actions to be implemented as part of the partnership with the Ziguinchor regional hospital. Focused on the mother-child and emergency services, the actions have not been implemented. Changes in the management of Ziguinchor hospital constituted the main obstacle to implementing the programme.

## CHAPTER 2



Irrigation in Dialacoto.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

**WITH THE REGION AND THE TOWN OF KOLDA**

The partnership with the Region and the Town of Kolda is mainly centred on *giving support to the Computer Initiation Centre (C2I)*. However, the lack of any political commitment to fund the operation of this centre has stopped any actions being pursued.



Computer initiation centre in Kolda.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



Youth centre in Nguéniène.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

**WITH THE RURAL COMMUNITY OF DIALACOTO**

Backed by the Commune of Breitenbach, the partnership with the Rural community of Dialacoto mainly focuses on improving the Rural Council of Dialacoto's capabilities to manage projects by promoting local economic development.

Support continued in 2007 for the *implementation of a pilot project for market gardeners* and the monitoring of producers by the Family and Rural Office (MFR). Loans made available to the project and managed by the MFR are now finished so the partnership has gone into a period of assessment.

**WITH THE RURAL COMMUNITY OF NGUÉNIÈNE**

In 2007 the partnership between the commune of Bennis, the rural community of Nguéniène and the Ircod was made official by the signing of an operational agreement.

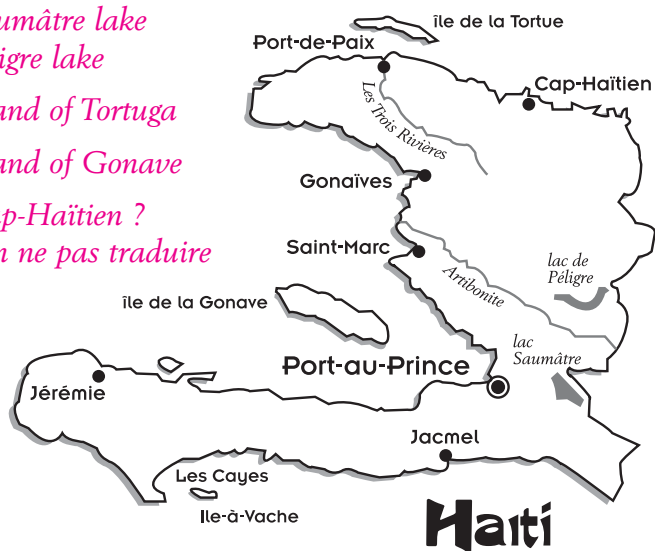
In 2008, a research consultancy together with local actors in Senegal identified an initial project to consolidate the partnership and make it more visible. Following on from actions undertaken by the rural council of Nguéniène – which has invested in the renovation of part of the youth centre to install an computer access centre – the second part of the centre will now be renovated and used as a community library.

In 2008 the Ircod will focus on strengthening institutional and operational links between the two local authorities through the implementation of this first concrete action.



Jacmel market.  
PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

- Saumâtre lake
- Peligre lake
- Island of Tortuga
- Island of Gonave
- Cap-Haïtien ?
- non ne pas traduire



**Vital statistics**

- 27 750 km<sup>2</sup>
- René Garcia Préval, president
- 8.9 million inhabitants
- 38.8% of population live in urban areas
- 38% of population under 15
- 59.5 years life expectancy at birth
- Literacy rate in adults unavailable (52% en 2006)
- 1 663 \$ US GNP/inhabitant
- hdi 0.529

Source: World report on human development 2007-2008, PNUD

Hdi : Human development index, calculated on the basis of three components (life expectancy, education level and GNP per inhabitant)

**5 ACTION OF THE IRCOD IN HAITI**

2007 will have mainly been marked by a project to empower Jacmel Town Hall to provide services to the population. This project embarked on a phase of integration and institutionalisation of the actions led, until now, by a variety of different local actors.

The municipal coalition in Jacmel – municipal council composed of the mayor and two deputies – was elected in December 2006 and took up its functions officially on 13 February 2007 thus strengthening the institutional base of the project.

The specific partnerships maintained by the Ircod with local development actors in Jacmel and in Port-au-Prince up until now, have however not been abandoned. 2007 will have provided the opportunity to review a certain number of them and start a repositioning process.



Preparing the project.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



Official launching of the project by the mayor of Jacmel.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

## WITH THE COMMUNE OF JACMEL

### **Project of empowering Jacmel Town Hall**

The Ircod, the City and the Metropolitan Council of Strasbourg have had a continued cooperation for a number of years with the Commune of Jacmel and for which a framework agreement has now been signed.

The French Development Agency (AFD) requested that a programme be defined and implemented by the City and Metropolitan Council of Strasbourg and the Ircod which aims to empower Jacmel Town Hall. Several missions to determine the basis of this project were carried out. The one performed in March 2007 focused on institutional, taxation and budgetary aspects.

2007 was marked by the official launch of this project funded by the AFD and included among others the appointment of an Ircod project leader. A delegation from Jacmel came to Strasbourg in June 2007 to work on and finalise the action plan for the programme.

The official presentation and launch seminar for the project to empower Jacmel Town Hall took place on 21 July 2007 in Jacmel under the presidency of the Interior Minister and the local and regional authorities of the Republic of Haiti and in the presence of an official delegation from the City and Metropolitan Council of Strasbourg and the Ircod.

This seminar also provided the opportunity to sign a cooperation agreement which clearly defines the five main objectives of the programme:

- **Town cleaning:** set up waste collection, transport and solid waste treatment services and provide the town with diagnosis, reflection and programming support to implement policies for waste water and public lavatory management.
- **Markets:** give support to the town in preparing and working on the construction of a new market, renovating the current ironwork market and improving the management of these infrastructures.



Waste in Jacmel.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



Roads in Jacmel.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

- **Local taxation:** reinforcing local taxation to increase the resources of the Commune of Jacmel, its operational capabilities and action to sustain priority policies implemented as part of the programme.
- **General administration:** improve the operation of the town hall by reorganising it, providing it with basic equipment, implementing financial and accounting management tools and ordering procedures, fitting out its offices, recruiting managerial employees and managing and training its town employees.
- **Local governance:** try, on a local level in keeping with legislative change, to implement and operate consultation and decision frameworks between the different communal and national institutions and local actors.

The “town cleaning” and “markets” part of the project was started very quickly by organising a joint mission between the ecological advisor, the head of the urban planning department from the City of Strasbourg and a consultant from the École polytechnique fédérale in Lausanne who is a specialist on the issues faced by markets in less advanced countries.

This mission enabled firstly, to initiate a feasibility study on the building of a market in Jacmel and, secondly, to define the operational orientations for the collection of household waste and their treatment.

2008 will be spent implementing all the objectives mentioned above.

A framework committee will meet mid 2008 to carry out an assessment on the first year of the project.

### Support to local initiatives in Jacmel

As part of decentralised cooperation, several projects have been initiated over the last few years with **local actors in Jacmel to empower them in project management**. These projects were pursued in 2007:

- the partnership with the Bloc Raquette Development Union (UBRD), an association which works on the development of a neighbourhood in Jacmel, has borne fruit with the opening of the street “rue febrile”. This street has been redesigned, concreted and equipped with a drainage system funded by the Ircod,
- which works on the development of a neighbourhood in Jacmel, has borne fruit with the opening of the street “rue febrile”. This street has been redesigned, concreted and equipped with a drainage system funded by the Ircod,
- the relationship between the Ircod and the Preschool Centre Management Department in Jacmel (SGCPJ) – 52 child care centres in Jacmel – led to the creation of child care centre in the Bloc Raquette area in 2006. The SGCPJ made an application for support to renovate a second child care centre. This organisation gave guarantees as to the mid and long-term operational capabilities of these centres. The SGCPJ drew up a development plan for the coming years which was deemed coherent. A budget was set aside at the end of 2007 for work to begin,



Jacmel Bay.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

- the partners in Alsace have been involved for several years in implementing a *drinking water conveyance project (spring water collection) in the Marbial valley in Jacmel* in partnership with the NGO Coordination of Organisations in the South East (CROSE). CROSE presented, as planned, a technical file and a project application file for funding at the beginning of 2007. The search for funding is currently underway,
- support to the *École professionnelle in Jacmel (EPJ)*, the only State technical training centre in the South East, is continuing. In 2007, the Emile Mathis secondary school in Schiltigheim offer to donate a workshop-truck to the EPJ in addition to the tool funding provided by the Ircod. The Ircod would however prefer that these tools be more than just a donation. Therefore, with the help of the Ircod, the EPJ is working to build a learning project which will optimise the general use of this equipment.

### **SUPPORT TO THE ENT DEPARTMENT OF THE HAITIAN STATE UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL**

Cooperation with hospitals led by the Ircod in partnership with the association Ayti ENT Links (LOA) to implement and give structure to the ENT department at the State university hospital in Haiti (HUEH) slowed down somewhat in 2007. A meeting held in June 2007 between the Ircod and the LOA enabled those present to analyse the current situation of this cooperation project and helped to reposition future action, especially concerning the construction of a digital campus.

As part of this, an ENT doctor from the HUEH came to France to carry out a study mission in October 2007. He took part in the International ENT congress in Paris and continued his stay in Alsace meeting partners to exchange firstly on the implementation of a digital campus and secondly, on the future of the partnership between the LOA and the HUEH.



Dairy cooperative in Paraná.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



Tourist hiking circuits in Nova Friburgo.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

## 6 ACTION OF THE IRCOD IN BRAZIL

*In Brazil, the action of the Ircod focuses on giving structural support to milk cooperatives in the South West of the State of Paraná and on providing assistance to initiatives for promoting rural tourism in the State of Rio de Janeiro.*

*This cooperation was implemented more than ten years ago and is now being consolidated through a wide variety of partners and projects.*

*2007 was marked by the strengthening of partnerships to consolidate acquired experience and sustain it within the local economic and institutional fabric.*

### Vital statistics

- 8.5 million km<sup>2</sup>
- Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, president
- 191.9 million inhabitants
- 84.2% of population live in urban areas
- 27.8% of population under 15
- 71.7 years life expectancy at birth
- 88.6% literacy in adults
- 8 402 \$ US GNP/inhabitant
- hdi 0.800

Source: World report on human development 2007-2008, PNUD

Hdi: Human development index, calculated on the basis of three components (life expectancy, education level and GNP per inhabitant)





Tourist hiking circuit in Nova Friburgo.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

### **SUPPORT TO RURAL TOURISM IN THE NOVA FRIBURGO REGION, STATE OF RIO DE JANEIRO**

In 1993 relations were initiated between the Ircod, Alsatian partners in the tourism sector and actors in Brazil wishing to promote rural tourism in the Nova Friburgo region and these contributed to boosting local projects which now involve more and more new actors.

Projects to consolidate the local economy include setting up tourist hiking circuits, improving infrastructures and widening the range of activities on offer to tourists.

2007 was marked by exchanges which included a two-month mission by the Club Vosgien to support the Brazilian club ANDA installing signposting on hiking circuits, a visit by an important Brazilian delegation (10 representatives from communes and from the tourism sector of the State of Rio) to the Haut-Rhin Tourism Development Association (ADT 68) during the international tourism and travel fair in Colmar in November 2007 and a mission carried out by the Ballons des Vosges nature reserve to define new cooperation targets.

The increasing number of partnerships and actors in rural tourism in the State of Rio has led the Ircod and its partners to redefine the objectives of this cooperation by repositioning the partnership on the local authorities in Brazil which show the most interest for our approach. In order to do this, it was decided to organise a seminar bringing together potential actors.



Inauguration of a tourist hiking circuit.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

In November 2007, an Ircod administrator travelled to Brazil to prepare this seminar and take part in meetings about decentralised and Franco-Brazilian federative cooperation which took place in Belo Horizonte. Meetings with actors in rural tourism and from the communes of this part of the State of Rio enabled this operation to progress and be formalised. The SEBRAE/RJ, support body to small and medium-sized companies in the State of Rio, undertook to mobilise the communes and actors involved and organise a seminar there in 2008. This meeting should lead later to the preparation of a joint programme of cooperation for the coming years and the signature of an agreement which will be the framework for operational agreements by project.



Meeting of dairy cooperative farmers.

PHOTOS IRCOD ARCHIVES



**PROFESSIONALISATION  
OF FAMILY-OWNED DAIRY HERD FARMS  
IN SOUTH-WEST PARANÁ**

From 1994 to 2006, the formation for the fulfilment and renewal of the earth (FERT, Formation pour l'épanouissement et le renouveau de la terre) and the Ircod carried out a project to support technical services in dairy cooperatives in the South-West of Paraná in partnership with several cooperatives in Brazil (Coagro, Coasul, Coperlac...) and the company Frimesa in France, the Bas-Rhin department establishment of cattle breeders, the Alsace milk cooperative and the dairy production technical bureau.

In 2001, dairy cattle breeders partners of the project created an association of dairy cattle breeders (Unileite) having developed several additional collective actions focussing especially on group actions, on drawing up technical and economic references to be used by a large number of breeders, organising production, training breeders in artificial insemination and bulk buying of supplies.

Since 2005, a process was initiated which aims to define the conditions and means necessary to provide autonomous technical assistance to producers. In May 2007, an Ircod administrator and the director of FERT carried out a mission in Brazil which marked the end of the "project" type assistance.

Following this decision, the breeders' association (Unileite) recruited an agricultural engineer, developed a four-year structural project and looked for new partner cooperatives. Finally, a three-year contract was drawn up at the end of the year with Agriterra (2008-2010) which aims to consolidate the association, encourage its development and enable it to gain financial and management autonomy. The Ircod and FERT will give occasional support as part of this.

## CHAPTER 2



View of the Rio Lauca (Bolivia).

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

## 7 ACTION OF THE IRCOD IN OTHER COUNTRIES

### IN BOLIVIA

Changes to the political scene in Bolivia following the election of the republic's president Evo Morales have led to a slow-down in institutional procedures which have affected the implementation of the Ircod's partnerships in the department of Oruro.

However, considerable progress in decentralisation has been observed. The State has transferred some economic powers and new taxes to town councils. The institutional structure of towns based on people being controlled by the basic organisations has been reasserted as the basic management principle.

The partnership with the prefecture of Oruro and the commune of Ana de Chipaya has entered a crucial phase. Technical and financial proposals for development work to Rio Lauca have been drawn up and discussed. A technical and financial project is now available.

Important work on communication has been undertaken so that all actors can position themselves and understand the responsibilities they have to take on.

In 2008, work will involve finalising the project through a partnership agreement between the prefecture of Oruro, the Ircod, the association Point d'Appui and the commune of Santa Ana de Chipaya and starting the work.

### IN ALGERIA

Following on from previous years, the partnership with El Khroub Hospital has kept its momentum. In 2007, three specialist doctors from El Khroub Hospital visited departments corresponding to their respective medical specialities in Mulhouse Hospital. They observed above all the character of relationships between patients and medical personnel and how the medical progress of patients was monitored.

In 2008, medical cooperation will continue with study missions for the doctors at El Khroub Hospital.

A mission by the Town of Mulhouse will enable different fields of work to be defined in the area of drinking water supply and town cleaning. These two fields of cooperation with the Town of El Khroub have unfortunately seen no progress over the last few years.

### IN IVORY COAST

The continued political unrest and tense situation have stopped any further cooperation by the Ircod in this country.

## 8 ACTION OF THE IRCOD IN ALSACE

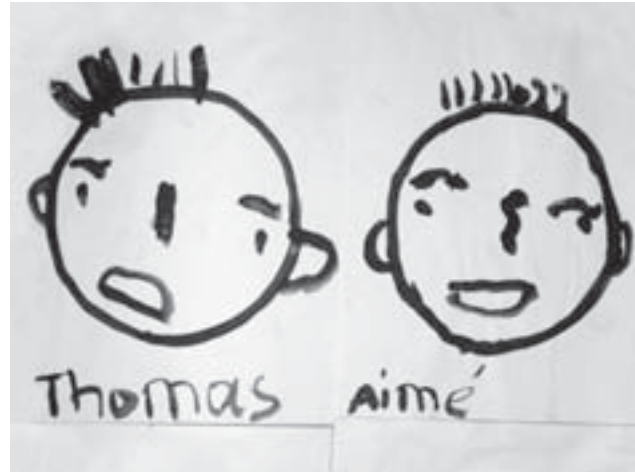
### DEVELOPMENT EDUCATION

Started in 1996 following a request from the Foreign Ministry, this programme participates in improving practices in development education Alsace based on a regional education approach. The Ircod draws on the skills of the Cefode which is responsible for coordinating and supporting various actors in education in development and international solidarity in Alsace.

In 2007 the programme was extended as part of a call for proposals launched by the Foreign and European Ministry. It involves gradually developing an information, awareness and mobilisation programme for actors (associations, schools and libraries etc) and inhabitants in the Alsace region.

*School exchange projects* initiated as part of this project by five local authorities working in Cameroon have been continued. They involved Lingolsheim and the Borough Council of Douala I, Erstein and the Borough Council of Yaoundé VI, Sélestat and the communes of Sa'a, Ombessa and Essendé, Strasbourg and the Borough Council of Douala IV, Thann and the Municipal Council of Bafia. An assessment of this programme of school exchanges with Cameroon since 2004 was carried out in June 2007 to measure the concrete impact within the school establishments concerned and their environment (parents, communes). A further school exchange was started as part of this cooperation between Barr and the town of Kolda, Senegal.

The *handbook for development education and international solidarity* published in 2000 as part of an inter-association platform was updated and supplemented with new specialised and technical pages on how to donate books, on sustainable development and awareness campaigns and how to prepare a budget for an educational project.



Drawings made during an exchange between schools in Sa'a, Ombessa and Sélestat.

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

Work on informing the general public in Alsace was supplemented by two more editions of the 'Espace Nord-Sud' journal. One of these focussed on urban social development in the South and in the North and the other was dedicated to international solidarity week.

At national level and as part of work pooling practices in development education with local and regional authorities and led by the Educasol platform, the Cefode monitored the experiment in Alsace with the aim of publishing a guide in partnership with Cités unies France (June 2008).

## STATUS AND PERSPECTIVES FOR 2008

### CHAPTER 3

*After a period of increasing its volume of activities, the challenge faced by the Ircod is now two-fold. First, we have to adapt our internal organisation and operating processes to the development of new commitments and, after that, consolidate current partnership projects.*

*The Ircod's 20th anniversary will give us the opportunity to talk about these challenges with all our members.*



Tourist hiking circuit in Nova Friburgo (Brazil).

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES



A concession in Dialacoto (Senegal).

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

## ① A HISTORICAL YEAR

On 7 June 2008, the Ircod celebrates its 20th anniversary at the Tanzmatten in Sélestat.

This day of meetings and debate will also provide the opportunity to present an exhibition showing the projects by the Ircod's partners. This exhibition will first be pedagogical and then will travel. A series of cultural events (theatre, dance, music and literature) will add to the festivities of this anniversary.

It will provide the opportunity to highlight decentralised cooperation projects carried out by local and regional authorities, public establishments and associations which are members of the Ircod. This event also constitutes part of one of the Ircod's main objectives to make aware and inform the Alsatian public about the challenges faced by international solidarity and decentralised cooperation.

## ② STABILISING AFTER A PERIOD OF GROWTH

2008 will also see the implementation of large amounts of funding as part of contracts with the European Union and the French Development Agency and also as part of calls for proposals by local authorities in Alsace and by the State.

Work will mainly be focused on structuring and implementing projects which were negotiated in 2006 and 2007. But we also have to make sure that other actions do not suffer as a result of this increase in commitment. The year to come will therefore be devoted to stabilising our activity but this must not stop us building and developing new actions with our current actors.

The Ircod has responded to the annual call for proposals launched by the State in order to acquire, with the Haut-Rhin General Council, more means to carry out actions in Yanfolila Circle in Mali.

Following a request from the Madagascan Ministry for Decentralisation and the French Embassy in Madagascar, the Ircod has also been working to launch a project to create a Commune Support Centre (CAC) in the province of Mahajanga. Preliminary studies will be carried out in conjunction with the Haut-Rhin General Council at the beginning of 2008 with the aim of starting this action before the end of the year.

### 3 REPOSITIONING OUR COOPERATION IN BRAZIL AND SENEGAL

Over the last few years, partnerships between local and regional authorities and public establishments in Alsace and in Senegal have slowed down both at operational and institutional level. An assessment carried out in 2007 highlights difficult communication, mobilisation and shared vision issues. 2006 and 2007 were marked in Senegal by several events (assassination of the president of Ziguinchor regional council, general and presidential elections etc.) which also contributed to slowing down cooperation projects. Following a further mission in the country in 2008, the Ircod would like to organise a meeting with the Alsatian actors involved and with other French decentralised cooperation project organisers to think about how to reposition action in Senegal.

In Brazil, cooperation with dairy producers in Paraná is developing fast. After years of providing technical support, the actions in partnership with FERT are now being directed towards providing support to create a professional organisation. In addition, actions to support rural tourism inland in the State of Rio require a new institutional framework. A seminar will be held at the end of June in partnership with the Haut-Rhin Tourism Development Association (ADT 68) to define, with the authorities concerned in Brazil, a new framework for their collaboration over the next few years.

### 4 IMPLEMENTING ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS IN MADAGASCAR AND IN CAMEROON

The assessment performed by the International Study Centre for Local Development (Ciedel) with the financial support of the Fund for Promoting Preliminary and Cross-disciplinary Studies and Assessment (F3E) on the decentralised cooperation projects implemented by the Ircod and its partners with local authorities in Madagascar provided a wealth of information. The proposals it contained will be discussed with members of the board of directors and all partners involved in the projects concerned and applied to the following three main issues for each project:

- consolidate and make more visible the political objectives of the cooperation work concerned,
- improve the methodological approach of the project concerned,
- carry out internal (Ircod) reorganisation.

### 5 OPENING UP EUROPEAN PERSPECTIVES

The Ircod will take part in the European Development Days (JED) organised by the European Commission in Strasbourg in November 2008 and is preparing, with the Alsace Region and actors in cross-border cooperation, a workshop on the interest and practices of tripartite cooperation (between two European local authorities and a local authority in the South).

# FUNDING BY PARTNERS IN ALSACE

## APPENDICES

### SUMMARY OF HUMAN, MATERIAL AND FINANCIAL MEANS IMPLEMENTED BY THE IRCOD IN 2007

#### ● Summary of human, material and financial means implemented by the Ircod in 2007

<b>Spending of Ircod own funding</b>	
SPENDING ON HEAD-QUARTER ACTIVITIES	330 k€
SPENDING ON PROGRAMMES	1 040 k€
<b>Costs met by partners</b>	
FREE MOBILE EXPERTISE*	260 k€
<b>TOTAL FUNDING USED</b>	<b>1 630 k€</b>
INCLUDING PROGRAMMES	1 300 k€

\* Calculated on the basis of 500 € per mission day and 250 € per visit day to Alsace.

#### ● New resources contracted in 2007

STATE – FOREIGN MINISTRY.....	309.0 k€
ALSACE REGION.....	309.7 k€

#### ALSACE GENERAL COUNCILS

BAS-RHIN GENERAL COUNCIL.....	182.0 k€
HAUT-RHIN GENERAL COUNCIL.....	36.5 k€

#### COMMUNES AND INTER-COMMUNAL BODIES

- Town of Mulhouse.....	70.0 k€
- Strasbourg Metropolitan Council.....	42.1 k€
- City of Strasbourg.....	24.9 k€
- Town of Ostwald.....	9.6 k€
- Sélestat community of communes.....	4.9 k€
- Town of Saint-Louis.....	3.6 k€
- Town of Thann.....	2.9 k€
- Town of Lingolsheim.....	2.6 k€
- Town of Erstein.....	1.7 k€
- Plaine de la Sauer and Seltzbach community of communes.....	1.3 k€
- Town of Barr.....	1.0 k€
- Canton of Villé community of communes.....	0.6 k€
- Town of Hochfelden.....	0.6 k€
- Town of Eguisheim.....	0.3 k€
- Commune of Breitenbach.....	0.3 k€
- Commune of Bennwihr.....	0.2 k€

#### OTHER PARTNERS

- French Development Agency (AFD) in Haiti.....	980.5 k€
- European Commission.....	881.9 k€
- Nantes Metropolitan Council.....	250.0 k€
- French Development Agency (AFD) in Madagascar.....	53.4 k€
- SCAC Madagascar.....	35.0 k€
- AFDI 67.....	10.1 k€
- AFDI 68.....	4.0 k€
- Ingwiller Rotary club.....	3.0 k€
- Sogest.....	1.5 k€
- Rouget de Lisle Lion's club.....	1.0 k€
- Les Tulipes nursery school in Lingolsheim.....	0.5 k€
- Topos.....	0.5 k€
- Mahajanga Rotary club.....	0.5 k€
- Others.....	5.3 k€

<b>TOTAL NEW RESOURCES.....</b>	<b>3 231 k€</b>
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## SUMMARY OF MISSIONS, TRAINING AND HOSTED VISITS IN 2007

### ● Main missions of the Ircod abroad in 2007



Public library programme (Madagascar).

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

## MADAGASCAR

### Support for the public library programme In the town of Mahajanga and surrounding countryside

- *Supporting publication of a French-Madagascan pictorial dictionary, monitoring support programme for the public library programme in the region of Mahajanga, improving skills of Madagascan librarians on educational events around the pictorial dictionary, on organisational techniques within the library and on organising exchanges on book professions*  
from 7 to 19 May 2007 (13 days x 3 = 39 days)  
**Jean-Luc Burger**,  
director of the Callicéphale publishing house in Strasbourg  
**Anne Christine Luttmann** and **Marie Bisch**,  
Librarians at the Bas-Rhin General Council Library

### Support to the University Hospital of Androva in Mahajanga

- *Annual audit of emergency and intensive care departments after the departure of French VSO personnel, defining an action plan to optimise hygiene and department organisation, personnel training*  
from 16 to 28 April 2007 (13 days)  
**Mohamed Hamid**, surgeon,  
Hautepierre University Hospital

### Support to the medical analysis laboratory at the University Hospital in Mahajanga

- *Study and proposals to improve laboratory operation and organisation, training programme for laboratory technicians, equipment needs analysis, future perspectives for the revolving credit*  
from 19 to 29 June 2007 (11 days x 2 = 22 days)  
**Jean-Louis Boehrer**, head of department,  
Biology federation, Haguenu Hospital  
**Xavier Parent**, biological practitioner,  
Louis Pasteur Hospital in Colmar

### Renovation of the markets in Mahajanga

- *Support to the sustainable management of market equipment and preparation of a price list and operational budget depending on agreed prices*  
from 7 to 18 January 2007 (12 days)  
and from 27 May to 7 June 2007 (12 days)  
**Benjamin Michelin**, expert in urban sociology,  
Ecole polytechnique fédérale in Lausanne
- *Project assessment and further work on improving skills of the Mahajanga Municipal Council in managing markets*  
from 22 September to 1 October (10 days x 2 = 20 days)  
**Fabienne Gasser**, in charge of markets and market fees  
at the Town of Mulhouse  
**André Louis**, health inspector,  
Department of health and hygiene  
at the Town of Mulhouse
- *Support for preparing the autonomous budget*  
from 18 to 25 August 2007 (8 days)  
**Régis Ochsenein**, finance and cost management director  
at the Town of Mulhouse
- *Improving safety and security at the renovated markets in the Mahajanga municipal area*  
from 18 to 26 May 2007 (9 days)  
**Marc Durr**, head of Hochfelden fire station  
from 16 November to 24 November (9 days)  
**Luc Merklng**, fireman at Hochfelden fire station  
**Philippe Dettling**, fireman at Hochfelden fire station
- *Monitoring and assessing a project*  
from 19 to 27 October 2007 (9 days)  
**Christiane Eckert**, deputy mayor in charge of commerce,  
Manual trades and international relations at the Town of Mulhouse

## CAMEROON

### Support to the Commune of Soa

- *Exploratory mission to identify main priorities of future collaboration and to define an action programme*  
from 8 to 15 February (8 days x 3 = 24 days)  
**Danielle Meyer Traber**, mayor of Ostwald  
**Nathalie Bouvier**, deputy mayor of Ostwald  
**Christine Becht**, **project leader** at Ostwald Town Hall
- *Identifying priorities in the implementation of an urban development policy*  
from 6 to 16 January 2007 (11 days)  
**Frédéric Wisselmann**, urbanism expert with Topos

### Cooperation with the Commune of Limbe

- *Support to promoting tourism development policies and consolidating links between institutions in Colmar and Limbe*  
from 17 to 25 February (9 days x 3 = 27 days)  
**Pierre Jochen**, assistant director of the ADT 68  
**Delphine Mann**, deputy mayor and MP for Colmar  
**Alfred Metzinger**, retired professional training expert

### Cooperation with the Borough Council of Douala IV

- *As part of school exchanges, identifying concrete projects for partnership ranging from educational exchange to material support in the classroom*  
from 8 to 19 March (12 days x 8 = 96 days)  
**Gabriel Muller**, principal,  
and **Marie-Josée Raphenne**, teacher, Lycée Oberlin  
**Roger Noutcha**, teacher, Université Marc Bloch  
**Béatrice Huchelmann**, principal's assistant,  
and **André Bazzia**, teacher of applied physics,  
Truchtersheim Secondary school  
**Sophie Malbranque**, deputy principal,  
**Daniel Rexer**, deputy principal,  
and **Jean-Pierre Amougou**, educational advisor,  
Couffignal secondary school

### Inter-university cooperation

- *Participation in an international seminar University excellence centres Strengthening regional cooperation projects Current status of training departments, creation of technical colleges in Douala and Bandjoun and future perspectives*  
from 14 to 22 April (9 days x 2 = 18 days)  
**Francis Braun**, principal of Louis Pasteur technical college in Haguenau  
**Didier Bellefleury**, responsible for external relations, Engees

### Cooperation with the Borough Council of Douala I

- *Status of action undertaken as part of school advancement projects (2005-2006 and 2006-2007) and implementation of a similar project on "gardens from here and elsewhere"*  
from 27 October to 7 November 2007 (2 x 12 days = 24 days)  
**Christine Lieb**, principal,  
les Tulipes nursery school in Lingolsheim  
**Geneviève Margotin**, retired principal,  
Vosges primary school in Lingolsheim

### Support to the Municipal Council of Bafia

- *Support to define the content of perinatal training in Bafia health district*  
from 24 November to 1 December 2007 (8 days)  
**Marie-Josée Kubler Levêque**, town councillor in charge of health at the Town of Thann  
from 24 to 29 November (6 days)  
**Henri Metzger**, head doctor of medicine at the Saint-Jacques Hospital in Thann

### Urba.Cam Project

- *Support for training trainers at the town's manual trades centre and defining perspectives for exchange and cooperation*  
from 6 to 13 January 2007 (8 days)  
**Jean-Pierre Letourneux**, lecturer, Nantes University
- *Meetings with institutional partners, status on the Limbe project, discussions about the integration of the commune of Kribi into the Urba.Cam project*  
from 7 to 16 April (10 days x 5 = 50 days)  
**Daniel Prin**, responsible for decentralised cooperation,  
and **Nicole Rabu**,  
advisor on the president's private staff, Nantes Metropolitan Council  
**Philippe Grosvalet**, vice-president,  
and **Bernard Lustière**, treasurer on the Saint-Nazaire Kribi committee
- *Participation in the steering committee: Report on 2007 and perspectives for 2008*  
from 29 November to 11 December (13 days x 2 = 26 days)  
**Camille Durand**, vice-president of the Nantes Metropolitan Council  
**Nicole Rabu**,  
advisor on the president's private staff, Nantes Metropolitan Council
- *Discovery mission to Nantes Metropolitan Council and meetings with the heads of departments at the Nantes Metropolitan council*  
from 27 to 31 August (5 days)  
**Catherine Caron**, coordinator of the Urba.Cam project

## MALI

### Rural cooperation with the Commune of Fakala and with the Yanfolila Circle Council

- *Assessment and support for the implementation of cooperation projects Participation in the mission of a delegation from Mulhouse presided by the mayor and MP for Mulhouse*  
from 19 February and 6 March (16 days x 2 = 32 days)  
**Claude Régall**, supervisor at the Ircod  
**Laurent Fischer**, president of the Bas-Rhin AFDI

### Cooperation with the Yanfolila Circle Council

- *Support to the Circle Council to promote an overall project for local development concerning the construction of reservoirs*  
from 15 to 25 August (11 days)  
**Georges Walter**, environment director at the Haut-Rhin General Council



Drawing in the street (Haiti).

PHOTO IRCOD ARCHIVES

## HAITI

### Cooperation with the Commune of Jacmel

- *Diagnosis mission to analyse the implementation conditions for the project on budgetary and accounting management and local taxation in the Commune of Jacmel*  
from 21 to 31 March (11 days)  
**Robert Herzog**, professor in public law at he Robert Schumann University in Strasbourg and town councillor responsible for finance in the Town of Hoenheim
- *Participation in a seminar to launch a project on empowering Jacmel Town Hall*
- *Mission to clarify the role of each actor in the implementation of different parts of the project and the implementation of a steering committee*  
from 13 to 22 July (10 x 4 days = 40 days)  
**Bernadette Debrosses**, administrator at the Ircod  
**Nicolas Dupuy**, supervisor at the Ircod  
**Pascal Mangin**, deputy mayor of the City of Strasbourg  
**Sandrine Millet**, **project leader**  
international relations department,  
City and Metropolitan Council of Strasbourg
- *Preliminary study mission to build a new market in Jacmel: initiation of a social and economic study*  
from 24 November to 5 December (2 x 12 days = 24 days)  
**Jacqueline Tribillon**, head of urban planning department,  
City and Metropolitan Council of Strasbourg  
**Benjamin Michelin**, social urbanism expert,  
École polytechnique fédérale in Lausanne
- *Support for starting up solid waste collection and treatment service*  
from 24 November to 5 December (12 days)  
**Jean-Paul Chantrel**, ecological advisor,  
cleaning services, City and Metropolitan Council of Strasbourg

## BRAZIL

### Support for dairy producers in South-West Paraná

- *Technical mission to assess and give support to dairy cattle breeders in South-West Paraná*  
from 7 to 18 May 2007 (12 days)  
**Jean-Paul Meinrad**, Ircod administrator

### Support for rural tourism in the Nova Friburgo region, State of Rio de Janeiro

- *Participation in the second round of meetings for the Franco-Brazilian decentralised cooperation in Belo Horizonte Meeting with partners of the project on rural tourism in the State Rio to discuss the current status of the seminar planned for January 2008 and their future commitment*  
from 10 to 20 November 2007 (11 days)  
**Jean-Paul Meinrad**, Ircod administrator

● **Main missions of the Ircod in France in 2007**

**MADAGASCAR**

**Multi-sector cooperation programme with Madagascar**

- *Study and discovery mission on the organisation and operation of different departments in the Town of Mulhouse and Bas-Rhin General Council*  
from 9 to 27 April (19 days)  
**Hasina Soatoky Razafindrakoto**,  
Director of the private staff to the mayor of Mahajanga

**Renovation of the Mahajanga markets**

- *Study and advanced training in first aid and organising and managing a rescue centre*  
from 5 March to 18 March 2007 (14 days)  
**Dr Nirina Rakotoarimanana**, head of the Municipal Hygiene Bureau in the Town of Mahajanga

**Health**

- *Study and advanced technical training mission in surgical and medical emergencies and intensive care*  
from 30 September to 2 December 2007 (64 days)  
**Vololonirina Rasoafanoharana**, A&E doctor at the University Hospital in Mahajanga

**HAITI**

**Project to empower Jacmel Town Hall**

- *Meeting with all partners of the project and exchange of experience about the skills and operation of local authorities mainly in the fields covered by the project*  
from 3 to 13 June 2007 (11 days x 3 = 33 days)  
**Edwin Zeny**, mayor of Jacmel  
**Ronald Andris**, 1<sup>st</sup> deputy mayor of Jacmel  
**Pierre-Michel Joassaint**, representative of the Project Implementation Unit (UTE) of the Inter-american Development Bank

**Cooperation with the Haitian State University Hospital**

- *Participation in the annual congress of the French ENT society; training in the ENT department at Strasbourg University Hospital and preparation of a partnership agreement on the digital campus with the Haitian State University Hospital led by Louis Pasteur University*  
from 13 to 27 October 2007 (15 days)  
**Patrick Jean Gilles**, ENT doctor at the Haitian State University Hospital in Port-au-Prince

**ALGERIA**

**Cooperation with El Khroub Hospital**

- *Study missions by specialist doctors from El Khroub Hospital to Mulhouse Hospital to optimize the quality of care available*  
from 22 October to 19 November 2007 (29 days x 3 = 87 days)  
**Mounir Debbah**, surgeon  
**Abdelmounaam Larrem**, orthopedic surgeon  
**Dahbia Benbelkacem**, A&E doctor

● **Initial training grants in 2007**

**MADAGASCAR**

- *As part of the study grant programme for students from Madagascar, initiated by the Bas-Rhin General Council and managed by the Ircod*  
from January to December 2007  
**Diavao Randrianarivelo**, 3<sup>rd</sup> year student at the National Water and Environment Engineering School (Egees) in Strasbourg  
from September to December 2007  
**Herizo Razafintsalama**, 2<sup>nd</sup> year student and **Ange Marina Andriambanona**, 2<sup>nd</sup> year student at the Egees in Strasbourg

● **Trainees at the Ircod in 2007**

- *Preparing and setting up workshops to think about and capitalise communication projects, translations*  
from 5 February to 3 August 2007 (126 days)  
**Marthe Wane**, student doing an advanced graduate diploma in international relations, majoring in North-South cooperation, at the Institute for Translation, Interpreting and International Relations in Strasbourg (ITI-RI)
- *The report on the "Cit -Sant " seminar and participation in the call for proposals 2007-2009*  
from 2 January to 1 June 2007 (105 days)  
**Hamady Bodj**, student doing a master's in project engineering in non-profit economy at the Haute Alsace University
- *Helped to put together an application following the 2008 national call for proposals*  
from 1 October to 21 December (24 days x 2 = 48 days)  
**Magalie Estevez**  
and **Alice Ruczinski**,  
Professional master's in cooperation, European Union and developing countries at the Institute for Translation, Interpreting and International Relations in Strasbourg (ITI-RI)

## BOARD OF ADMINISTRATORS AND TEAM MEMBERS AS AT 1 JANUARY 2008

### ● Executive Board

- Gérard Pigault, honorary president
- Pierre Giersch, president
- Jean-Paul Heider, vice-president
- Christiane Eckert, vice-president
- Danielle Meyer Traber, secretary
- Jean-Pierre Igot, treasurer
- Jean-Pierre Baeumler
- Alphonse Baehl
- Francis Braun
- Julien Haas
- Pascal Mangin
- Jean-Paul Meinrad
- Jean-Pierre Piela
- Théo Schnée

### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

This report aims to present a summary of all the activities of the Regional Institute for Development Cooperation in 2007.

Readers who wish to obtain more in-depth information about the activities of the Ircod can find specific pages on our website at:

➔ [www.ircod.org](http://www.ircod.org)

### ● The Board of Administrators

- The Alsace Regional Council  
represented by Jean-Paul Heider and Danielle Meyer Traber
- Town of Mulhouse  
represented by Christiane Eckert
- City of Strasbourg  
represented by Pascal Mangin
- Bas-Rhin General Council  
represented by Louis Becker
- Sélestat Community of Communes  
represented by Marcel Bauer
- Haut-Rhin French Farmers  
and International Development Association (AFDI)  
represented by Christian Caire
- Strasbourg Metropolitan Council  
represented by Robert Haberstich
- Regional Federation of Youth and Culture Centres  
represented by Wladislaw Labowicz
- Canton de Villé Community of Communes  
represented by Bernard Schmitt
- Commune of Breitenbach  
represented by Jean-Pierre Piela
- Town of Thann  
represented by Jean-Pierre Baeumler
- Louis Pasteur University  
represented by Francis Braun
- Strasbourg University Hospital  
represented by Jacques Chanez
- The Town of Lingolsheim  
represented by Danièle Gérard
- The Town of Erstein  
represented by Théo Schnée
- The Haut-Rhin Tourism Development Association  
represented by Jean Klinckert
- Pierre Giersch
- Gérard Pigault
- Julien Haas
- Jean-Paul Meinrad
- Jean-Luc Schaffhauser
- Patrick Schalck
- Jean-Pierre Igot
- Jean-Paul Brunstein
- Alphonse Baehl

### ● The team

- Denis Schultz, director
- Nicolas Laurent, supervisor (until August 2007)
- Marie-Laure Robert, supervisor  
(replaced Nicolas Laurent from August 2007)
- Claude Régall, supervisor
- Franck Signoret, supervisor
- Véronique Meyer, financial management assistant
- Chantal Schroeder, management assistant
- Éliane Fourrer, secretary
- Philippe Naegel, permanent representative in Cameroon
- Emeline Chamgoue, assistant in Cameroon
- Carine Targe, project leader in Cameroon
- Marie Mayoua, technician in Cameroon
- Roseline Bamayangona, assistant in Cameroon
- Élise Gardaine, permanent representative of the Ircod in Madagascar
- Rachel Hermann, project leader in Madagascar
- Olivier Duriez, project leader in Madagascar
- Antsa Razafinarivo, assistant in Madagascar
- Julien Bernard, coordinator for Ircod programmes in Mali
- Jérôme Ganiot, project leader for Haiti