



Don Bosco International - COVID-19 Response

1) Contribution for Eurochild research

Challenges	Good Practices
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Support to children in alternative care - Support to families involved in foster care - Virtual learning for children enrolled in Don Bosco schools and VET centers - Preventing gender-based violence in the families of our beneficiaries 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Germany, “Gemeinsam gegen Corona” initiative www.donbosco.de/corona - Spain, “Plataformas Sociales Salesianas” and “Estado de Solidaridad” initiative https://psocialesalesianas.org/soluciones-originales-compromiso-esfuerzo-frente-la-crisis-la-covid-19/ - Italy, “Salesiani per il Sociale” and “Noi ci s(t)iamo” initiative https://www.salesianiperilsociale.it/noicisiamo/?utm_source=salesianiperilsociale.it&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=#noicisiamo&utm_term=slider_desktop - Portugal, Family Assistance Service “SolSal” initiative https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/10301-portugal-response-of-salesian-solidarity-increases-the-moment-is-demanding-but-history-shows-us-we-can-overcome-it

2) DBI and its partners inside & outside the EU - GLOBAL STRATEGY OVERVIEW

Don Bosco International is the entity representing the Salesians of Don Bosco (henceforth referred to as “SDB”) in the European Institutions. SDB belong to a religious order dedicated to serve and advocate for and uplifting the spiritual and physical wellbeing needs and lives of the young and poor and vulnerable segments of society in over 130 countries globally by providing increased access to education (primary, secondary, tertiary and higher education as well as youth clubs and sports) as its main charism. It does so through the largest private educational infrastructure globally.

The SDB’s main strategy is aimed at those in need of support during the COVID-19 emergency especially the young and poor and the most vulnerable sector of society regardless of religion, sex, sexual orientation, social status, etc. in countries that (a) are affected and are under COVID-19 lockdown followed (b) countries that have not been significantly affected or low infection levels and (c) post COVID-19 services.

KEY RESPONSE PRIORITIES

A. IN COUNTRIES THAT ARE MORE SERIOUSLY AFFECTED AND ARE UNDER LOCKDOWN



1. Spreading awareness
 - a. How to prevent contagion.
 - b. What to do if an individual shows one or more mild symptoms.
 - c. What to do if an individual shows more serious symptoms.
 - d. Quarantine protocols for symptomatic individual.
 - e. Availability of testing in neighborhood(s).
 - f. Resources available when needed.
 - g. How to take care of the elderly within the family.
2. Seeing to basic needs for survival – saving lives
 - a. Community kitchens.
 - b. Provision of food materials for families to cook for themselves.
 - c. Home distribution of pre-cooked, ready-to-eat meals and safe drinking water.
 - d. Distribution of masks, soap, sanitizers
3. Specific services for specific target groups
 - a. Online classes, tests, games, activities for children and students.
 - b. Training of teachers (ToT) to teach online.
 - c. Helpline and online counselling for people that need material or psychological support and counseling.
 - d. Spiritual support and services online.
 - e. Training of Salesians and collaborators for an effective use of the social media to be of service to people in distress.

B. IN COUNTRIES THAT ARE MINIMALLY AFFECTED BY COVID-19

1. Spreading awareness
 - a. The risk is real.
 - b. You are at risk.
 - c. That is serious due to a lack of vaccination and directly curative medication.
 - d. Prevention
 - i. Physical distancing.
 - ii. Use of masks.
 - iii. Frequent hand washing for at least 20 seconds using water and soap.
 - iv. Improving general health and immunity – better nutrition and exercise.
2. Mapping locally to have a global dimension:
 1. Identifying the weakest in the communities served and the population around it.
 2. Identification of basic needs for each of these communities.
 3. Resources already existing that can be shared with the vulnerable.
 4. Resources already existing that can be made available to others.
 5. Identification of nearby organizations where collaboration can be pursued; resources available and needed.
 6. Local and national governments' plans, resources and needs.
 7. Resources needed from other organizations in both government and private sectors.
3. Making and distribution of masks and other PPE.
4. Promotion of stocking of modest quantity of food for a few weeks.



C. POST COVID-19 SERVICES

1. Recuperation of lost months of school life and studies.
2. Creation of awareness and preparedness for post COVID-19 or other pandemics.
3. Career and/or psychological counselling and job-placement for those who have been furlough or lost employment.
4. Marriage and family counselling for those whose relationships suffered damage during lockdown.
5. Retooling TVET institutions to shutdown training for skills that are no longer needed and to prepare young people for new types of jobs.
6. Training of SDB and collaborators in effective use of social media for outreach purposes and communications.
7. Training of all Salesian communities and its partners in disaster prevention, disaster mitigation and disaster management.
8. Building of CSO's – community-based organizations – to be sources of strength and support for the community in times of unforeseen harmful circumstances (pandemics, natural and man-made disasters).
9. Building / improving relations with government organizations, private sector and NGOs.
10. Building / improving bonds with other CSO's in the region.
11. Improvement of provisions for safe drinking-water, hygiene, sanitation in all institutions and communities.

CONCRETE ACTIONS

Please find here below a list of news of SDB's action in response to the Covid19 pandemic, both at the global level and in European countries:

- Global
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/special-reports/item/10293-rmg-articulated-and-structured-salesian-network-that-allows-success-of-emergency-initiatives>
- From EU to the world
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/10270-spain-essentials-should-not-be-a-luxury-food-and-soap-to-fight-coronavirus-in-africa-and-the-americas>
- Albania
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/10205-albania-in-kelmend-mountains-bringing-food-to-the-invisible>
- Czech Republic
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/10224-czech-republic-don-bosco-youth-centre-is-closer-to-the-young-people-as-never-before>
- France
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/10132-france-initiatives-of-salesian-family-during-social-isolation>
- Germany
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/10089-germany-in-times-of-covid-19-salesians-fostering-digital-proposals>
- Hungary
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news-photos/item/10306-hungary-salesians-assist-roma-people-during-covid-19-pandemic>



- Italy
 - https://www.infoans.org/en/?option=com_k2&view=item&id=9984
 - https://www.salesianiperilsociale.it/noicisiamo/?utm_source=salesianiperilsociale.it&utm_medium=organic&utm_campaign=#noicisiamo&utm_term=slider_desktop
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/10162-italy-covid-19-does-not-stop-salesian-support-for-people-in-need>
- Portugal
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/10301-portugal-response-of-salesian-solidarity-increases-the-moment-is-demanding-but-history-shows-us-we-can-overcome-it>
- Spain
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/10043-spain-solidarity-to-face-covid-19>
 - https://www.infoans.org/en/?option=com_k2&view=item&id=10019
 - <https://psocialesalesianas.org/soluciones-originales-compromiso-esfuerzo-frente-la-crisis-la-covid-19/>
 - <https://www.infoans.org/en/sections/news/item/10090-spain-we-will-overcome-it-together-misiones-salesianas-joins-fight-against-coronavirus>

Some of these initiatives have been included as good practices within the SIRIUS Network's statement on "Moving Educational Policy Forward After Covid-19": <http://www.sirius-migrationeducation.org/news/sirius-statement-on-policy-implications-of-covid-19/>

As far as advocacy at the EU level is concerned, Don Bosco International has co-drafted and co-signed the following Joint Statement: <http://www.alliance4investinginchildren.eu/joint-statement-on-protecting-children-and-their-families-during-and-after-the-covid19-crisis/>