



Mensajeros de la Paz

# OUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS



2023

## Introduction

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Since 2020, Mensajeros de la Paz has begun to align its work with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) included in the United Nations's 2030 agenda. The SDGs ask governments, companies and society to take action in order to end poverty and promote a dignified life with opportunities for everyone.

Ever since, we have worked towards achieving the SDGs and have continued to analyze the objectives accomplished by our projects (either realized on our own or with the support of other entities<sup>1</sup>). This publication presents the main objectives supported by the projects and campaigns we have carried out during the last three years.

**We have found that our organization contributes to all 17 SDGs in different degrees, but especially to SDGs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 16 and 17.**

## About Mensajeros de la Paz

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Mensajeros de la Paz Association (Messengers of Peace) was founded in 1962 by Padre Ángel García Rodríguez. It is a non-governmental organization, declared of public utility, that works at a national and international level and has been awarded the Prince of Asturias Award for Concord, among other distinctions.

Based in Madrid (Spain), the organization's work has benefited 76 countries, promoting the human and social development of society's most underprivileged populations and adapting to all the different social realities.

## Sustainable Development Goals

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In 2015, all the States members of the United Nations approved the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG)<sup>2</sup> as part of the United Nation's 2030 Agenda<sup>3</sup>, which set up a 15-year plan to achieve these goals.

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<sup>1</sup> This report includes projects carried out by Mensajeros de la Paz Association (Madrid), along with the Edad Dorada Mensajeros de la Paz Association, Edad Dorada Mensajeros de la Paz Madrid, allied NGOs and other entities from Mensajeros de la Paz at an international level.

<sup>2</sup> More information on the SDGs can be found at: [www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/](http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/es/)

<sup>3</sup> The resolution passed by the General Assembly in 2015 can be found at: [www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=S](http://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=S)

The Sustainable Development Goals are the blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all. They address the global challenges we face, including poverty, inequality, climate change, environmental degradation, peace and justice.

With just under seven years left to achieve the SDGs, it is necessary that the different actors in society mobilize and join efforts to find solutions and achieve each one of these Goals.

## Our Contribution to the SDGs

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## End poverty in all its forms everywhere.

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### IN SPAIN

- Family support center (Madrid).
- Robin Hood Solidarity Restaurant (Madrid).
- Church and social center of San Antón (Madrid), which has different food delivery projects.
- San Anton's Food Pantry (Madrid).
- Opportunity homes (Madrid).
- Social housing (Guadalajara)
- Collaboration with the church of Santa Anna (Barcelona).
- Places in residences for elderly people in social emergency situations (partnership with Madrid's Social Services Organization SAMUR SOCIAL).
  
- Soup kitchen, with Take Away service, Food Pantry and Solidarity Wardrobe (Valencia).
- Food Pantry (Castellón).
- Partnerships with companies that offer job opportunities for people in situations of vulnerability.
- Through POI (*Plataforma de Organizaciones de Infancia*), a group of children from *la Casita* (family and childhood center) participated in a workshop on children and teenagers' civic engagement that gathered opinions and proposals to fight poverty and social exclusion.



Breakfast delivery (Madrid, España).

## INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

- Breakfasts and meals delivery at the church of Santa Lucía in Rome, Italy.
- Collaboration with Mensajeros de la Paz Argentina in homes and senior centers for children and elderly. An example is San José Home, a center for elderly people who have suffered from poverty.
- Collaboration with *Fundación Hermanos de la Calle* in Miami, EEUU.
- Collaboration with *el Hogar de Buen Samaritano* in San Pedro Sula, Honduras.
- Food and training support to families in El Progreso community in Honduras.
- Collaboration with a residence for elderly people with no resources in Asunción, Paraguay.
- Support in the building of a new residence for social excluded elderly people alongside *Fundación Promete* in Guatemala.
- Support to Mensajeros de la Paz Uruguay through two Early Childhood Centers in Montevideo.
- Support to the church of Santa Rosa de Sala to carry out feeding projects to families living in poverty in Bolivia.
- Emergency food aid to refugee families in Lebanon.
- Collaboration with the NGO *Mirando por África* on a project aimed at children with functional diversity in Douala, Cameroon. Mensajeros helped to pay rent for a children's center.
- Collaboration with projects in Mexico: 24-hr church, children's homes, a senior center and a retirement home for sex worker women.



## End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture.

### IN SPAIN

- San Anton's Food Pantry (Madrid).
- Daily breakfast delivery for people at risk of social exclusion (Madrid).
- Robin Hood Solidarity Restaurant (Madrid).
- Family support center (Madrid)
- Collaboration with the breakfast delivery in the church of Santa Anna (Barcelona).
- Soup kitchen, with Take Away service, Food Pantry and Solidarity Wardrobe (Valencia).
- Food Pantry (Castellón)



Robin Hood Solidarity Restaurant

## **INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS**

- Delivery of breakfasts and meals at the church of Santa Lucía in Rome, Italy.
- Support to Mensajeros de la Paz Uruguay through two Early Childhood Centers in Montevideo.
- Food and training support to families alongside *Fundación Niños de Guarataro* in El Progreso community in Honduras.
- Collaboration with a residence for elderly people with no resources in Asunción, Paraguay.
- Support to the church of Santa Rosa de Sala to carry out feeding projects to families living in poverty in Bolivia.
- Collaboration with *Fundación Hermanos de la Calle* in Miami, EEUU.
- Emergency food aid to refugee families in Lebanon.
- Collaboration in the maintenance of a home for mentally and physically disabled people and emergency aid with the aim of dealing with the damage caused by the hurricanes in Honduras.
- Collaboration with projects in Mexico: 24-hr church with free health service, senior center, a retirement home for sex worker women, elderly residence and food pantry.
- Donation to the soup kitchens of the Association *Hijos del Maíz* in Nicaragua.



## Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages.

### IN SPAIN

- Family support center (Madrid).
- Emergency centers for gender-based violence victims (Madrid and Alicante).
- Care for the elderly: residences and senior centers, places in residences for elderly people in social emergency situations (partnership with SAMUR SOCIAL), the Golden Telephone, specific campaigns (ex. special campaigns due to COVID19 or the awareness campaign 'The Elderly believe in the Three Wise Men too')
- Health and medical assistance in the church and social center of San Antón (Madrid).
- Robin Hood Solidarity Restaurant (Madrid)
- Opportunity homes (Madrid).
- Hairdressing service PeloBus (Madrid).
- Agreement with Vivanta Dental to offer dental healthcare to people who are homeless or undocumented.

### INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

- Church of Santa Lucía in Rome, Italy.
- Pro Venezuela campaign to send medicines through Caritas.
- Support to Mensajeros de la Paz Uruguay through two Early Childhood Centers in Montevideo.
- Collaboration with a residence for elderly people with no resources in Asunción, Paraguay.
- Collaboration with *Fundación Hermanos de la Calle* in Miami, EEUU.

- Collaboration with the NGO *Mirando por África* on a project aimed at children with functional diversity in Douala, Cameroon.
- Collaboration with the NGO AYME to maintain the Mulu Maternity Center in Gondar, Ethiopia. Signing of an agreement with Fundación Pondera and the University Hospital in Gondar to keep supporting the project.
- Collaboration in the rehabilitation of the University Hospital's Orphan Residence in the city of Gondar (Ethiopia), as well as obtaining the funding for their higher education and the building of a maternity and children's hospital.
- Collaboration with Mensajeros de la Paz Argentina in homes and senior centers for children and elderly.
- Collaboration in the maintenance of a home for mentally and physically disabled people and emergency aid with the aim of dealing with the damage caused by the hurricanes in Honduras.
- Collaboration with social projects in Mexico.



*Opportunity Home for the Elder*





## Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.

### IN SPAIN:

- Family support center (Madrid).
- Emergency centers for gender-based violence victims (Madrid and Alicante).
- Church and social center of San Antón's cultural agenda (Madrid): concerts, book launches, movie screenings.
- Partnerships with educational centers that offer scholarships.
- Partnerships with universities and Secondary Education Centers for internships.
- Training of volunteers.
- Participation in the Training Program "Digital Knowledge for religious men in contemplative life"
- Project *Coles Solidarios* (Solidary Schools).
- Partnership with UCAM (Catholic University of Murcia) for the creation of a Chair in Development Cooperation.



*Socio-educational family and childhood center 'La Casita'.*

**INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS:**

- Higher education scholarships for particularly vulnerable young people who have participated in our project *Casa de la Paz* in Nakuru, Kenya.
- Collaboration with the NGO *Mirando por África* on a project aimed at children with functional diversity in Douala, Cameroon.
- Collaboration with *Mensajeros de la Paz* Argentina in homes and senior centers for children and the elderly.
- Support to *Mensajeros de la Paz* Uruguay through two Early Childhood Centers in Montevideo.
- Translation of schoolbooks to promote the education of the indigenous community alongside *Mensajeros de la Paz* Paraguay.
- Socio-Educational community in Guarataro, Honduras.
- Collaboration with Deloitte in Montessori training in Honduras.
- Collaboration with *Fundación Profuturo* in a training project for young refugees in Jordan: technological skills, soft skills and English.



## Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.

### IN SPAIN

- Training and support for women entrepreneurs with *Fundación Oryon*.
- Supporting campaigns for May 8th, International Women's Day.
- Emergency centers for gender-based violence victims (Madrid and Alicante)
- Opportunity homes for women (Madrid).
- Family support center (Madrid)
- Participation in platforms that promote women's rights.
- Creation of an equality plan for *Mensajeros de la Paz*, *Edad Dorada Association* and *Edad Dorada Madrid Association*.

### INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

- Support to *Mensajeros de la Paz Uruguay* through two Early Childhood Centers in Montevideo.
- Socio-Educational community in Guarataro, Honduras.
- Collaboration with *Mensajeros de la Paz Argentina* in homes and senior centers for children and elderly.



One of our emergency centers for gender-based violence victims in Spain.



## Ensure access to water and sanitation for all.

### IN SPAIN:

Personal hygiene service, water fountain and distribution of water bottles on hot days in the church and social center of San Antón (Madrid).

### INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS:

- Rainwater harvesting project through *Misioneros de África Padres Blancos* in Burundi.
- Collaboration with the campaign *Policía Amigo* to provide access to drinking water in Burkina Faso.



*Rainwater harvesting Project in Burundi.*

**7 AFFORDABLE AND  
CLEAN ENERGY**



**Ensure access to affordable, reliable,  
sustainable and modern energy.**

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**IN SPAIN**

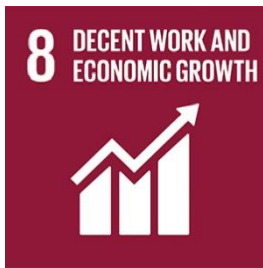
- Use of solar energy thanks to the installation of solar panels in our residences in Spain.
- Devising of an energy transition plan with volunteers of *Fundación Repsol*.
- Use of energy-saving lightbulbs in all of our resources.
- Awareness-raising of the need for saving energy within our staff and the users of our resources.

**INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS**

- Circular economy plan with *Fundación Niños de Guaraturo* in Honduras.



*Solar panels in one of our residences (Residencia Don Bosco, Madrid).*



## Promote inclusive and sustainable economic growth, employment and decent work for all.

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### IN SPAIN

- Free training for our volunteers and workers offered by other organizations, like *Divulgación Dinámica*.
- Opportunity homes (Madrid).
- Workshops and support for vulnerable people so as to facilitate labor inclusion processes (for instance, the PeloBus project or training workshops in different projects and homes).
- Job offers for users of our resources in certain companies.
- All our employers are paid according to the applicable labor agreement.
- We encourage job stability: 90% of our staff has an indefinite contract, and more than 88% work full-time. Moreover, 93% are women.

### INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

- International cooperation in more than 76 countries throughout our history since our establishment in 1962.
- Training and support for women entrepreneurs from different countries with *Fundación Oryon*.



One of our opportunity homes in Spain.



**Build resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialization and foster innovation.**

**IN SPAIN:**

- Free WiFi in and 24h web connection of the church and social center of San Antón (Madrid).
- Supply of equipment in residences and senior centers to reduce the digital divide of vulnerable people through mobile phones, computers, tablets and Internet access.
- Development of new technologies to facilitate communication and access to information (for example, through mobile apps or online volunteers).



*Supply of a videocall system in the 14 residences managed by MdP Extremadura.*

#### **INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS:**

- Supply of computers to reduce the digital divide in Benin and Honduras.
- Supply of telephones and computers to reduce the digital divide in Ethiopia.
- Project to provide access to education through digital tools for refugee children, in collaboration with *Fundación Profuturo* in Jordan.



## 10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



### Reduce inequality within and among countries.

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#### IN SPAIN:

- Opportunity homes (Madrid).
- Care for the elderly: residences and senior centers, places in residences for elderly people in social emergency situations (partnership with SAMUR SOCIAL), the Golden Telephone, specific campaigns.
- Family support center (Madrid).
- Legal counseling in the church and social center of San Antón (Madrid).
- Creation of employment.
- Supply of technological equipment to families to reduce the digital divide.
- Job offers for users of our resources in certain companies.

One of the Early Childhood Centers in Uruguay.



#### INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS:

- Higher education scholarships for particularly vulnerable young people who have participated in our project *Casa de la Paz* in Nakuru, Kenya.
- Support to Mensajeros de la Paz Uruguay through two Early Childhood Centers in Montevideo.

11 SUSTAINABLE CITIES  
AND COMMUNITIES



Make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

**IN SPAIN:**

- Continuation and maintenance of the project Justo's Cathedral in Mejorada del Campo (Madrid).
- Opportunity homes (Madrid).
- Maintenance of the church and social center of San Antón (Madrid), so as to protect its cultural heritage.
- Support and promotion of the European Mobility Week.
- Donation of public transport cards.
- We encourage the use of clean means of transport.



*View of Justo's Cathedral in Mejorada del Campo.*

### **INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS**

- Collaboration for the construction of a residence for the elderly in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.
- Rainwater harvesting project through *Misioneros de África Padres Blancos* in Burundi.
- Socio-educational community center *Niños de Guarataro* in Honduras.



Socio-educational community center in Honduras.



## **Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**

### **IN SPAIN**

- Devising of an energy transition plan with volunteers of Fundación Repsol.
- Recycling project and responsible use of paper in all of our resources.

### **INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS**

- Rainwater harvesting project through *Misioneros de África Padres Blancos* in Burundi.
- Circular economy plan with *Fundación Niños de Guarataro Mensajeros de la Paz* in Honduras.



## Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts.

### IN SPAIN

- Devising of an energy transition plan for our centers in Spain with volunteers of Fundación Repsol.
- Recycling project and responsible use of paper in all of our resources.
- Collaboration and campaign *Regalamos Oxígeno* with *Asociación Plantamos Árboles* and promotion of the Annual Campaign *La Hora del Planeta*.
- Use of solar energy thanks to the installation of solar panels in our residences in Spain.
- Support and promotion of the European Mobility Week.



*Emergency aid after the Iota and Eta hurricanes in Guatemala.*

### INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

Emergency aid after the Iota and Eta hurricanes in Guatemala, through Firefighters Without Borders.



## Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources.

Partnerships with NGOs dedicated to environmental issues, participating in campaigns and collaborating with their goals: WWF and Animal Rescue Spain.



## Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss.

- Collaboration partnerships with associations that fight against desertification: *Asociación Plantamos Árboles*.
- Collaboration with Animal Rescue Spain.
- Collaboration with *Fundación Arca de Noé*: adoption of cats and dogs.



Event celebrating the signing of a partnership with *Fundación Arca de Noé*.

16 PEACE, JUSTICE  
AND STRONG  
INSTITUTIONS



## Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies.

### IN SPAIN

- Participation of workers of *La Casita* in a workshop by the NGO UNAF (*Unión de Asociaciones Familiares*): ‘Mediation and other conflict solving methods: a new opportunity for building a culture of peace.’
- Care for the elderly: residences and senior centers, places in residences for elderly people in social emergency situations (partnership with SAMUR SOCIAL), the Golden Telephone, specific campaigns.
- Legal counseling in the church and social center of San Antón (Madrid).
- Humanitarian aid campaign for Ukrainian refugees in Spain.

### INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

- Counseling to undocumented people in Miami, EEUU.
- Emergency food aid to refugee families in Lebanon.
- Humanitarian aid campaign for Ukrainian refugees in Ukraine and neighboring countries.



Arrival of Ukrainian refugees to Spain.



## Revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development.

- Coordination with other organizations and volunteering platforms, such as *Asociación Lares, FEVOCAM, Plataforma de Voluntariado de España, UNAF, POI España, POI Madrid, CEOMA.*
- Online work with the Ministry of Human Rights and the 2030 Agenda, Directorate-General for Social Services and Social Innovation.
- Online work with more than 100 allied foundations and organizations.

### Final Thoughts

In 2021, Mensajeros de la Paz published the first document that detailed the organization's contribution to the SDG. On this second edition, we have strengthened our conclusion that **the compromise that Mensajeros de la Paz has with the first five goals** (the struggle against poverty, against hunger and for quality food, and the promotion of the well-being of all people, quality universal education and gender equality) **is still undeniable, and will continue to be so.**

In addition, we can highlight the work that we have started in the last years towards **improving the energy consumption** at our different centers and projects. In that way, we contribute to the **SDG 7, 12 and 13, which are committed to sustainable energy and the fight against climate change.** Our daily work is also characterized by initiatives that contribute directly to **SDG 8, 16 and 17:** the improvement and growth of quality work, the effort towards true justice and peace, and the support of the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development, with our (inter)national collaborations in the pursuit of achieving the SDG. In that regard, we must underline **the renewal of the Special Consultative Status of Mensajeros de la Paz granted by the United Nations Economic and Social Council.**

It is our intention to keep deepening and improving our contribution to the SDG and to continue the constant monitoring of our impact and participation on them.