

# **ANNUAL REPORT 2022**



DMI DEVELOPMENT MISSION
REPUBLIC OF CENTRAL AFRICA



## **Acknowledgement**

DMI expresses gratitude to God the almighty for the blessings on us to successfully carry out the socio-development programs in 2022.

DMI would like to thank donors and well-wishers for the financial support that helped the target communities to have access to socio-economic status in the society.

DMI would like to thank all staff team and members for their commitments, assistance and this endeavour would not have been possible without the support of the founder, superior general, provincials and country directors. DMI thanks them for their motivation, guidance and technical support in transforming their life with due dignity.

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## NOTE FROM THE MISSION DIRECTOR

I am happy to present the 2022 Annual Report, reporting on core activities that were undertaken during this period proving its impact and believing even better into the near future.

Our strategic plan of "enhancing the ability of vulnerable women, youth, children and persons with disability to have access to a sustainable livelihood and socio-economic status with dignity" will



guide our work for many more years. This is crucial in terms of bringing entire target communities together behind the same development objectives considering the changing climatic scenario and socio-economic condition. There are different issues to work on but, I am sure, this issue is more paramount important than others that are directly related to the livelihoods of one and all. Our colleagues and partners in our program looked at how the world was changing and hence came up with a single consolidated strategy. Through the partnership with people and gender equality at its heart, the plan sets ambitious development goals and how DMI can best contribute to fighting for their rights-empowering women, promoting sustainable farming practices, developing children and youth, health, and well-being for the community.

The strength of the partnership rests on the clear guidance of how we will work through 2022, striving to build and improve sustainable practices in our work in all areas. In the context of the present plan, I look forward to serving as a voice for women, GBV survivors, and farmers living in abject poverty and ensuring recognition for the work of DMI.

I look forward to working with partners around the globe and I would like to thank all of our supporters, donors, partners, staff, and volunteers for their contributions. In particular, I thank our founder father, superior general, provincials, and country directors who did so much to consolidate our planning and be able to campaign more vigorously and credibly than ever before.

Throughout the pages of this report, I invite you to reflect on the range of DMI's activities, through its emergency response work and development programs, to help people lift themselves out of poverty and find greater equality.

May God Bless You all and Our Global Mission!

Sr. Viji, DMI

## NOTE FROM THE COUNTRY DIRECTOR

Dear all,

I am highly happy to present this annual report for the year-2022.

It has been a year of challenges and finding solutions for women's and children development, topped of course by the Corona Virus and its variants. As we head into the new year, we must find more innovative solutions!



We built capacities of women and young girls in sustainable farming, SHG and Savings, federations, and other vocational skills to enhance their skills and earning capacity for their dignified life. We empowered the poor and needy children through quality primary education, trained them in children's parliaments and developed leadership qualities, ensured nutrition and health to prevent children from hunger and semi-starvation, and enhanced their self-confidence for their bright future.

We are very aware that we need to keep our women engaged and updated with various skills and children engaged in education. If not, we will lose them back to the poverty cycle which, without the opportunities that we provide, will encompass our women and children again. We will not let that happen.

Every cloud has a silver lining- we will use this time to further enhance and develop knowledge and skills and development education through innovative methods and standardize it. The DMI team remains focused on reaching our women and children in the most difficult circumstances by providing love, care, and education. In this way, we uphold the country motto - Unité, Dignité, & Travail (Unity, Dignity, and Work) in our actions.

Let me end by saying a tremendous thank you to all our generous and loving donors. We could not have done it without you! I thank God almighty for his abundant blessing and graces during 2022 and in the coming years ahead.

I thank our founder father, superior general, provincials, my team members, and various stakeholders for all your support and encouragement to standardize the programs and escalate the lives of our target women, children, and youth in CAR.

Thank you forever.

Sr. Amala, DMI

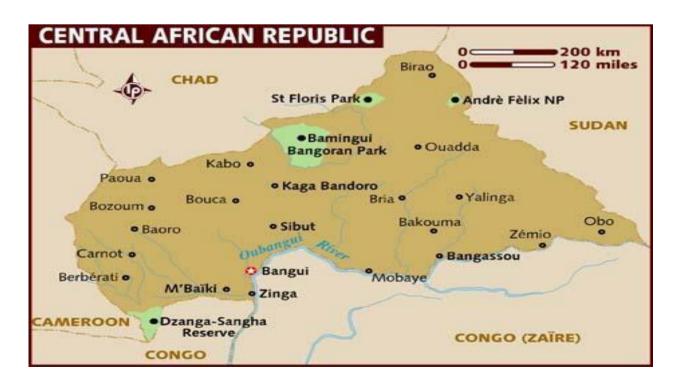
#### **INTRODUCTION**

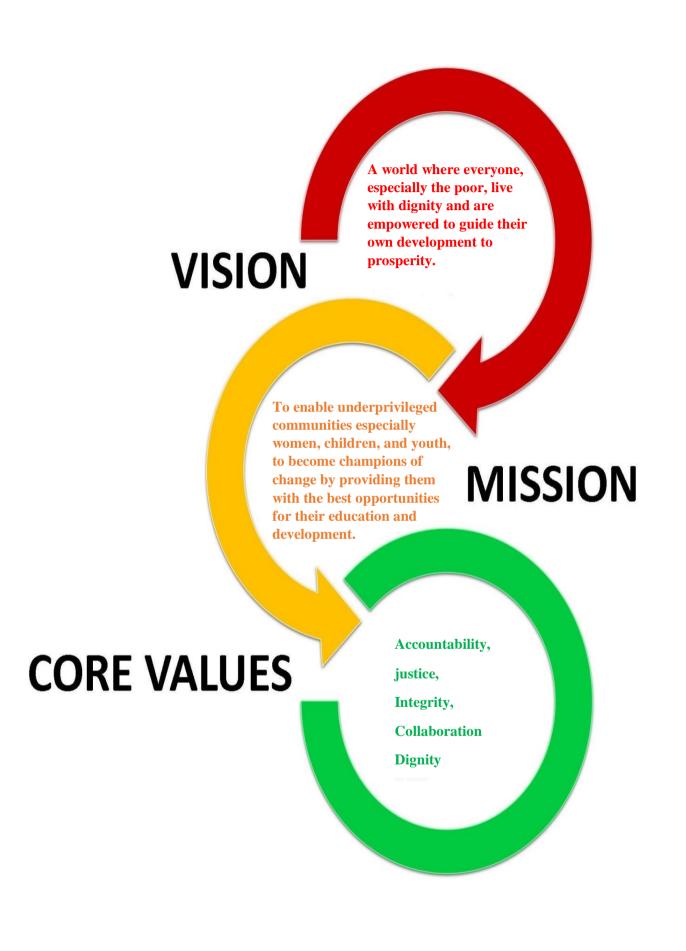
The Central African Republic lives in an environment marked by internal instability, for ten years it has suffered repeated military and political crises which have affected the socio-economic fabric and the defence and security forces.

The political history of this country of about 3.5 million inhabitants is punctuated by political upheavals, leading to institutional and economic instability unfavourable to its development. During these recurrent crises, many of the children fell victim in various ways, including because the education system was in a chaotic state. But at the beginning of 2022, we are seeing a marked improvement in security and peace is gradually returning to this country, which has enabled DMI AHI to come to the aid of nearly 2297 children who have lost hope.

Women's empowerment is a part to encourage women to feel strong by telling them that they can do everything that they want to do. Women can work outside their home, have opportunity to make up their mind. ... Empowerment helps to reduce in domestic violence due people promote and give the value to women. Characteristics like intelligence, success, and kindness are just a few examples that make women feel empowered. ... While a variety of celebrities do come to mind when thinking of empowering women, respondents also enjoy empowering role models like themselves. Women's empowerment is all about equipping and allowing women to make life-determining decisions through the different problems in society. We thank God and our well-wishers for their support and guidance to initiate various processes for womenfolk and

children and helping them to have access to dignity and a quality of life in the society.





#### RATIONALE FOR IMPLEMENTING FOLLOWING PROGRAM

The Central African Republic is a fragile country. The Central African Republic remains one of the poorest countries in the world and is grappling with numerous human capital challenges. It is one of the world's poorest and most fragile countries despite its abundant natural resources (470 mineral occurrences, with oil, gold, and diamonds having the most significant potential). With a population of over six million, the Central African Republic ranks at the bottom of the Human Capital- 188th out of 189 on the Human Development Index. It is estimated that approximately 71% of the population was living below the international poverty line.

Almost 664,000 persons remain internally displaced while 735,000 Central African refugees are sheltering in neighbouring countries due to poverty, civil wars, lack of employment, and poor income (UNHCR).

The Central African Republic has one of the lowest education and gender equality indicators in the world. The poor quality of primary education, the nonexistence of secondary school education for girls, and the numerous cases of violence against women and girls remain pressing challenges for the country.

Maternal mortality is among the world's highest (882 per 100,000 live births), while the under-five child mortality rate is the sixth highest in the world, (116 children out of every 1,000) (UNICEF). The average life expectancy is 53 years. 40% of the population suffers from chronic malnutrition while fertility rates remain high with 6.4 children per woman.

Its institutions are weak, citizens have limited access to basic services, infrastructure is woefully inadequate, gender-based violence is widespread, and the social fabric has been eroded. The cycles of violence are deeply entrenched, owing primarily to (i) a lack of social cohesion, (ii) the concentration of political power in the hands of a small elite, (iii) social and regional disparities, (iv) the capture and mismanagement of natural resources by the elite, and (v) persistent insecurity fuelled by a regional system of conflicts.

The main challenges remain (i) the restoration of lasting peace and security and (ii) fostering more inclusive economic growth; economic diversification; the creation of better jobs; improved human capital; the promotion and improvement of the business environment; and strengthened farming capacity.

It is estimated that 3.1 million Central Africans, or more than half of the country's population, are expected to need humanitarian assistance.

## **KEY PROGRAM STRATEGIES**

- Supporting the Disadvantaged Children to access Education and Wellbeing
- Enhancing the abilities of vulnerable women to access Socio-Economic Status with Dignity
- Providing Sustainable Farming Skills for farmers to Secure Food and Nutrition
- Organizing relief assistance to the communities affected by conflict, flood and drought emergencies through networks

## **COUNTRY KEY RESULTS DATA**

No. of States/regions reached	2
No. of Districts	2
No. of Villages reached	52
No. of school under DMI	2
Schools under WFP	52
No of children under WFP	26,000
No. of Groups formed	148
No. of Women Members	2960
No of training for women	1440
No. of Children Members in the parliament	500

## **COUNTRY KEY PROGRAMS AND RESULTS**



### **CHILDREN PROGRAM**

#### **Education Support to the Children**

DMI started six preschools and informal community schools for the vulnerable children to address the rampant prevalence of malnutrition, poor access to basic and fundamental education in CAR. School education programs enabled children to learn and speak fluently English and French and also improved their extracurricular skills through joyful learning methods. In this way, school teachers committed in their profession of teaching to help children have interest in education for their bright future.

#### Vertical Garden to ensure Nutrition and prevent children from hunger

DMI team introduced vertical gardening activity for school children to know the importance of agriculture, cultivate and consume their own produces. We have promoted 6 vertical gardens in all schools and children have learned to prevent from hunger and starvation.



#### **Midday Meals**

DMI team has been supporting school children with midday meal program. 52 children have been benefitted from this noonmeal program. The provision of nutritious food motivated the children to attend school, helped them to improve their immunity, and to address their semi starvation level and concentrate their learning.



#### **Children Parliament**

Children parliament program helped children to understand the governance and political system and to improve their leadership skills. Each children parliament has 9 ministers to find out the issues and resolve through a collective process. This Children's Parliament forum enhanced children's knowledge on their roles and responsibilities to look at the problems related to children and community and come up with their own solutions.





## WOMEN DEVELOPMENT

#### **Promotion of Women Groups and Federation**

DMI has given proper orientation on Self Help Group concept to the members in order to know each other, improve their cohesion, and plan for savings and lending practices in Lobaye and Bangui. The women members cultivated the practice of organizing a regular weekly meetings and savings through trainings and inputs from sisters. The group members were consolidated into federations to excel their entrepreneurial skills to start various economic activities and generate sustainable income to address poverty, poor income and hunger in the families.





## **SKILL TRAINING**

#### **Training on Catering**

432 women enhanced their knowledge and skills have started generating income through catering services.



#### **Training on Tailoring**

678 women have participated and enhanced their tailoring skills to stich 45 types of dresses from Sica 2, St. Paul, Damara, Samba and Cattin.



#### **Training on handicrafts**

326 women members have learned handicrafts skill and engaged in designing business.





## **FOOD SECURITY PROGRAM**

#### Training on Gari Making: -

246 women from Samba, Bimbo 2, Bimboo 3 and Damara have learned Gari making.

Garri is a type of carbohydrate food that you get from processing raw cassava. It is a major meal of many West African countries, especially



Food is obviously a basic necessity of life, the lack of which in any home apparently projects that family for poverty with the inherent low esteem of the family. This training educated the farmers how to do the agribusiness by enhancing productivity in an economic manner. Over 100 women members from Banguil and in Lobaye benefitted and engaged in sustainable farming practices. They have also promoted home vertical gardens.



## **HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE**



HHI Team distributed food and non-food items for the Physically Challenged People in the name St. Joseph Bread. Over 350 persons benefitted through this Scheme to prevent them from hunger.



## **SPECIAL EVENTS, VISITS AND MEDIA COVERAGE**

#### Celebration of International Women's Day

On 23rd March-2022, DMI team celebrated the international women's day with over 2360 women and children in Bangui, Central African Republic. This celebration disseminated the information of gender equality to all community members. Women members performed various cultural performances- traditional dance and exhibited their handcrafts skills. The honourable President appreciated and encouraged them to uphold their rights in families, communities and society by upgrading their knowledge and skills. This event was telecasted in print and electronic media.



#### Celebration of Mother's Day

DMI team observed the International Mother's Day on May 29th in 2022. This event honoured all mothers and women for their motherhood status, and efforts to encourage children to cherish themselves throughout their lives. Over 450 women participated and happily celebrated this day.

#### **MEDIA PITCH**



Admin • 23 h • 🔣

#Centrafrique : Célébration en différé de la journée internationale des droits des femmes par les membres de l'ONG Daughters of Mary Immaculate

L'ONG Daughters of Mary Immaculate (DMI) a organisé en différé le mercredi 23 mars 2022 à l'Omnisport à Bangui, la célébration de la journée internationale des droits de femmes. Une célébration portée sur la question de l'entrepreneuriat chez les femmes et à une meilleure scolarisation des enfants. Ceci en partenariat avec le Programme Alimentaire Mondiale (PAM).



OUBANGUIMEDIAS.COM

Centrafrique : Célébration en différé de la journée internationale des droits des femmes...





#### **Network and Linkages**

WFP supported 2206 women members from Samba, Bimbo2, Bimbo3, Begoua and Bangui-1 federation for their daily sustenance through the financial assistance on 4th,7th,8th and 9th. Each beneficiary received 18000F to meet their daily needs and to address their poverty and hunger situation.



# SUCCESS STORIES

#### THANK YOU (DMI) FOR LIGHT IN MY LIFE

My name is YASSIPOU Martine and I am the mother of 10 children, including 4 boys and 6 girls. My husband was Motto Driver. My husband met with the Accident and passed away, and then I was finding difficulty to lead my family. Later with the support of DMI Sisters and pre– Africa I receive every month food, it is helping us to feed my children, my children also studying in St. Philomena School with the support of DMI Sisters. I sincerely thank DMI Sisters for their guidance.



## CONCLUSION

The developmental Programme of HHI has accomplished inspiring changes in the community it has been working. Our active engagement brought tangible changes among the marginalized and oppressed communities. HHI Central African Republic teams give sincere thanks to well-wishers, donor organizations and friends for their relentless support and guidance. We are ever grateful to our Founder Fr. J.E. Arul raj and superior general for their contribution and guidance. In the coming year, we envisage consolidating our base through innovative program and strategies.



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