



AMASC 2018 - 2022

LET'S LIVE TOGETHER

THE FAMILY OF THE SACRED HEART

Together

**WE CAN OFFER A FUTURE
FOR THE CHILDREN OF BOUGOUDANG**



EDUCATION IS THE KEY TO THE FUTURE OF A CHILD

We who have had the chance - or are still lucky - to be educated in a good school, help the Sisters of the Sacred Heart (RSCJ) to continue their educational mission in a region of the world where 75% of adults and 90% of women are illiterate.

In southwestern Chad, in the small town of Bougoudang, where they have already founded a Professional Agricultural College in 1999 to teach future young adults how to better cultivate their land and raise their herds, the RSCJ today have the project of improving this primary school.

By joining forces to support them, we can amplify their actions. We will also learn to understand each other better and will have the joy of experiencing concretely what an international association such as ours can accomplish, as long as it wants to live in harmony, solidarity and trust, as we do in a real family.

THE RSCJ PROJECT IN BOUGOUDANG

The Presence of the RSCJ in Chad

The Sisters of the Sacred Heart are educators. Whether in their schools or in other settings (chaplancy, workshops, clinics, summer camps ...), they are committed to grow those entrusted to them in all dimensions of their being, with a predilection for women and children.

Arriving in Chad in 1964, to take care of the education of young girls, they first opened a college then a high school in the capital N'Djamena, which now hosts more than 1000 students and is touted as one of the best schools in the country.

Subsequently, a small community of RSCJ settled in the South, in the city of Bongor, from where they had access to Bougoudang, located about thirty kilometers of tracks.

The Village of Bougoudang

Located near the Logone River, along the North-East border of Cameroon, 230 km south of N'Djamena, Bougoudang is a small rural community whose population, very poor, lives mainly from agriculture and fishing.

In this desertification zone, where many villages do not yet have drinking water, the climate is harsh, marked by two seasons, one dry and the other one rainy (from June to September) with temperatures up to 43 °C and more in the shade.

The Challenge of Schooling

The illiteracy rate of the local population, among the highest in the world, is explained by the almost total lack of resources at all levels: lack of educational centers, trained teachers, transport difficulties, lack money to pay the children's school fees, however small, etc.

In these very poor communities, the value of studying, especially for girls, is not understood because they survive day-to-day, and it is a duty to work from an early age to help the family. In addition, an education is not a priority in the state.

Bougoudang Primary School

In 1991, with the help of a Spanish RSCJ, Carmen Rozales, and an Oblate nun, Jeannette Mougenot, a small community school was opened, the construction of which all parents of students helped by providing land, making earth bricks, etc.

Nearly 800 young students attend school there today, often from the surrounding Massa villages. Some travel several tens of kilometers to go to school or arrive by canoe in the rainy season.

Despite the construction of two new buildings to which the RSCJ have collaborated, there are still more than 70 children per class, so the school resources are very limited. Also, when the children leave school, they have difficulty integrating with the "Espoir de Bougoudang" professional agricultural college. This college was created nearby by the RSCJ with the help of the villagers, which is now managed by a Polish RSCJ, Dorota Zych. Hence, the focus is now to improve the conditions of reception and the operation of the small primary school of Bougoudang.

The Project of Dorota Zych, RSCJ

In Chad for 24 years, including 14 in Bougoudang, Sr Dorota is well integrated with the local population. As Director of the Professional Agricultural College "Hope of Bougoudang", she is well placed to discern the gaps and the needs of the small primary school she wants to raise.

Depending on the size of the support she could receive, her project goals would be to meet the most urgent needs which she identifies as the following:

- Lack of classrooms, toilets, school furniture and equipment, books
- Renovations needed for existing structures
- Salaries for school teachers, which is not provided by the State, but by the parents of students, who themselves are challenged
- Lack of teacher training ...

HOW TO SUPPORT THE RSCJ PROJECT IN BOUGOUDANG?

An Appeal to Alumni Around the World

Whether through their national associations, school associations or personal donations, all alumni from around the world are invited to join the RSCJ to support their beautiful project, each according to his/her possibilities and talents. Fundraising ideas might include organizing bridge tournaments, sporting events, auctions, lotteries ...

This fundraising challenge for all Sacred Heart alums could also be broadcast to the sacred-heart schools, for Lent, sponsorship or solidarity days, as well as foundations specifically dedicated to youth education or the support of developing countries. The imagination of the heart has no limit!

The Contribution of the AMASC

As it was the case during the 2006-2010 mandate, the AMASC proposes to collect the collected funds each year, which will be sent to this project by a bank transfer. Please specify your donation by earmarking it "Bougoudang":

AMASC AISBL
World Association of the Former of the Sacred Heart
BE28 3631 8910 9220
BIC / Swift: BBRUBEBB
ING Bank,
Cours Saint-Michel Agency,
Cours Saint-Michel 60
B- 1040 ETTERBEEK

Your donations will then be immediately re-transmitted to the Mother House of the Sacred Heart.

In addition, with the approval of its Board of Directors, AMASC will also contribute to the fund.

Reports of donation amounts will be regularly published on its website: www.amasc-sacrecoeur.net.
A summary of what has been achieved will then be presented at the next World Congress of AMASC in 2022, including the most outstanding initiatives.

As Sr. Dorota Zych pointed out when AMASC consulted her on her project: "*For us, the Religious of the Sacred Heart, according to the thought of our founder, St. Madeleine Sophie Barat 'For a single child, we would go to the end of the world. For the moment, this end of the world is for me our little village of Bougoudang. May this project become the end goal of all of our associations, schools or generous donors over the next 3 years, so that with the RSCJ, we all contribute together to make this world a little better.*"

AMASC

World Association of Former and Elders of the Sacred Heart

AISLB

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SOME PICTURES



Field work in Boulogouang



Breeding



Pupils of the Professional Agricultural College "Espoir de Boulogouang"



RSCJ and Teachers



Primary school of Boulogouang



Classroom