2015 ANNUAL REPORT
You make it possible
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Opening the windows of hope

At Educo we believe that people have the power to change the world. This year, more than ever, we have affirmed this belief through the development and social action projects that we carry out around the world thanks to the support of our sponsors, donors and collaborators. Projects that have helped positively transform the lives of thousands of people facing especially difficult circumstances.

The challenges posed to us by a changing global context compel us, as an organization, to adapt so that we can increase our impact, enhance our effectiveness, be more flexible and have a greater capacity to influence public authorities.

That is why in 2015, in addition to the work we carry out directly or through local organizations in our program countries, we have heightened our collaboration with other members of the ChildFund Alliance, an international network of NGOs to which we contribute over 25 years’ experience working for children and with whom we join forces and know-how to reach more people.

Little by little, we are helping to transform realities. This year, the United Nations has verified the progress made in world development since the start of the century and has set new goals to be reached by 2030. Among other achievements, today we can confirm that many more children attend school and child mortality has been reduced by over fifty percent. Nevertheless, there are still many inequalities to be eradicated and many injustices to be resolved, especially when it comes to the most vulnerable children. It is within the framework of this global endeavor that Educo will continue fighting every day to open new windows of hope and to build together a more just world.

Thank you for your support.

José M. Faura
Executive Director of Educo
About us

We are a global development NGO with over 25 years’ experience defending children and their rights, in particular the right to equitable and quality education. We develop social projects in Spain and countries in Africa, America and Asia through which more than 550,000 children and 150,000 adults participate in promoting just and equitable societies. We envision a world where all children fully enjoy their rights and lead a life of dignity. We are members of ChildFund Alliance, one of the foremost international networks of NGOs working in favor of child protection on five continents.

Our work is based on fundamental values that inspire our mission: social commitment, equity and respect. Likewise, all of our actions are guided by the principles of participation, non-discrimination, transparency and dynamic spirit.

What drives us?

We promote education not only as a basic right, but also as an indispensable means for achieving other rights and freedoms and as an essential tool for fighting poverty and empowering people to transform their context at a personal, local and global level.

Our work

We work in close collaboration with children—our priority group—and with local communities, public institutions and civil society to guide them in processes of transformative and sustainable development.

All of our programs and projects address the structural causes of vulnerability and exclusion so that their positive impact will last long into the future.

Board of Trustees

Chairman: Julio Molinario
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We want all children to attend school and, at the very least, to complete their primary education. This education should be of quality and schools should be equipped with the appropriate installations and materials.

We work to protect children’s rights and ensure that they enjoy a healthy environment, free from all forms of violence, abuse, exploitation, negligence and discrimination.

We want all children to be able to freely express their ideas and opinions and to influence those decisions that affect them.

We want children to enjoy good health through the prevention and treatment of illness, improved nutrition and families’ access to adequate food.

We work to ensure that families have a guaranteed minimum income that will enable them to improve their living conditions and foster their children’s proper growth and development.

We respond to emergency situations in our intervention areas and work with schools and communities to prevent and reduce risk through disaster management plans.
Where we work

1. Guatemala
2. El Salvador
3. Nicaragua
4. Bolivia
5. Ecuador
6. Peru
7. Senegal
8. Mali
9. Burkina Faso
10. Ghana
11. Benin
12. India
13. Bangladesh
14. Cambodia
15. Philippines
16. Spain

We act in 16 countries
We carry out 123 international development projects
36 en Africa, 53 en America, 34 en Asia

57 social action and development education projects in Spain

We work in 3,372 schools

555,133 children and 193,431 adults participate directly in our projects

108,084 people support us with donations

555,133 children and 193,431 adults participate directly in our projects

We carry out 123 international development projects
36 en Africa, 53 en America, 34 en Asia

57 social action and development education projects in Spain

We work in 3,372 schools
Month by month

January
Renovated classrooms. In the aftermath of Typhoon Hagupit, we refurbished damaged schools so that children in the Philippines would not have to miss their classes.

February
Against child labor. We promote an alliance of NGOs in Burkina Faso to fight exploitative child labor, especially in the country’s mines.

March
School gardens. In Mali, the creation of school gardens and lunchrooms has improved students’ nutrition, as well as the attendance of many children who live in remote areas.

April
Toys for street children. Thanks to the donations received, we provide toys and learning materials to 558 street children in Pune and Nashik (India).

May
The right to participate. We create Student Councils in Salvadoran schools so that students can learn to organize, voice their opinion and participate in school life.

June
Summer lunchroom grants. We renewed the summer program to ensure more children’s participation in recreational activities that provide them with a balanced meal.

July
Learning and playing. We distribute material to 247 rural schools in Quiché, Guatemala, including educational games adapted to different grade levels.

August
Refugee crisis. In response to the worst humanitarian crisis in Europe in recent decades, Educo signed a petition demanding that the European Union protect refugee children.

September
Children free from violence. ChildFund’s Free from Violence campaign successfully lobbied to include the eradication of violence against children in the Sustainable Development Goals.

October
Child wellbeing in debate. Educo’s 1st International Congress manifests the need for social actors to consider what children think and say.

November
One step forward. The creation of the Advisory Council for the Children of Guayaquil, made up of children and adolescents, represents a milestone in the defense of their rights.

December
A vote for children. In the context of Spain’s general elections we launched the #VoteForChildren campaign to place children and their interests at the center of the debate. 
Despite progress made in recent years, many children from rural areas and the slums of major cities continue to drop out or remain out of school. Families’ poverty and the persistence of social problems such as child labor, early marriage and discrimination hinder the development of thousands of children, who are obliged to work to help their families. That is why we work in collaboration with other organizations to enhance child protection mechanisms in the country.

In the big cities of the south, we offer street children guidance, healthcare, shelter and education programs aimed at integrating them into the formal education system.

In the rural areas of Snnen and Bembèrèkè, in the north, we work to improve schools and encourage the local population to get involved in children’s education. In the case of girls, who typically face more obstacles to an education, we take special measures to monitor their academic performance and raise their families’ awareness about the importance of their daughters’ education.

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In order to increase children’s access to and persistence in the education system, we help rural schools in Yatenga to improve learning conditions through actions like the construction and renovation of classrooms, the provision of equipment and adaptation of school lunchrooms, the distribution of pedagogical material to over 17,000 students and teacher training.

We also work closely with families and communities to raise their awareness of the importance of their children’s education. On the other hand, we have provided 116 girls with grants for their secondary education and have trained 370 young people on how to use new technologies, so they can improve their job prospects.

In the case of young children, our orphanage in Ouahigouya has provided refuge to 43 infants and our nutritional recovery center has attended over 1,600 undernourished children—many of them severe cases—and educated their mothers on proper childcare and nutritional practices.

We also support families and farming organizations in 11 communities so that they can increase their crop yield and improve their diet.

In Africa, Educo has worked in the following countries: Burkina Faso, Benin, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Togo, and the Atlantic Ocean. In Burkina Faso, Yatenga Province, in the Nord Region, educo projects involved 21,648 children and young people, 24,160 adults, 86 schools, and 57 communities.

The children of these villages in Yatenga celebrated the inauguration of their new school with song and dance. The schools were built as part of the projects that Educo carries out in coordination with the Ministry of Education to improve local children’s access to primary education. The new centers provide service to many children who would otherwise find themselves excluded from the education system.

**Education**
- Improving children’s access to primary education
- Improving the quality of primary education
- Improving access to new technologies
- Secondary school grants program
- Enhancing the capacities of parents’ associations in schools

**Health and nutrition**
- Improving the population’s health conditions
- Improving the nutritional health of children under five years’ old

**Economic development**
- Improving community groups’ development of economic activities
- Increasing performance of rainfed agricultural production

**Child protection**
- Caring for child orphans under two years’ old

In 2015, the Yatenga Province provided refuge to 43 infants and attended over 1,600 undernourished children, educating their mothers on proper childcare and nutritional practices. We also supported families and farming organizations in 11 communities, increasing their crop yield and improving their diet. In order to increase children’s access to and persistence in the education system, we helped rural schools in Yatenga to improve learning conditions through actions like the construction and renovation of classrooms, the provision of equipment and adaptation of school lunchrooms, the distribution of pedagogical material to over 17,000 students and teacher training.

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In several rural communities of Kumbungu we offer a professional training program for young people, especially girls, so they can improve their employment prospects and earn a living without having to migrate to southern cities, where most of them end up working as load-bearers in the marketplace and are exposed to all types of abuse and exploitation.

That is why we work to raise child rights awareness among families, society and public authorities, on the one hand, and to support schools by providing didactic materials, renovating equipment, establishing computer labs and training teachers. We also set up extracurricular learning centers where children can reinforce what they learn in class through play.

**Projects**

**Education**
- Primary education for children in Savelugu (PAORP-VWC)
- Integrating new technologies in education (Savana Signatures)
- Non-formal education and training for disadvantaged youth in rural areas of Kumbungu (YDRC)
- Enhancing participatory school management (NNED)
- Reducing poverty through early childhood development (Tuma Kavi)

**Child protection**
- Preventing child trafficking in the North Tongu District of the Volta Region (Apple)

(\textit{In parenthesis, the local partner organization})

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2015 marked the completion of Educo’s two final projects in the country: “Social and professional insertion of street youths” (with local partner Village Pilote) and “Enhancing capacities for economic and social development in peripheric areas of Dakar and Joal Fadiouth.” Over the course of the year, the first project has helped 86 young people and adolescents at risk of exclusion to develop a professional project, while the second project has taught more than 1,100 women how to manage small businesses through the creation of mutual support networks.
Worokia is eleven years old and lives in a village on the banks of the Niger River. This year she will finish primary school and, despite the difficulties involved, she wishes to continue her studies and become a doctor. Her mother supports her dream: “I send my daughter to school every day so that one day she can help the family”. Worokia is sure of one thing: “If I study, I will earn my certificate and know more”. Next year, she will begin secondary school and start making her dream a reality.

In the area of health, we facilitate treatment for children with diseases like typhoid fever and malaria and we support the government program to equip schools with sanitation and drinking water systems. We also help train students and teachers in good hygiene practices. In the schools with the worst indexes of child undernourishment, we have created gardens and lunchrooms to help improve children’s diet and encourage their school attendance.

In rural and peri-urban communities of the Segou area, where only six out of ten children attend school and many never complete their primary education, we work to guarantee educational access and to reduce academic failure. We renovate school classrooms, provide necessary equipment and learning material, and train teachers in new teaching methods. We also provide support to children with learning difficulties so they can keep up with the class and build their self-confidence. At the same time, we encourage families and communities to participate in education and provide guidance to each center’s school management committees. We have also extended the adult literacy programs to include members of these committees.

In Africa MALI 21,969 children and young people 9,440 adults 54 schools 6 communities

The dream of becoming a doctor

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The outskirts of La Paz are made up of marginal neighborhoods where people live in precarious and unhealthy conditions. Poverty and poor living conditions especially affect children, who often suffer from discrimination and illness. Schools do not have enough resources to promote a quality education.

Given this situation, we work to improve teaching quality by providing schools with didactic material, renovating installations and training teachers. At the same time, we aim to improve the health and wellbeing of students through sanitary installations, promoting healthy habits, families (teaching about healthy nutrition), and communities (improving public health services).

To fight gender violence and maltreatment of children, we support institutions in a coordinated strategy for preventing and responding to different types of violence.

Outside of the municipality of La Paz, we work to ensure that girls are not excluded from the education system and can complete their primary education cycle, and we support young farmers so they can build their capacities and improve their opportunities.

projects

Education
- Pilot Educational Unit in El Alto (Fe y Alegría)
- School installations and didactic material
- Ecological socio-productive education in Emborozú, Tarija (CETHA)

Health and nutrition
- Preventive health and environmental care in four neighborhoods of the San Antonio macro-district of La Paz (Fundación Sumaj Hual)
- Improvement and implementation of sanitary infrastructures in 20 educational centers (Fundación Sumaj Hual)
- Food security for women and children in Macro District 3 on the outskirts of La Paz (Fundación Centro de Cultura Popular)
- Strengthening the municipal healthcare model (Gobierno Autónomo Municipal de La Paz)
- Education as a tool for building gender equality in four municipalities in the Caine river basin (CEBIAE) (With the support of the Junta de Comunidades de Castilla-La Mancha)

Child protection
- Preventing and intervening in cases of commercial sexual violence involving children in El Alto (Fundación Munasim Kullakita)
- Addressing childhood violence through safe and caring treatment (Fundación La Paz)
- Strengthening the Local Intercultural Network for Violence Prevention and Care in the Maximiliano Paredes macro-district of La Paz (CEPROSI) (in parenthesis, the local partner organization)

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esther zelaya left school when she was 14 to help her family. Widowed at 22 with two young children, she worked as a day laborer to put food on the table. But she never gave up hope that one day she would resume her studies, and today, at the age of 28, she is studying to be a qualified agricultural specialist. "I am going to continue studying; I'm going to stick with it for my children. Educo and CETHA have given me a chance to move forward," she tells us.

"I study for my children"
In Guasmo and Isla Trinitaria, the two poorest neighborhoods of Guayaquil, we work so that the most vulnerable children can study in favorable conditions. In coordination with the Ministry of Education, we train teachers in innovative teaching methods so that they can help their students acquire necessary skills and competencies, especially in reading and math. On the other hand, we teach students to organize themselves and take part in participatory processes in their school or communities, and we raise families’ awareness so they can support their education and raise them in a kind and caring way. We also help schools update their infrastructures, didactic materials and equipment. In the area of health, we carry out nutritional monitoring programs and dental, auditory and visual health campaigns.

Outside the classroom, we improve primary health care services for children, with special attention to children with disabilities.

In the city of Portoviejo, we support a center for young people at risk of exclusion, offering them education, health care and psychosocial support through activities that combine sports with the development of a trade.

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EL SALVADOR

47,251 children and young people
7,915 adults
423 schools
263 communities

We work with disadvantaged rural communities to promote children’s access to quality education through the improvement of school infrastructures (classrooms, recreational areas, bathrooms, handwashing stations and sanitation systems), teacher training, and the provision of didactic material and games.

Our health programs include medical check-ups, deworming campaigns, ophthalmological exams, training in good hygiene practices and school gardens, which help both to improve students’ nutrition and raise their environmental awareness.

We also develop projects to enhance the capacities of young children and we provide secondary school study grants to girls. We work to promote children’s participation in school and the community through Student Councils and other representative bodies at the local and regional levels, and we advocate to the government and society to eradicate violence and discrimination against children. In this sense, we support civic centers to train particularly vulnerable young people and keep them out of youth gangs.

Projects

Education
- Creating ties of solidarity in favor of children
- Secondary school study grants for girls
- Improving children’s education
- Contributing to educational access in early childhood
- Opening schools to the community
- Youth Centers
- Enhancing the training and organizational capacities of the education community in eight rural communities of La Libertad, Cuscatlán, Chalatenango and Sonsonate (CIACZO) (With the support of the Junta de Comunidades de Castilla-La Mancha)

Health and nutrition
- Promoting healthy dietary habits and practices
- School garden program (With the support of the Ministry of Education)

Child protection
- Reinforcing public policies
- Contributing to the implementation of the Comprehensive Child Protection System
- Strengthening the capacities of public and private institutions to prevent gender violence in Nicaragua and El Salvador (CIACZO) (With the support of the Diputación Foral de Bizkaia)
- Strengthening the capacities of 11 municipalities to prevent and eradicate child labor (With the support of the ILO)

Economic development
- Strengthening local economic development

Revised vision

The periodic review of students’ eyesight is key to preventing vision problems and school failure. And yet, for many poor families in El Salvador, these check-ups, let alone buying glasses, is often an unsurmountable obstacle. That is why Educo conducts ophthalmological exams in our program schools and provide glasses to children who need them.

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In the most disadvantaged areas of Quiché—a department whose mainly indigenous population lives in extreme vulnerability—we support rural schools so they can improve their infrastructure and sanitary installations, and thus provide a safe environment for children. At the same time, we help improve teaching quality by enhancing mother-tongue instruction based on bilingual teaching materials and by training teachers in pedagogical methods. Likewise, we carry out tutoring programs for children with learning difficulties and help girls in rural areas access secondary education through our study grants.

In response to the food crisis provoked by the prolonged drought in the country, we continue supporting rural families with new farming techniques, the introduction of sustainable crops, the distribution of seeds and farm animals, improved home kitchen equipment and training in hygiene and nutrition. This way, in addition to helping the families increase their income, they also enjoy healthier and more varied diets and do not feel obligated to migrate to other areas. We also contribute to raising child rights awareness among public authorities and the general population.

From children’s songs to instill good hygiene habits to the installation of school bathrooms, Educo’s health program contributes to preventing disease and helping children grow up healthy and strong. Many schools have replaced old and unsanitary bathrooms for new ones, and children and their families have adopted simple habits, such as washing their hands before meals.

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Projects

**Education**
- Ixchel grants for girls (AKEBI)
- Enhancing the Kemtzij pedagogical guidance system (Prodessa)
- Wokaj Chak Patan (Community Work Organizations) (AKEBI)
- Schools and communities that promote children’s right to water and sanitation (Water for People)

**Health and nutrition**
- Improving the diet of indigenous and farming families in the Chiché and Santa Cruz municipalities of El Quiché (CUCG)
- Strengthening food security and rural development in eight indigenous communities of El Quiché (CCDA)

**Child protection**
- Mainstreaming child rights
- Promoting and protecting the sexual and reproductive rights of children in Chichicastenango (Pies de Occidente)

"Let’s wash our hands"

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NICARAGUA

In our program schools in the rural areas of Jinotega, Matagalpa and San Rafael del Norte and in the marginal neighborhoods of Managua, we work with the government and local administrations to improve educational quality through teacher training, students’ active participation in student leadership, and families’ involvement in their children’s education.

We also collaborate in the renewal of infrastructures and equipment, the installation of sanitary systems and the distribution of school material, in addition to our health programs to monitor students’ growth, prevent illness and correct any vision or hearing problems.

We work in the schools to promote an education in values, especially focused on eradicating gender inequalities and violence against women, and we train children so that they know their rights and can actively participate in society. This strategy also includes work with public and private institutions to promote frameworks of action aimed at protecting children. In Managua, we have supported a professional training program for particularly vulnerable adolescents and young people, to facilitate their social and professional integration.

Despite her family’s poverty, Amelia never stops smiling and works hard every day to learn. At school, she learned about children’s rights, including the right to education, and our teachers have visited her parents to raise their awareness of how important it is for their children to go to school. Amelia dreams of studying economics to “help my family live better.”

**Projects**

**Education**
- Attending to children in the program schools
- Child Rights-Based Approach to education
- Strengthening the comprehensive development and enhancing job skills of youths at risk of social exclusion in marginal urban areas of Managua (Cantera) (With support from the Ayuntamiento de Barcelona)

**Health and nutrition**
- Strengthening children’s right to food, nutrition and a healthy environment

**Child protection**
- Promoting a culture of Child Rights
- Strengthening public institutions
- Enhancing the capacities of public and private institutions to prevent gender violence in Nicaragua and El Salvador (Las Miriam) (With support from the Diputación Foral de Bizkaia)

**Participation**
- Building children’s capacities to exercise their right to participation - Club Infantil Jinotega (Tuktan Sirpi) (With support from the Ayuntamiento de Sant Cugat del Vallès and the Ayuntamiento de Sabadell)

(All projects are in parenthesis; the local partner organization)
We support early education (3-5 years) and primary schools (6-12 years) in Chincha and Pisco provinces through the distribution of didactic material and training programs for teachers, especially in core areas like math and communication.

We also introduce modern teaching methods and incorporate aspects like education in values, student leadership, child rights, respect for diversity, gender equity, healthy habits and environmental protection. We provide training so that youngsters can learn how to organize themselves, voice their opinions and take part in participatory processes, thus increasing their influence in school and society.

In various communities of Ayabaca and Piura Provinces, in the northern part of the country, we support young people and women in improving their livelihoods through the cultivation of organic cacao, while also enhancing their capacity to produce other local products or to breed sheep and goats. We train students in sixteen rural schools near the Ecuadorian border in sustainable agricultural development and handling new technologies so that they can manage their own businesses or improve their job prospects.

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For many children in Chincha and Pisco, maltreatment forms part of their day-to-day lives. That is why Educo works to promote respect for youngsters at school, at home and in society, in general. We explain to children what their rights are and we teach them how to identify abuse. At the school in Sunampe, students explain that “we have made a school for parents, so they commit to taking good care of us.”

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Fahim Sheikh is barely 10 years old. Still, he spends most of his day dismantling metal objects in a small, dirty workshop in Dhaka in exchange for six euros a month to help his family survive. This course, he has started to attend Educo’s school in the Shampur slum. Here, he can go back to being the child that he is. He wants to continue studying “to make something of himself in the future”.

Education
- Quality education for children in Educo schools
- Improving the education of working children
- Reinforcing public primary schools in Bhaluka
- Improving secondary education

Health and nutrition
- Developing healthy schools
- Developing healthy communities

Economic development
- Improving livelihoods in the communities
- Improving the economic conditions of working children

Child protection
- Integrating children in situations of vulnerability – Educo’s Shishu Nibash Orphanage

Social Participation
- Developing community participation

Outside of the classroom, we help families improve their livelihoods and increase their meager income. We organize cooperative women’s groups and train them in savings, microcredits and basic business management, and we advise them of developing textile activities (in urban areas) and agriculture, horticulture and poultry breeding (in rural areas).

The 36 Educo-run schools in the slums of Dhaka and the rural areas to the north of the capital (in Gazipur and Mymensingh) offer children from the most vulnerable families a chance to study. These centers have qualified teachers, pedagogical material, modern teaching methods, new technologies and health programs so that students are surrounded by a favorable learning environment and can grow up healthy. Five of these schools provide instruction adapted to the needs of working children, seeking the implication of their families and employers in facilitating their school attendance. In addition to the Educo-run centers, we also support public schools in the rural district of Bhaluka and provide secondary school study grants to local girls.

Asia

BANGLADESH

18,137 children and young people
28,236 adults
61 schools
55 communities

In the Shampur slum, Educo offers children a chance to study outside of the classroom.
In the eastern province of Svay Rieng and in the capital city of Phnom Penh, we work with the most vulnerable children to integrate them in the education system (starting in preschool) and reduce the situation of abuse and marginality in which they live. We have also initiated a project to help families increase their income through savings and through income-generating activities.

In the case of the most remote communities, where public schools do not exist, we support small community-run schools that also offer secondary school classes or function as outreach centers. In general, the aim is to transform these centers into “child friendly schools”, clean and secure places where children can learn and develop with the support of their families and society.

In the western province of Battambang, we work to guarantee children’s ability to attend school and study in favorable conditions, through actions that range from the physical equipping of classrooms or the installation of latrines and sanitation systems to teacher training, the introduction of new teaching methods, the distribution of pedagogical material and health education.

The Sen twins share dreams and hobbies. The ten-year-olds both like to go to school, play soccer and study. When they grow up, they want to work in an organization that helps people with disabilities. Their home is a humble wooden shack. Every day they go to school, where they are in the second grade. The –re they learn and have fun; and above all, pave the way for a brighter future for themselves and their family.

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Asia
PHILIPPINES

81,777 children and young people
55,003 adults
192 school
317 communities

To improve teaching quality in Bicol—one of the regions with the worst rates of child poverty, malnutrition and school performance—we support state programs for mother tongue teaching and reading in twelve municipalities of Albay, Camarines Sur and Sorsogon Provinces. We have equipped these centers with libraries, edited books in Bicolano and other local languages, and trained teachers in the effective application of multilingual classroom instruction. In ten of these schools we have also created innovative spaces to motivate children to enjoy learning. The involvement of families and communities also plays an important role, which is why we promote their participation in improving school infrastructures.

On the other hand, we work with six municipalities to enhance their children’s policies, promote a regulatory environment that protects children, promote participatory processes and raise social awareness. In the area of health, we work with public agencies to reduce undernourishment among the under-five population and help 600 farming families improve their crops through organic farming.

“In the second grade. At home she speaks Bicolano and still finds it difficult to express herself in English or Tagalog. For her, and for her classmates, studying in her native language makes it easier for her to understand her lessons and keep up with the class. This is the aim of our mother tongue teaching programs, which contribute to reducing school failure.”

“I understand the lessons better now”

Ganiemae is 8 years old and in the second grade. At home she speaks Bicolano and still finds it difficult to express herself in English or Tagalog. For her, and for her classmates, studying in her native language makes it easier for her to understand her lessons and keep up with the class. This is the aim of our mother tongue teaching programs, which contribute to reducing school failure.

2015 Annual report
In neighborhoods and communities of Pune, Nashik and Velhe we work with children from the most disadvantaged families so they can learn in favorable conditions. In their schools, we train teachers, distribute materials, renovate spaces, implement guidance programs and enhance the participation of the entire educational community, especially families. In these cities, as well as others like Bombay and Aurangabad, we combat school failure with tutoring programs and activities to stimulate early childhood development. In the capital of Maharashtra, we also support five secondary schools so that young people from the slums who abandoned their studies have a second chance to learn and improve their future.

Outside the classroom, we work with the most vulnerable children to integrate them in the education system and in society. This is the case of out-of-school street children living in Pune and Nashik; of children of construction workers who live in shanties on construction sites; of children with cerebral palsy who require specialized education; and of children from the Warli ethnicity who live in remote communities.

Every day, on the floor of his humble home in a Mumbai slum, young Swarat reviews his lessons. Despite his poverty, and through his own resolve, the 14-year old has managed to enroll in secondary school. He studies in one of the night schools that Educo supports to give a second chance to children and young people who cannot attend formal schools because they must work during the day or because their families cannot afford to send them.

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For the third year in row, Educo has offered its School Lunchroom Program, which aims to guarantee at least one square meal a day to children from families facing economic hardship. In addition to ensuring them a proper diet, the program also helps them integrate in the school and contributes to their academic performance. During the summer months, the program targets children who participate in leisure activities or urban camps that include meal service.

Thanks to the contributions received from individuals and companies in 2015, we were able to provide 662,441 meals throughout Spain. Since the launch of the program in September 2013, we have distributed over 1.2 million meals in schools and summer camp programs.

Educo’s Social Action Program (PAS) supports social organizations throughout Spain that work locally with children and adolescents at risk of social exclusion and their families through projects that improve school performance, social skills and integration in their communities. In 2015, the PAS has supported 49 projects in which some 3,729 children have participated regularly.

The PAS has a multiplying social impact not only on its participants but also on society, at large. In 2015, we analyzed this impact using the Social Return on Investment methodology (SROI), which shows that for every euro invested, the return to society has a value of 5.52 euros.

For the most part, this impact is felt by the children, who improve their ability to relate to others, their academic performance, their capacity to express their emotions and their critical thinking skills, among other things. The families and schools also benefit from a reduction in conflict both at home and at school, and social organizations and the public administration have also reported improvements.
Our delegations in Andalusia, Catalonia, Valencia, the Basque Country, Galicia and Madrid have engaged in several activities to increase knowledge about our program countries, raise critical awareness and promote the values of solidarity, social justice and sustainable human development among the educational community and society, at large. In Spain, together with two other NGOs, we lead the Global Campaign for Education (GCE), a movement active in over 100 countries to demand quality education for all.

We have worked on site in 120 educational centers throughout Spain offering workshops, training activities or acts of mobilization, including 21 street events: 12 as part of the Global Campaign for Education and 9 as part of Universal Children’s Day. We have also collaborated with 738 other centers and five universities (Barcelona, Basque Country, Alfonso X el Sabio, Pablo de Olavide and Santiago de Compostela).

DIDACTIC GUIDES

At the beginning of the 2015–2016 school year, we published our Education Catalog, a guide for addressing children’s rights. More than 1,500 centers have received this catalog of activities.

Over the course of the year, we have also updated our collection of educational videos entitled ‘A look at the South’, which includes:

- Before growing up: child labor in Bangladesh
- Water, source of life: children’s health in Mali
- They set the path: saying no to child marriage

LEARNING-SERVICE AWARD

Organized by Educo, Edebé and the Spanish Network of Learning-Service, this award recognizes the best projects developed by schools and social organizations in this area.
CAMPAIGNS AND ADVOCACY

At Educo we aim to influence the political agenda and decision-making processes to achieve changes in public policy, promote legislation and establish government commitments that make it possible to move towards more just and egalitarian societies.

2015 has been an important turning point, since the international community has set the new Sustainable Development Goals until 2030.

EDUCO’S INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS

More than 350 people participated in this conference, held last October in Madrid, which included presentations by renowned national and international experts. The Congress was innovative in opening a debate about a new perspective on child wellbeing, which consists in asking children what they think and feel about happiness.

FOR A CHILDHOOD FREE OF VIOLENCE

Within the framework of ChildFund’s Free from Violence initiative, we launched the campaign “For a childhood free of violence” to demand that world leaders include a target for eliminating all forms of violence against children as part of the new Sustainable Development Goals. Overall, the initiative gathered 680,000 signatures before being presented in the United Nations Summit meeting held in New York last September.

“I VOTE FOR EDUCATION, AND YOU?”

Global Action Week, the main annual event of the Global Campaign for Education, took place from April 20 to 26 and focused on taking stock of the progress made since 2000 in the achievement of the Education For All goals and reflecting on the challenges still ahead. Thousands of children participated in diverse activities organized all around Spain.

MANIFEST FOR SAFEGUARDING

In honor of the International Day of Non-Violence, on October 2, Educo and the 52 organizations that participate in the Social Action Program (PAS) signed a manifest “For the promotion of child protection and safeguarding in Spain” to reaffirm our commitment to children and to advocate for the guarantee of children’s rights.

NEW CHILD PROTECTION LAW

In July, the Spanish Congress of Deputies approved a new legal framework for reinforcing children’s rights. This marked a great achievement for Educo—as a member of the national Platform for Children—and other organizations who had been working on this agenda for some time.

#VOTEFORCHILDREN

In celebration of Universal Children’s Day, and given the proximity of the general elections on December 20, we launched this campaign to remind people that children should come first and that politicians and citizens alike must listen to them and work to respect their rights. In a video, four children impersonating key candidates expressed their demands.
THE NUMBERS DON’T LIE, AND NEITHER DO CHILDREN.
Child wellbeing in Spain in 2015
The study explores the importance of social relationships in ensuring children’s wellbeing, as summed up in a single sentence: “Poverty is not being able to invite friends to my house because I am ashamed”.

FOR A CHILDHOOD WITHOUT VIOLENCE.
Six lessons on how to invest in child protection.
Spanish adaptation of a report published by ChildFund Alliance as part of their Free from Violence campaign, which sets forth strategies for mobilizing resources to protect children.

CRISIS AND THE DOMINO EFFECT. ANY MORE PIECES LEFT TO FALL?
Child wellbeing: grandparents in the gap.
The study highlights, among other things, that 770,000 Spanish homes are without any source of income and that the number of children who cannot afford to eat chicken, meat or fish every two days has risen. It also underlines the role that the elderly play in supporting the family economy.

CHILD-FRIENDLY FEEDBACK AND COMPLAINT MECHANISMS WITHIN NGO PROGRAMS
This interagency study presents the results of a survey on good practices in establishing mechanisms for children’s participation in the programs of five international NGOs, among them Educo.

WELLBEING, A CONTEMPORARY CONVERSATION ABOUT HUMANITY
In this fourth publication of the project “Social change and cooperation in the 21st century”, which Educo coordinates with the University of Barcelona and the publishing house Icaria, six experts reflect on different approaches that contemplate wellbeing beyond its economic dimension.

EDUCO MAGAZINE
Our periodic publication is an effective means for communicating with our sponsors and collaborators and informing them of what we are doing in our program countries.

These and other publications are available in the “Publications and resources” section of our website, www.educo.org.
We work in collaboration with other associations to join forces and pool our experience and resources in favor of children. In 2015 we formalized our full membership in the Spanish Coordinator of DNGOs, the Galician Coordinator of DNGOs and the Platform for Children.

In the international arena

- ChildFund Alliance
- INGO (International NGO Charter of Accountability)
- CHS Alliance (Core Humanitarian Standard)
- CoNGO (Conference of NGO) in consultative status with ECOSOC

Networks and Alliances

We form part of over 100 networks and platforms at the local and state level in the countries where we work. The goal of these alliances is to coordinate efforts with other development actors, to influence public policies related to children and to integrate and complement public programs, especially in the areas of education and health.

In Spain

National level
- Global Campaign for Education
- Platform de Infancia (Platform for Children)
- Coordinator of Development NGOs
- Spanish Network for Development Studies (REEDES)
- Spanish Fundraising Association (AEFR)
- Spanish Association for Quality Management
- Children’s Committee of the Spanish Agency for International Development (AECID)
- National Association of Social Action and Intervention Organizations (OIEI)

Regional level
- Andalusian Coordinator of Development NGOs
- Platform for Children in Andalusia
- Committee for Children and Adolescents of Catalonia
- Federation of Organizations for Global Justice (LaFede.cat)
- Galician Coordinator of Development NGOs

Local level
- Network of organizations Children’s Day (Valencia)
- Sevillian Association of Development NGOs
- Volunteer group of Pablo de Olavide University (Seville)

In our program countries

- Children’s Committee of Badalona City Hall
- Barcelona Anti-rumors
- Council for Pedagogical Coordination (Barcelona)
- Child Rights Network (Barcelona)
- Council for Development and Solidarity (Sabadell)
- Council for Development of Bilbao City Hall
- Grupo tractor Bilbao, a fair trade city
- Network of Fair Trade DNGOs of Bilbao
- Volunteers’ Platform of La Coruña
- Getxotik Mundara (Getxo)
- Local Development Council of Vigo
Communication CAMPAIGNS

- “Solidary grandparents” spot. New school lunchroom campaign
- “A glass of milk” spot. Summer lunchroom campaign
- #VOTEFORCHILDREN. A viral video with over 1.8 million online views.
- Giving Tuesday. Joint initiative of 18 NGOs to increase solidary collaboration and donations among citizens.
- Solidary gift catalog. Gifts that cover real needs in the communities where we work.
- Crowdfunding campaign on microdonaciones.net to raise funds for projects in Burkina faso and India.
- Flash fiction contest “My grandfather and me”. We pay homage to super grandparents who make their grandchildren happy.
- Solidary birthday kit. We help you make your birthday an opportunity to help others.
- Solidary CEO auction. Eleven successful businessmen and women donate their time to help raise funds for the SHI grants program.
- Educo prize for socially responsible small-mid size businesses. For the first time, the awards given by the magazine Emprendedores include a category acknowledging the efforts of small to mid-size businesses to develop social responsibility policies.

AWARDS

Publifestival, 9th International Festival of Social Advertising.

- Best social viral action online: “Put yourself in my shoes”
- Best social TV spot against poverty: “Two glasses of milk”

The communication media, blogs and online solidarity platforms and social networks have helped us reach an increasing number of people.

33,090 visits a month to the educo.org website

14,737 visits a month to the educo.org blog

102,095 fans

23,983 followers
The support of our sponsors, partners, donors and collaborators, as well as of companies and public institutions, make it possible for us to work day after day to improve the living conditions of the most vulnerable children. We sincerely thank the thousands of people who help us work to build a better world.

You make it possible
108,084 COLLABORATORS

The list includes all the physical or legal persons who have contributed to Educo throughout the year.

HOW OTHERS SEE US

Roberto Comas. Sponsor of a Salvadoran girl
“I am fascinated by the work Educo carries out with children. You can see how its support helps improve their quality of life. I hope to continue to help them.”

Libertad González. Sponsor of a Peruvian boy
“Traveling to meet my sponsored child has been an incredible experience, I highly recommend it. To see the work being carried out thanks to my contribution is very gratifying.”

Jesús Olmedo. Actor and sponsor of a Salvadoran girl
“It is so important that opportunities like this to help others exist. I feel very fortunate.”

Francesco Tonucci. Illustrator and pedagogue
Agencies and entities

THAT TRUST IN OUR PROJECT

Public institutions**:

Private companies**:

(*) This list includes all Educo projects, including those initiated by Educación Sin Fronteras

(**) Companies who have contributed over €2,000
Accountability

REVENUE AND EXPENSES

- Child Sponsorship, Collaborators and Private Companies: €25,894,106
- Donations, Public Grants and Other Revenue: €591,897
- Financial Revenue: €1,906,758
- Use of Operating Reserves: €10,204,239
- Total Revenue: €38,597,000

- Development Programs: €26,780,579
- Education, Awareness and Social Action: €4,267,214
- Management and Fundraising: €7,549,207
- Total Expenses: €38,597,000

PROJECT FUNDING

- Africa: €4,229,896
- America: €14,051,233
- Asia: €7,624,717
- Spain: €4,267,214
- Coordination and other: €874,733

Our annual financial statements are co-audited by Ernst&Young and Audalia Laes Nexia and are available on our website.
For us, acting with transparency and good governance is more than a legal obligation; it is a fundamental guiding principle for our work. We base our work on honesty, responsibility and maximum access to information regarding the management of resources and the impact of our actions, in pursuit of the highest level social and economic accountability.

**FUNDACIÓN LEALTAD**

Fundación Lealtad has accredited us with its seal, a unique distinction in Spain that, among other indicators, recognizes our effective use of resources and coherence with our foundational purpose.

**INGO ACCOUNTABILITY CHARTER**

Educo subscribes to the principles set forth in the INGO Accountability Charter and applies them throughout the organization. We periodically publish an Accountability Report based on Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) indicators, which is available on our website.

**QUALITY MARK 1**

We are the first Spanish NGO to boast Quality Mark 1 certification by People in Aid—a network of over 200 International Development NGOs integrated in the CHS Alliance—a certification that recognizes our commitment to quality and transparency in the management of human resources.