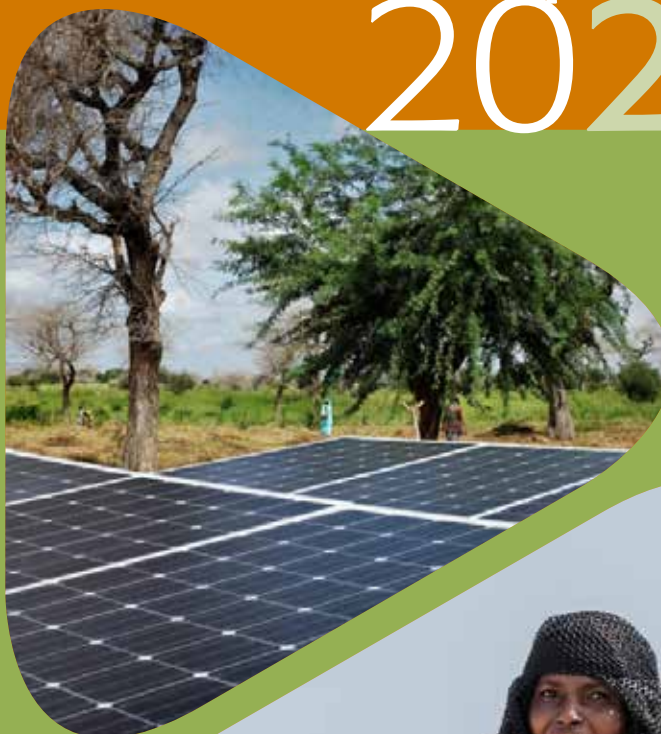


# annual report 2024

concise



Solidarity and international cooperation association

## IDENTITY AND MISSION

*LVIA seeks to promote responsible citizenship based on the principles of solidarity, to act effectively to promote change, to sustain dialogue and mutual understanding among peoples for building a more just and united world. A global society in which the dignity of every person is safeguarded and promoted, in which each individual person may enjoy fundamental liberties, have access to resources and services, have the possibility to live in a healthy environment and improve the quality of life in all aspects; a global society in which every single individual and all communities have the right to self-determination consistent with the cultural rights of other peoples and every man and woman on earth.*

Mission LVIA

In 2024, to meet the objectives of its mission statement, LVIA operated with development and emergency response interventions in 10 Sub-Saharan African countries and Italy, working on global citizenship education, the promotion of active citizenship, intercultural understanding and social inclusion.

In 2024, investment in cooperation projects and humanitarian aid in Africa and in Italy amounted to EUR 8,959,645 - a share equal to 97.54% of the expenditure that achieved factual results in improving the living conditions of 998,994 people:

- **52,936 people** (34,505 women, 18,431 men) have better living conditions thanks to interventions for Sustainable Food Systems;
- **113,391 people** (52,094 women and 37,729 men, 20,068 children) have better living conditions thanks to interventions in access to water and sanitation;
- **259,752 people** (131,082 women, 125,170 men and 3,500 children) have better living conditions thanks to interventions on energy supply and the environment;
- **163,530 people** (78,525 women, 59,277 men and 25,728 children) have improved living conditions thanks to humanitarian interventions and activities against malnutrition;
- **53,393 people** (13,664 women, 4,755 men and 34,838 children) have better living conditions thanks to social inclusion interventions and democratic participation;
- **360,593 people** (178,715 women, 178,393 men and 3,485 children) have been involved in activities on global citizenship education, social inclusion and active citizenship.

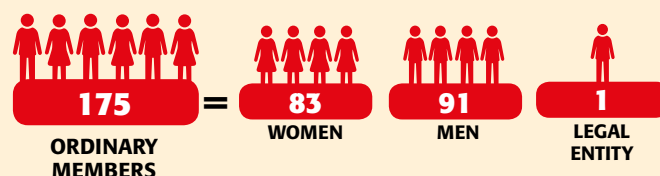
The resources for development actions were equivalent to **86%** of the investments in the countries and, in the case of humanitarian interventions, **14%**.

All the interventions were carried out considering sustainability and permanent future benefits. Thanks to communication activities, 84,098 people were involved through LVIA social media channels, and hundreds of thousands of people through mass media activities (website, newsletter, newspaper TV etc).

### THE ASSOCIATION

LVIA, the Lay Volunteers International Association, was established in 1966. LVIA is a not-for-profit organisation that seeks effective and innovative means of action, recognising the fundamental values and commitment of volunteering in all its diversity.

### LVIA MEMBERSHIP BASE AND STAFF



### STAFF

#### IN ITALY



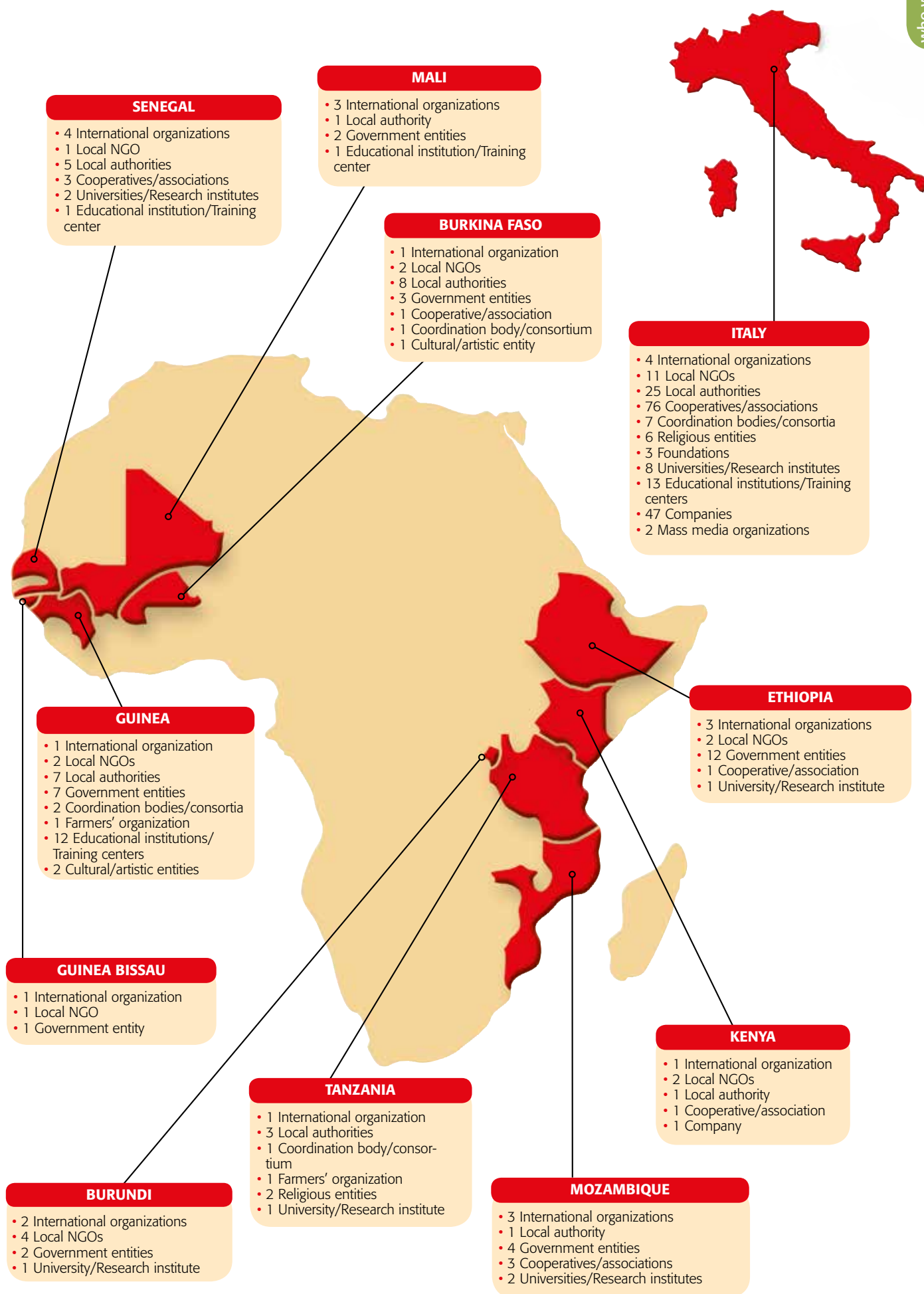
#### IN AFRICA



### ROLES

COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE/RESPONSIBLE *	13	COMMUNITY FACILITATOR	48
PROJECT COORDINATION	13	TECHNICIAN	45
ADMINISTRATION	31	LOGISTICIAN	5
		GUARDIAN/DRIVER/OTHER	68



\*The Country Representative, in addition to technical/political tasks, has also the role of representing the association.





## FUNDING BODIES

### FOR ACTIVITIES IN ITALY AND AFRICA

	103
 <b>INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS</b>	1
 <b>GOVERNMENT AUTHORITIES</b>	8
 <b>LOCAL, REGIONAL</b>	12
 <b>FOUNDATIONS</b>	10
 <b>RELIGIOUS INSTITUTIONS</b>	1
 <b>UNIVERSITY</b>	2
 <b>COMPANIES</b>	69

### OUR MAIN FUNDING BODIES

 <b>INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNICEF</li> </ul>
 <b>GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITIES AND PROGRAMMES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UE</li> <li>• EUROPEAN COMMISSION</li> <li>• AICS - Italian Agency for Development Cooperation</li> <li>• ISA (International Solar Alliance)</li> <li>• Netherlands Embassy</li> <li>• ENABEL - Belgian Development Agency</li> <li>• 8x1000 Programme of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers</li> <li>• AFD - French Agency for Development Cooperation</li> </ul>
 <b>REGIONAL AUTHORITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Emilia Romagna Region</li> <li>• Piemonte Region</li> <li>• Municipalities of Torino, Castelbuono, Firenze, Forlì, Cesena, Cuneo, Borgo San Lorenzo, Piossasco, Rivalta, Orbassano</li> </ul>
 <b>FOUNDATIONS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compagnia San Paolo</li> <li>• CARIPLO Foundation</li> <li>• CRT Foundation</li> <li>• CRC Foundation</li> <li>• De Mari Foundation</li> <li>• La Stampa - Specchio dei Tempi Foundation</li> <li>• Social enterprise Con i Bambini - CON IL SUD Foundation</li> <li>• Kinder in Not</li> <li>• Aiuti e opere nelle missioni Foundation</li> <li>• Nexus Foundation</li> </ul>
 <b>RELIGIOUS ENTITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CEI - Italian Bishops' Conference</li> </ul>
 <b>UNIVERSITY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• University of Turin</li> <li>• University of Bologna</li> </ul>

## ACTIVITIES IN ITALY

The activities in Italy are driven by the dedication of LVIA staff and various territorial groups and organizations across different regions. In 2023, we particularly highlight the dynamism of the territorial groups in Sangano, Palermo, and the territorial office in Forlì/LVIA Forlì nel Mondo. The main strands of our activities, detailed on the following pages, include:

### ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

Starting with the youngest, but not limited to them, we promote people's participation in the civic life of the country. This participation, while sometimes challenging, is crucial for driving change: equal opportunities, training, and education in critical thinking are fundamental ingredients for forming one's own convictions and acting for the common good.

### GLOBAL CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION

Using innovative methodologies related to non-formal education and edutainment, we provide young people with the tools to understand complex contemporary phenomena (such as globalization, climate change, and migration) and their interdependencies. We work in schools at all levels, designing interdisciplinary educational pathways that develop active citizenship and intercultural competencies, while stimulating critical thinking.

### INCLUSION AND SOCIAL COHESION

We are active in some urban peripheries and socially challenged areas, promoting initiatives to strengthen social networks and public-private partnerships. These efforts aim to foster lasting inclusion for individuals at risk of social exclusion and enhance the social cohesion of communities. In recent years, we have also committed to combating educational poverty among minors who often face early school leaving or otherwise challenging educational paths.



### INFORMATION AND AWARENESS-RAISING

We communicate to ensure that individuals, civil society, and public and private institutions become aware of the issues at hand and work together to seek new approaches to action. Our primary focus includes human rights, the root causes of poverty, and commitment to transition.

### TOOLS

Website 64,332 visitors  
Facebook 6,431 followers  
Instagram 1,599 followers  
Newsletter 17,300 recipients  
Printed Newsletter 10,000 recipients



Simone Migliaro©

**In 2024, LVIA carried out actions on sustainable food systems in eight of its ten African intervention countries, involving around 53,000 participants.**

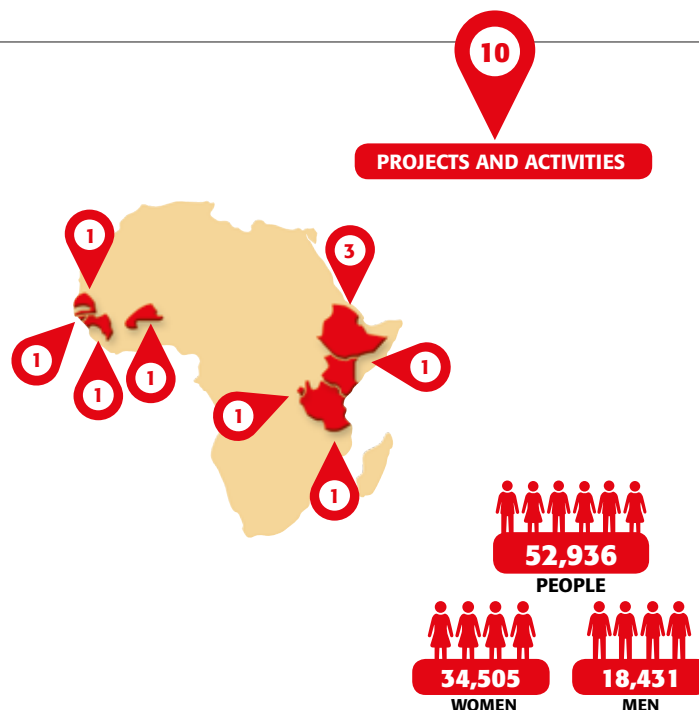
There was a 23% increase in participants compared to the previous year, mainly due to the increasingly structured adoption of “cascade” methodological approaches. This model involves producers, community focal points and facilitators, as well as local organizations, who in turn replicate and expand the activities and training on a larger scale. Through this approach, it was possible to reach over 18,000 producers in Tanzania and 10,000 citizens in Guinea.

The interventions are part of a medium- to long-term vision based on the three strategic pillars of agroecology:

- Improving resource efficiency: through recycling and reducing external inputs.
- Strengthening resilience: focusing on soil health, animal welfare, biodiversity, synergy and economic diversification.
- Ensuring equity and social responsibility: through knowledge co-creation, valuing local knowledge and diets, equity, connectivity, land and natural resource governance, and participation.

In this context, LVIA worked on five agri-food value chains in 2024 through ongoing multi-year, medium-term interventions: mangrove rice cultivation in Guinea-Bissau, camel milk in Kenya, indigenous tubers and vegetables (AIV – African Indigenous Vegetables) in Tanzania and Guinea, horticulture and cereal farming in Ethiopia.

Additionally, support was given to farmers’ organizations in Burundi, composting activities started in Burkina Faso (with the construction of two dedicated areas and the supply of two mobile units), training programs in Senegal, and the resumption of support for livestock farming in Burundi and Ethiopia.



In Ethiopia, support continues for access to credit through the creation of a guarantee fund at the Oromia Cooperative Bank and the provision of six loans to start-ups that successfully completed their incubation path. These are concrete examples of support to short agricultural value chains and territorial food systems, aiming to stimulate agricultural entrepreneurship by working with both informal and formal, public and private, profit and non-profit agricultural actors.

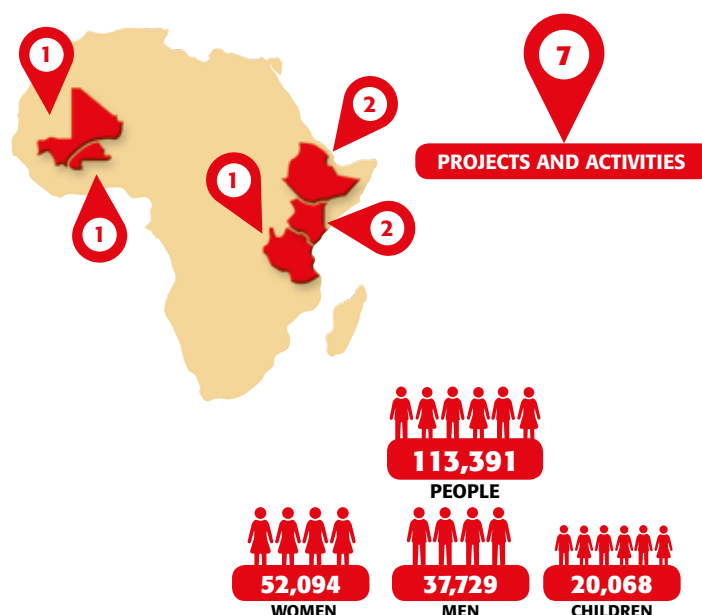
The adopted methodological approach includes training and continuous support for producers, rural communities, public institutions and SMEs through regular technical and managerial assistance. In 2024, 64 entities – including grassroots associations, farmers’ organizations, public bodies, cooperatives, local CSOs, SMEs and start-ups – received ongoing local support.

The most significant investment was made in Guinea-Bissau, in the mangrove rice sector. Following hydraulic-agricultural works and rural engineering (drivable dikes and bridges), more structured stages of the value chain began: construction of a solar-powered mini rice mill, installation of 21 husker-polishers, and support for entrepreneurial activities in rice marketing and sales.

Compared to 2023, there was a broader effort in applied research, with six studies carried out: fixed-stall livestock systems in Burundi; scalability of the GGAP certification system and agroecological model in the cooperative system in Ethiopia; indigenous vegetable chains in Tanzania and Guinea; socioeconomic analysis of households in Guinea; nutritional and market analysis of 22 mangrove rice varieties in Guinea-Bissau.

Campaigns on local product consumption and sustainable resource management were conducted through awareness-raising initiatives and policy actions. To this end, in addition to its work in Africa, LVIA participates in political dialogue in Europe within networks promoting a different model of development.

## WATER AND SANITATION



The UNESCO 2025 Report provides an update on data related to water and hygiene, showing no significant progress based on data collected between 2022 and 2023. About 2.2 billion people (27% of the global population, four-fifths of whom live in rural areas) did not have access to safely managed drinking water, and 3.5 billion people worldwide lacked access to safely managed sanitation services (UNICEF/WHO, 2023). The situation was particularly serious in Sub-Saharan Africa, where only 24% of the population had access to safely managed sanitation. Notably, 58% of countries reported water use efficiency issues, with significant degradation levels mainly caused by pollution, dams, land conversion, over-extraction, and climate change (UNEP, 2024).

These outcomes are undoubtedly the result, above all, of inadequate investments—only 10 billion USD globally in official development aid for the water sector (United Nations, n.d.c)—while global military spending reached a record high of 2,440 billion USD in 2023 (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute).

Therefore, it is crucial to emphasize again that investments in water and hygiene access yield high returns in terms of human and economic development, and that good water resource management is fundamental for peaceful coexistence and a prosperous future.

**In 2024, LVIA's interventions in Sub-Saharan Africa provided access to water and sanitation services to 113,391 people in six countries.**

LVIA's projects prioritized supplying water and sanitation primarily to schools and health centers, benefiting rural communities in dozens of villages where basic services remain very limited.

This year, LVIA completed the excavation and implementation of two water systems with wells and solar pumps, rehabilitated seven water schemes, and installed nine 10,000-liter tanks in schools and health centers lacking these services—even in post-emergency settings, such as in Kenya following flooding in the Isiolo area.

Training accompanied all infrastructure activities, focusing on economic/managerial and technical-hydraulic components, as well as operations, maintenance, monitoring, and data collection. Nearly 50 individuals received training to improve skills and capacity in managing water systems and conducting cascade awareness activities.

In particular, hygiene-awareness campaigns were carried out to improve knowledge of water contamination risks and their mitigation, as well as personal hygiene and menstrual hygiene management.

Five awareness campaigns were conducted in three countries, alongside the installation of handwashing stations in 10 schools and the distribution of sanitary pads through one campaign, reaching over 30,000 people. Awareness activities were conducted in dozens of communities, schools, and health centers using peer education methods, thanks to the support of many volunteers and social promoters.



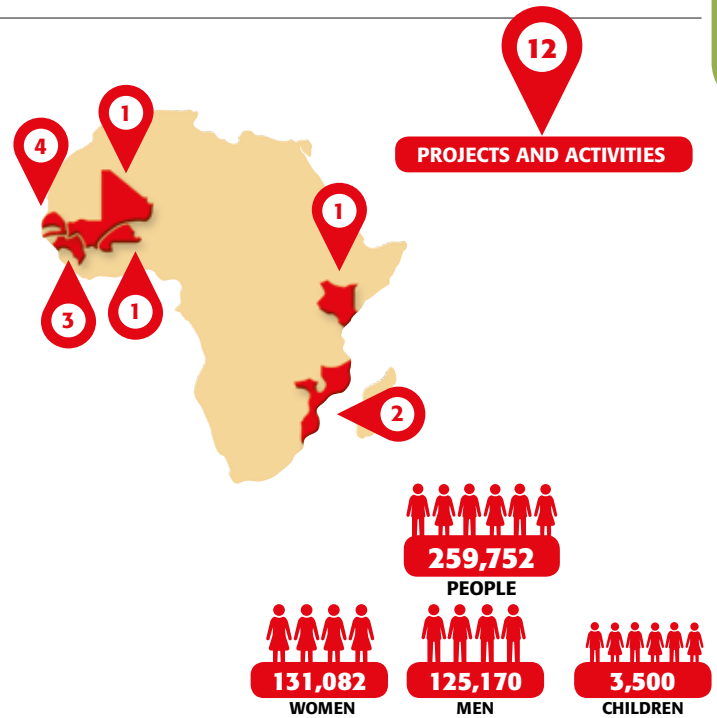


Simone Migliaro©

In 2024, the consequences of climate change continued to affect people, families, and societies that are already structurally vulnerable, especially in rural areas. Many countries where we operate experienced extreme droughts followed by floods caused by excessive rainfall. Essential survival resources—such as water, food, and shelter—along with many critical services, were severely impacted. This forced many people to migrate, either to urban centers or abroad, weakening the social and economic fabric of local communities, particularly in rural areas.

Soil degradation, driven by unsustainable farming practices, deforestation, and erosion, reduces agricultural productivity and leads to the loss of essential nutrients.

At the same time, droughts—becoming increasingly frequent due to climate change—undermine harvests and worsen water scarcity and food crises. In this context, targeted interventions to protect the environment, adopt circular economy models, and promote renewable energy can have highly positive environmental impacts, contributing to preserving natural resources, improving quality of life, and supporting sustainable development.



In 2024, LVIA promoted strategies for conserving natural resources, such as sustainable forest management, biodiversity protection, and water resource preservation. Interventions such as reforestation and strengthening protected areas help reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, and create habitats for endangered species. LVIA also promoted circular economy practices to encourage reuse, recycling, and resource recovery—thereby reducing raw material consumption and waste generation.

In countries where waste management is often inadequate, the organization's introduction of circular models helped reduce pollution in urban centers and improve public health.

Finally, by promoting renewable energy sources like solar power, LVIA supported energy access in rural and remote areas where electrical grids are insufficient, stimulating economic growth and creating new jobs in green technology sectors while reducing energy poverty.

**In 2024, LVIA directly reached a total of 259,752 people (including 125,182 men, 131,070 women, and 3,500 children) in 6 African countries through environmental and energy-related activities.**

## HUMANITARIAN ACTION AND FIGHT AGAINST MALNUTRITION



Archive LVIA ©



In 2024, Africa continued to experience numerous humanitarian emergencies, many of which were exacerbated by the intersection of armed conflicts and climate change. Crises such as those in Sudan, the Sahel region, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and the Horn of Africa displaced millions of people internally and externally, severely testing the response capacity of governments and humanitarian organizations. According to United Nations data, more than 40 million people in Africa were in need of humanitarian assistance by the end of 2024.

Armed conflicts remain one of the main causes of humanitarian crises. Civil wars and insurgencies—often led by armed groups or fueled by ethnic and political tensions—destroy infrastructure, interrupt food production, and force people to flee their homes. Added to these challenges are the effects of climate change: prolonged droughts, sudden floods, desertification, and loss of biodiversity are increasingly affecting already vulnerable regions, making access to water and food more difficult and intensifying competition for natural resources.

In Mali and Ethiopia, two countries where this intersection of armed conflict and climate change is particularly evident, LVIA, with the support of AICS, intervened in highly fragile areas such as the Douentza province in Mali and East Bale in Ethiopia.

In Mali, where LVIA had to suspend its activities at the beginning of the year in the Gao region following a security-related veto by the Italian Embassy, a motorcycle ambulance and a motorbike were purchased and delivered to two community health centers, along with stocks of hygiene supplies. Nurses and other health workers were trained in treating acute malnutrition and the main childhood diseases. In 20 villages, GSAN committees (local groups for food education and child nutrition monitoring) were trained to lead food education activities (including cooking demonstrations) and regularly assess the nutritional status of children under five, referring severe cases to proper health facilities.

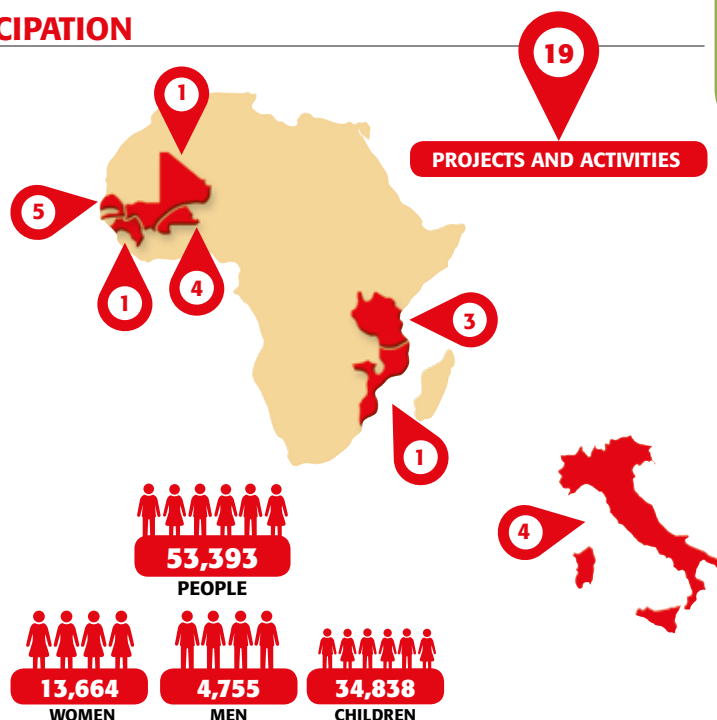
In Ethiopia, LVIA's efforts in East Bale focused on supporting the most vulnerable communities by building storage warehouses and latrines (for displaced families), distributing water purification supplies, agricultural tools, seeds (maize and keff), veterinary kits, and supporting a livestock vaccination campaign. Additionally, six youth groups received seed funding to launch income-generating activities, and 700 of the most impoverished families were supported economically through voucher distribution.

In Kenya, a country increasingly affected by alternating periods of drought and devastating floods, LVIA intervened in Isiolo County, distributing water purification products and waterproof tarpaulins to displaced families.





Giulia Rosco©



In some societies, there are good schools, hospitals, and freedom of choice—but not everyone has equal access to them. This inequality is called marginalization and exists not only in the richest countries in the world but especially in the poorest ones. It can be socio-political, for example by excluding minorities from decision-making processes, or economic, by limiting access to education and employment. Tackling it means ensuring that infrastructure, services, and opportunities are equitably distributed.

**In 2024, inclusion activities for the most vulnerable people involved 53,393 individuals across six African countries and Italy.**

This year, LVIA supported 19 projects aimed at fighting marginalization. In Italy, it promoted school and extracurricular support to foster learning and social inclusion for children experiencing educational poverty. To encourage sustainable lifestyles, it organized sports and educational activities in nature for youth and restored donated bicycles, involving the community in the circular economy. In parallel, it held self-entrepreneurship workshops to support the labor inclusion of women with a migrant background. To promote intercultural awareness events on migration, focus groups on media narratives, anthropological meetings, and celebrations tied to religious holidays were organized.

In Africa, support continued for the Nyerere Hostel in Tanzania, with the donation of mattresses and pillows. In Burkina Faso, a school in Gorom-Gorom was rehabilitated and equipped. In Guinea, free tutoring sessions for primary and secondary students continued in reading centers, which were renovated and equipped. In Mozambique, efforts continued to guarantee the right to a name, including the distribution of civil registry books, training of state officials, agents and activists, broad registration campaigns, and a forum to promote the benefits of civil registration.

Over 33,000 children were registered, thanks in part to IT support provided to the Permanent Service Center in Maputo, 8 registries, and 9 new registration points. The rehabilitation of the Namaacha registry office was also completed.

In Tanzania, Guinea, Burkina Faso, and Senegal, support continued for youth and vulnerable people's associations through artistic activities and training in management, finance, cooperation, and association, as well as integrated urban planning, use of GIS, transparency, and monitoring.

In Tanzania, efforts to combat malnutrition continued through cascade training sessions on nutrition, gender equality, and sustainable horticulture.

In Senegal, Burkina Faso, Guinea, and Mali, efforts continued to support the socio-economic inclusion of young people through coaching paths, internships in companies, and support for launching circular enterprises involving women and girls and promoting female entrepreneurship.

In Mali, a roundtable on social enterprise and women's empowerment was held, while in Burkina Faso, an online platform was launched to facilitate access to employment. In Senegal, a nursery for children of young mothers was built to enable them to work, along with an employment center in West Thiès. A mapping of businesses and training centers was also produced, and 10 agreements were signed between the municipality, companies, and training centers to support professional integration.

Thanks to decentralized cooperation, LVIA also promoted exchanges on youth entrepreneurship and social impact, and participated in advocacy initiatives such as the LINK2007 webinar on migration and development. In Tanzania, research activities continued in collaboration with the University of Turin and local stakeholders, focusing on environmental and socioeconomic vulnerability, waste management, and the health and education sectors on the island of Pemba.



# KIJANI PEMBA

## Towards a Sustainable Urban Future

Pemba Island, part of the Zanzibar archipelago in Tanzania, is renowned for its lush vegetation and stunning landscapes. However, it faces serious environmental and climate-related challenges such as coastal erosion, inadequate infrastructure, and poor waste management. Rapid urbanization in the southern part of the island—especially in the municipalities of Chake Chake and Mkoani—has placed increasing pressure on basic services, including access to water and sanitation.

To address these issues, LVIA launched the Kijani Pemba (Green Pemba) project in October 2023, funded by the European Union and co-funded by the Otto per Mille of the Waldensian Church. The project, promoted in collaboration with WeWorld and PIRO, aims to strengthen the island's urban and ecological resilience by fostering sustainable and inclusive development.

### GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE AND ACCESS TO BASIC SERVICES

Kijani Pemba focuses on improving access to clean water and sanitation, particularly in schools and healthcare centers. Planned interventions include rainwater harvesting, storage, and distribution systems, along with the construction of WASH facilities in key public areas such as hospitals, markets, pumping stations, and natural springs. A participatory approach has ensured that local communities are involved in the design process, making sure the infrastructure meets their real needs.

At the same time, the project will support the development of groundwater systems to ensure a more reliable water supply. On the healthcare side, the project will provide facilities for medical waste storage, a waste incinerator, and the restoration of the septic tank at the Mkoani Hospital.

### CIRCULAR ECONOMY AND WASTE MANAGEMENT

Another core element of the project is the sustainable management of urban solid waste. Agreements have been signed with local municipalities to develop shared plans for the collection and disposal of plastic and organic waste. Innovative solutions are being tested, such as producing construction blocks from recycled plastic.





The project also includes a dedicated fund for local associations, which will receive training and have the opportunity to propose awareness-raising initiatives on hygiene, safety, inclusion, and waste sorting. Training activities are already underway, and in the coming months, approximately 200 beneficiaries will participate in courses on business management and administration, followed by technical modules on the circular economy.

The KIJANI PEMBA project aims to transform waste management in Pemba by integrating recycling, transport, and collection into a cohesive, sustainable system driven by community involvement. A plastic recycling center will be established in Vitongoji, managed by a local recycler with IUCN-supported machinery, while two Black Soldier Fly farms, one in Vitongoji and one in Mkoani, will process at least 60 tons of organic waste monthly, operated by youth groups and a commercial partner. For transport, three 7-ton trucks will be acquired: two in Chake Chake to shuttle waste from collection points to a transfer station, reducing fuel use by the existing compactor, and one in Mkoani to replace an obsolete vehicle, capable of handling waste from four shehia with room for expansion. Collection relies on community engagement, with awareness campaigns (CSO proposals due October 12) educating residents, and collection points set up by KIJANI PEMBA and BIG Z for easy waste drop-off, regulated by bylaws. Registered Waste Picker groups, identifiable by uniforms, will manage collection in their areas, maintain clean neighborhoods, and coordinate recyclable waste with the Vitongoji recycler, tracking daily collections for sustainability. New bylaws will enforce sorting at households, prioritize waste reduction, and ensure artisan workshops use separate bins, with Waste Pickers collecting waste on schedule. This holistic approach empowers communities, optimizes logistics, and promotes environmental responsibility.

## PARTICIPATORY URBAN PLANNING

Kijani Pemba adopts an innovative planning approach based on the Our City Plans methodology by UN-Habitat. The process was structured in three phases: needs mapping, stakeholder training, and the drafting of strategic urban development plans for Chake Chake and Mkoani. These plans identify priority actions in key sectors such as urban greenery, water supply, road accessibility, health, and waste management.

They serve not only as tools for guiding local development but also as frameworks to attract future investments.

The project has initiated collaborations with NGOs and development agencies such as Enabel and IUCN, maximizing resources and broadening its impact. In the coming months, the infrastructure works will begin, funding for circular economy initiatives will be distributed, and local waste management agreements will be further defined.

Thanks to its integrated and participatory approach, Kijani Pemba lays the foundation for a resilient, equitable, and sustainable urban model, capable of addressing the island's environmental and social challenges.

*“My name is Andrea Bosio, I'm 41 years old, and since April 2025 I've been living in Pemba with my wife Federica, working as Project Manager for Kijani Pemba. I've been working in international cooperation for twelve years, but here I've encountered a unique energy.*

*The communities of Chake Chake and Mkoani engage with great enthusiasm and competence: they listen, share ideas, and ask questions with eyes full of hope.*

*The culture of hospitality is disarming—kindness, respect, and humanity are deeply rooted values. Even outside of work, every encounter becomes an opportunity for genuine exchange. Cooperation here isn't just technical work: it's about relationships, trust, and mutual listening.*

*In Pemba, I've rediscovered how real development begins with people meeting and sharing a common vision.”*

**Andrea Bosio,**  
Project Manager, Kijani Pemba



## LVIA's Action in **Arsi Zone** (Ethiopia) for the Development of the Local Agricultural Sector

As part of the project “Agroecology, food security, and job creation in the agricultural sector to reduce irregular migration in Arsi Zone, Ethiopia,” LVIA has carried out numerous training activities, awareness campaigns, and infrastructure interventions. These efforts aim to enhance the sustainability, productivity, and resilience of the local agricultural system in the woredas of Tiyo and Shirka. The project addresses the needs of rural communities through an integrated, sustainable, and participatory approach.

This initiative is not an isolated episode but part of a long-term commitment. LVIA has been active in Arsi Zone for over ten years, building strong relationships with communities, local authorities, and academic institutions. This continuous presence has fostered a favorable environment for shared and lasting change. On-the-ground experience has also strengthened the organization’s credibility and enabled effective collaborations—such as the key partnership with Arsi University, which has supported several project activities.

### **CAPACITY BUILDING AND FARMER-TO-FARMER TRAINING**

One of the most impactful interventions was the implementation of training courses on Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) for 120 “model farmers” from 11 local cooperatives. The trainings, combining theory and hands-on learning, covered topics such as soil fertility, erosion prevention, and the sustainable use of fertilizers. These trained farmers then shared their knowledge with peers in their cooperatives, creating a multiplier effect that reached hundreds more farmers.

A second training cycle focused on post-harvest management of fruits and vegetables. Another 120 beneficiaries, including producers and agricultural technicians, were trained on critical aspects such as proper storage, food processing, preservation, and hygiene standards. These efforts aimed to reduce food loss and improve product quality for market access, indirectly impacting around 450 community members.

To tackle rising youth unemployment and curb irregular migration, a 200-hour vocational training program was organized for 30 at-risk youth. Held at the Kenenisa Bekele Polytechnic College, the course focused on solar energy system installation and maintenance. Upon completion, a job-matching event was organized with renewable energy companies, creating new employment opportunities and opening doors to the green technology sector.





## INTEGRATED SOLUTIONS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE:

### Quality Standards, Renewable Infrastructure, and Smart Farming

To enhance the quality of agricultural value chains and facilitate access to more demanding markets, an innovative blockchain-based product traceability system was introduced alongside the adoption of Global GAP international standards. A total of 67 representatives from cooperatives and local institutions were trained, fostering a culture of quality, transparency, and traceability across the entire value chain—paving the way for growth in the local agricultural economy.

On the infrastructure front, the project directly supported agricultural productivity and food security through the installation of two solar irrigation systems covering a total of 10 hectares and benefiting 29 families. A solar energy system was also set up to support a poultry farming unit run by women within the Etosa producers' union—empowering women and promoting their role in agri-food value chains.

To further boost productivity, grain threshing machines were purchased and distributed to nine local cooperatives, improving agricultural efficiency and reducing the workload for farming families. It is estimated that these machines have directly or indirectly benefited around 4,950 farmers.

To encourage more informed natural resource management and agricultural decision-making, soil analysis kits and digital tools for market price monitoring were provided to Arsi University. These tools support cooperatives and smallholder farmers in improving cultivation strategies and negotiating better market conditions.

In parallel, the project promoted sustainable agricultural practices by introducing natural fertilizers and biogas production. Three training sessions involved 158 farmers in vermicomposting and domestic biogas use, reaching over 470 indirect beneficiaries. Additionally, 13 composting sheds and six household biogas units were built to enhance yields, cut production costs, and protect the environment.



## COMMUNITY AWARENESS AND WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT

A central aspect of the project was raising awareness about agroecology and food diversification. More than 4,600 people took part in community events, field trainings, informational campaigns, and pilot garden demonstrations. Special attention was given to women, recognized as key actors in household food security and income management. Activities included cooking demonstrations, promotion of proper hygiene and nutrition, and support for home gardens as a source of both healthy food and additional income.

While the results achieved so far are significant, they mark the beginning of a broader and more structured path. In February 2025, a new project was launched with funding from the Italian Ministry of the Interior, aiming to consolidate past achievements and expand the intervention in a complementary way. The new initiative further integrates environmental sustainability, food security, and opportunities for training and employment, strengthening the capacity of local communities to autonomously respond to current and future challenges through inclusive, participatory, and sustainable development.

## OUR FIGURES

### INCOME

€ 9,489,263

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA AND ITALY	€ 9,155,133
COMMUNICATION AND FUNDRAISING	€ 328,239
GENERAL SUPPORT FEES	€ 5,890

### EXPENDITURE

€ 9,488,312

PROJECTS AND ACTIVITIES IN AFRICA AND ITALY	€ 9,122,280
COMMUNICATION AND FUNDRAISING	€ 154,858
GENERAL SUPPORT FEES	€ 211,174

## FUNDING SOURCES

### PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS

• AICS - Italian Agency for Development Cooperation Italian General Government	€ 2,590,282.83
• Italian public administrations	€ 199,796.94
• European Union	€ 2,891,798.21
• ONU Agencies	€ 162,655.04
• Foreign public administrations	€ 559,281.7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 6,403,814.72</b>

### PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS

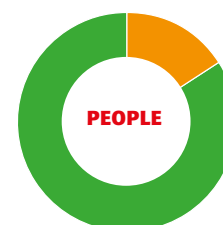
• Private and Religious Italian Entities	€ 613,106.11
• Third Sector Entities	€ 1,720,505.02
• Foreign private Entities	€ 222,219.18
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 2,555,830.31</b>

## INVESTMENT BY COUNTRY

• BURKINA FASO	€ 509,211.81
• BURUNDI	€ 343,978.15
• ETHIOPIA	€ 2,022,804.49
• GUINEA BISSAU	€ 2,162,152.46
• GUINEA	€ 272,387.31
• KENYA	€ 118,755.72
• MALI	€ 489,933.71
• MOZAMBIQUE	€ 300,553.41
• SENEGAL	€ 761,790.01
• TANZANIA	€ 1,050,669.69
• ITALY	€ 742,308.97
• RUNNING COSTS FOR PROGRAMS IN ITALY AND LOCAL OFFICES	€ 347,733.78
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>€ 9,122,279.51</b>

## PARTICIPANTS BY COUNTRY

COUNTRY	RECIPIENTS	WOMEN	MEN	CHILDREN
BURUNDI	1,807	731	1,076	0
BURKINA FASO	7,440	3,071	3,895	474
ETHIOPIA	106,606	55,306	38,241	13,059
GUINEA BISSAU	15,089	7,632	7,457	0
GUINEA	119,621	64,851	54,770	0
KENYA	242,581	123,797	107,743	11,041
MALI	45,000	14,497	10,207	20,296
MOZAMBIQUE	34,643	348	368	33,927
SENEGAL	29,854	11,579	14,745	3,530
TANZANIA	35,760	27,520	6,780	1,460
ITALY	360,593	178,715	178,393	3,485
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>998,994</b>	<b>488,047</b>	<b>423,675</b>	<b>87,272</b>



The full 2024 balance sheet is available on the LVIA website [www.lvია.it](http://www.lvია.it)





“When the current water tank was built, the population of Douentza did not exceed 3,000 people. Today, the population has grown significantly as it has welcomed many refugees and displaced people due to the war, and the pressure on resources like water is high. The LVIA project built a new well that provides drinking water to over 900 people. A great support and relief for a population already exhausted by conflict.”

*Diarra Malick,  
Mayor of the Municipality of Douentza*



“It used to be really hard. When the rice hulling machines weren't working, we had to take the rice home and pound it manually with a stick. It was exhausting—we hurt our hands, many grains broke or fell to the ground, and a lot of rice was wasted.

Now, thanks to the machine from the Ianda Guiné project, everything is quicker and easier. The rice is ready in no time and can be cooked straight away. It's a big change: we no longer get as tired as before, and we can really feel the difference.”

*Sabado Infande  
rice producer in Encheia*

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024- Concise

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Registration with the Court of Cuneo No 245, 8/10/1970 • ROC: 33218



*We share a feeling of strong and deep-rooted hope.  
Despite the hardships and contradictions of this world,  
there is a life that grows, there is a people  
that works and sows seeds of peace.  
Ours is a community that does not resign itself to evil  
and continues to turn weapons into ploughshares, to fight  
hatred with a smile and an outstretched hand."*

**Alberto Valmaggia, President LVIA**



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