



Premio Internazionale Carlo Scarpa per il Giardino

XXV, 2014

Osmače and Brežani

Srebrenica, Bosnia and Herzegovina

Associations, official bodies and groups

involved in the Adopt Srebrenica and “Sowing the return” projects

Adopt Srebrenica

The Adopt Srebrenica group grew from a period of close collaboration, beginning in 2005, between the Alexander Langer Foundation of Bolzano and the Tuzlanska Amica association of Tuzla, with the progressively defined objective of contributing to the healing of bruised and broken lives and to the elaboration of what is as far as possible a shared memory. The nascent Documentation Centre in Srebrenica, run by a group of young and not-so-young “bridge-builders, wall-leapers and frontier explorers”, presents itself as free of constraints, a place of intercultural dialogue, alert and committed to the rich history of living together that preceded the brutal genocide that began on 11th July 1995. Adopt Srebrenica aims to focus international attention on Srebrenica by actively involving individuals, associations and public administrations (which are already linked in various ways) to ensure that the town is removed from its present status as a still unprotected enclave.

For further information: www.alexanderlanger.org.

Agronomi e Forestali Senza Frontiere-ASF (Agronomists and Forestry Experts *sans frontières*)

ASF is a non-profit-making organization whose members – all unpaid volunteers – include not only agronomists and forestry experts but also people with technical skills of various other kinds and indeed anyone, irrespective of their field of expertise, who wishes to make a contribution to rural development in developing countries. The aim is to encourage integrated rural development, with beneficiaries and technical experts willing and able to work closely together; underpinning the work is its multi-disciplinary approach and the association therefore makes a point of ensuring that it can draw on all the experience and professional skills required. For ASF any sustainable development programme must be based on a number of interlinked elements: protection and careful management of environmental resources and biodiversity, and their equitable distribution; local cultures, whose representatives must have a decision-making role in determining their future; a problem-solving approach and the devising of inclusive cooperation projects. The ASF volunteers monitor the activities in Bosnia and Herzegovina directly and also support the activities of NGOs in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in Palestine and in Kenya.

For further information: Agronomi e Forestali Senza Frontiere c/o Dipartimento Territorio e Sistemi Agro-Forestali, Università degli Studi di Padova, Facoltà di Agraria, Agripolis, viale dell'Università 16, I-35020 Legnaro (Padova), info@agronomisenzafrotiere.it, www.agronomisenzafrotiere.it.

Architetti Senza Frontiere-ASF Veneto (Architects *sans frontières*, Veneto branch)

ASF Veneto onlus is a non-profit-making association that promotes study, research and planning for the sustainable development of critical areas in developing countries; it originated as a network of professionals and volunteers who made themselves available to work on cooperation projects with a humanitarian purpose and operates on the basis of the needs emerging from situations in the various focus areas and according to the professional and technical skills available. The association also operates in the Veneto in critical areas on the margins of the urban social fabric, but its main spheres of activity are the African and South American continents and cases of national and international emergency. Action

Fondazione Benetton Studi Ricerche

takes the form of the promotion and drawing up of architectural projects in the framework of socio-territorial and environmental programmes and always acknowledges the rights of existing settled communities as important actors in the transformation processes. Cooperation is a fundamental element of the actions taken. This is true too of the “Sowing the return” project, supported since 2012 by a working group that currently plays a back-up role but which in future could collaborate more directly in the design and construction of spaces for community meetings and facilities that are at present lacking in Osmače and Brežani.

For further information: Architetti Senza Frontiere Veneto onlus, viale Roma 3, I-36100 Vicenza, veneto@asfitalia.org; ASF Veneto is on Facebook, LinkedIn, Twitter; for matters concerning Osmače and Brežani: Daniel Tiozzo (danieltiozzo@naosarchitettura.it).

Associazione “Buongiorno Bosnia Dobardan Venecija” (Association “Buongiorno Bosnia Dobardan Venecija”)

In the summer of 2010, a number of young Venetians set out for Bosnia and Herzegovina in order to take part in the fourth International Week of Memory, organized in Srebrenica. They stayed as the guests of several families in the town, both Serb and Bosnian, and made friends with the young members of the inter-ethnic Adopt Srebrenica group. For many of the Venetian visitors, this experience was their first contact with recent history, a real quest for knowledge and understanding of what happened – only a few years previously – in this geographically close place. From then on the links were strengthened and other young Venetians were brought in to experience subsequent International Weeks of Memory. January 2013 saw the birth of the association “Buongiorno Bosnia Dobardan Venecija”, which promotes initiatives in Venice designed to clarify and explain the historical roots and dimensions of the conflict and to contextualize the present situation in a region which still suffers from tensions and from an institutional and political structure which is by no means untroubled. The association also works to give concrete support to the “Sowing the return” project in the villages of Osmače and Brežani.

For further information: buongiorno.bosnia@gmail.com, buongiornobosnia.blogspot.it.

ACS-Associazione di Cooperazione e Solidarietà, Padova (Association of Cooperation and Solidarity, Padua)

ACS is a lay NGO which operates in countries deprived of economic development, sponsoring sustainable economic, human and social development projects; the association acts mainly in collaboration with rural communities in Palestine, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Southern Sudan. It also operates in Italy, seeking to raise awareness of the consequences generated by economic imbalances in order to promote a culture of justice in social relationships, of respect for diversity and of peace and human rights. In 2003 ACS participated in the setting up and development of the agricultural cooperative “Insieme”, which grows “raspberries for peace” and engages in community reconstruction in Bratunac, near Srebrenica; it was through this experience that the association established contact with the village of Osmače in 2012, together with the working group that is currently supporting the “Sowing the return” project.

For further information: ACS-Associazione di Cooperazione e Solidarietà, via Cornaro 1a, I-35128 Padova, tel. +39.049.8648774, www.acs-italia.it.

Associazione Tuzlanska Amica

Ever since it was founded at the beginning of the war in May 1992, Tuzlanska Amica has operated on the ground in and beyond north-eastern Bosnia mobilizing multidisciplinary teams with the aim of assisting the most vulnerable and with a special emphasis on support

for parentless children and families, the group which was worst affected during and after the war. Its activities include the promotion of dialogue and support for social welfare services, professional training, especially for young people, psychosocial advice and psychological assistance for victims of Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD), education for peace and civic, social and cultural values and research into the conditions of women in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Of particular importance is the long-term project based on a new, more personalized approach to distance adoption, which has recruited 700 associated “friends” of Bosnian children. In 2005, together with the Alexander Langer Foundation, the association founded “Adopt Srebrenica”, which pursues its aims in collaboration with Municipality of Srebrenica and a number of other local associations. The association also acts as a consultant and/or local partner in other cooperation projects in villages in the vicinity of Srebrenica.

For further information: Tuzlanska Amica, Hasana Kikica 1, Tuzla (Bosnia and Herzegovina), tel. and fax +387.(0).35.312321, tz-amica@bih.net.ba; for matters concerning Adopt: Amira Bećirović.

Centro Pace of Venice City Council

Every year since 2010, in a collaborative action with the Alexander Langer Foundation of Bolzano, Venice City Council’s Centro Pace has helped several young Venetians to attend the International Week of Memory at Srebrenica. This important opportunity to reappraise the events of the recent past further cements the link established in 1994 with the twinning of Venice with Sarajevo, a genuine relationship which has seen the entire city engaged in concrete actions to express its solidarity with the Bosnian capital. Today we proclaim our esteem and friendship for the young people of Srebrenica who are working tirelessly to overcome the ethnic and religious tensions that continue to strain a difficult peace. Just going about their daily routine, they are striving to bring about a cultural and social transformation of the area, for example by returning to farm the land around Osmače and Brežani that the conflict had emptied of all human presence and memory.

For further information: centropace@comune.venezia.it, ww.facebook.com/centro.venezia.

Cooperativa Agricola Biologica El Tamiso

Since 1984, the Cooperativa Agricola El Tamiso has attracted farmers committed to the principle of biological agricultural production. A passion for the environment, work and good, healthy food marks the culture and life-style of those who believe that sharing and respect must underlie any truly modern society. The cooperative coordinates and markets the produce – vegetables, fruit and cereals – of small-to-medium sized local farms and, where possible, the flour, seeds, juices and wines that can be made from it. To mark the twentieth anniversary of its foundation, the cooperative donated the proceeds of a performance by Marco Paolini based on the farmers’ manual *Catechismo agricolo ad uso dei contadini* (1869), to ACS Padua’s (Association of Cooperation and Solidarity) project to provide support to the “Insieme” Cooperative of Bratunac. Proceeds from the sale of the manual are now being invested in the “Sowing the return” project at Osmače and Brežani, run, amongst others by ACS Padua and Agronomi e Forestali Senza Frontiere. Our main purpose is to transmit and receive experience and models of rural development. In spring 2013, a number of members of the El Tamiso Cooperative and their families stayed as guests in the houses of people who have returned to live in Osmače. And last autumn a group of small farmers from the area were guests of our members in the Veneto, who are continuing the work of fundraising and publicizing the project with great enthusiasm.

For further information: El Tamiso Società Cooperativa Agricola, Corso Stati Uniti 50/5-6, I-35127 Padova, tel. +39.049.8705121, www.eltamiso.it

Alexander Langer Foundation

The Alexander Langer Foundation was set up with the active support of a number of individuals, associations and institutions on 4th July 1999, following preparations coordinated by the Pro Europa Association. The new body was recognized by the Ministry for the Cultural Heritage on 18th November 1999 and entered on the register of volunteer, non-profit-making organizations in the Province of Bolzano with decree no. 128/1.1 of the 24th August 2000; since 2005, the Foundation has been registered at a national level as an association officially qualified to promote equal treatment for all, irrespective of race or ethnic, cultural or religious origins. The Foundation's website, www.alexanderlanger.org, lists a substantial selection of writings by Alexander Langer, with bibliographies, studies, memoirs and working documents collected over time; it also provides information about the Foundation's statutory goals, its governing bodies and activities associated with the annual international Alexander Langer Prize, with the Euromediterranea organization and with the Foundations relations with Srebrenica.

For further information: Alexander Langer Foundation onlus,
via Bottai 5 Bindergasse, I-39100 Bolzano, tel. and fax +39.0471.977691,
info@alexanderlanger.net.