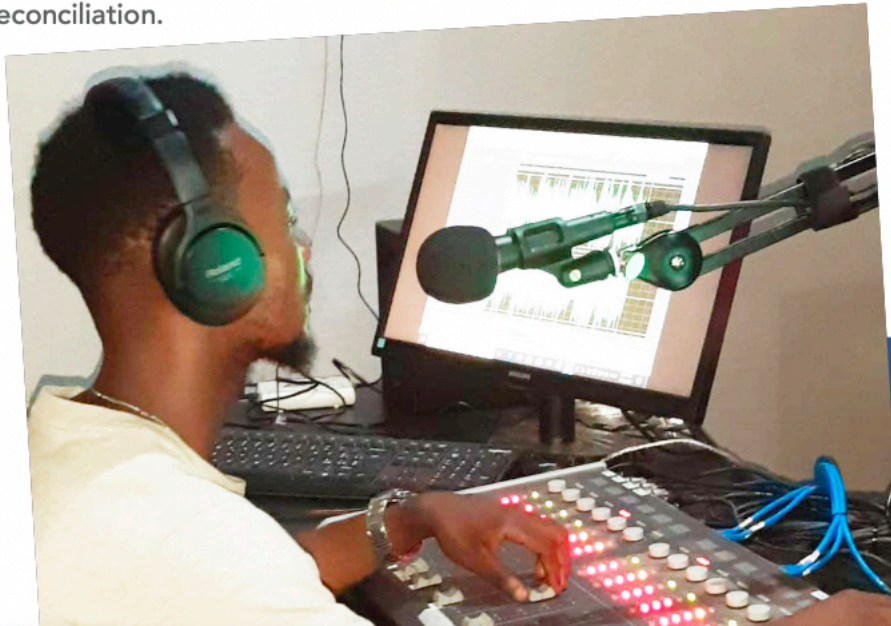


SIGNIS Services Rome in figures

At SIGNIS Services Rome we are experts in communication and information technology, being the branch of SIGNIS that covers media development and access around the world. From the beginning, our mission has been to give a voice to the voiceless by providing means of communication in those areas where it is difficult to receive and send information, and where the local population could benefit from being more interconnected, engaging the youth in diverse projects and promoting peace and reconciliation.



OVER THE YEARS, WE HAVE...



Fundraised over
1.500.000

for the delivery of more than

40 PROJECTS

in various areas of



25 countries around
the world

in collaboration with

42 stakeholders

All of this, in order to create an impact in local communities that can now make their voices heard, learn about the world of communications, and ignite change.

A new communication center for Benin

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Porto-Novo, almost 2 million citizens, in the heart of Benin, West Africa. The media landscape is rich but the voice of the Church is struggling to be heard. To stand out among the numerous private communication outlets and the media of other religious denominations that broadcast in Porto-Novo, the diocese has shown a strong desire to amplify Catholic communication locally via the Call for Project Ideas launched by SIGNIS Services Rome, presenting a project for a new communications center that supports local youth.



It is a space for exchange, where training activities for educational, spiritual, moral and technological development can take place. The project targets all the faithful and people of good will, but we focus on young people as they are essential to impacting others.

EXPLAINS ARCHBISHOP ARISTIDE GONSALLO IN A #SIGNISWITHYOU LIVE INTERVIEW.



An important goal of the project is to inform the population about the risks of harmful use of social networks. Bishop Gonsallo says: “if young people are more proficient with the digital means, they will be able to improve their daily life in various fields, be it trade or agriculture”. As part of this project, in June, a training in social communication took place: “Witnesses of Christ through the means of social communication”. Twenty-two youth participated in three modules: journalism; digital communication and social media; theoretical principles of interviews, debates and discussions. Many of the participants have already started writing reports on the website of the diocese and debuted on social media. The equipment for the Communications Center has arrived and it is fully operational, ready to respond to the wishes and expectations of the church: a pole of attraction and evangelization of young people by young people, with the production of media products on the Bible, catechesis, the social doctrine of the church and Christian life.



SSR's commitment to youth

In 2021, we opened the doors of our office to young students from La Sapienza University of Rome. We started offering internships to students of international development who wished to improve their skills and gain hands-on experience in the field.

The interns dove into developing their aptitude in various areas: understanding how the world of project writing works, improving their technological awareness, and learning how the field has evolved. They learned about development project writing as they engaged with international stakeholders and fundraisers.

The interns were from Italy and Turkey, each with a broad international background and a keen interest in improving telecommunications systems. One of them, Sofia Papi, summed up her experience: collaborating with SSR "offered me insight into the world of international development, and provided me with new tools and procedures I was not familiar with. It was a great opportunity to improve not only my professional but also interpersonal skills".



Sofia Papi

The Impact of SSR: Testimonials from those who have benefitted



Florence Flomo

Gbarnga, Liberia.

"I read the news, present, interview and broadcast at Radio Paraclete, there are no limits for me in this field [radio]. I am thankful for this opportunity as this radio improves people's lives day by day, and helps people like me discover their potential".

Padre Aurelio Gazzera,

Bouar, Central African Republic.

"During the war, internet connection was vital for us. It allowed us to keep people informed and even got the EU and the French government to intervene. The Internet helped us save many lives".



Eda Pütgöl

Istanbul, Turkey.

"I chose SSR because I find their mission to be very important, reaching out to very vulnerable communities of the world. I also found the field of the internship [at the Development and Fundraising Department] as a chance to further explore my career interests and goals".

SIGNIS WITH YOU LIVE



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Now entering its third season, **SIGNIS with You Live**, a Facebook streaming show, offers a 30-minute, dynamic slice of life from the global intersection of faith and communication. Hosted by the effervescent Maria Victoria La Terza of SIGNIS Services Rome, the program's guests each week share stories of the real-world change wrought by all manner of media projects. A perspective often shared on the show by SIGNIS members and other is the importance of the voices and faces of local people in communications. Without them, no amount of technology by itself can transform the human spirit or create a culture of peace. From Timor-Leste to Argentina, from film festivals to digital radio, every Friday at 4:00 pm CET, viewers can enjoy good news about innovative communications in diverse, often ignored places in our world.

In the more than 60 episodes that have aired, some 100 guests have told the stories of how their projects came to life, benefitting hundreds of people through improved access to media, training programs for the youth, and much more. SIGNIS With You Live is a window into the lives of people in over 40 countries who tirelessly work to empower their communities, and to promote peace and human dignity. The show, which has reached over 50,000 viewers to date, also highlights creative initiatives, projects, and opportunities by SIGNIS for communicators worldwide. It is a show that welcomes everyone that is promoting the use of media for peace.

