



# **RETE RADIÈ RESCH**

## **Associazione di solidarietà internazionale**

### **Radiè Resch Net**

is an association of international solidarity founded in 1964 by the journalist Ettore Masina, following an intuition of Paul Gauthier, a French priest worker. The meeting between Masina and Gauthier took place in Palestine in the occasion of Pope Paul VI trip to Palestine.

Radiè (Radia) Resch is the name of a Palestinian child, who died of pneumonia while she was waiting for a true house: in fact, she lived with her family in a cave in Bethlehem. Our first project has been to fund houses' building for some Palestinian families.

Afterwards other projects have been realized in many other places, especially in South and Central America; more recently also in Africa.

Those who join RR Net are men and women committed in solidarity with people in the South of the world. The existing inequalities between the North and the South of the world are therefore a central issue.

Our Net aims at actualizing nowadays signs of future humanity, through the support of small and meaningful realities set up in a way which is alternative to the dominant economic model. These realities are well organized, self-managed and fighting in their countries against pauperization and for building a society based on justice.

We collaborate with individuals and communities in the South of the world to realize an inter-exchange of friendship, values and experiences for a mutual growth.

We periodically invite as "witnesses", men and women, committed in these projects, to listen to their experience, strengthen the ties of friendship and receive first hand information.

Moreover, our Net collaborates with Italian and European initiatives working to build a more equal world, conscious that the realization of justice and peace requires a deep change in the Northern countries of the world.

Our Net therefore is engaged in initiatives of concrete solidarity, which we want to be a sign of restitution. In this way the Net develops the awareness of the interdependence and mutual responsibility. We know in fact that pauperization, environmental damages, wars and violence, more evident in the south of the world, are the result of our model of development.

Who joins our Net is personally committed:

- to deepen the causes of inequality between North and South, to become an information source and a sensitizing instrument as to be "a voice for those without voice"
- to periodically operate a free and constant self-taxation to allow programming and implementing collaboration between our Net and the communities the Net is in touch with. Funds collected are therefore directly addressed towards well known situations and persons.

### **The organization**

RR Net realizes within itself a kind of participative action both at local and national level. Every local net tries to be connected to a project of which follows its development spreading information to the whole Net.

RR Net doesn't have own centers, neither structures. At national level it is articulated in groups (or local "nets") developing in the territory a proper and autonomous activity.

No elective positions, just coordination charges of the different groups belonging to it.

A National Coordination, expression of the local nets, is periodically gathered to define the intervention lines and decide opportune verifications; moreover it expresses a secretarial office of two-three persons with service duties.

Occasions for meeting and deepening are study seminars and regional conferences. Trips for study and knowledge are organized in those communities where the solidarity projects are being realized. The Net every two years holds a National Conference in which consolidates its commitment.

### **Communication channels**

- A monthly Circular letter, written by a turning local net, is sent to its adherents and to those who ask for it. Reflections and news are the subject matter being an effective tool for the common job.
  - The "News-bulletin of Radié Resch Net " is the quarterly of information and thematic deepening of our Net. The Quarrata (Pistoia) net takes care of it, but it is open to everybody's collaboration.
  - Radié Resch Net may be known through a website (<http://www.reterr.it>), containing a space for the local nets in which they may write about the solidarity projects they sustain beside a thematic deepening.

### **Evaluation Criteria for solidarity projects :**

#### **1° criterion (three times native)**

- The project must be originated and proposed by local people also in collaboration with externals.
- The main referent, responsible for the implementation of the project, has to be in the place where the project is realized and/or in close relationship with it.
- The project must use as much as it is possible local techniques and methodologies.
- Projects activated in Italy will have to be tuned with the spirit of the RR Net, preferably with objectives contributing to social justice construction, peace and sobriety praxis diffusion and our vital environment defense.

#### **2° criterion (transparency)**

The project must be shared by the local community which is directed to. Organizational and administrative transparency has to be guaranteed to the Community. Our referents must be informed on the criteria of our projects.

#### **3° criterion (ecology)**

The project does adopt the principle of limit in resources, therefore it has to be echo-compatible: Which is especially true in situations in which the robbery of the local resources by the transnational societies is the economic dominant model.

#### **4° criterion (duration)**

As for the duration of the financial contribution it is desirable for the project to be temporary. Every three years it is necessary to be submitted to verification. If a project assumes in the live of the Net a special meaning, because of its politically relevant value, it can also have a long duration, but it will be always subject to triennial verification.

The intervention cannot however be excluded in extraordinary situations that may be present in a country: a particular political conjuncture, a humanitarian urgency or the like.

### **5° criterion (autonomy)**

The project must be useful to trigger off processes of autonomous social-economic-cultural growth that facilitates the development of the organization, in matter of identity and political consciousness.

### **6° criterion (interrelation among communities)**

- The project is also a cultural exchange and a meeting between two different communities. We have to learn from the experience of our interlocutors of the South in terms of political approach and daily living (simplicity, sobriety, eco - compatibility etc.).

- Our visits to the communities we are in relationship with must be encouraged as well as the visits of the solidarity projects witnesses to our local groups supporting them.

- The existence of a relationship is a necessary condition for starting a project and keeping it going on. The relationship, based on direct knowledge, continuous and meaningful communication, sharing, affection etc., is fundamental; the economic contribution in comparison has a symbolic value.

### **7° criterion (dimensions and peculiarity)**

In accordance to the spirit of our Net, projects have preferably to be small. This doesn't exclude that some historical or particularly meaningful projects can assume wider spaces.

If we decide to support groups or activities also financed by others, it is important to have clear in mind our duty and the portion of the project taken in charge by the Net.