



Promoting Micro-Projects as building blocks of Vincentian Solidarity and Systemic Change

To: Superiors of Provinces, Vice-Provinces, Regions and International Missions that are eligible for VSO services

Attn: Confreres involved in social services and development work for the poor

Re: Call for Proposals for the VSO Micro-Project Grants for 2023

The Vincentian Solidarity Office (VSO) is pleased to launch the 'Call for Proposals' for micro-project grants for 2023. We are inviting **confreres from eligible¹ Vincentian institutions** to submit applications for funding viable small-scale projects that have direct benefits or with potential for long-term transformative impact on the lives of the poor.

The funds for micro-projects are pooled from the annual contributions of several provinces that commit to support the works of fellow provinces with less resources for their ministries. Far from developing donor dependency, the funding assistance serves to build up existing local resources and encourage collective ownership and sustainability of the initiatives. The VSO micro-project scheme provides an innovative way of revitalizing Vincentian solidarity with and for the poor.

We strongly promote micro-projects as the very starting point and building blocks of our envisioned systemic change. Services are delivered fast and can directly benefit vulnerable groups, while building up the capacity and accountability for bigger projects and broader solidarity networks. Over the years, micro-projects have helped confreres to respond to emerging needs and improve their ministries in formation and socio-pastoral services to the more disadvantaged sectors.

Confreres can apply for a VSO micro-project grant after receiving permission from their respective visitors or regional/mission superiors. The grant award is for a maximum of \$5,000 (USD) for an initiative that promotes the evangelization and service of the poor. The micro-project can be financed quickly and the funds sent directly from the Curia. Each eligible province, vice-province, region or international mission may present one micro-project per calendar year.

When a micro-grant is received and the micro-project is completed, two simple reports need to be submitted concerning the implementation of the project and finances. The confreres are also asked to send photographs of the completed initiative and the delivery of benefits.

¹ The list of those who can apply and are eligible for VSO services is determined and periodically updated by the Superior General and the General Council. To check eligibility, go to <https://cmglobal.org/vso-en/files/2020/07/List-of-provinces-eligible-for-service-Updated-20-03-18.pdf>

Information for Application:

The Application form and guidelines can be accessed online at <https://cmglobal.org/vso-en/apply-for-service/> or requested by email (VSO1@cmphlsvs.org)

The completed application can be submitted, at any time and without any deadline, to:
VSO1@cmphlsvs.org

Please let us know if you need further information.

We look forward to working with you on micro-projects that can build up Vincentian Solidarity and Systemic Change from bottom up.

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