



Dear Members of the Salesian Family!

Fr. Guillermo writes in his introduction about fifth dream of the Rector Major that caught his eye. I was attracted by another one – the fourth: “I have a dream of a Congregation of real Evangelisers and Educators in the Faith”. This is the only “dream” of the Rector Major that includes “education”.

Similarly to the Rector Major, it's my concern since many years of work with the Salesians that we are so much focused on education that we forget about the most important mission of Don Bosco which was not education itself, but evangelization. Don Bosco knew that even the best technical education will not assure to the young neither happy nor eternal life. We are so much afraid to be church-connected nowadays that we don't want even to mention it, although we ARE part of the Church. It's our identity and denying it cannot bring us any good fruits. It will rather deprive us of God's blessing. Even though we cannot write anything about Christ to most of our donors, it should not prevent us from talking about Him to the youth. Contrary to what we think, not only do they need it but also they expect it. I've been experiencing it a lot in the last months.

Let's read dreams of the Rector Major carefully and ask through the intercession of our great patroness, Mary The Immaculate Conception, for the grace to see how to bring them into being.

Joanna Stożek
President of DBN



Dear Friends!

As the year 2015 draws to a close, there is in our hearts a deep feeling of gratitude for this jubilee year of the Bicentenary of the birth of our beloved Father, Don Bosco. In a [letter](#) addressed to all Salesians, the Rector Major speaks of the “fruits” of this Bicentenary.

His fifth and last “fruit” or “dream” as the Successor of Don Bosco undoubtedly concerns all of us very deeply: “I have a dream of a Congregation that is always missionary.” His dream applies, first of all, to us Salesians of Don Bosco, but it naturally and spontaneously extends to all those who are with Don Bosco, committed to his mission, spirit and convictions.

The danger of any net is to somehow or other get entangled by it. When that happens in the case of the fisherman, he becomes unable to fish because he is caught up in the net and therefore prevented from fishing. Such a thing can also happen to a network like DBN if it neglects the missionary slant and vision. To be “always missionary” therefore means to remind ourselves of Don Bosco's constant concern – which should also be ours – of reaching out and placing all our abilities, structures and energies at the service of young people who are most in need.

Fr. Guillermo Basañes SDB
General Councilor for the Missions

RECTOR MAJOR VISITS DON BOARD NETWORK BOARD



- We should share information, projects, we should strengthen and foster communication - said **Rector Major Ángel Fernández Artime** while visiting **Don Bosco Network** Board Meeting that took place in Rome on Saturday, October 10, 2015. DBN Board met to discuss the current activities connected to the emergency response, PDOs capacity building, upcoming advocacy meeting of the Salesian Family and further development of the Network under one DON BOSCO umbrella. **Rector Major Ángel Fernández Artime** passed his greetings and shared a few words of encouragement.

- In this world, our congregation must be more international, interprovincial, intercultural. If we don't think about synergy our strength, variety of our work, becomes our weakness - stressed Rector Major.

- Our institutions are different and it is a challenge to work together, not in parallel way. We are walking in this path of solidarity that needs to be stronger in congregation. I want to underline that you are on the good way and we are constantly monitoring and supporting the work of this Network - he encouraged.

At the end he thanked everyone for personal effort underlining, that maybe working alone we can go faster but working together we can go further. We appreciate the visit of Rector Major and we feel even more motivated to dedicate our work for stronger and more effective cooperation within Don Bosco family.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PDO STAFF IN BELGIUM

University of Antwerp in Belgium, Institute of Development Studies, offers more than **30 scholarships for professionals from the South**. In 2016/17 they open **one-year master programmes** in: [Master in Globalisation and Development](#), [Master in Development Evaluation and Management](#), [Master in Governance and Development](#). Read more [here>>](#)

DBN at MISSION PROCURES MEETING (G5) IN NEW DELHI



Wojtek Mroczek, DBN Network Coordinator participated in Mission Procures (G5) meeting that took place from 6 to 8 November 2015 in New Delhi. This was the next step in the process of opening and strengthening communication and cooperation of the Network with other organizations and institutions of the Salesian Family. Mission Offices have already been involved in cooperation with DBN during the emergency responses in Philippines, Ebola in West Africa and Nepal.

During the meeting in New Delhi Wojtek Mroczek presented a brief cooperation proposal of DBN and MO, which includes annual joint meetings of DBN General Assembly and G5, participation of G5 representatives in the Development Cooperation Working Group of DBN and closer cooperation in case of emergency.

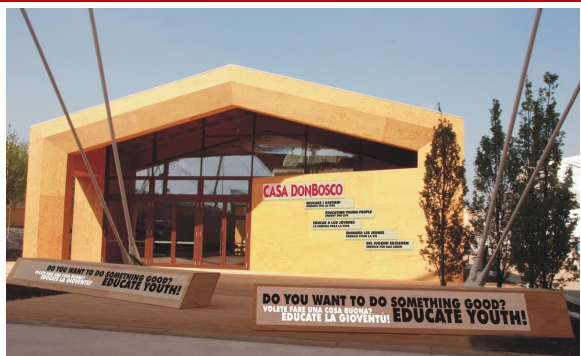
PDOs CORNER ON DBN PLATFORM



We would like to introduce you a new website dedicated to the Salesian PDOs worldwide. The website <http://pdo.donbosconetwork.org/> is an online platform of information, documents and news concerning PDOs. It's main goal is to strengthen capacity building of PDOs, facilitate information exchange and give DON BOSCO organizations tool for a better cooperation in the field of global development. PDO section is a database of all PDOs worldwide, E-learning and Documents sections will be ways of gaining knowledge, while Forum will give all registered users opportunity to discuss most relevant topics. We invite all PDOs to visit the website and contact Kasia Dumańska, DBN Secretary, for more info: dumanska@donbosconetwork.org

The website has been developed by Don Bosco Network within the project "Co-partners in development", implemented by VIS Italy, co-funded by EU.

CASA DON BOSCO: FROM EXPO 2015 TO UKRAINE



For the last couple of months [Casa Don Bosco](#) was a visible sign of the Salesian presence in the biggest world exhibition Expo 2015 in Milano. It hosted numerous events performed mainly by the Salesian young people from all over the world. At the end of the exhibition, on October 31, 2015, the structure was dismantled, loaded into containers and transported to Ukraine, where it will continue to carry out permanently its mission as home, school, courtyard and spirituality place. On October 29, Dr. Ercole Lucchini, Operation Manager of the Pavilion, performed the Symbolic handover of keys to Casa Don Bosco to Don Yuriy Smakous, representing the Ukrainian youth.

We as Don Bosco Network extremely appreciate the presence of Don Bosco in Expo. And though it's hard to measure its influence by the number of visitors who passed by the Casa Don Bosco, we're positive that it made a strong impact on the identity of Don Bosco and recognition of his name worldwide.

INFO:

⇒ www.donbosconetwork.org
 ⇒ www.facebook.com/donbosconetwork

CONTACT:

⇒ info@donbosconetwork.org