

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

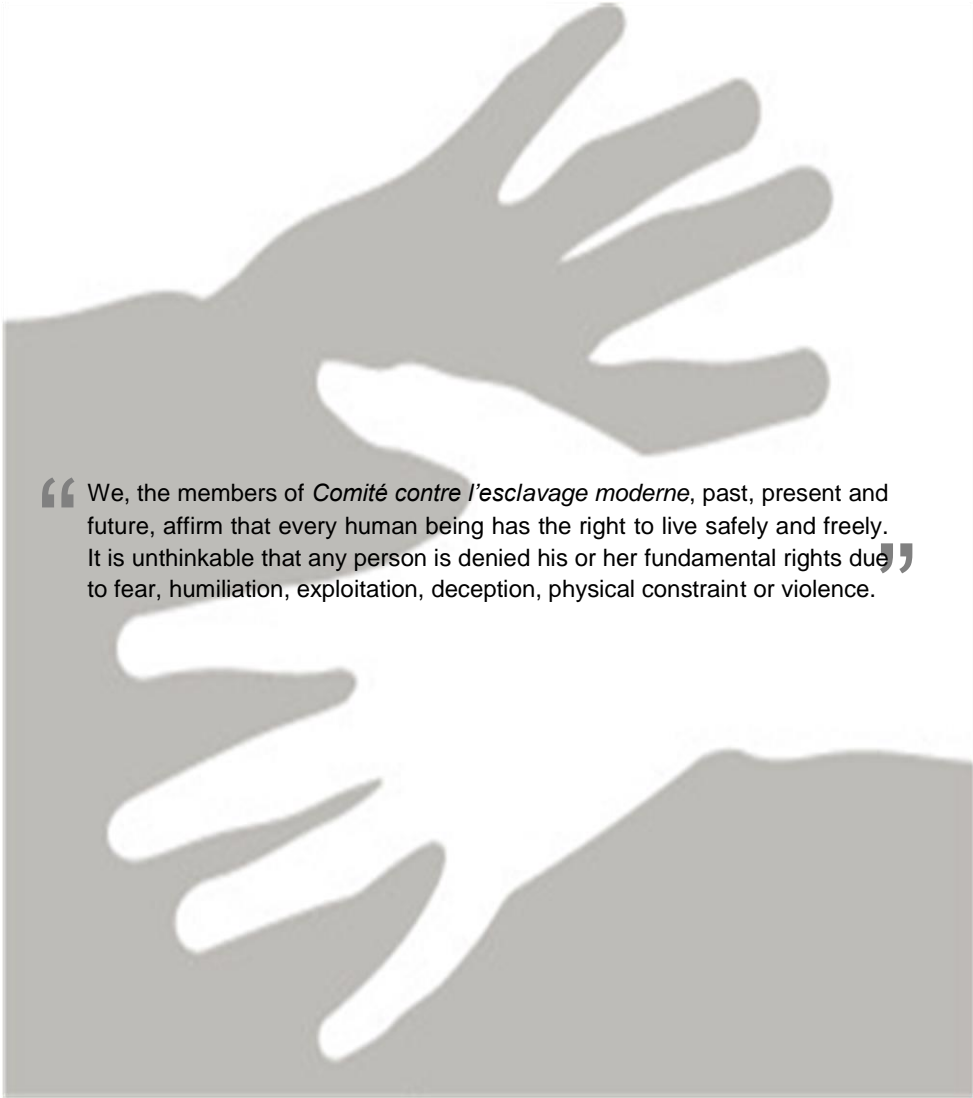
**25** YEARS  
FIGHTING  
1994-2019 | COMITÉ  
CONTRE L'ESCLAVAGE  
MODERNE



MAKE THE INVISIBLE VISIBLE

**« No one will be held in slavery or servitude;  
all forms of slavery and trafficking of slaves are prohibited. »**

*Article 4 - Universal Declaration of Human Rights*



“ We, the members of *Comité contre l’esclavage moderne*, past, present and future, affirm that every human being has the right to live safely and freely. It is unthinkable that any person is denied his or her fundamental rights due to fear, humiliation, exploitation, deception, physical constraint or violence. ”

**L**e Comité contre l'esclavage moderne (CCEM) was created in 1994 out of the heavy silence of general indifference towards the existence of modern slavery. Twenty-five years later this year, CCEM retains its same mission fighting this unacceptable violation of fundamental human rights by:

- exposing present modern forms of slavery and human trafficking
- assisting victims of trafficking for labour exploitation
- raising public awareness about the existence of modern slavery
- challenging authorities for better victim protection, more efficient prosecution of perpetrators, and implementation of preventative measures.

CCEM's place has always been beside victims helping them regain their rights and dignity and take on a healthy life. Since 1994, CCEM has closely accompanied more than 800 victims – a shocking number 170 years after the abolition of slavery in France. It only reflects the visible part of an iceberg given the challenges a victim faces just to arrive even at CCEM's door.

In its fight, CCEM chose as its principal action, the legal process. In the last 20 years, we have supported more than 300 cases in multiple jurisdictions including the European Court of Human Rights where France was condemned twice. As such, our targeted fight has gained a foothold, recognized by the United Nations, the European Union and the Council of Europe.

Nonetheless, even if the legal and social landscapes have changed since 1994, and despite conventions, international treaties, laws and decrees, intolerable situations endure in France – invisible to our eyes. Social awareness is still deficient. Faced with these cases, CCEM has demanded that French authorities increase their efforts so that women and men are not forgotten, and more so, that their situation is vigilantly addressed with a proactive policy.

Furthermore, CCEM demands that the fight against human trafficking be linked directly to the Prime Minister's office and that any inter-ministerial policy not be confused or linked with violence against women. Finally, CCEM also cries for the publication and implementation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> French National Plan of action, now already two years after its formation.

**Sylie O'Dy, President**  
Journalist, Author of "Esclaves en France"

**David Desgranges, President**  
Attorney, Barreau de Paris

# A QUARTER OF A CENTURY

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- 1994** Dominique Torrès forms the Comité contre l'esclavage moderne.
- 1996** Broadcast on TV France 2 *Freedom of Mehret*, the story of the first victim of domestic slavery accompanied by CCEM
- 1999** First trial before the Paris criminal court and the initiation of *Europe United Against Slavery* (France, Belgium, Spain, Italy, Austria)
- 2000** Opening of CCEM's "emergency apartment", a secured shelter with 6 beds for women victims. CCEM organises a conference entitled *Modern slavery and human trafficking: what European approaches ?*
- 2001** Parliamentary Commission on modern slavery and human trafficking in France presided by Christine Lazerges, alarmed by the CCEM.
- 2003** Introduction of the definition of human trafficking in French Penal Code Article 32 of the Internal Security Act.
- 2005** The European Court for Human Rights (ECHR) finds France guilty for violating Article 4 of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms after a long procedure initiated in 1998 by Henriette Siliadin with the support of CCEM.
- 2006** First exploiter found guilty in Criminal court (Cour d'Assise).
- 2009** CCEM participates in the work of the *Commission Nationale Consultative des Droits de l'Homme* (CNCDDH - National Advisory Committee on Human Rights) on human trafficking and exploitation.
- 2010** First condemnation by Lyon criminal court for human trafficking for labor exploitation.
- 2012** ECHR finds France guilty a second time in a domestic servitude case brought by CCEM.
- 2014** CCEM participates in the first French National Plan to fight human trafficking and in the implementation of the human trafficking law - *la loi d'août 2013*.
- 2016** CCEM works with European Council's Group of Experts on Action Against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA) in the preparation of a second report on France.
- 2017** CCEM gives its observations to the *Mission interministérielle pour la protection des femmes contre les violences et la lutte contre la traite des êtres humains* (MIPROF – Interministerial mission for the protection of women against violence and the fight against human trafficking) and the CNCDDH as part of an evaluation of the French National Plan in preparation of a second Plan.
- 2018** CCEM makes recommendations and proposes amendments to France's deputies and senators in the adoption of a law on asylum and immigration – *Asile et Migration*.
- 2019** CCEM organizes an anniversary conference entitled *Human trafficking, modern slavery and forced labor in France, 25 years of fighting*.

**3 500 ALERTS RECEIVED BY CCEM**

**822 VICTIMS IDENTIFIED IN FRANCE  
BETWEEN 1996 AND 2018**

**318 CASES IN COURT  
BETWEEN 1996 AND 2018**



# VOICES OF SILENCE

It started in 1994 when friends gathered around Dominique Torrès after she produced a documentary on slavery for the television station France 2. Together they decided to create a non-profit to free and defend victims of modern slavery in France – a crime that still existed at the end of the 20<sup>th</sup> century.

No one believed that slavery continued in France. Five years later, a French court had its first case of domestic servitude brought by CCEM, and the French public saw that such appalling acts, long thought gone, persisted in a country based on the principles of liberty and equality.

CCEM had no financial backing then. Generous families thus began welcoming young girls rescued by CCEM, opening their hearts and homes, giving their time and expertise. Public figures mobilized too to push the fight forward which brought more people committing to help victims in difficulty.

Thanks to these actions, CCEM blows out 25 candles this year as it continues to make heard the voices of silence and make the invisible visible.



France is the country of human rights...  
But not a country for cleaning ladies

magazine *Esclaves Encore* edition n°2, March 1999, Besson

## Lalita

Her name is Lalita. On September 5, she fled her employer, an Indian diplomat. Given as a gift to the diplomat's family at a very young age, she worked 7/7, from 6 am to midnight, never paid, and regularly threatened to be killed. Today, an investigation against X for intentional injury by stabbing was opened by the Paris prosecutor's office. Dr. Bernard Debré, who had operated to stitch wounds in Lalita's genital area, established as fact "acts of torture and barbarity". An investigation is required to determine who mutilated Lalita at the home of her former employer. The diplomat is protected by diplomatic immunity, which allows him to not respond to the judge's demands. Immunity or impunity? CCEM will fight to the end.

Sylvie O'Dy

Extract from *Esclaves Encore* edition n°3, December 1999



— 1999 to 2007 : CCEM reported on by the magazine *Esclaves Encore* —

From 1999 to 2007, CCEM’s board of directors, staff and volunteers reported on the daily work at CCEM to help victims of trafficking, in the newsletter *Esclaves Encore* (“Still Slaves”). Today, CCEM diffuses information through social networks, a newsletter and its annual report. The 31 editions of *Esclaves Encore* are available on CCEM’s website as well as at the *Bibliothèque Nationale de France* in Paris.



# MODERN SLAVERY AND TRAFFICKING

**R**ecognising that modern slavery and human trafficking are inadmissible human rights violations, international law organizations have mobilized stakeholders to take action. The first significant text adopted in 1949<sup>1</sup> was limited to only sexual exploitation. A more developed definition of trafficking came in 2000 with a protocol at the United Nations Palermo Convention<sup>2</sup> which imposed member states to adapt their criminal laws on trafficking and to help protect victims of trafficking.

A year later, CCEM was auditioned by a French parliamentary commission to begin the work of adapting French law to address the 2000 protocol. The French National Assembly ratified the UN Protocol into law in 2002, however, the Senate did not, and human trafficking was still not considered a crime in France. It was not until February 2003 that a chapter on trafficking and prostitution was inserted in the French penal code under domestic security. National policy on the fight against trafficking was thus based on a strategy of immigration policing and sexual exploitation,



## EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS May 26, 2005, Siliadin versus France An historic judgement

In this historic case, the European Court of Human Rights (ECHR) decided in May 2005 that plaintiff, Henriette Siliadin, had been held in servitude under Article 4 of the European Convention for the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms (1953).

The ECHR further condemned France holding that the criminal law in effect at the time of the facts of the case, failed to give the plaintiff concrete and effective protection from the acts of which she was a victim. Prior to this holding, Ms. Siliadin's "employers" had been released in 2003 by the appeals court in Versailles which found that the working conditions of Ms. Siliadin, a minor at the time and represented by CCEM, were not against human dignity...

Following this first ECHR's interpretation of Article 4, a protective jurisprudence is continuously refined year after year.



Henriette Siliadin, 1999, the year her "employers" were initially found guilty - *Esclaves Encore* - edition n°3 June 1999

<sup>1</sup> Convention for the repression of human trafficking and the exploitation of prostitution of others of 1949.

<sup>2</sup> The Protocol at the United Nation convention against transnational organized crime to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking, especially of women and children.



**Europe mobilized:** The Article 4 of the Convention of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms is dedicated to the fight against slavery and forced labor; the European Court for Human Rights (ECHR) recognizes the abolition of slavery and the fight against it as a fundamental value of democratic societies.

**The ECHR finds France guilty two times** for violating Article 4 of the Convention. The victims in these cases were supported by CCEM. (ECHR *Siliadin v. France*, July 26, 2005 and ECHR, *C.N. & V. v. France*, October 11, 2012)

**In 2005, the European Council** adopts a convention specifically addressing the battle against human trafficking at the Warsaw Convention, and adopts a system to supervise member states through a group of experts – GRETA.

**The European Union** takes a careful look at the fight against trafficking in 2004, adopting initial guidelines specifically on the legal status of foreign victims of trafficking, followed by additional guidelines in 2011 regarding the general human rights of trafficking victims.

**France** establishes provisions addressing these two guidelines in not only the Code governing Entry and Residence of Foreigners and the Right to Asylum (Article L.316-1), but also in the penal code by introducing specific violations relating to labor exploitation - significant to CCEM and its work with victims.

Soon after the law of 5 August 2013, which added slavery, forced labor and servitude in the penal code, the French government created an inter-ministerial mission (MIPROF) responsible for formulating the first French National Plan of Action to fight human trafficking. The Plan was not implemented, however, for lack of allocation of funds.

At the end of 2015, France ratified the Protocole originating at the International Labour Organisation Convention n° 29 against forced labor, and thus, gave work inspectors a role in identifying victims of trafficking.

In 2018, the elaboration of a second French National Plan of Action against trafficking of human beings started which should offer the necessary tools to identify and protect victims. It is especially necessary now to recognize upfront the existence, in addition to sex trafficking, of trafficking for labor exploitation and to give the financial support needed to effectively fight this atrocity.

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# CCEM'S MISSION

**PREVENTION** Since its creation, we at CCEM have focused our work on prevention by educating and sensitizing the public with information campaigns and by directly addressing the general public and professionals to raise awareness of the continued existence of human labor trafficking and the evils of modern slavery.

**PROTECTION** Actions to protect victims include identification, shelter and social and legal support. We are particularly attentive to victims' individual situations when identifying them and helping them choose their paths after escaping servitude. Proactive victim identification and bespoke responses to their needs remain our priority. This allows them maximum protection and personalized social and legal support.

**PROSECUTION** We consider the prosecution of perpetrators the most important in bringing justice and rights to victims as well as a form of prevention in the long-term. This is why communication and information about courts hearings and decisions is key in order that each exploiter considers the severity of the act : human trafficking is a crime and serious violation of fundamental human rights.

**ADVOCACY** CCEM shares its experience in the field with the general public, legislatures and elected officials. Based on its expertise, CCEM also advocates independently and with other organizations to put in place efficient policies and mobilize legislative reforms to help victims.

**PARTNERSHIP** CCEM partners play a role in protecting victims - public institutions and non-profits; local and national police; social workers; legal personnel, attorneys and magistrates; and health and housing professionals. Collaborations with these organizations give victims new opportunities, allow the identification of good practices and establish helpful precedence.

# CCEM IN ACTION

IDENTIFY



PROTECT



CCEM

PROSECUTE

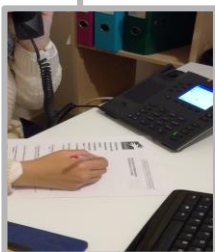


INFORM



# A FEW FIGURES FOR 2018

## Identifying victims :



- **354** alerts received, 65% by outsiders and institutions. **174** received in-depth handling.
- **32** new cases undertaken, 13% cases of minors and 50% between 18 and 35 years old.
- **78%** of victims were physically or psychologically mistreated.
- **62%** received no pay.
- **90%** were allowed no breaks from work.
- **94%** worked more than 12 hours a day.

## We protect victims . . .

- **1,829** nights spent in CCEM's urgent relief apartment by 12 women
- **114** victims followed in social welfare offices
- **131** victims received financial support for food and transport upon their escape from exploitation.
- **84** victims participated in socio-cultural fieldtrips organized by CCEM

## and defend their rights :

- **160** victims served in CCEM's legal department including 30 new cases this year.
  - **660** legal actions (criminal, administrative, labor or other)
  - More than **680** victims helped and **320** court hearings since 1998
- 
- **181** people supported by CCEM at this time of which 76% are women,
  - Victims come from **49** countries, and they were exploited in 31 departments in France of which 81% in Île-de-France (24% in Paris),
  - **1,462** interviews or physical accompaniment of which 33% with translators or in a language other than French



**A team of 6 staff members, 3 interns or civil service volunteers and 74 volunteers.**

## We work to heighten awareness and inform:



- **33** information or awareness sessions organised
- **1,570** people attended and directly touched by our interventions
- Recommendations under the asylum and migration law
- **Dozens** of articles or reports in the press or media
- **65,000** visits to our website [www.esclavagemoderne.org](http://www.esclavagemoderne.org)

# IDENTIFY THE INVISIBLE

In France, and other countries in Europe, the media and politicians tend to focus on sexual exploitation in relation to trafficking. However, all activities that typically engage “cheap labor” are susceptible to exploiting victims of trafficking. Since its formation, CCEM has focused on exploitation in domestic services, as well as in agriculture, construction, manufacturing, restaurants and other manual labor – often hidden to the general public.

With no established framework at the time of its creation in 1994, CCEM created its own working tools to identify these invisible forms of victim subjection and control using criteria in the established European or French legal framework.

The European Commission estimated that 15,845 people were victims of trafficking and forced labor in the European Union in 2013-14. An increase in this number is due partially to economic crises, an increase in demand for products and cheap labor.

According to the last report of the UNODC (2018), Europe has become the highest first destination for trafficking in human beings. According to reports in 2017 and 2018 of the International Labour Organization and the foundation Walk Free, 40 million people are victims of trafficking and forced marriage, of which 16 million are victims of labor exploitation.

*From sounding an alert to volunteering ... !*

*At CCEM, we call “alerter” people who alert us to situations that they believe may be “modern slavery”.*

*In 2018, Sanae called to our attention, a young Moroccan woman, S., who had been abandoned, while pregnant, by her French husband and in-laws, at the airport in Morocco, taking all her legal papers, thus preventing her from going back to France. Sanae and S. met each other through Facebook, where S was looking for help. Sanae began to wonder about the living conditions of S when she was in France with her husband and his family: for example, taking care of their large family, cleaning the house, prohibited from going out, and making and selling cakes under the supervision of her mother-in-law.*

*Sanae thus contacted CCEM and CCEM undertook to help S long-distance with the help of another organization in Morocco.*

*Since this case, Sanae has worked at CCEM as a volunteer. In one year, she has volunteered over 40 hours as an interpreter!*

# PERSONAL PROFILES

The large majority of our new cases in 2018, similar to earlier years, involve isolated, single adults (87%), without family in France, from different countries (44% from sub-Saharan Africa and 28% from north Africa). 13% were minors when they were exploited and at times still minors when they arrived at CCEM – all victims of domestic servitude in private homes. This strong presence of female minors may suggest a global risk that average age of victims is decreasing. In addition, 44% of our cases this year involved women less than 25 years-old, compared to 26% last year.

Looking at the male-female ratio of our cases, 2018 showed a decrease in the number of cases for men after a consistent increase over the last few years of roughly a third each year. Similarly, 87% of our new cases involved women, compared to 66% in the prior year.

## The deterioration of living and working conditions!

- 78% suffered physical, psychological or sexual abuse (compared to 77% in 2017)
- 62% received no pay at all (compared to 60% in 2017)
- 90% were allowed no vacation (compared to 80% in 2017)
- 94% worked more than 12 hours a day (compared to 91% in 2017)
- 90% had no unsupervised contact with the outside world (compared to 73% in 2017)
- 100% lived in the same housing as their exploiters (similar to 2017)

## Active files at CCEM in 2018



**181**

PEOPLE ASSISTED  
INCLUDING

**32**

NEW CASES  
TAKEN ON IN 2018.

**+ 1**

JOINT CASE  
REPRESENTING  
40 TO 60 VICTIMS



**76%**



**24%**



**105**

DEPENDENT CHILDREN

including

**43**

CHILDREN LIVING IN  
FRANCE\*

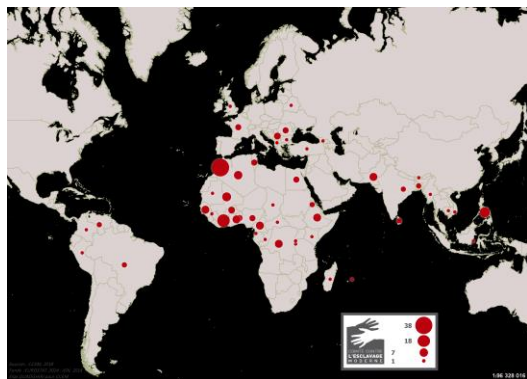
\* of which 12 were born either while their parent(s) were exploited or were exposed to the exploitation.

# ACCOMPAGNED BY CCEM

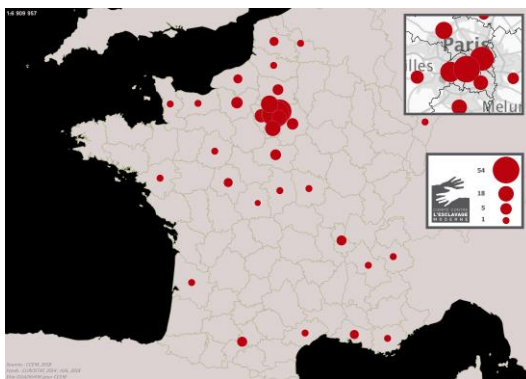
The **181 assisted victims in 2018** came from 49 different countries. The highest number of cases came from victims coming from Morocco (21%), before Ivory Coast (10%) and the Philippines (6%). 63% of the victims came from the same country as their exploiter, compared to 70% the prior year. Exploitation took place in 31 departments in France of which 81% in the Ile de France (24% in Paris).

For 25 years, the profile of victims at CCEM has not changed much, looking at country of origin, exploitation location or age bracket. However, we can see some general trends in the groups of people we help:

- ➔ Even if the numbers have varied from year-to-year, the number of exploited minors has decreased over time. Ten years ago, 36.5% of victims arrived in France as minors. In 2018, this percentage is only 13.
- ➔ The division men-women is currently about 25-75% whereas it was closer to 85% to 95% women between 1998 and 2008.
- ➔ There is an overall increase in number of victims who receive no pay (51% in 2008 compared to 63% in 2018) and an increase in the number of hours a victim has been forced to work in a day.
- ➔ The majority of victims still come from countries in north and west Africa.



Countries of origin of people helped by CCEM in 2018



Places where assisted victims were exploited in France in 2018



# PROTECT

Since 1994, CCEM has accompanied over 820 victims of labor trafficking through social or legal recovery, or both. CCEM's approach has always been focused on the individual victim. To this end, after the identification of exploitation, additional interviews with the victim aim to establish priorities for helping and to foresee, with the victim's consent, the actions to put in place according to the victim's personal needs.

In 2018, CCEM's social services department accompanied 114 people for a variety of needs from finding shelter and access to basic needs and rights to social services, to helping re-integrate society and the legitimate work force.



1,829 nights provided in CCEM's emergency apartment and 15 nights in a hostel; 48 victims were accompanied to other shelters; 7 in half-way housing; 3 with the help of an organization helping battered women – HAFB; one in an emergency hotel; and one via the secured anti-trafficking organization Ac.Sé.

11 requests for social housing – none accepted



94 physical accompaniments for psychological assistance and treatment

49 victims accompanied to access medical care

31 government assisted aid (AME) and 18 universal healthcare (CMU)



144 victims received some financial aid upon their escape from exploitation.

56 for food  
88 for transportation



19 victims were followed through professional re-integration

27 victims attended French classes

84 victims participated in socio-cultural fieldtrips

TESTIMONY from S.

« Today I am protected thanks to CCEM ! »

*I arrived in France in February 2017 with my employers. When we arrived at the airport, I met a woman who came from my country. We talked and she gave me her cellphone number. I later told her about my working conditions, both when I was abroad with my employers and inside of France. When I escaped from my employers after a while, this woman brought me to CCEM.*

*I was very frightened when I arrived at CCEM, but people listened to me there and took me to their emergency apartment where I was able to gather myself together and rest. It was hard to tell them my story, everything that happened to me. I did not know if I would be able to trust anyone in France. I was afraid of what could possibly happen to me if I told someone what I endured.*

*I now work in a restaurant. But in the future, I would like to work as a hairdresser – why not even have my own salon?!*

*I would like to thank CCEM for all that they have done for me and for having made my security a priority. Thank you.*

S. has held conditional asylum status since 2018

Since CCEM's creation, more than 300 court hearings have been handed down on its cases fighting modern slavery, more than roughly one per month. Through these actions, over the course of time, the existence of slavery in France has become known. CCEM's objective is to obtain judicial recognition of slavery by the court as well as recognition of the rights for and compensation owed to victims.

In 2018, CCEM's legal team accompanied 160 victims throughout the year including 30 new cases. Our team undertook this year 660 actions in criminal, administrative, labor or other courts or tribunals.

### 318 lawsuits brought by CCEM since 1994:

- 164 criminal proceedings (*Tribunaux de Grande Instance* and *Cours d'Appel*)
- 5 criminal trials
- 16 proceeding before the highest courts (13 in *Cour de cassation*, 2 before the *Conseil d'État*, 1 before the *Conseil Constitutionnel*)
- 2 proceedings before the European Court of Human Rights
- 91 proceedings in the labor and social law chambers (*Prud'hommes* and *Chambre sociale*)
- 15 proceeding in other civil jurisdictions (CIVI, family, protection et enforcement)
- 25 proceedings in administrative jurisdictions (*Tribunal Administratif* and *Cour administrative d'appel*)
- 7 proceedings are currently before investigating judges (*chambres de l'instruction*)



A.K. at the Court of Nanterre the day of the hearing of the woman who exploited her between 13 and 18 years-old, accompanied by her lawyer, Juliette Vogel.

See page 19 for the story.  
(from *Le Parisien*, January 22, 2018.)

On January 18, 2018, based on an alert to CCEM and an investigation by the central government office on illegal labor, Mr. and Mrs. C. were found guilty of human trafficking and received a 3-year suspended sentence with a fine of 10,000€ each. They had brought Madame H. with them to France with no working papers. Madame H. had worked for the C's when they lived in Dubai under inhuman living and working conditions which continued in France: she slept on a small mattress on the floor with no privacy and worked every day with no days off for 250€ per month.

November 11, 2015, Mr. B. lodged a complaint claiming that he was a victim of labor exploitation in agriculture with unhygienic and dangerous living conditions. During the investigation, a second victim came forward which highlighted a racket of recruitment and exploitation of Moroccan fieldworkers. On September 19, 2018, the criminal court in Pontoise condemned Mr. R for having housed and forced Messr. B. and D. to work in contemptible conditions and sentenced him to a conditional sentence of 10 months. Mr. R. is currently appealing this judgement.

After a Versailles tribunal found Mr. And Mrs. M.H. guilty of human trafficking having known the illegal status of Mrs. R., the case was taken again before the *Cour d'appel* in Versailles where the couple was sentenced to 12 months prison attached to 2 years suspended sentence and was required to compensate Mrs. R. for losses suffered. They are appealing this case.

TESTIMONY from R.

« Why have I been fighting for 10 years? »

*I arrived in France in 2004. My sister brought me from my home country. I came to the Comité (CCEM) after the ill-treatments I have been subject of. CCEM had helped my boyfriend who called the Comité because he did not think my living and working situation was normal.*

*The first thing the Comité did was listen to my story to understand how to help me. I was able to also see a psychologist – which helped me very much move forward. I also received monthly financial help to help me pay for clothes for my baby and me.*

*The Comité helped me lodge a complaint with the police, and someone from the Comité guided me through the investigation. I decided to go through with the legal process because in my country families often give up their children to go to Europe especially to go to school, and the parents do not realize the unhappiness that can come out of these situations.*

*I would like that no one live the same story I lived, that people in Africa open their eyes to the risks, and that parents think before giving up their children.*

*I am making progress, I have already made good progress in reading and writing. I will continue my training in being a personal aide after my maternity rest. I would like to work helping the elderly.*

R. filed a complaint in 2009. Her “employers” filed an appeal in February 2019

13 years of legal procedures . . . and it is not yet finished.

Mrs. D. was found guilty of submitting A.K., a minor, to inhuman living and working conditions, not declaring the work, and hiding an undocumented person for 5 years. On February 19, 2018, the correctional tribunal in Nanterre handed down a suspended prison term of 18 months, payment of 60,000€ in damages and interest, and a symbolic euro to CCEM. This sentence was declared, however, after 11 years of legal procedures.

A.K. arrived in France when she was 13 years-old and started working for Mrs. D in August 2000, continuing to 2005, performing multiple tasks cleaning a home where up to 9 people lived in several families. Passport confiscated, no resident card, no education, no days off, no pay, no freedom to go out of the house except to shop for food and take the children to school, she slept with no covers on a foam mattress. She was also regularly victimized by violence and starvation. Neighbors alerted the police to her situation two times in 2003 and 2004!

In October 2006, A.K. files a complaint against Mrs. D.; however, the investigating judge in Nanterre dismisses the complaint on January 13, 2009. It takes eight years afterwards to properly initiate a true legal procedure.

With CCEM's support, A.K. appeals to the Investigating Chamber of the *Cour d'appel* in Versailles to overturn the dismissal. No success. She takes recourse however in the Appeals Court (*Cour de Cassation*).

The *Cour de Cassation* strikes down the lower court's dismissal and remands the case to the *Cour d'Appel* in Paris which does not accept the totality of the case. A.K. thus takes another recourse to appeal *en cassation*. The highest jurisdiction in France reverses the *Cour d'Appel's* decision and remands the case to the *Cour d'Appel* in Orleans. This court overturns the dismissal decision and sends it to the correctional tribunal of Nanterre where a hearing is set for September 11, 2017, which gets postponed to January 22, 2018 when the 17<sup>th</sup> chamber of the correctional tribunal of Nanterre finally hears A.K. describe her life as a "domestic slave" of Mrs. D in Châtenay-Malabry (92).

A.K., a domestic slave in France between 13 and 18 years old, has the right to an equitable process within a reasonable delay. The length of time it has taken to open a process is evidence of the obstacles CCEM can face when trying to help victims gain their rights and dignity.

Thirteen years have passed. The defendant has filed an appeal . . .

A case to be continued...

**C**CEM has always worked to uncover the existence of human trafficking for economic gain, notably domestic servitude and such other modern forms of slavery. It has also shared its expertise and the programs it puts in place to combat slavery and help victims integrate into society. CCEM is regularly asked to make presentations and testify in France on questions regarding its action.

Armed with years of experience, we conduct an array of sensitization programs; awareness raising campaigns for the public-at-large, information sessions directed at professionals, collective actions with other organizations, and active participation in seminars and conferences. All our efforts aim to inform the general public and train professionals who are in the field. Our goal: reach people who could be in possible contact with victims and aid in the fight against trafficking for labour exploitation.

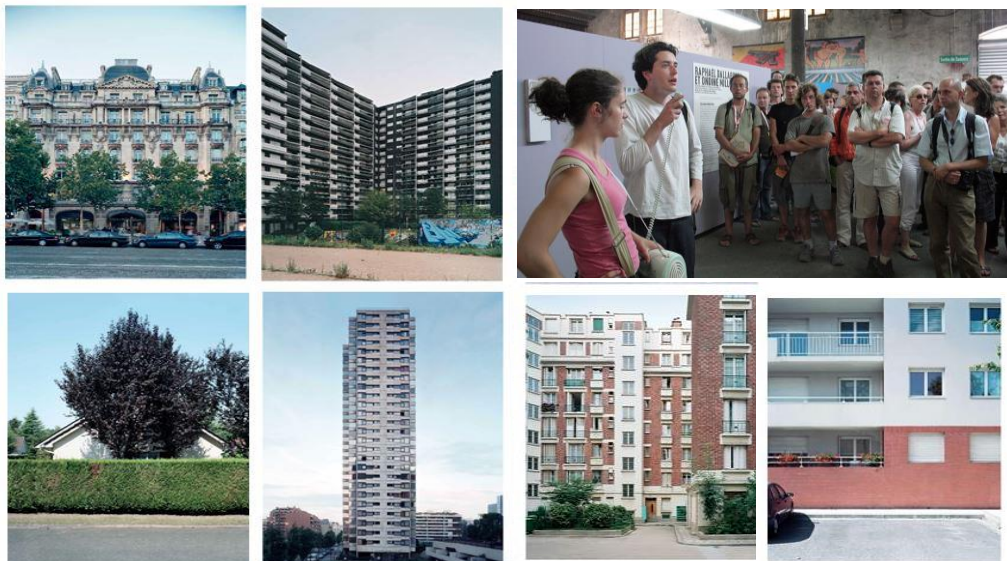
During the last 25 years, we have benefitted from the work of photographers and journalists who have given us their talent, proposing exhibitions and documents that teach and inform the public.

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— “*slavery within reach of the metro*” —

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These photographs show the diversity of places where victims of domestic servitude have lived, out of sight. Luxurious *hôtels particuliers*, suburban houses, large housing complexes... They remind us that slavery exists in all social milieu. This was an exhibition put together by photographer, Raphael Dallaporta, and author, Ondine Millot, in collaboration with CCEM, mounted several times throughout France, including the Square de la Tour Saint Jacques in Paris in 2016 as well as in Brussels in 2018.



Photographer, Raphael Dallaporta, at l'Atelier des Forges at the Rencontres d'Arles in 2006 and the exhibition *Esclavage Domestique*



The fruits of labor by volunteer companies – Colorado and Métrobus - this disturbing and provocative poster covered the footpaths of the Paris subway system in April 1998, four years after CCEM was formed.

A successful campaign that paid off in numerous testimonies and volunteers at CCEM's door.

“

When I saw this poster for the first time in the Paris metro, I asked myself who could talk about slavery 150 years after its abolition in France.

David Desgranges, President of CCEM and attorney for victims since 1998

”



This poster, produced for CCEM by photojournalist and film maker, Raymond Depardon, accompanied the release of a short film on domestic exploitation and was shown on television station France 2 in 2002.

The singer, Renaud, the actress, Laurence Gormezano, as well as the agency, Loeb et Associés, united their talents to support CCEM and its mission.

It can be seen on CCEM's website and the *Institut National des Archives*.

Produced pro bono by Agence Myop photographer, Ed Alcock, and L'Agence Terre Bleue, these posters are snapshots of P and S, who were accompanied by CCEM in 2010 in Paris.

Support from the Paris Mayor's office and JC Decaux enabled the posting of this awareness campaign between November 2016 and January 2018 in more than 4,000 public spaces throughout France causing CCEM to receive significantly more alerts.





# CCEM SPREADING INFORMATION 2018

**33** training and awareness-raising sessions

**1,570** people directly impacted by our information activities

**Official recommendations** were made to French elected officials regarding the law on asylum and immigration.

**Dozens** of articles and interviews in the press and multi-media including *Le Monde*, *Le 1*, *L'Express*, *France Info*, *Neon Mag*, *The Conversation*, *Paris Normandie*, *20 Minutes*, *l'Humanité*, *Europe 1*, *France Inter*, *France Culture*, *La Croix*, and *RFI*

**65,000** visits to our website, recently renovated, [www.esclavagemodern.org](http://www.esclavagemodern.org)



## The presence of CCEM on social network

**949** members on Facebook

**326** followers on Facebook

**511** subscribers to our newsletter

**454** Twitter followers (@CCEM\_France)



David Desgranges, speaking at l'Université Populaire du Havre in November 2018



CCEM team conducting a workshop on the identification and rights of victims in June 2018 with the non-profit Cœur à Cœur



# SOME PRESS

2005

**Le Monde**

## L'arrêt de la CEDH dans l'affaire Siliadin c. France

La Cour européenne des Droits de l'Homme a communiqué aujourd'hui par écrit son arrêt dans l'affaire Siliadin c.

Publié le 26 juillet 2005 à 19h16 - Mis à jour le 28 juillet 2005 à 19h16

© Lecture 8 min.

**Liberation**

## FORBIT Isman Suslawati, la dame de la cantine

Par [Lucebert Sirenevitjaja](#), photo [Remy Atjeves](#) — 12 juillet 2008 à 17:08



Photo: Remy Atjeves pour Liberation

Retrouvailles avec cette Indonésienne de 51 ans, ex-esclave domestique pour diplomates omanais, devenue cantinière à «Liberation».

1998

> Juin 1998, pages 20 et 21

UN PHÉNOMÈNE INVISIBLE MAIS BIEN RÉEL

## Quand l'immigration tourne à l'esclavage

**LE MONDE diplomatique**

2018

2012

## Esclavage domestique à Châtenay-Malabry : « elle me terrorisait cette femme »



2018

**Le Parisien**

Elle > Société > Actu société

## Chantal [REDACTED], reconnue « esclave moderne » par la Cour Européenne

**ELLE**

2018

## ESCLAVAGE ÇA SE PASSE PRÈS DE CHEZ VOUS



le un  
N°221

# INTERNATIONAL ACTIONS

CCEM has worked on an international level since its beginnings in hand with other European and non-European organizations, international organizations and foreign governments.

These exchanges have allowed CCEM to form different projects with its partners outside of France in order to share experiences and expertise and to fight labor trafficking globally.



2019- 2021

In project **SAVE**, CCEM is sharing expertise, legal knowledge and experience with local organizations in Morocco to help trafficking victims and potential victims mainly through legal assistance.



2010-2011

**RAPVIT** focused on research and awareness-building training about the violence women face when they are victims of human trafficking.



2003

The project **Pour une approche multidisciplinaire de la protection des victimes de traite** (For a multi-disciplinary approach to protecting trafficking victims) allowed us to reinforce collaboration among various European countries.



2013- 2014

**Balkans ACT (Against Crime of Trafficking) Now!** aimed to share best practices among western European organizations and stakeholders in Serbia and the Balkans' region, especially in judicial procedures.



2004-2007

**Longue Marche** aimed to study and assist the then growing number of migrating Asian women to Europe at risk of exploitation.



1998

CCEM's first European-wide project - **L'Europe unie contre l'esclavage** (Europe united against slavery) placed the existence of modern slavery and labor trafficking in the public European debate.

For the last 25 years, CCEM's international projects have been financed primarily by the European Union, and by l'Agence Française de Développement for the first time in support of our project SAVE. We give thanks for their support and forethought.



## CCEM mobilizes with 5 Moroccan partners to fight labor trafficking!

SAVE (*Soutien dans l'identification et l'Accompagnement des Victimes de traite des Êtres humains* – Support in the identification and accompaniment of victims of trafficking of human beings) was born out of a meeting of local Moroccan organizations in 2016 and 2017. Morocco had just adopted a new law (Loi 27-14) which introduced human trafficking into their penal law.



Since 1994, the highest percentage of victims that CCEM assists is from Morocco, roughly 20-25% each year.

The passing of 27-14, which adopts the international definition of trafficking, inspired us to develop a collaborative project with 5 organizations based in the 5 regions of Morocco from where originate most of the victims at CCEM. The project's objective is to increase the capacities of local civil society organizations, over 3 years, to form effective legal departments, identify victims of labor trafficking and apply the new law.

SAVE will be launched in January 2019 thanks to the support of the French Development Agency (*l'Agence Française de Développement*), which has pledged around half of the project's costs. It will be CCEM's first project outside of Europe.

### TESTIMONY

#### 20 years fighting in hand with CCEM !

“ In 1998, I saw a poster in the metro and said to myself, “finally people are acting!” But I was surprised that the slavery that the poster was describing was in France. Soon after, I made a commitment and have been volunteering at CCEM for 20 years now as an attorney, program coordinator of a project called DAPHNE, and today, as a member of the board. Working with CCEM has taught me that reality is not only what we see, and that succeeding in our fight requires will and perseverance!

I apply these principals today in my work internationally, and if I ever have a doubt, I think how much CCEM, with its small staff and modest means, has succeeded in gaining a place at the top of its field.

Georgina Vaz Cabral, author of *Human Trafficking – the realities of modern slavery (La traite des êtres humains – Réalités de l'esclavage contemporain)* Ed. La Découverte, 2006; President of the United Nations Voluntary Fund for the fight against modern slavery.

# SOME DATES IN 2018



**15 January** CCEM attends the United Nations' Universal Periodic Review of France in Geneva with a parallel event organized with Caritas International at the initiation of the collective of 28 organizations including CCEM, "Together Against Human Trafficking" (*Collectif ensemble contre la traite des êtres humains*).

**18 January** The Nanterre Criminal Court sentenced a couple in Garches, found guilty of human trafficking, to three years suspended prison, a fine of 20,000€, on addition to another 20,000€ compensation for non-material damages.

**3 April** The *Groupe d'experts du Conseil de l'Europe sur la lutte contre la traite des êtres humains* (GRETA) publishes a report with alarming conclusions: the existence of labor trafficking has increased in Europe, and in several countries, it is the highest form of exploitation, more than sexual exploitation. The official figures under-estimate the scale of the problem, while the limited number of prosecutions does not improve the problem and sentencing is rare.



**6 April** CCEM makes comments on a French law on asylum and immigration and its impact on victims of trafficking. Notice is sent to all legislators. One proposed amendment is discussed in plenary session. As a result, a new residency card exists, "*jeune au pair*", that is accompanied by a notice of the rights and obligations of each young person when beginning an *au pair* position and above all, the penalties an employer incurs if the *au pair* is exploited. While France accepts roughly 6,000 student *au pairs* each year, this practice did not reveal until now that a European agreement has existed on this subject since 1969.



**21 June** Zita Obra, a former victim assisted by CCEM, testifies before the United Nations at a presentation of the work of the special Rapporteur on human trafficking.

**27 June** A presentation is issued in Paris of the results of a study on human trafficking by French non-profits in 2016, with CCEM's active participation, conducted by *Mission interministérielle pour la protection des femmes contre les violences et la lutte contre la traite des êtres humains* (MIPROF) and *l'Observatoire national de la délinquance et des réponses pénales* (ONDRP).

**22 November** CCEM joined by the organization Sherpa and six former employees lodges a complaint against Vinci Construction Grands Projets, its Qatari subsidiary, Qatari Diar Vinci Construction, and their representatives for forced labor, servitude, human trafficking, inhuman and deliberately dangerous working conditions, involuntary injury and concealment.

# ADVOCACY & PARTNERSHIPS

**A**dvocacy is a meaningful part of CCEM's mission. Our recognized expertise in issues surrounding slavery as it exists today has allowed us to play a major role in legislative debates and participate in working groups in and outside of France.

The hundreds of cases that we have supervised have allowed us to accumulate detailed knowledge of obstacles tied to current laws and the judicial system. Our objective: to increase recognition of the existence of labor trafficking and slavery now; to improve victim protection; and to see a true application of the laws by courts.

Concerning punishing trafficking and offering reparation for its harmful effects, our goal is to push public authorities to improve the system of victims' protection and advance labor trafficking cases more efficiently.

Since 2013, CCEM has been a member of the Coordination Committee at MIPROF. Starting in 2016, CCEM has also actively participated in the annual survey of human trafficking victims by applicable non-profit organizations in France published by MIPROF and the *Observatoire National de la Délinquance et de la Réponse Pénale* (ONDRP – the national monitoring center of delinquency and penal responses).

Since 2006, CCEM is a member of the collective of 27 organizations against human trafficking coordinated by Secours Catholique. The group organizes advocacy efforts in France, Europe and internationally.

CCEM actively participates in all consultations with the CNCDH and GRETA regarding their evaluations or recommendations.

On a European scope, CCEM is a member of the networks of organizations specialized in human trafficking through *La Strada International* (LSI) and the European platform of Anti trafficking NGOs.

## CCEM argues for :

- The adoption of national mechanisms for victim identification and reorientation, pushing for collaboration between authorities and specialized organizations;
- Better training for professionals on labor trafficking to better identify victims;
- Stronger victim protection, specifically through access to housing and psychological and psychiatric help and treatment;
- Dissociating victim protection from legal proceedings;
- Recognizing the importance of human trafficking visa in criminal proceedings;
- Better information to victims about the cases.

# FUTURE PROSPECTS

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What are our priorities for the future? In hand with our advocacy and based on identified difficulties in our actions and legal proceedings, we will continue our fight to:

See a true public policy against all forms of human trafficking by the adoption and implementation of a new French National Plan against trafficking with concrete measures to combat labor exploitation.

Train and work with professionals in the public sector who specialize in the fight (i.e. work inspectors, OCLTI – central police office on illegal labor, and magistrates).

Acknowledge a victim's situation and the role civil society organizations play in identifying and serving them.

Develop programs that offer psychological help to victims and show the importance of this service in the protection and the legal proceedings of victims.

Participate on a European scale in actions to protect victims, notably with a project which begins in 2019 to analyze European practices to help victims administratively and with residency rights.

Implement our project SAVE in Morocco to increase the capacity of local organizations to identify and accompany victims of labor trafficking.



## **A new line of legal action: CCEM engages in “joint actions”**

After several alerts of cases involving a significant number of victims (sometimes, several hundred), and an appalling existence of mass labor exploitation across France, CCEM made the decision to join cases as an independent civil party.

As such, we hope to bring our legal expertise to victims and to our partners who are fighting trafficking and help obtain guilty verdicts for extreme labor exploitation.

Several cases are under way – to continue in 2019.

# HOW WE FUND OUR WORK

Up to now, at least a quarter of our activities rely on the work of volunteers. More than 70 people, of which about 30 are attorneys, give us time and support when the CCEM needs them: professional insertion, translation, legal analysis and supervision, administrative work, accounting, data organization, cultural fieldtrips, and communication, are some examples.

CCEM's funding is broken down as follows:

- 55% public funding
- 35% private foundations
- 8% personal donations – which have supported CCEM since its creation and have remained constant in 2018 despite the dip in such support reported by other NGOs at the end of 2018.

These funds have allowed CCEM to continue its fight and respond to the needs of victims. In essence, we believe that we have assumed a responsibility to protect victims that ultimately should be more supported by the Government.





# SINCERE THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS —

Upon its creation, CCEM was run solely by volunteers. After 25 years, they remain indispensable in helping give quality service to victims of labor trafficking.

## TESTIMONY

### Volunteering 20 years at CCEM !

*I learned of CCEM in 2006 after a photography exhibition in Arles (described on page 22). There, I discovered that labor exploitation existed in France. It made me think a lot. . . I had begun thinking already about my retirement, and after a few months, I sent a proposal to volunteer on professional insertion at CCEM.*

*I established my ideas with the direction at the time to evaluate the level of French language in the people being helped at CCEM and their skills and competencies to help orient them to appropriate training, which would allow them to learn French if necessary to help them qualify for a profession. I worked on this with the social services of the CCEM.*

*At the time, it was much easier to find training and employment opportunities, even with limited French. Today, training is more demanding for the French, verbal and written.*

*And beyond training, I help in finding jobs for which victims can be eligible and I work on telling employment organizations about CCEM. It is very difficult for people who are under CCEM's care to take the initiative alone. Another volunteer is needed to help work through the system!*

*I have always been keen on working in a team and collaborating. I see this attitude of sharing at CCEM too. As a former job placement professional, CCEM's mission touched me because the work serves people directly and it is important to help people progress and evolve. My work at CCEM is particularly stimulating because each case is different and CCEM serves each person individually according to their personal needs. As long as I feel that I help CCEM, I will stay.*

In 2018, Michèle accompanied 19 people.  
This represents more than 220 hours of volunteer work in the year.  
**A big thank you Michèle !**

”

Our volunteers come from all walks of life – retired professionals, students, employees, and even former victims who were once served by CCEM.

Among our volunteers, approximately 30 attorneys make up our legal team assembling cases and representing victims in court.

# **CCEM Board and Team**

## **Board Members**

Mme Sylvie O'Dy, President and Spokesperson  
Me David Desgranges, President  
Mme Franceline Lepany, Secretary  
M Vincent Morley-Pegge, Treasurer

Me Olivier Brisson  
M Nicolas Le Coz  
M Alain Moreau  
Mme Zita Oبرا  
Me Marie-Aimée Piriou  
M Adelphe de Taxis du Poët  
M Michel Ricard  
Mme Georgina Vaz Cabral

## **Staff**

Mona Chamass-Saunier, Director  
Annabel Canzian, Legal Programme officer  
Manon Testemale, Legal advisor  
Samia Mogni, Special educator  
Gwendoline Peres / Salma Refai, victim reception and associative life  
Roxane Ouadghiri Hassani, project development

## **Interns and civil service volunteers**

Julie Février, Mélanie Dufauchour, Eva Wade, Cyrielle Maison, Célia Mougel,  
Lucie Fouchier, Clara Boucher, Eve Farahimanga-Ramananjafy

***Each year, CCEM's work would not be possible  
without the participation of over 70 volunteers.***

