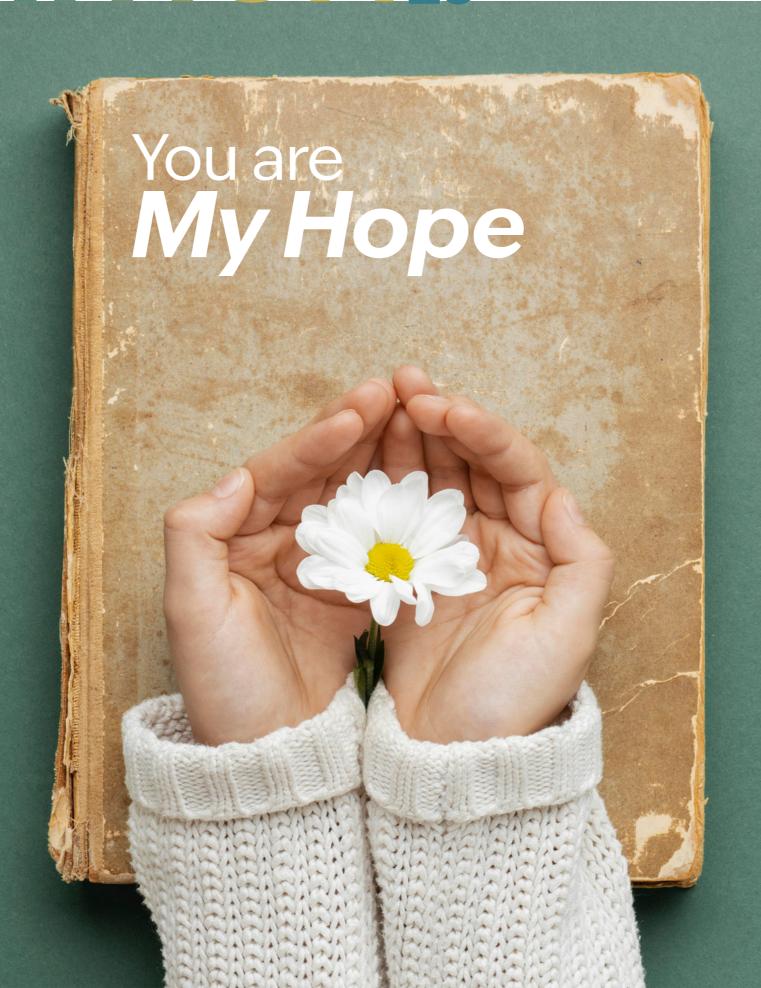
MARIATHON 25

MAGAZINE







A WORLD FAMILY JOURNEYING TOGETHER WITH THE CHURCH

Vittorio Viccardi

President of WFRM

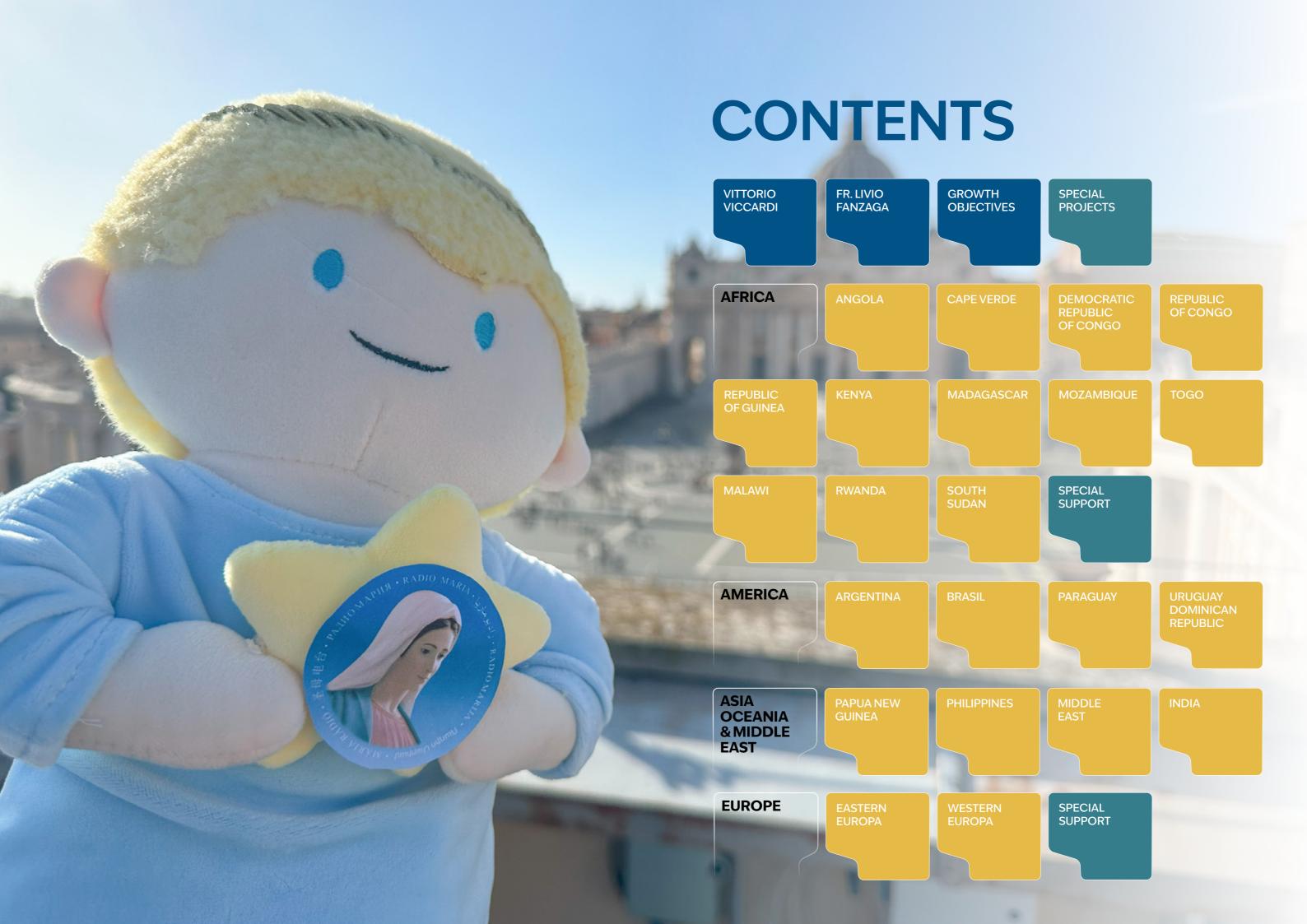
he World Conference in October 2024, held in Erba and Rome, renewed the commitment of all Radio Maria Associations to the great ecclesial mission that inspires the work of our Radio. Immediately after the conference, work resumed in earnest on the projects that the Bishops and Episcopal Conferences had entrusted to us in the last year. The recent continental meetings in Africa, Asia, America and as I write, in Europe, testify to the great enthusiasm of our family combined with a realisation of the importance of the coming months for the future of the radio. We aim, together with our listeners, to build the material basis for new radio stations which will become true instruments of love and hope. The projects presented in the "Mariathon Magazine" represent the completion or, in some cases, the beginning of a presence in many countries that, with the help of Providence, will be consolidated in years to come. In several of them, our journey is intertwined with profound historical changes, which we will witness through our active presence. More and more nations will see Radio Maria volunteers working alongside priests and religious people, even in places where, until a few years ago, the idea of creating a radio station seemed impossible. In the next three years, Radio Maria will be present in over 90 countries, many of which are marked by conflicts and dangers for our Christian communities.

It is more important than ever to work together



to find the necessary resources and bring these projects to completion. For this reason, a special thanks goes to all the collaborators, listeners and those who, with generosity, feel called to respond to this great mission of Mary, bearer of peace and salvation.

Finally,in this Jubilee year, we are called to give significant attention and importance to the Jubilee sites of the Church. We ask for your prayers and support so that, with our means, we may contribute to personal conversion and to the growth of our communities.



2025: A YEAR OF GRACE AND HOPE

Father Livio Fanzaga

Director of Radio Maria Italia and Directors' Advisor of WFRM

ear friends of Radio Maria, 2025
marks an event of great importance
for the Universal Church: the Jubilee.
A profound echo can be felt among
the faithful, as demonstrated by the
numerous pilgrimages to Rome and the interest in
the words of the Holy Father. This Holy Year is not
only a time of celebration, but an opportunity for
spiritual renewal and conversion for all.

The Jubilee takes on a special meaning in light of our times. We live in difficult times, marked by global crises and the spread of a materialistic mentality that tries to exclude God from society. The Church finds itself in a critical phase of its history, in which faith is being put to the test by an increasingly secularized world. Yet, Christian hope invites us to look beyond the difficulties.

In this context, the role of Radio Maria during this year is crucial. As an instrument of evangelization, it must accompany the faithful on the path of the Jubilee, promoting prayer, conversion and the deepening of faith. The mission of Radio Maria is not only to inform, but to be a spiritual guide by spreading the Word of God and supporting the journey of believers.

The Jubilee is a call to return to God with a sincere heart, rediscovering the sacraments, especially the

Eucharist and Confession. In a world that wants faith out of the picture, we must reaffirm Christian values, without compromise. This means proposing an authentic Christianity, lived in its radicality and beauty, capable of touching hearts and offering a real alternative to the dominant culture.

Our Lady, through her apparitions and messages in Medjugorje, urges us to read the signs of the times and to prepare ourselves spiritually for future challenges. Personal conversion is the key to facing tribulations with confidence. As Saint John Paul II said, the Church will have to face great trials, but with prayer and faith we can mitigate the difficulties and prepare ourselves for the final victory of Christ.

Therefore, let us look at this Jubilee as an opportunity for grace. Let us walk with Mary, let us renew our commitment to faith and become instruments of hope for the world. May Radio Maria continue to be a light in the darkness, guiding the faithful towards salvation in Christ.

The Jubilee is a call to return to God with a sincere heart, rediscovering the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Confession. In a world that wants faith out of the picture, we must reaffirm Christian values, without compromise.



GROWTH OBJECTIVES



adio Maria is much more than simply a radio station: it is a voice of faith, comfort and hope that resonates throughout the world. Born in Italy in the 1980s as a small parish radio, today it is a global network present in 85 countries broadcasting in dozens of different languages.

In an era marked by uncertainty, conflicts and crises of various kinds, Radio Maria represents an inexhaustible source of hope. Through the prayer of the Rosary, catechesis, testimonies of faith and in-depth programmes, it helps millions of people around the world to find comfort and trust in divine Providence.

Wherever life's difficulties seem insurmountable, the voice of Radio Maria comes to illuminate the path. From European cities to the most remote villages in Africa, from Asian communities to Latin America, its message crosses borders, uniting hearts in a large spiritual family.

In a world that often seems dominated by fear and pessimism, Radio Maria continues to be a light of hope, reminding us that faith can transform difficulties into opportunities for growth and that hope is the true engine that drives us confidently towards the future.

Radio Maria is also a concrete sign of the Church's presence in the modern world, capable of using new technologies to spread the Word of God. Thanks to the Internet and smartphone apps, today anyone can tune in and find a moment of peace and reflection, wherever they are.

To make all this possible, constant commitment and investment are needed for technological evolution that allows this voice to reach the entire world, wherever the Church calls us. There is a need for pastoral tools and resources, but also to bring a daily presence of hope to areas where there is suffering and persecution.

The new projects are aimed at this mission, as well as the necessary maintenance of the current radio infrastructure. During this 2025 Mariathon, we appeal to the generosity of those who appreciate our work and we trust in everyone's support, which is essential to reach those who need a word of light and consolation and allow others to receive what so many have already received.



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ANGOLA

CURRENT STATUS

Radio Maria Angola has been broadcasting since 19 December 2018 in the diocese of Viana, on the outskirts of the capital, Luanda. This is a city with over 7 million inhabitants, of which about 50% are Catholic. The first Radio Maria Angola substation will soon be opened in the diocese of Uíje, broadcasting in the Kikongo language. The container with the radio equipment has already arrived and work is

underway. The diocese of Uíje covers a vast area of 64,022 km², but in 2023 it had only 24 parishes, 64 priests and 1,395,400 Catholics (62.6% of the total population). The small number of parishes and priests compared to the vastness of the territory makes the importance of a means of evangelization such as Radio Maria even more evident. Let us remember that Angola experienced a long and brutal civil war which lasted 27 years, from 1975 to

New substation and repeater in Benguela 155,000€ New car for the radio 35,000€ Uije Luanda Benguela Studio **Substation** On Air Work in Progress **2025 Frequency** On Air Work in Progress **O** 2025 Uplink On Air Work in Progress **@** 2025

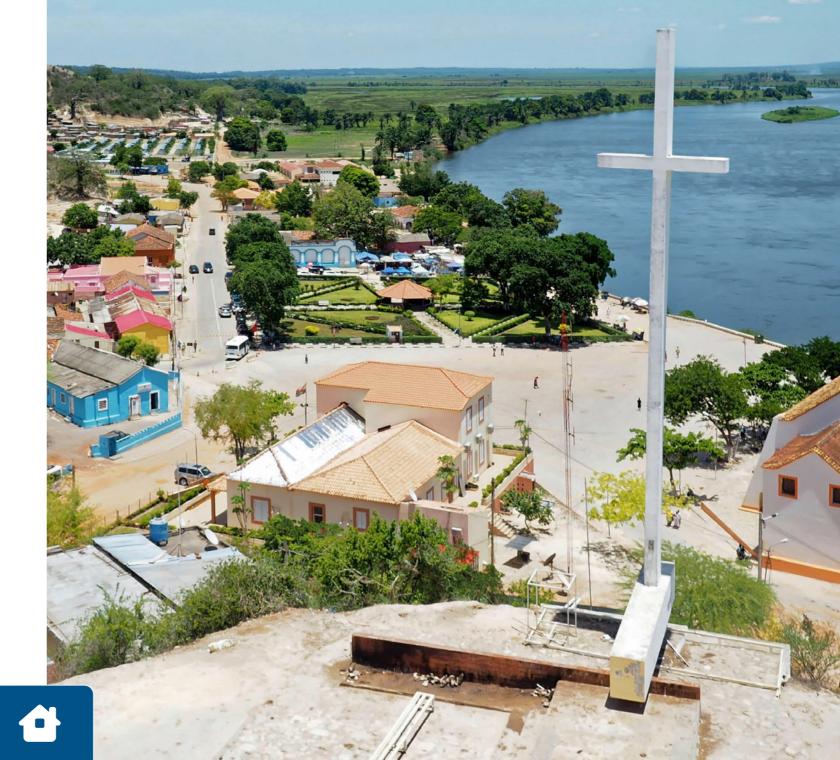
2002 and experienced communism until 1990. Such factors have severely hindered the growth of priestly vocations in some parts of the country.

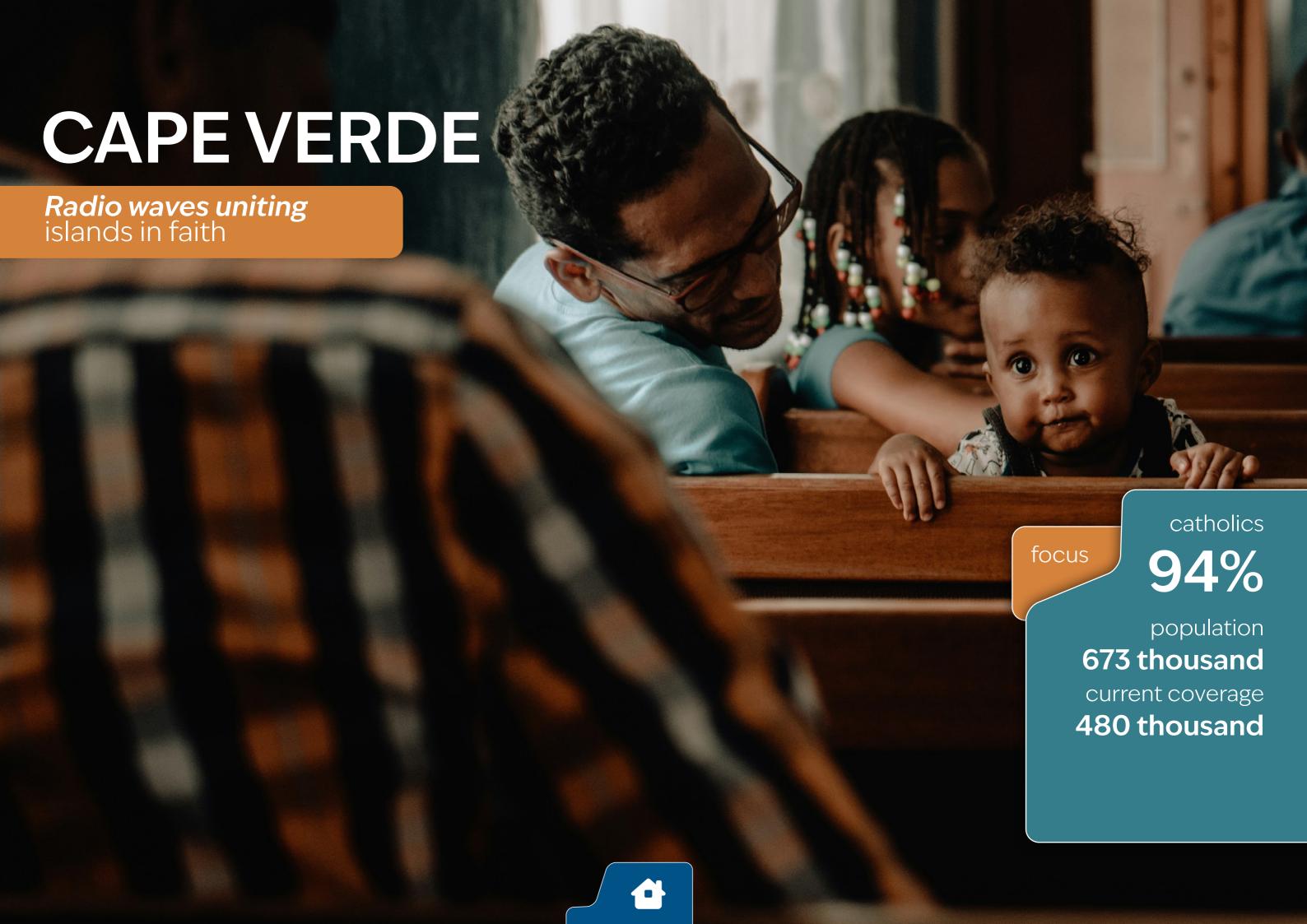
THE PROJECT

The Diocese of Benguela strongly desires the presence of Radio Maria, in response to an urgent pastoral need in an area with a large Catholic community. In 2023, the diocese had 2,110,790 Catholics (78.6% of the total population), 234 priests and 47 parishes distributed over an area of 20,780 km². This means that, on average, each priest looks

after approximately 9,020 faithful. The creation of a Radio Maria substation in Benguela would respond to this need, strengthening pastoral action and offering daily support for formation and education in the faith, not only for Catholics, but also for those on a spiritual quest.

The bishop has already expressed his support for the project, appointing a priest director and making a building available to house the offices of the new substation. There is also another need: buying a car to develop the promotion on the field.





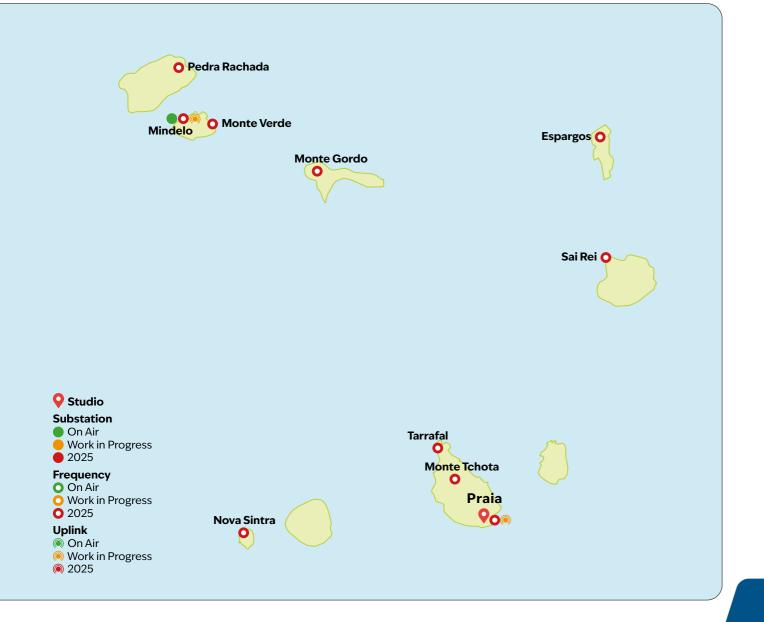
CAPE VERDE

CURRENT STATUS

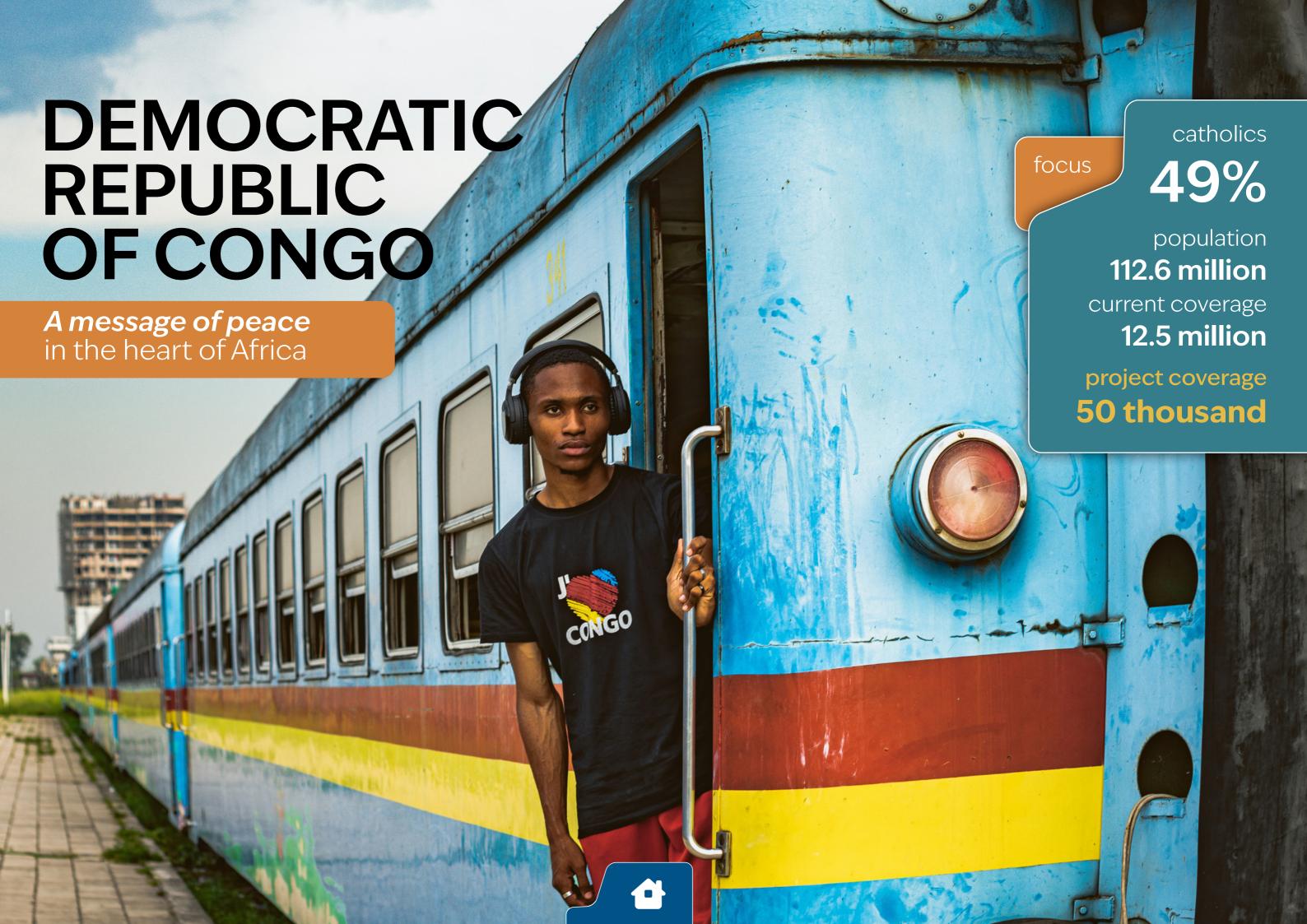
Radio Maria Cape Verde was inaugurated on 15
August 2023 by Cardinal Arlindo Gomes Furtado,
Archbishop of the capital city of Praia.
It began with a local radio station managed by
the Franciscan Friars of the city of Mindelo, which
was later transformed into a Radio Maria. Today
Radio Maria is based in Praia and is a national
radio station, listened to in all the islands of Cape
Verde. It is also accompanying the faithful as they
prepare for an important jubilee celebrating 500
years of Catholicism in Praia in 2033.

THE PROJECT

The radio was established back in 1992. The radio frequency systems need to be updated as soon as possible in Praia (Santiago), Mindelo (Sao Vicente), Monte Verde (Sao Vicente), Pedra Rachada (Santo Antao), Monte Gordo (Sao Nicolao), Nova Sintra (Brava), Monte Tchota (Santiago), Sal Rei (Boa Vista), Espargos (Sal), Tarrafal (Santiago). Two other very important projects are the renovation of the broadcasting studios and the purchase of a car to help with promotion in the area.







DEM. REPUBLIC OF CONGO

CURRENT STATUS

Radio Maria in the DRC is one of the most important radio stations in Africa. The headquarters are in Kinshasa and there are also seven substations in Kananga, Bukavu, Goma, Lubumbashi, Matadi, Kisangani and Mbandundu. These substations are there to fulfil two needs:

- the need to evangelize using the listeners' native language: Tschiluba, Swahili, Lingala and Kikongo.
- the need to spread the Gospel where bishops and priests struggle to reach the faithful due to

lack of infrastructure and basic maintenance. The DRC covers an area of 2,345,000 km². Geographical distances are, therefore, immense and the radio signal helps to overcome such obstacles.
Radio Maria DRC has 23 FM frequencies, of which 16 are already active and 7 will be activated soon: Masisi, Uvira, Inongo, Kikuit, Tshikapa, Lisala, Gemena. Apart from the first one, the others have been funded through donations from the various Mariathons. This is a work in progress which we hope to complete soon. This radio is the second African Radio Maria with the most frequencies after Radio Maria Tanzania.

New repeater in Masisi 60,000€ New studio in Bukavu 75,000€ Gemena Bunia Mbandaka Kisangani Masisi ● O Goma Kindu Kinshasa Bandundu Chomuhini Uvira **Kikwit** Matadi Kananga **Kal**amie Mbuji-Mayi **Tshikapa** Studio **Substation** On Air Work in Progress **2025** Frequency On Air Work in Progress Lubumbashi **O** 2025 Uplink On Air Work in Progress 2025





REPUBLIC OF CONGO

CURRENT STATUS

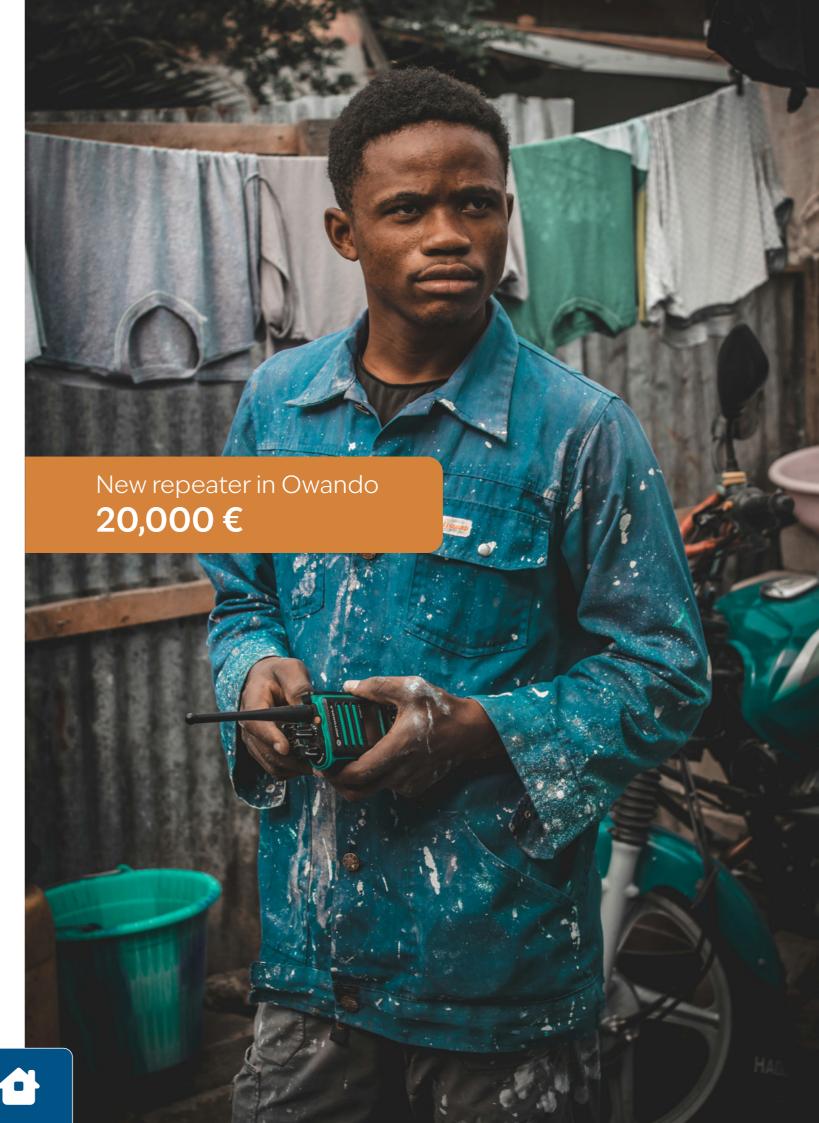
Radio Maria RD Congo was born in 2006, in the dioces of Ouesso, in Congo Brazzaville. Located in the northern part of the country, Ouesso sits "on the periphery of the world" and remains a rural and poor area also home to Pygmie tribes. Over the years it has been possible to activate a second FM frequency in Pointe Noire, the second most important city in the country. After a positive pastoral experience in this area, the government has

given Radio Maria the FM frequencies for Brazzaville (the capital of the country), Nkayi and Owando.

THE PROJECT

Having connected the Pointe Noire substation, which broadcasts in the local Kikongo language, to the Nkayi frequency, we now need to activate the frequency in the city of Owando and connect it to the studios of the national headquarters in Brazzaville, which broadcast in the Lingala language.







REPUBLIC OF GUINEA

CURRENT STATUS

In Guinea Conakry, Radio Maria is known as "the voice of peace" in a country with a Muslim majority (about 85% of the population). We managed to obtain an FM licence in the capital, Conakry, after ten years of trying.

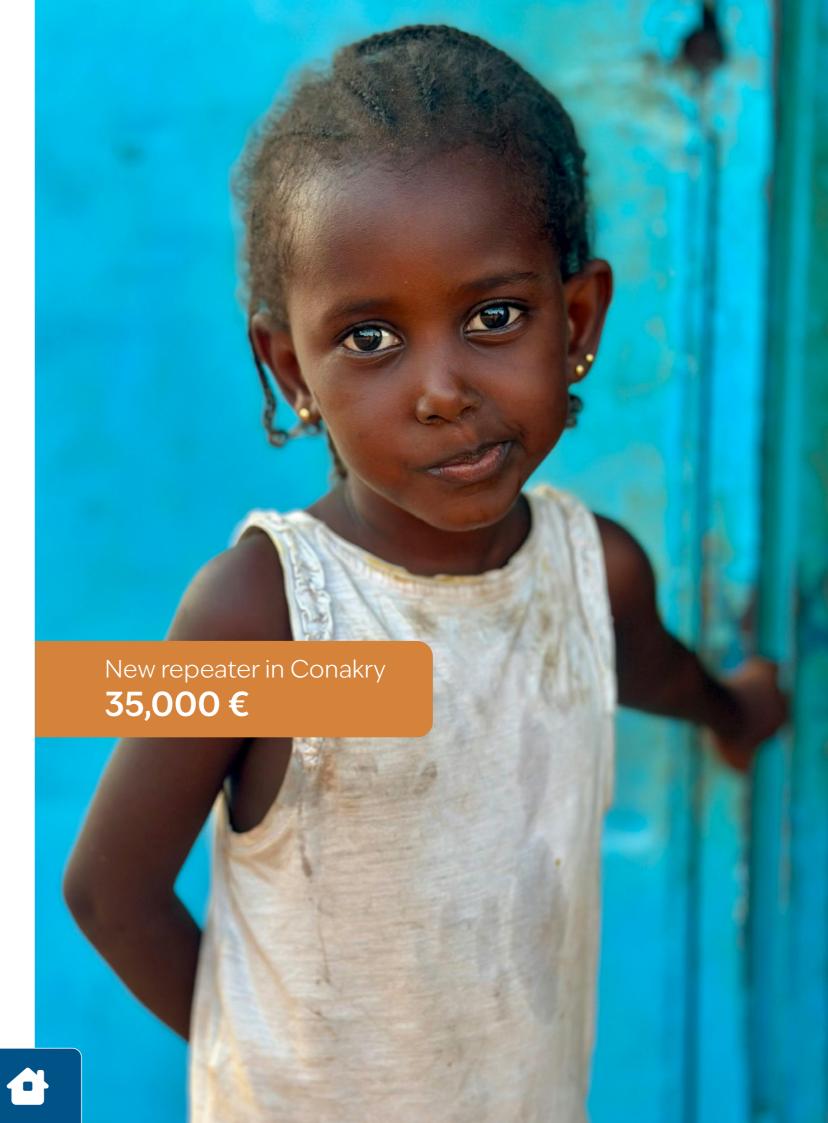
Broadcasts began in December 2017 from the outskirts of the city, with a special mission: to strengthen the faith of the Catholic community, which represents about 5% of the population, and to promote peaceful coexistence among Christians, Muslims and the other ethnic groups. There, Radio Maria is seen as an instrument of peace, thus creating a context where evangelisation can thrive. Shortly afterwards, headquarters were moved to a safer area that is easily accessible by public

transport, ensuring greater stability and sustainability for the project.

THE PROJECT

The current radio signal covers only 7 of the 29 parishes of the Archdiocese of Conakry. To ensure that the entire population of the capital can access Radio Maria programmes, a new radio system must be set up in a strategic location. The Catholic faithful are very fond of their radio station and have already shown great appreciation for the support received in the past. Aware of their own circumstances, they understand that, like the Catholic Church, Radio Maria is a true family, founded on solidarity and mutual aid.







KENYA

CURRENT STATUS

Radio Maria Kenya was founded in the Diocese of Murang'a in 2008. It later expanded to the Archdiocese of Nyeri, maintaining broadcasting in the Kikuyu language, spoken in both cities.

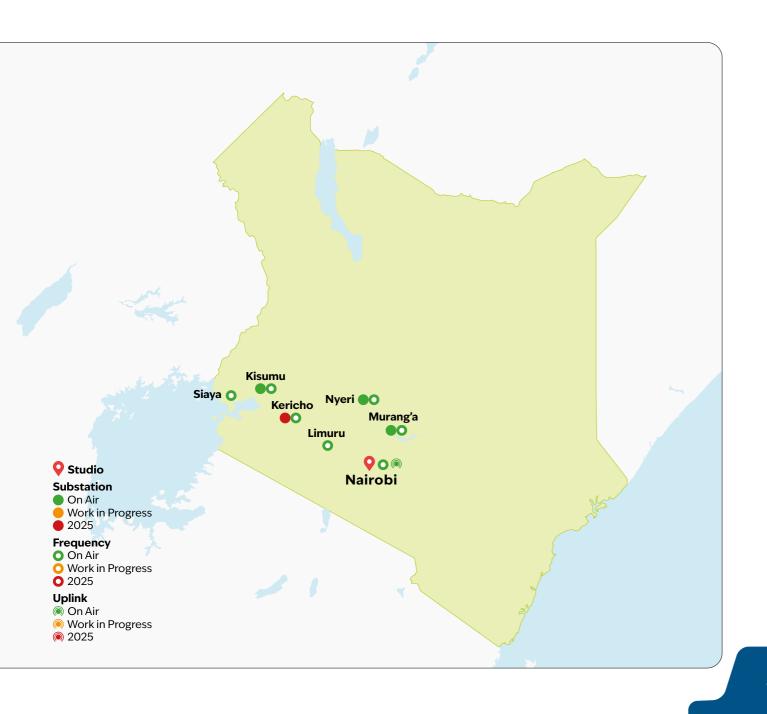
Since 2021, Radio Maria has also been broadcasting from the capital Nairobi, the most important city in East Africa, with over 7 million inhabitants.

Broadcasts are in Swahili and English, in order to reach as many people as possible, both Kenyans and foreigners. In the same year, a substation was inaugurated in Kisumu, with broadcasts in the Luo language.

However, compared to other countries in East Africa, the expansion of the Radio Maria network in Kenya has been rather slow.

THE PROJECT

The Kenyan government has assigned an FM frequency to the Diocese of Kericho. For about a year, the Kericho FM system has been connected to the Nairobi studios. The main language spoken in Kericho is Kalenjin, not Swahili or English. Following the request of Bishop Alfred Kipkoech Arap Rotich of Kericho, a fourth Radio Maria Kenya substation will be opened in his diocese.







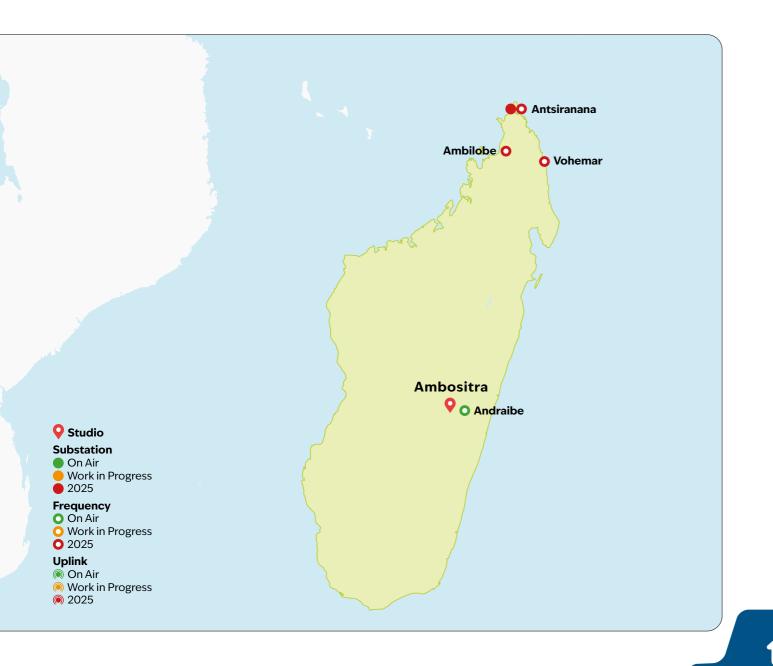
MADAGASCAR

CURRENT STATUS

The seed of Radio Maria in Madagascar was planted on 25 March 2015, in the diocese of Ambositra. Today, Radio Maria covers a significant part of this huge diocese which comprises an area of 24,000 km2. In 2023, Ambositra had 504,000 faithful (about 52.3% of its total population), spread across 28 parishes with only 75 priests to serve them. Radio Maria is doing important spiritual and pastoral work in this diocese to meet the needs of the people. Even though over 81% of the population of Madagascar lives in extreme poverty, local listeners really do their utmost to keep the voice of Radio Maria alive.

THE PROJECT

In December 2024, Monsignor Benjamin Marc Ramaroson, C.M., Archbishop of Antsiranana, expressed his desire to turn the diocesan radio, which had been operating for 20 years, into a Radio Maria. This often happens in Africa, when Radio Maria has a strong presence in a country. Antsiranana is a geographically immense archdiocese, covering an area of 37,924km2. The first phase of this project involves setting up a radio frequency. This will greatly benefit the diocese as its vast population of Catholics (808,000) have only 77 priests. Its estimated population is 1,967,000, of which 808,000 are Catholics (41.1% of the population). The first phase of this project involves setting up the radio frequency.







MOZAMBIQUE

CURRENT STATUS

Radio Maria Mozambique was the second Radio Maria founded in Africa, on 2 June 1995. After the city of Maputo, the radio signal gradually extended to the dioceses of Xai-Xai and Inhambane. Sixteen years later, in response to the call from the bishop of Quelimane (57,798 km²), the first substation was inaugurated, with immense joy, on 20 December 2021, in a location approximately 1,597.6 km from the

capital Maputo. The expansion of the FM network of Radio Maria Mozambique also continues in the diocese of Tete, an area of 100,715 km², 1,664.3 km from Maputo. The diocese is led by Monsignor Diamantino Guapo Antunes, I.M.C., who has asked the World Family of Radio Maria to transform the diocesan radio station according to the Radio Maria model. Mozambique is a very large country (799,380 km²) facing numerous challenges: the presence

New substation in Inhambane Network upgrade 90,000€ and expansion 180,000€ Quelimane Nova Mambone Studio **Substation** Vilankulo On Air Work in Progress **2025** Inhambane Chokwe Frequency On Air Quissico Work in Progress **O** 2025 Uplink Maputo 0 On Air Work in Progress 2025

of armed groups in the north, frequent political crises and devastating cyclones. Furthermore, the country still bears the weight of a past marked by civil war and communism, which has left significant consequences, including a serious shortage of priests.

THE PROJECT

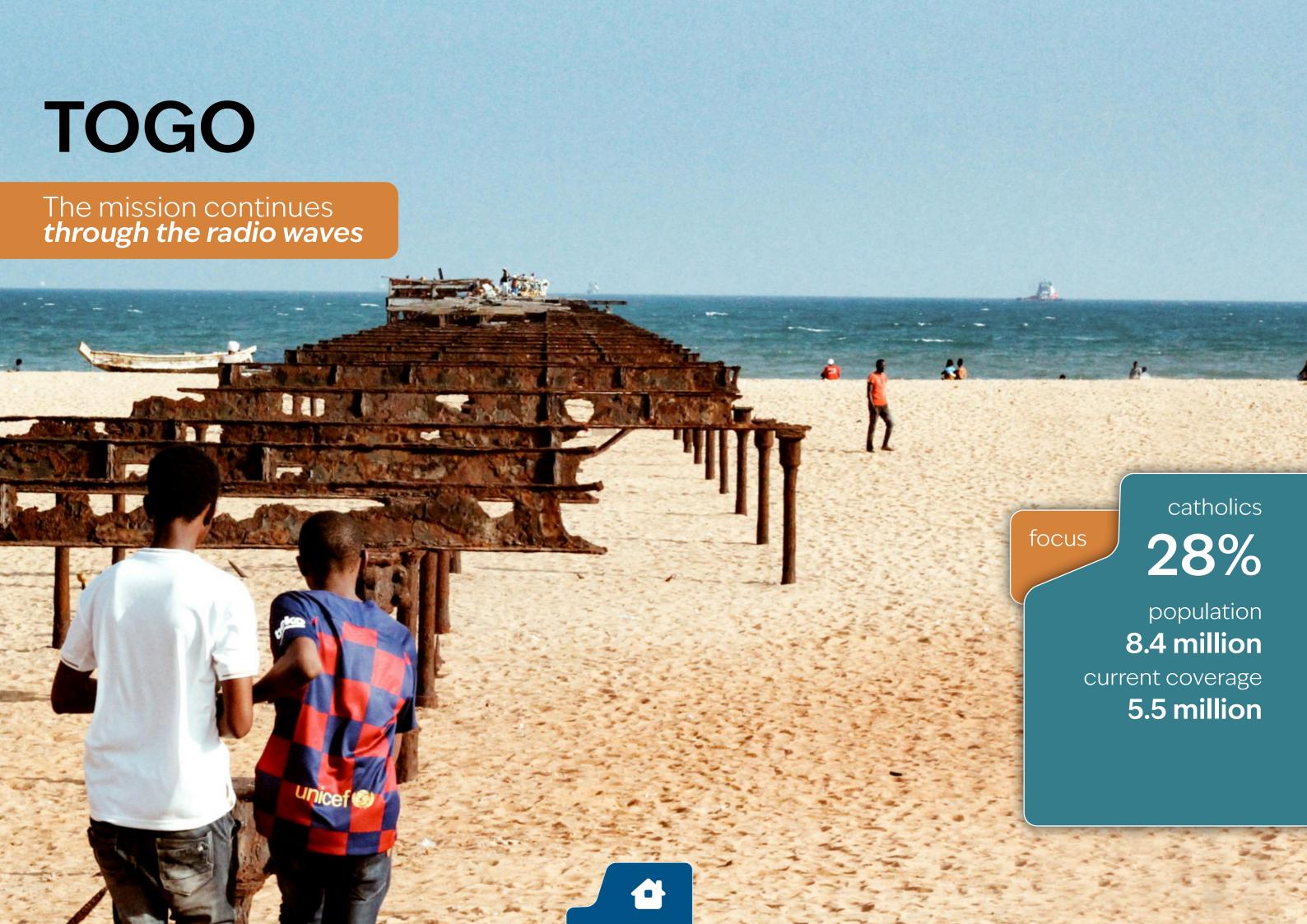
a) The FM network, i.e. the radio frequency systems, in use for about 30 years, need urgent renewal and maintenance. Interventions are planned in the following locations: Maputo, Xai-Xai, Chokwe, Maxixe, Vilankulo, Nova Mambone and Quissico.

b) Creation of a new substation in Inhambane.
Although the radio signal from Maputo has reached

this diocese for many years, the pastoral and spiritual impact of Radio Maria on the local population remains limited. This is due to the fact that the most spoken language in the diocese is not Portuguese, currently used in broadcasts from Maputo. For this reason, the bishop of Inhambane is very interested in the creation of a Radio Maria substation in his diocese, which covers an area of 68,476 km² (almost as much as the areas of Switzerland and Belgium combined). The bishop has already appointed a priest director and made a building available for the installation of radio equipment.

c) Installation of solar energy systems for three radio frequency transmitters in particularly remote areas: Quissico, Vilankulo and Nova Mambone.





TOGO

CURRENT STATUS

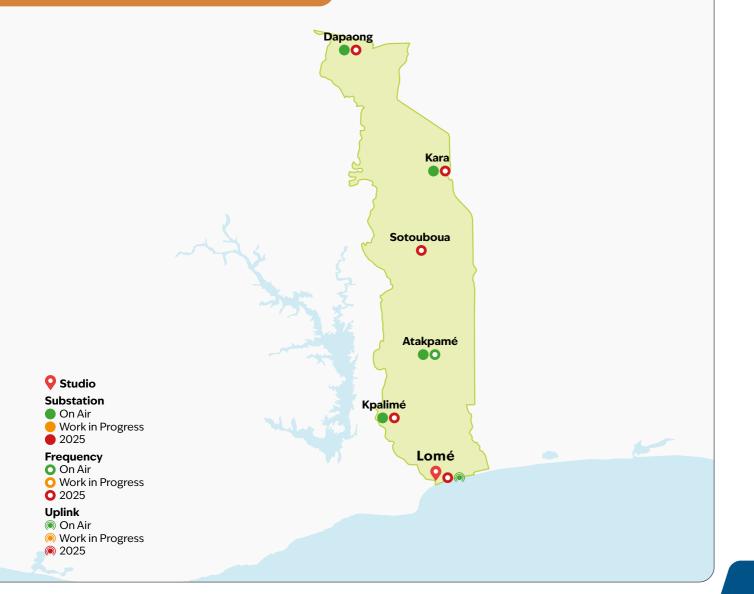
Radio Maria Togo is one of the few radio stations on the African Continent that are self-sufficent. It is highly regarded by all Togolese bishops. The headquarters are located in the capital Lomé. After its birth on 19th March, 1997, the radio expanded throughout the country and now there are also substations in Kara, Dapaong, Kpalimé and Atakpamé where it took the frequency of the diocesan radio. This last one was a diocesan radio. Seeing the spiritual and pastoral fruits of Radio Maria

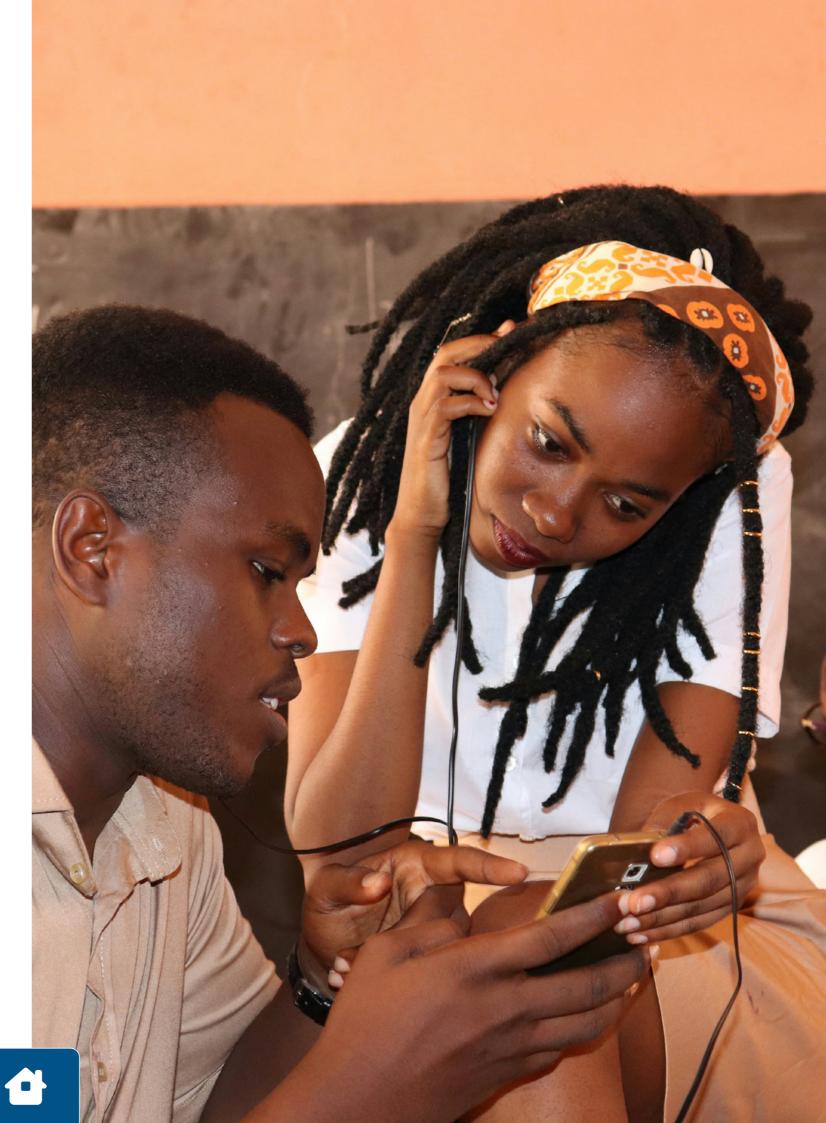
Togo, the bishop of Atakpamé, decided to turn it into a substation, thus integrating it into the Radio Maria Togo network.

THE PROJECT

After twenty-eight years, we now need to update and sort the radio frequency systems in Lomé, Dapaong, Kpalimé, Sotouboua and Kara. The second project involves the expansion of Radio Maria Togo in the diocese of Sokodé. The bishop of this diocese has also requested that this diocesan radio station soon become a Radio Maria substation.

Network upgrade **165,000 €**







MALAWI

CURRENT STATUS

Radio Maria Malawi was founded on 24 August 1999 and is widely followed by both Christians and non-Christians, especially Muslims. The radio signal covers about 90% of the country. Radio Maria Malawi plays a fundamental role in keeping the Catholic faith alive, broadcasting numerous religious programmes and accompanying listeners in prayer almost 24 hours a day. Given the low literacy rate in the country, the radio also offers educational programmes on human rights, democracy and the Constitution, contributing to the civic awareness of the population. Moreover, there are also broadcasts on topics such as health, education, the environment and the fight against poverty. Malawi

is among the poorest countries in the world, with about 65% of the population living on less than a dollar a day. In this context, the seventh Radio Maria founded on the African continent continues its mission. Thanks to the donations collected in previous Mariathons, it was possible to build new headquarters in Lilongwe, the capital of the country, and equip it with modern broadcasting studios.

THE PROJECT

After 26 years the radio network urgently needs renovation and maintenance. At the end of the 2025 Mariathon, technicians will intervene to repair the radio systems in the following locations: Zomba, Blantyre, Dedza, Dowa, Chikangawa, Namwera, Lilongwe, Monkey Bay, Karonga, Chitipa, Dwangwa, Mzuzu and Lower Shire.

Network and studio upgrade 150,000 EURO











RWANDA

CURRENT STATUS

In Kibheo, (28 November 1981-1989), the Virgin Mary, "the Mother of the Word", ("Nyina wa Jambo" in Rwandan, as pronounced by Our Lady), openly stated that her messages were for the entire world. Her statement became a reality with the inauguration of the Radio Maria studios in Kibeho on 28 November 2018.

Since then, prayer bridges have multiplied between Kibeho and all the Radio Marias in the world, especially through the Worldwide Holy Rosary, which culminates every year with the anniversary of the apparitions on 28 November.

Particularly important are the connections between Kibeho and the European continent, involving countries such as Italy, Spain, the German-speaking Radio Marias, Belgium, Slovakia and others. Once a month, the American continent also joins Kibeho via Radio Maria Spain. Furthermore, thanks to the presence of Radio Maria in Kibeho, Africa has become a continent that prays on a weekly basis.

Every Monday, for example, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Burundi, two cities in the Democratic Republic of Congo (Goma and Bukavu), South Sudan and Rwanda recite the Holy Rosary in Swahili, for peace in the East African region. On Tuesdays, all the French-speaking African Radio Marias join Radio Maria France and Suisse Romande for the prayer of the Holy Rosary of the Seven Sorrows of Mary. Every Friday, listeners of the English-speaking African Radio Marias participate in the recitation of the Holy Rosary, while on the same day Kibeho takes part in the weekly Holy Rosary of the Portuguese-speaking Radio Marias (Portugal, Brazil, Angola, Mozambique and Cape Verde). On Saturdays, all the French and English-speaking Radio Marias connect with Kibeho for the programme "Let us prepare for Sunday", a meditation on Sunday's liturgical texts. Without a doubt, the presence of Radio Maria in Kibeho is allowing the messages of the Mother of the Word to reach the entire world, just as Our Lady wanted.

Support for training and operational management costs 100,000€ Gakenke Kigali Studio Karongi **Substation** On Air Work in Progress **2025** Frequency On Air Gihundwe Work in Progress **O** 2025 O Huye Uplink On Air Work in Progress 2025

This is testified by the visionary Nathalie
Mukamazimpaka, who still lives in Kibeho and joyfully
participates in the continental and intercontinental
prayers, such as the Holy Rosary and the Holy
Masses, organized by Radio Maria in the holy city.

THE PROJECT

Since 2020, Kibeho has become the training centre for the priest directors and editorial assistants of the African continent who participate with joy in the training regarding the Radio Maria project, praying at the feet of the Mother of the Word of Kibeho. It is an added bonus to be able to talk about the Virgin Mary and her Radio Maria project in the land blessed by Her The results are very positive after

the training and the participants return home highly motivated, fueled by the desire to work for Our Lady and her radio.

In 2025, the goal is to train 50 priests and Editorial Assistants. Most of these will come from the substations of the continent. In the past, due to economic constraints, priority was given to the priests and Editorial Assistants of the national headquarters. However, it is clear that the substations are radio stations of equal importance and they stand in unity with the central headquarters of the country.

in the capitals and substations), with a total of 120 people including priest directors and editorial assistants who need training or refresher training. To cover the training costs and operating expenses of the Radio Maria headquarters in Kibeho, a total of 100,000 euros will be needed in 2025. The most significant expenses concern energy consumption of the Kibeho headquarters and, above all, plane tickets.





SOUTH SUDAN

CURRENT STATUS

In South Sudan, Radio Maria has planted a seed in the capital Juba. The youngest country in the African continent has a diverse religious population of 7 million Catholics, 3 million Protestants and 3.5 million animists. This very high number of animists makes this nation a land of first evangelization, despite the strong Christian presence in 7 dioceses. South Sudan was afflicted by many wars until its declaration of independence in 2011. Unfortunately, after gaining independence, an internal armed conflict broke out, which had repercussions on the population, that now lives in poverty and misery. They lack nearly everything: electricity, water, food and many infrastructures we take for granted. Yet, despite all this, the faith is alive in people. Responding to the call of the local Episcopal Conference, thanks to the donations of

the Mariathons, the World Family of Radio Maria has built beautiful headquarters (perhaps the fourth in beauty and importance in the African continent). After the installation of modern studios (with audio and radio frequency equipment), the radio was solemnly inaugurated on 9 November 2024 by Cardinal Stephen Ameyu Martin Mulla of the Archdiocese of Juba.

THE PROJECT

Radio Maria is a means of prayer. It teaches to pray by praying. Where the RM headquarters are located, there is a chapel to allow the staff, hosts, volunteers and listeners who visit the radio to find a space where they can pray for their intentions and for their radio. We would like to furnish the chapel. We need an altar, pews, a tabernacle and all the liturgical objects necessary for Holy Mass.





SOLAR ENERGY FOR SUSTAINABILITY

LO STATO ATTUALE

Radio Maria is present in 27 African countries with a total of 61 active broadcasting studios, which include both headquarters and local substations. These numbers involve a considerable need for energy for production studios and radio frequency systems. For all African Radio Marias, energy costs are always one of the biggest challenges. Even those that manage to sustain themselves always struggle to cover energy costs. From the start of 2025 the economic situation has further worsened due to the halt to aid from the United States. The situation is quite difficult, given that the economy in many African countries has already been suffering for years due to the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic and the echoes of the war in Ukraine. The results of the Mariathons on the African continent have been sharply declining in recent years (2023 and 2024), despite the high number of donors. There are many listeners who are giving less and less, due to ever-increasing poverty levels.

THE PROJECT

In Africa the sun never fails to shine. This is why this precious resource must be exploited to the fullest by equipping all Radio Marias with solar systems to significantly reduce the energy cost impact. It is a question of sustainability; radios with solar energy end up having three sources of energy: solar energy, at zero cost, to be used throughout the day and early evening, state electricity and the generator. A practical example: Radio Maria Liberia used to spend about 2,400 dollars per month on energy. After the installation of the photovoltaic system, the radio now spends less than 400 dollars per month. For the year 2025, our attention is mainly on two very large Radio Marias: Democratic Republic of Congo and Nigeria, where, in recent years, very important works have been carried out and where the installation of photovoltaic systems would mean reaching a very important goal. In addition to these countries, there are also other Radio Marias that urgently need to start using solar energy: Burkina, Central Africa, Mozambique.



TECHNICAL TASK FORCE



Radio Marias do not just need technical equipment, financial aid, and infrastructure; they need people who actually create and help keep each Radio Maria alive: the technicians of the World Family of Radio Maria. Whilst working, they also train African technicians.

The African Radio Marias have very high technical standards and are very different from other local radio stations. On a technical level there is no difference between Radio Marias on this continent and those in Europe or America. The technicians who carry out the work are both European and African and are trained regularly at the WFRM headquarters in Erba. Furthermore, the construction or renovation

of headquarters and substations are always



followed on site by an Italian civil engineer, who guarantees compliance with the standards, especially with regard to transmission studios (audio frequency).



NECESSARY INVESTMENTS 3,215,000 €









| ANGOLA | NEW SUBSTATION AND REPEATER IN BENGUELA NEW CAR FOR THE RADIO | 190,000 |
|-----------------------|--|-----------|
| CAPE VERDE | NETWORK UPGRADE NEW CAR FOR THE RADIO | 145,000 |
| DEM. REP. OF CONGO | NEW REPEATER IN MIASISI NUOVO STUDIO A BUKAVU | 135,000 |
| REPUBLIC OF CONGO | NEW REPEATER IN OWANDO | 20,000 |
| REPUBLIC OF GUINEA | NEW REPEATER IN CONAKRY | 35,000 |
| KENYA | NEW SUBSTATION IN KERICHO | 120,000 |
| MOZAMBIQUE | NETWORK UPGRADE AND EXPANSION NEW SUBSTATION IN INHAMBANE | 270,000 |
| MADAGASCAR | NEW REPEATER IN VOHEMAR AND AMBILOBE NEW SUBSTATION AND REPEATER IN ANTSIRANANA | 140,000 |
| TOGO | NETWORK UPGRADE | 165,000 |
| MALAWI | NETWORK AND STUDIO UPGRADE | 150,000 |
| RWANDA | SUPPORT FOR TRAINING AND OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT COSTS | 100,000 |
| SOUTH SUDAN | CHAPEL FURNISHINGS | 15,000 |
| | SATELLITE SUPPORT | 280,000 |
| SPECIAL SUPPORT | ORDINARY MANAGEMENT COSTS | 350,000 |
| | TECHNICAL TASK FORCE | 150,000 |
| | PHOTOVOLTAIC PANELS | 700,000 |
| | RISING ELECTRICITY BILLS | 250,000 |
| TOTAL | | 3,215,000 |
| | | |







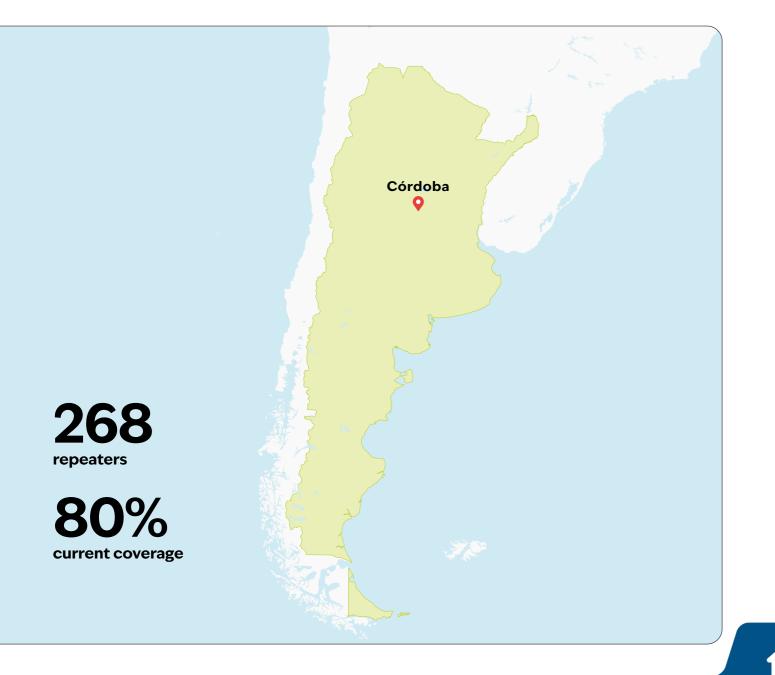
ARGENTINA

CURRENT STATUS

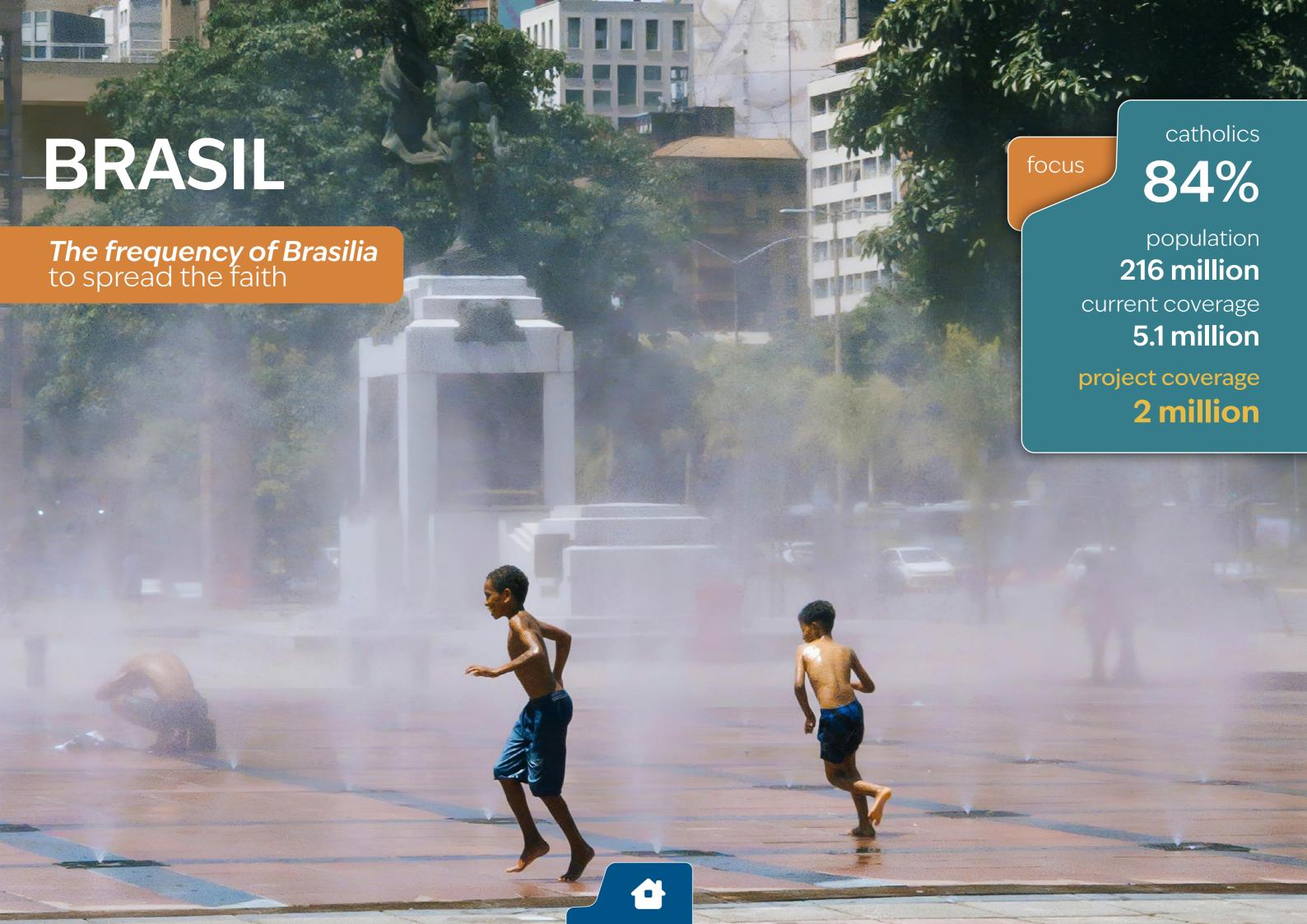
Radio Maria Argentina to grow and adapt to technological challenges to ensure reliable, high-quality broadcasting. With a network of 284 radio stations across the country, many of them are in need of modernization in order to improve their performance and ensure that the message of faith and hope reaches every corner of the country uninterrupted.

THE PROJECT

The long-term plan includes the technological upgrade of the radio network to ensure its proper functioning and expansion to new areas. The first phase of this project involves an inspection of the various sites and carrying out urgent interventions, where necessary, with the help of 10 new portable 100 watt-transmitters, ready to replace defective stations, if needed. With this upgrade, Radio María's presence throughout the country will be strengthened by optimizing the quality of broadcasting and responding with commitment to the spiritual needs of its audience.







BRASIL

CURRENT STATUS

Radio Maria Brazil, in its effort to reach more and more people in Brazil, recently obtained a frequency in Brasilia. Along with the new frequency, it also inherited a group of volunteers as hosts. The goal is not simply to continue with the programmes of the previous radio station, but to help these hosts embrace the charism and spirituality of Radio Maria. For this reason, we are carrying out a training programme that aims to prepare those who, freely, feel called to become volunteers of Radio Maria Brazil. This scenario was presented at the Radio Maria Continental Conference in Mexico City, as part of Radio Maria Brazil's commitment to consolidate its presence in Brasilia and strengthen its identity within the great global family of Radio Maria.

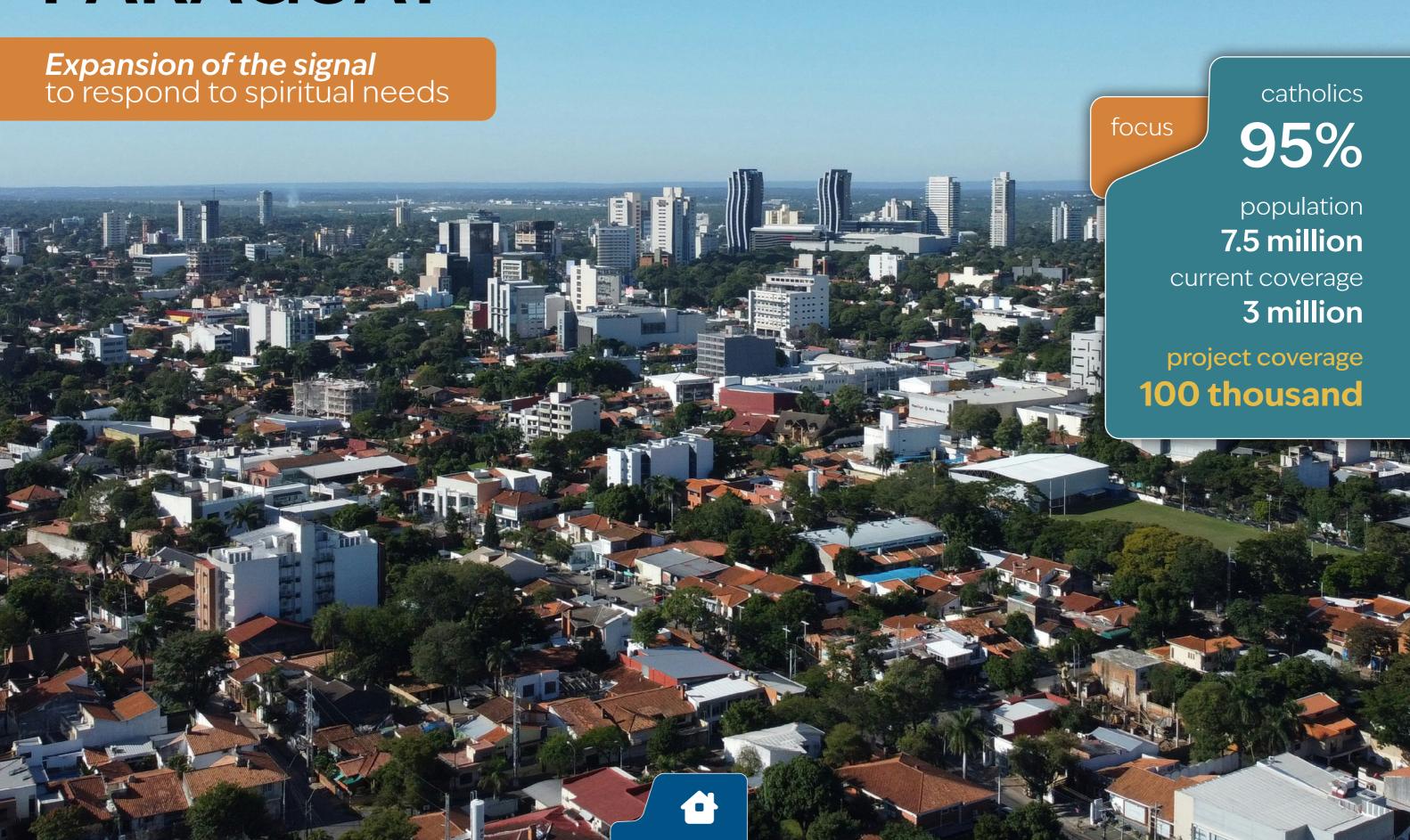
THE PROJECT

Radio Maria Brazil obtained the 94.5 FM frequency in Brasilia, thus succeeding Rete Immacolata. This transition also involved a significant group of approximately 50-60 hosts who previously worked on the programming of Rete Immacolata, hosting programmes, moments of prayer such as the Holy Rosary and the Liturgy of the Hours, and other evangelization initiatives. This transition, carried out with patience and missionary zeal, will allow Radio Maria in Brasilia to become stronger thanks to the contribution of these new volunteers, further enriching our mission to bring the message of the Gospel to every home.





PARAGUAY



PARAGUAY

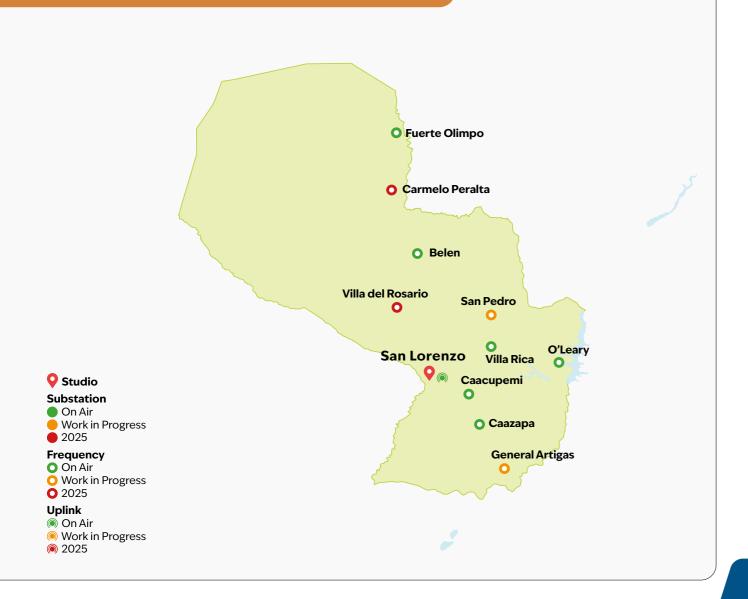
CURRENT STATUS

Radio Maria Paraguay remains faithful to its mission of evangelizing through the media and continues its work of bringing the message of hope and faith to every corner of the country. This project responds to the need to bring the word of God to the more distant communities, offering programmes that encourage human development and promote Christian values.

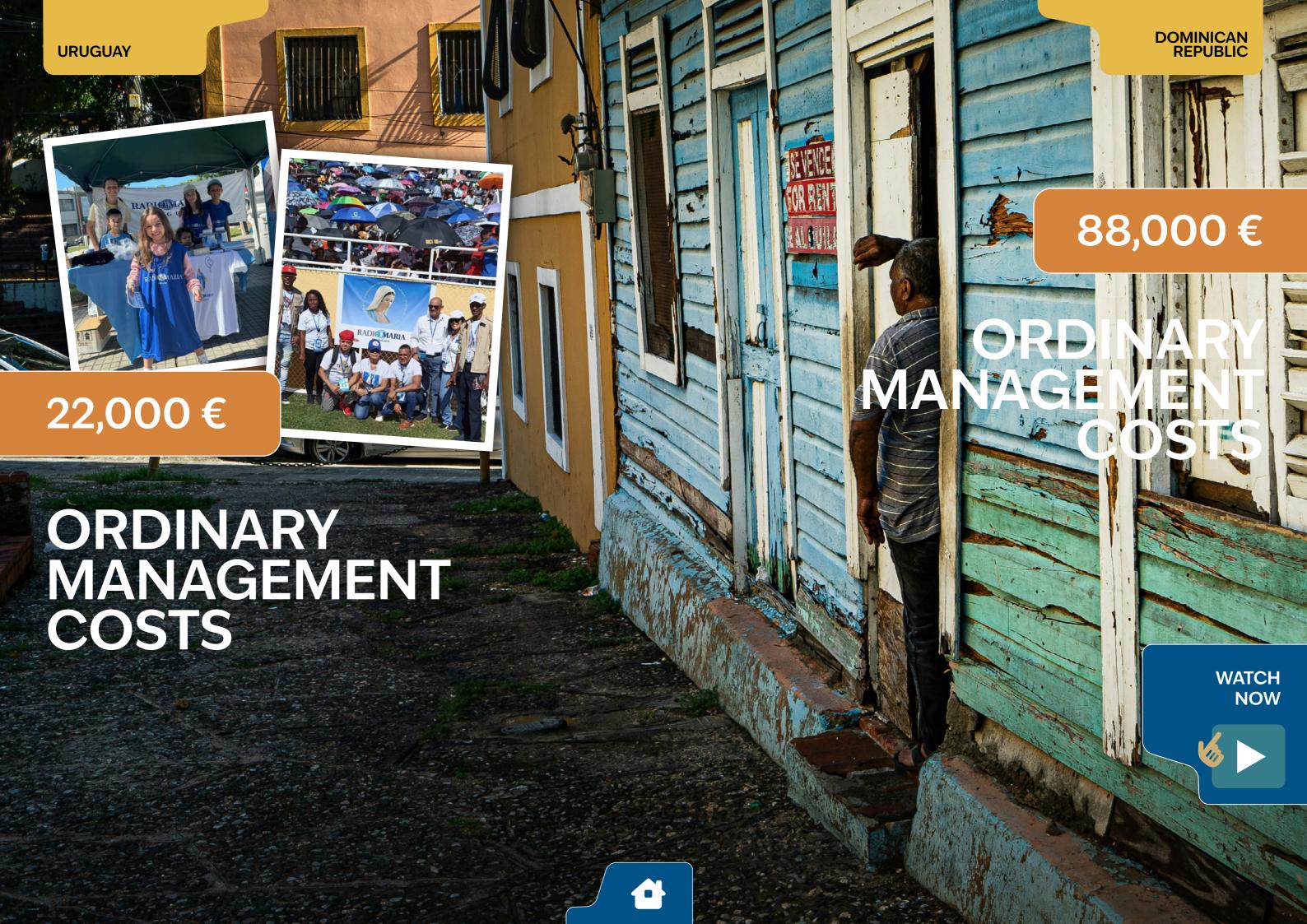
THE PROJECT

Our aim is to expand signal reception to reach new communities in Carmelo Peralta and Villa del Rosario. This will allow Radio Maria Paraguay to expand their reach of evangelization, strengthening its presence in these regions to respond to the spiritual needs of the population. The expansion of the signal will allow Radio Maria to strengthen its presence in these regions, responding with commitment and dedication to the spiritual needs of the population.

New repeater in Carmelo Peralta and Villa del Rosario **50,000 €**







NECESSARY INVESTMENTS **434,000** €





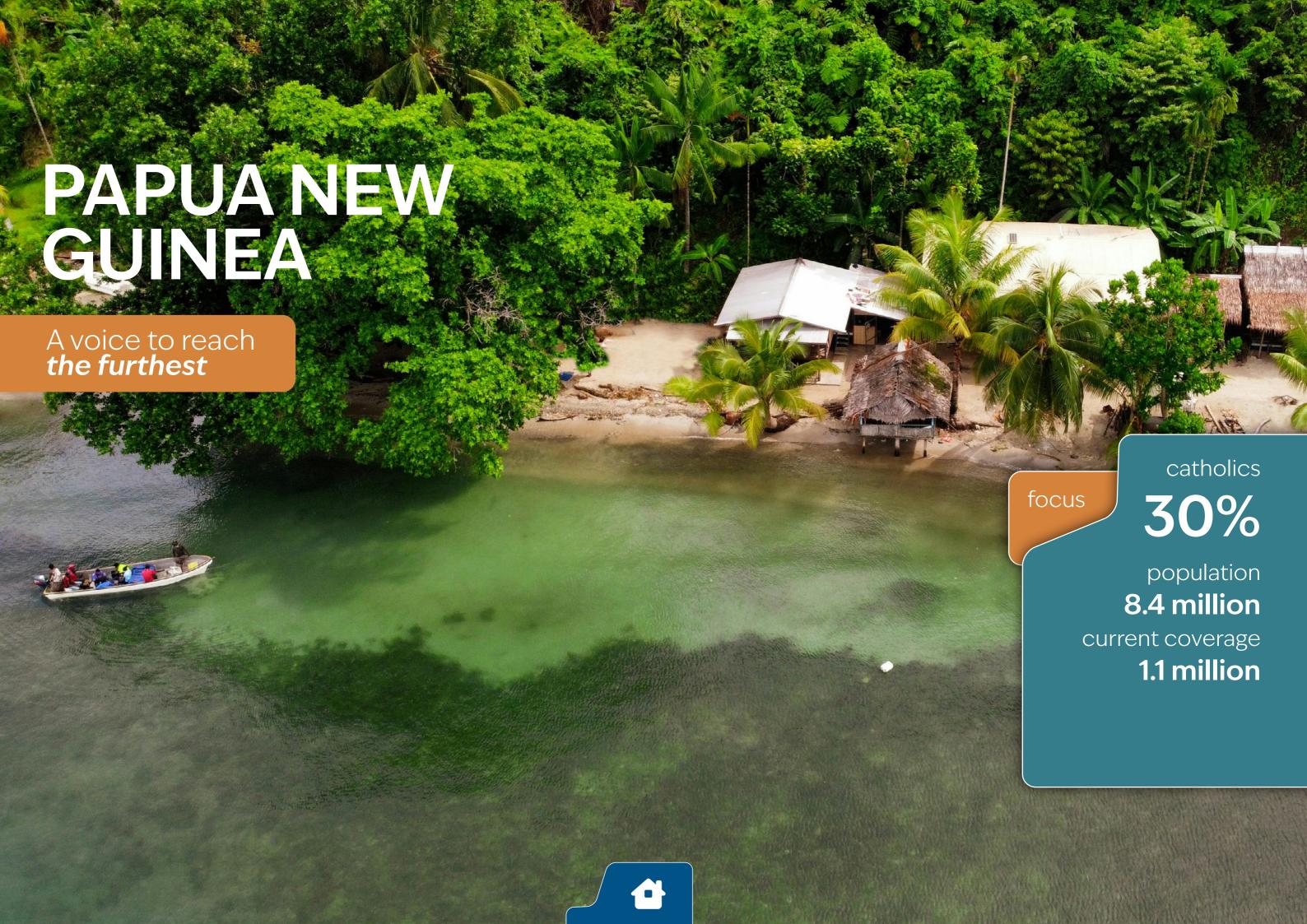




| ARGENTINA | NEW PORTABLE TRANSMITTERS | 80,000 |
|----------------------------------|--|---------|
| BRASIL | NEW STUDIO AND REPEATER IN BRASILIA NETWORK UPGRADE SUPPORT FOR OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT COSTS | 194,000 |
| PARAGUAY | NEW REPEATER IN CARMELO PERALTA AND VILLA DEL ROSARIO | 50,000 |
| URUGUAY DOMINICAN REPUBLIC | ORDINARY MANAGEMENT COSTS | 110,000 |
| TOTAL | | 434,000 |







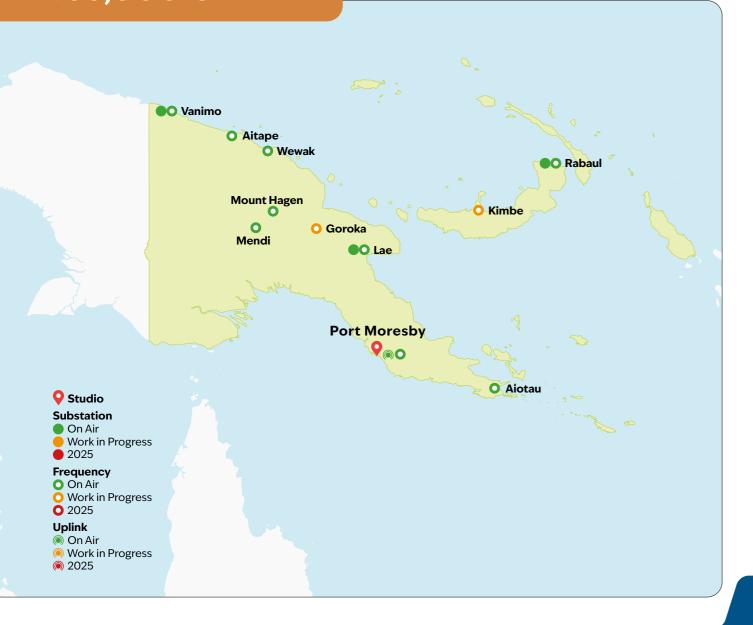
PAPUA NEW GUINEA

CURRENT STATUS

The response of the World Family of Radio Maria to the 2006 request by the Episcopal Conference of Papua New Guinea was immediate. With enormous efforts and very short timeframes, in 2007 Radio Maria was born in the capital, Port Moresby. Shortly after, a national license was obtained which enabled Radio Maria to reach dioceses located in inaccessible areas of the country. Papua New Guinea is in fact one of the most inaccessible countries in the world. The population tries to leave behind tribal life, albeit with difficulty, by creating communication routes and infrastructures and, above all, by building

dialogue and unity in this nation which is very much divided by the different local languages, the different tribes and hundreds of historical traditions, handed down over the centuries. The local Church, as well as government institutions, suffer the consequences of this difficult situation. Radio Maria is called precisely to reach where people, roads and institutions cannot reach, in the most remote villages and jungles. Radio Maria is present today in ten dioceses, but the many adverse economic, structural, cultural and even meteorological conditions have always prevented the widespread diffusion and development of the network. In addition to these problems, there are

Network upgrade 165,000 €





also high ordinary management costs related to recurrent technical interventions from abroad, new frequencies, satellites and human resources.

THE PROJECT

In this scenario, Radio Maria today is struggling to deal with all these difficulties, also due to huge amounts of money needed for new pylons, transportation and installation of new small local studios and repeaters. Unfortunately, for these reasons, many stations are not operational, also due to the lack of spare parts, which makes adequate maintenance impossible. These stations are often struck by lightning

and damaged by other violent meteorological phenomena typical of this area of the world. Radio Maria Papua New Guinea has been carrying out the precious and delicate mission of bringing the voice of God to the most remote places for over 18 years. However, it needs continuous support. Today, our aim is to support the radio by carrying out the repair and, where necessary, replacement of transmitters and antennas. Furthermore, it is essential to install new ones in the dioceses that have been waiting for years for the voice of Radio Maria, so that it may finally reach all the people who live in these remote places.



PHILIPPINES

CURRENT STATUS

Radio Maria Philippines was the first Radio Maria to be established in the Asian continent. Born in 2002, not far from the capital Manila, the radio has managed to expand over the years throughout the northern territory of the island of Luzon. Currently the radio has four FM frequencies that cover many dioceses and digital channels that receive the signal from the main headquarters in Tarlac. Filipino listeners have always supported the radio despite widespread poverty and a precarious economic situation. They are very faithful and fond of this spiritual and social voice that nourishes their souls

and helps develop the society in which they live. More and more dioceses and bishops wish for the voice of Radio Maria to finally be heard in their cities, in the local language, Tagalog, but also in the other languages spoken in the myriad of islands that make up the Philippine archipelago.

THE PROJECT

These new calls from the local Church pose a huge economic challenge to Radio Maria: pylons, frequencies, transportation and installation of new small local studios and repeaters have become more and more costly. In addition to that, the

production studios in the headquarters require urgent renovation; the technical equipment is obsolete, and the building is in need of repair. Despite being self-reliant for the past twenty-three years, today Radio Maria Philippines needs help to face these challenges.

The first objective is to upgrade the equipment and restore the old part of the building where the radio is located. Once this first challenge has been tackled, the project will focus on responding to

the requests from the bishops of the local Church to bring Radio Maria to other cities throughout the country. The bishops contribute significantly to the mission of Radio Maria by finding suitable premises for production studios, sometimes even frequencies.

Expanding Radio Maria in this very poor and fragile part of the world which today is the third most Catholic country in the world, is a great and very important mission that requires a huge effort.







MIDDLE EAST

CURRENT STATUS

This year we will celebrate the tenth anniversary of Radio Mariam (the first Radio Maria in Arabic). This station continues to broadcast, in Arabic, the message of Mary via satellite and via the Internet. Among the many fruits borne over the years, let us remember the birth of three Radio Marias in this area of the Middle East: Radio Maria Iraq, Radio Maria Nazareth and Radio Maria Lebanon. We are also witnessing the growth of teams of volunteers dedicated to mobile studios and new small local offices in other countries of the Middle East: Jordan, Egypt and Syria. In Syria

there are already three small studios (which are also used as mobile studios, thanks to the fact that the equipment can be moved from place to place): Damascus, Aleppo and, for a few months, also in Homs. All of this is possible because of the participation of the local bishops and the commitment of many volunteers and hosts.

The impressive pool of collaborators and volunteers in these countries are marked by a special familial unity. Their dedication to the realisation of this project is inspiring.

Ordinary management costs for this project are high and include costs relating to much needed

technical equipment, frequencies, satellites and rent paid for premises where the offices are located.

THE PROJECT

Unfortunately, this area of the world is known as a "powder keg" due to the serious problems caused by the ongoing situation of economic, social and political instability. There's an ever more growing desire for Radio Maria to help these radios remain steadfast in the faith and not to fall under the weight of persecution or economic difficulties. This is the challenge that we have faced in the past, that we are facing at present and that, unfortunately, in all likelihood, we will continue to face in the near future. The hope is that Christians continue to be present in

these holy lands that were blessed from Abraham's time to Jesus and the primitive Churches.
The goal is to increase the Radio Maria signal, thus reaching new territories and involving the greatest possible number of faithful through widespread work in parishes and local communities. All this requires a tribute that the universal Church is happy to give, and that entails our constant participation in the work of God through his radio.

WATCH

NOW

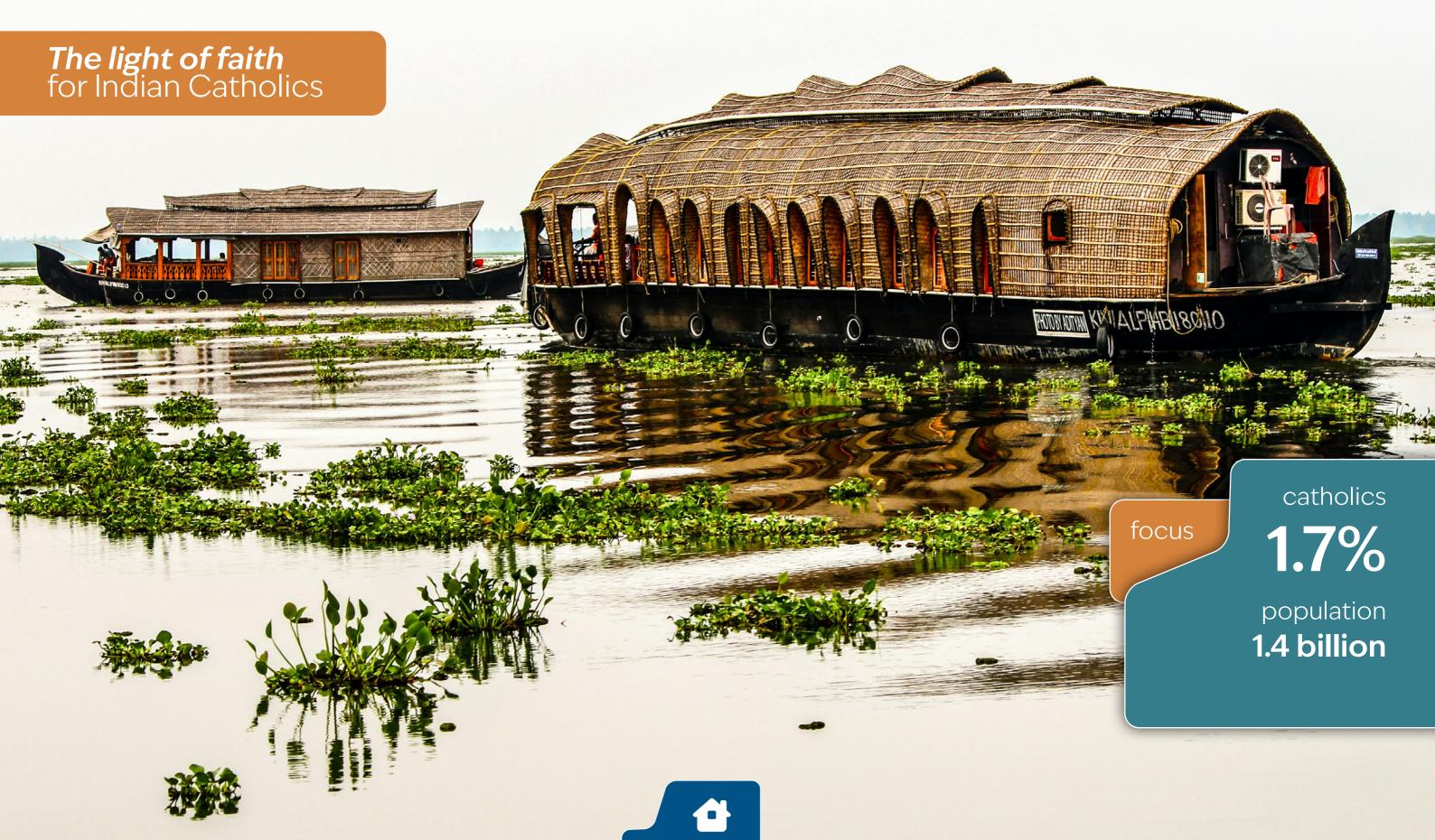
Support for operational management costs of middle eastern nations (Syria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Iraq) and Radio Mariam

300,000€





INDIA



INDIA

CURRENT STATUS

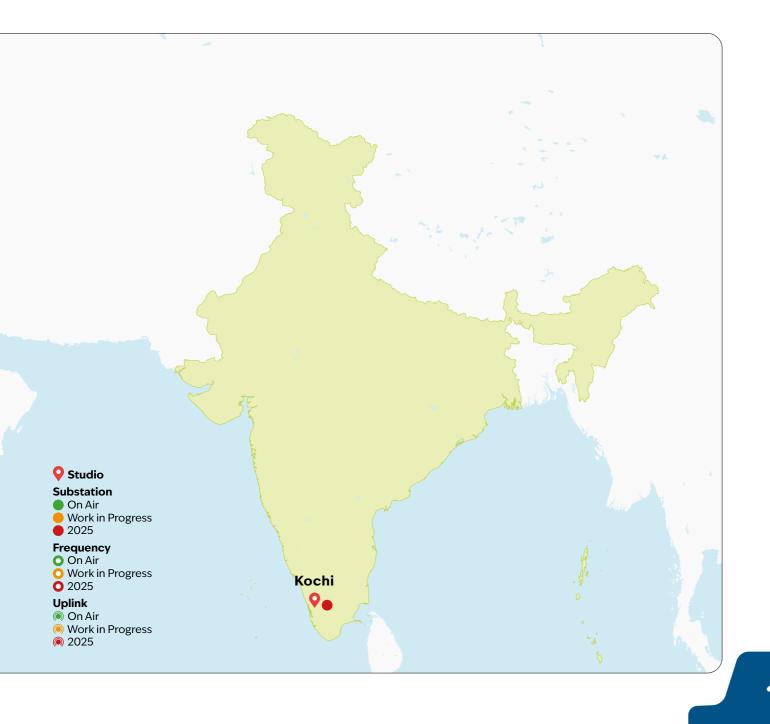
Radio Maria India began in broadcasting in 2013 as a web radio in Kochi. Kochi is in Karala where the majority of Catholics in India live. With a population of 1.4 billion, Radio Maria is a great tool of evangelization for 4% of Catholics in India. Their broadcasts are in Malayalam.

Radio Maria's ambitious project in India involves the creation of eight nationwide stations, one for each main language spoken by Indian Catholics. In 2025, the plan is to start broadcasting in Telugu in the city of Vijayawada, in the state of Andhra Pradesh.

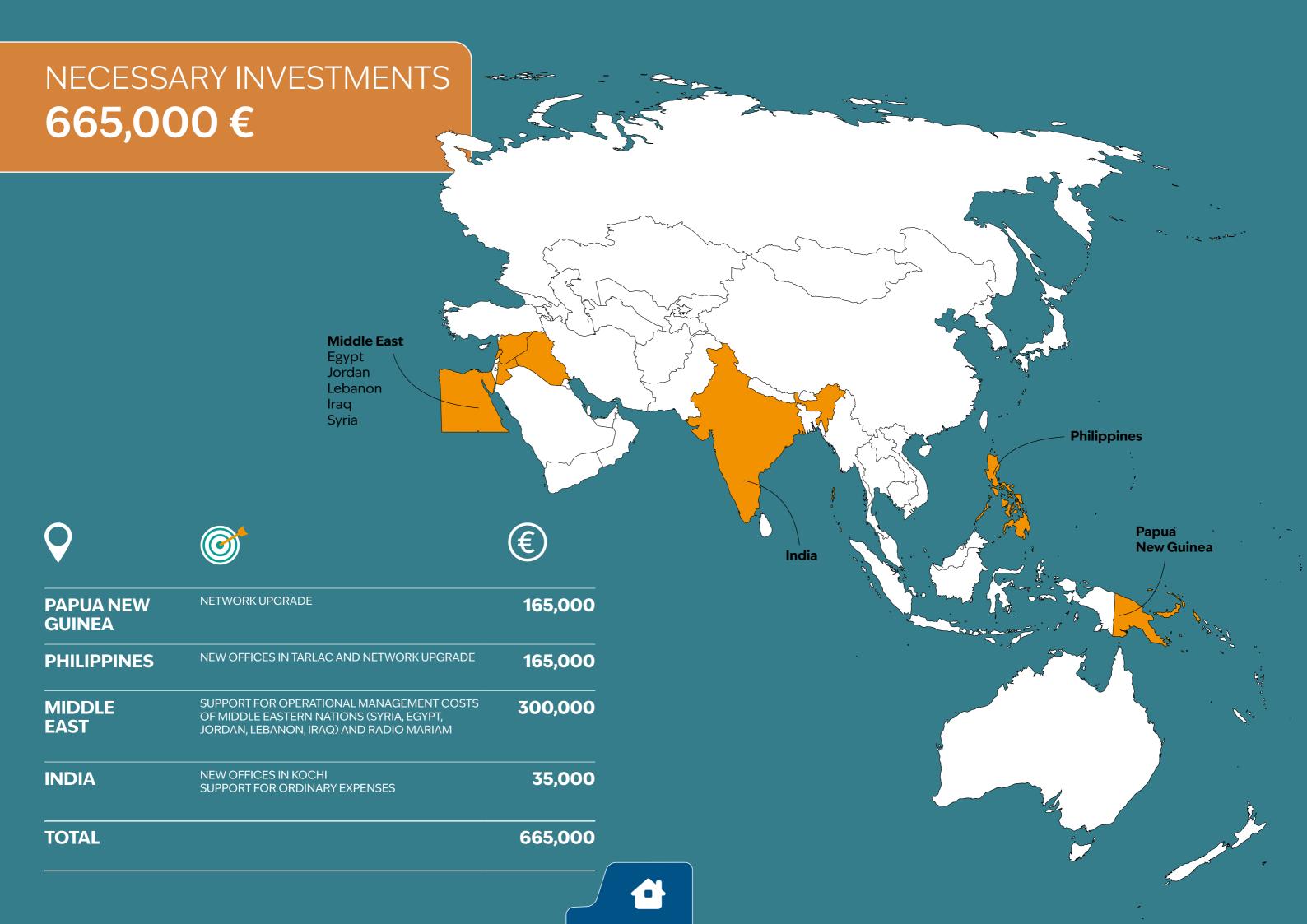
THE PROJECT

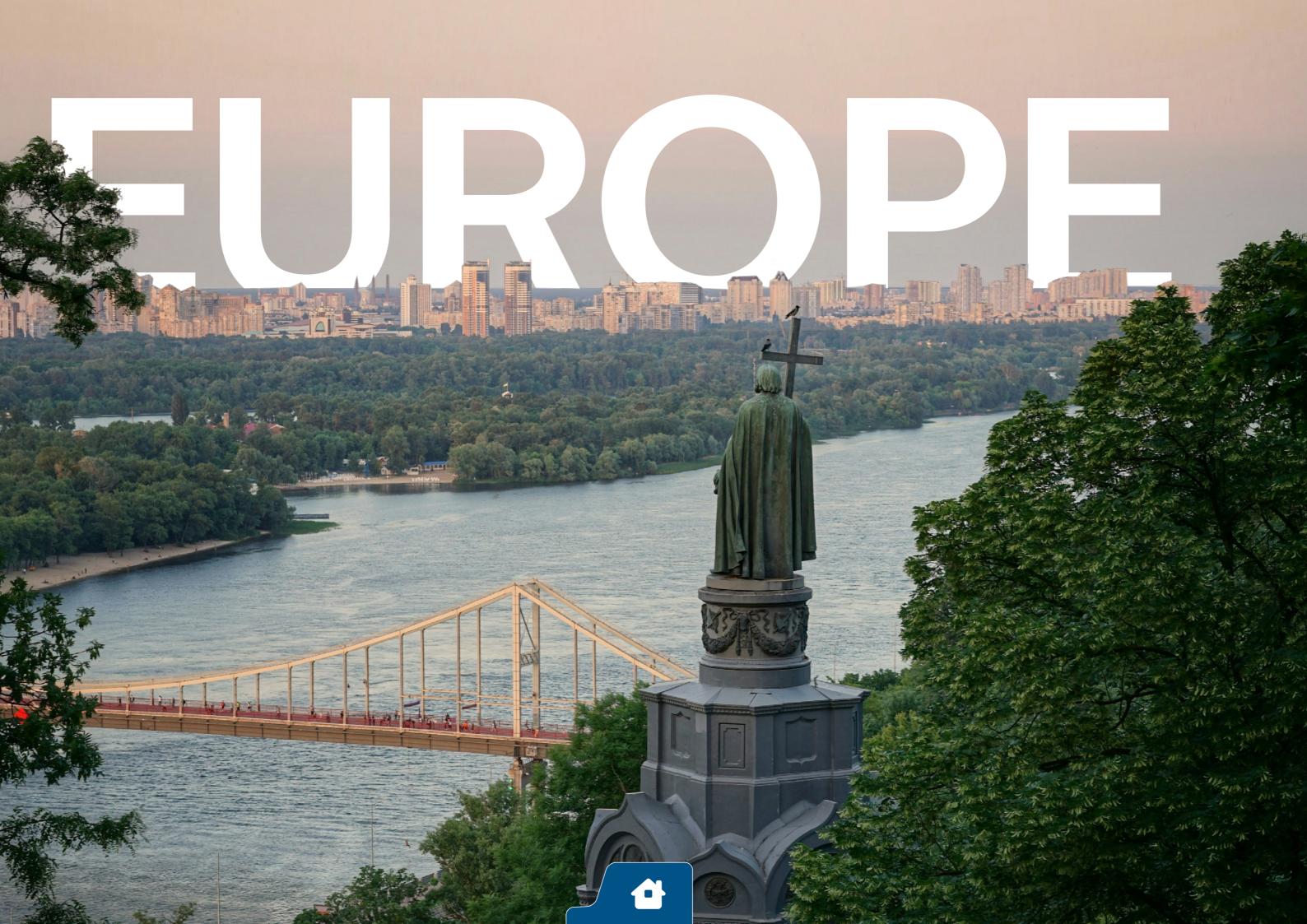
After a few years in a very precarious, rented space, land was finally purchased to build headquarters equipped with modern facilities and studios that would allow the project to grow.

Radio Maria India can undertake this ambitious project in Kochi, trusting in the missionary generosity that will enable Indian Catholics to receive the light of the Word of God through Radio Maria.











EASTERN EUROPE

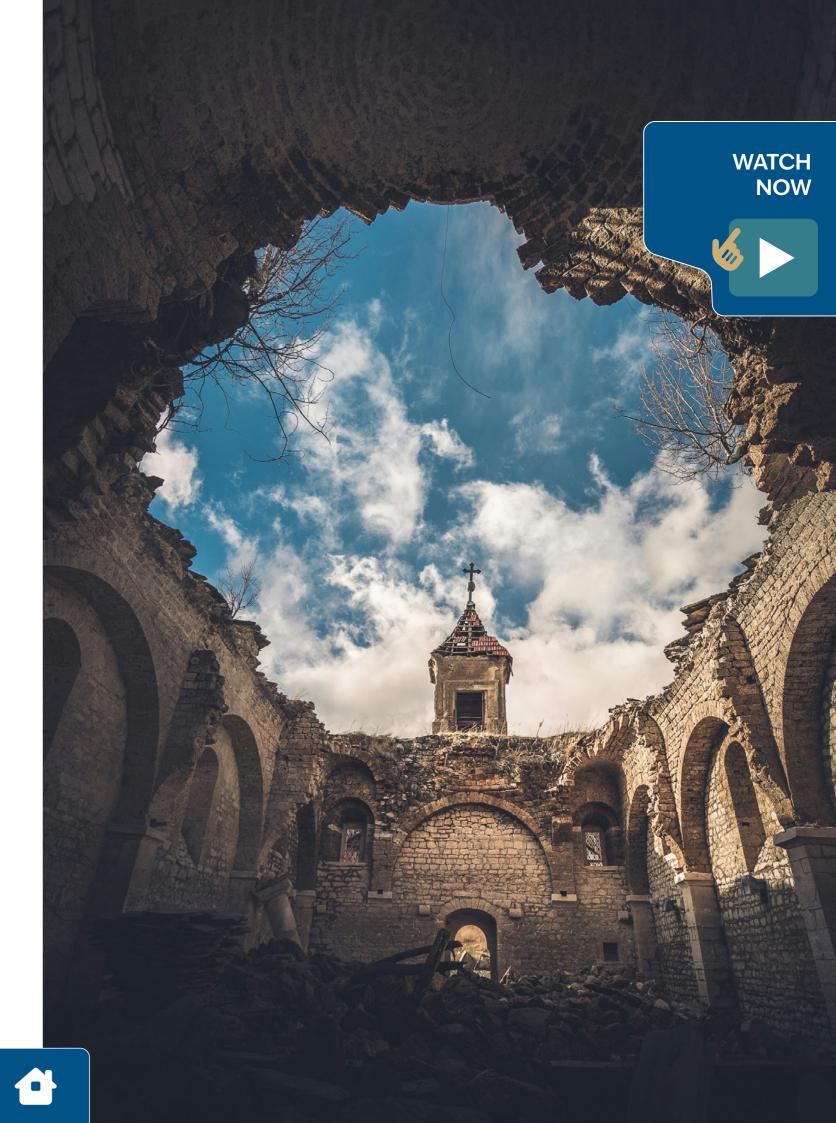
CURRENT STATUS

Radio Maria in Eastern Europe consists mainly of medium-small stations covering part of the population and is characterized by steadfast dedication to its evangelizing mission in support of Christian communities. This mission is often carried out under complex conditions: political and social divisions, bureaucratic limitations, economic poverty, historical-ethnic conflicts, religious persecution and, not least, the war in Ukraine that for three years has seen all European nations directly and indirectly involved. Radio Maria broadcasts are a voice of peace, hope and trust in the future and are loved by all nations with much joy and gratitude.

THE PROJECT

The development and growth of each Radio Maria occurs thanks to prayers offered by listeners, help from donors and support from the World Family of Radio Maria. This support must be guaranteed in the long term, given the geopolitical and cultural aspects of the area in which we operate and the specific domestic situations. Therefore, it is our responsibility to invest in new technologies, expand signal coverage and offer editorial, human promotion and spiritual content, thus facilitating the conversion of souls.







WESTERN EUROPE

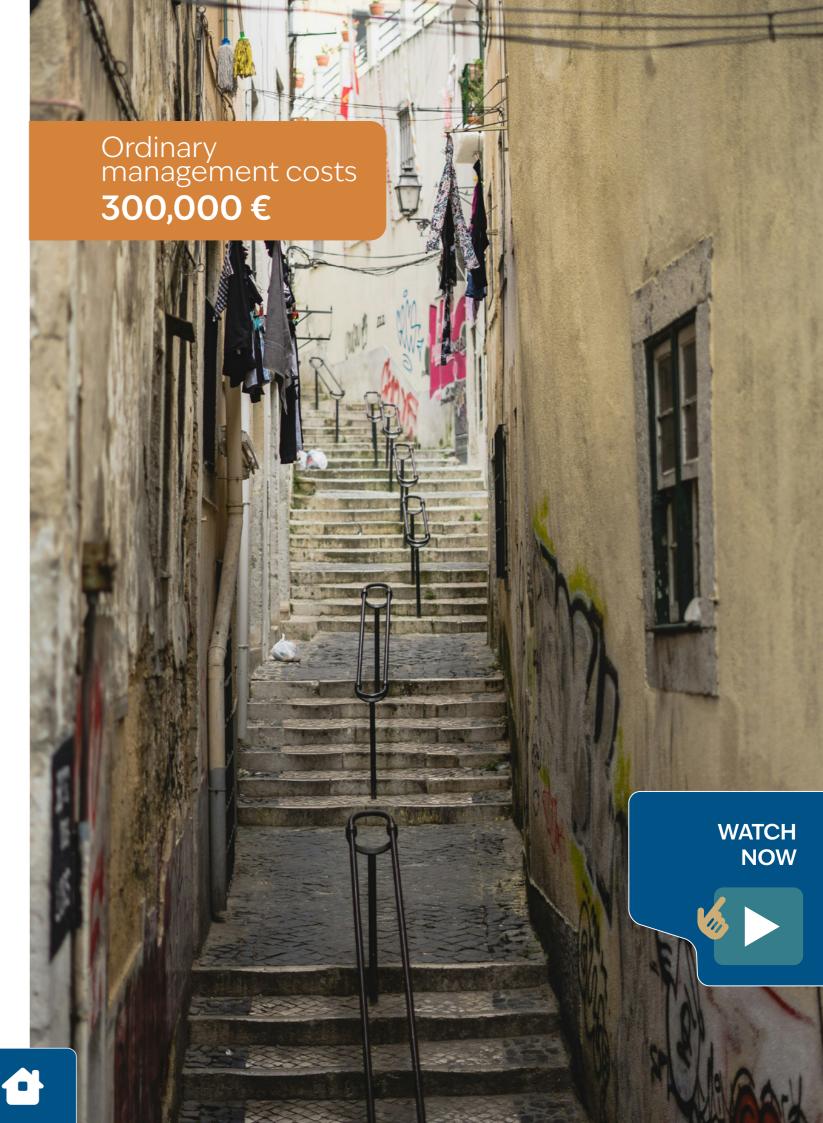
CURRENT STATUS

Radio Maria in England, Portugal and Romandie (French-speaking Switzerland) expanded more effectively after the difficult years of the Covid-19 pandemic which slowed down the construction of buildings, the installation of technical equipment and the subsequent start of broadcasting. Today, thanks to the traditional (FM) and digital (DAB+) frequencies obtained, we can reach millions of listeners in various locations including London, Cambridge, Lisbon, Porto and Lausanne. This indicates growth, which must be maintained in 2025, in order to improve signal coverage, promotion and the schedule of our stations.

THE PROJECT

The three major challenges in Europe are RM Romandy (2019), RM England (2020) and RM Portugal (2021). These countries, though different, all share a growing need for evangelization and testimony of the Catholic faith in the face of increasingly widespread secularism and atheism. Radio Maria informs, trains, supports and helps the apostolic activity of the Catholic Church by reaching families and communities in multiple languages and cultures. The goal in Western Europe is to preserve the Christian faith and its values, promoting highlevel radio programmes for the spiritual enrichment of listeners.







NECESSARY INVESTMENTS 730,000 €









| EASTERN EUROPE | ORDINARY MANAGEMENT COSTS | 350,000 |
|--------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| WESTERN EUROPE | ORDINARY MANAGEMENT COSTS | 300,000 |
| SPECIAL SUPPORT | SATELLITE SUPPORT | 80,000 |
| TOTAL | | 730,000 |



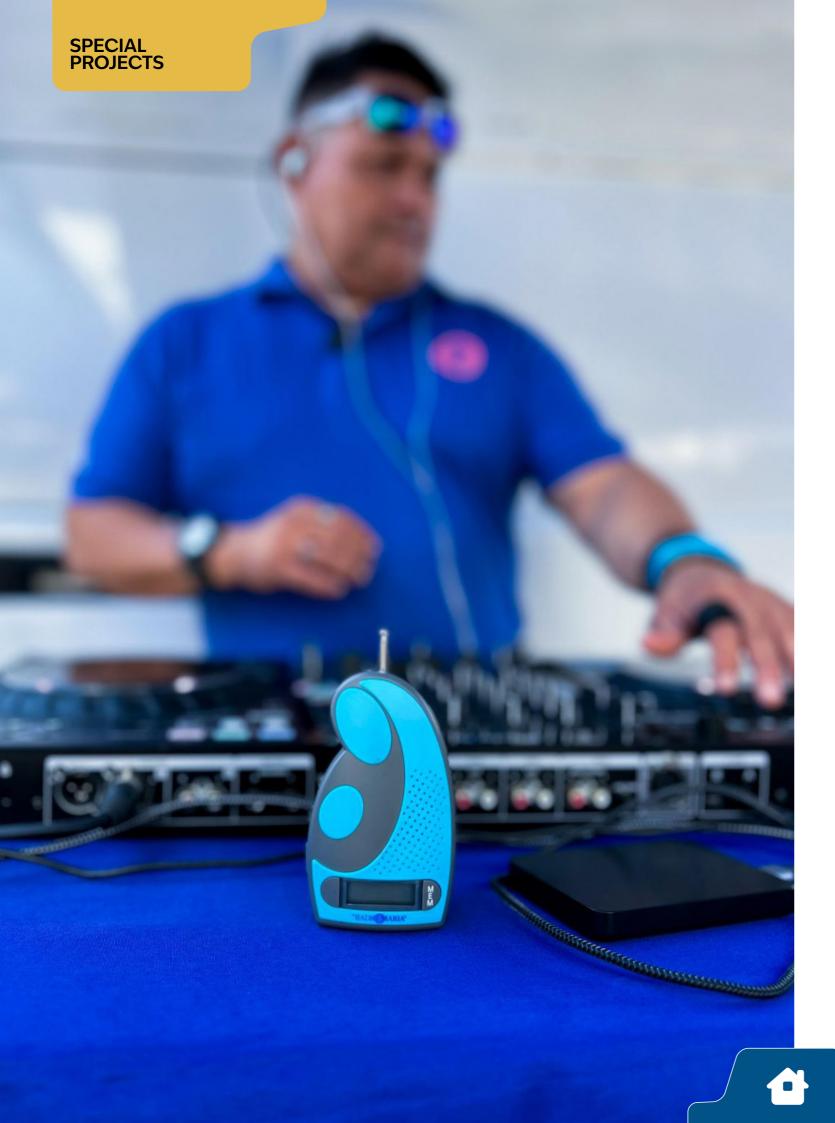
SPECIAL PROJECTS









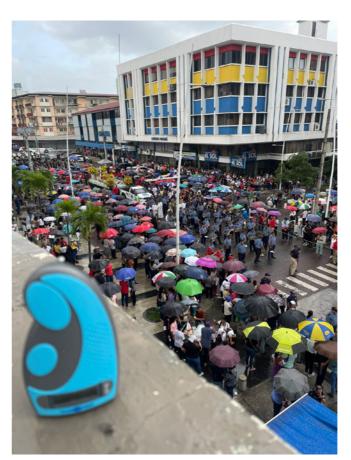


MINI RADIO

For years, Radio Maria has been carrying out a special initiative that combines technology and spirituality: a stylised Virgin and child mini radio. This small but powerful instrument has brought thousands of people closer to prayer and to the word of God in recent years, becoming a true bridge of faith and hope for those who need it the most. Over the years, these radios have been distributed to those who for various reasons did not have access to any means of communication. Nursing homes, rural villages in Africa and America, populations in difficulty and even prisoners have benefited from this project, with a special version of the radios specifically designed with the strict protocols of penitentiary institutions in mind.

This has allowed thousands of people to feel less lonely and to find comfort in the voice of Radio Maria. After a successful experience in Italy, the initiative has quickly spread to many other parts of the world, reaching an ever-increasing number of faithful.

Thanks to the generosity of benefactors, the project has continued to grow, allowing the distribution of an incalculable number of these small devices. Today, thanks to technological progress, these devices are also equipped with DAB technology, ensuring an ever-improving listening quality and wider coverage. The good generated by this initiative is immeasurable: the lonely, the sick, communities far from urban centres and many others have been able to receive the grace of God's word through Radio Maria. For this reason, we want to carry on supporting this project and help it grow even further, so that more and more people can feel part of the great family of Radio Maria.





MOBILE STUDIOS

Radio Maria is a voice of prayer that brings hope in this Jubilee Year to so many hearts, broken by the hardships of this world. God wanted to place in our hands a very important tool for the evangelization: the mobile studio.

Our mobile studios are not just a technical tool, they are living realities of people who pray. Our mobile studio volunteers are true missionaries who pray together and find in Mary the strength to bring the face of her son to all peoples. Radio Maria studios are present on all continents: they broadcast Holy Masses, the prayers of the local community and bring to the rest of the world the voices of those who live in the peripheries. They make the prayers of the

poor and the marginalized heard. Radio Maria does not choose certain people over others... we are the voice of all the faithful who want to praise Christ. In particular, the presence of the mobile studios in Africa brings exuberant joy and celebration to those who recognise the voice of Mary among them. Similarly, the presence of mobile studios in the Arab countries brings hope to thousands, despite difficult broadcasting conditions. They also, vitally, create a tangible link between those who are at home and those who have had to emigrate.

Every mobile studio volunteer is like Mary, ready to go swiftly, to bring the voice of Christ and to make it heard throughout the world.





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TRAINING

In the ever-changing landscape of communication and community service, training for Radio Maria staff and volunteers is not only beneficial, it is essential. As an organization that serves thousands of people employed in different Radio Marias around the world, the World Family must invest in the qualities and skills of its team and those of the radios. This is why every year WF organizes training sessions, spiritual retreats, continental conferences, study days and capacity building.

Training provides our staff and volunteers with the skills needed to use radio equipment, to understand broadcast standards and create engaging content. Continuous training ensures they are kept up to date on the latest technologies and methodologies, enabling them to connect with the public more effectively.

Training is also an opportunity to build community and family spirit, both within individual radios and among radios on the same continent. Volunteers from different backgrounds come together to learn, share experiences and strengthen their relationships. This sense of community improves cooperation and morale within the organization, ultimately contributing to a harmonious work environment.

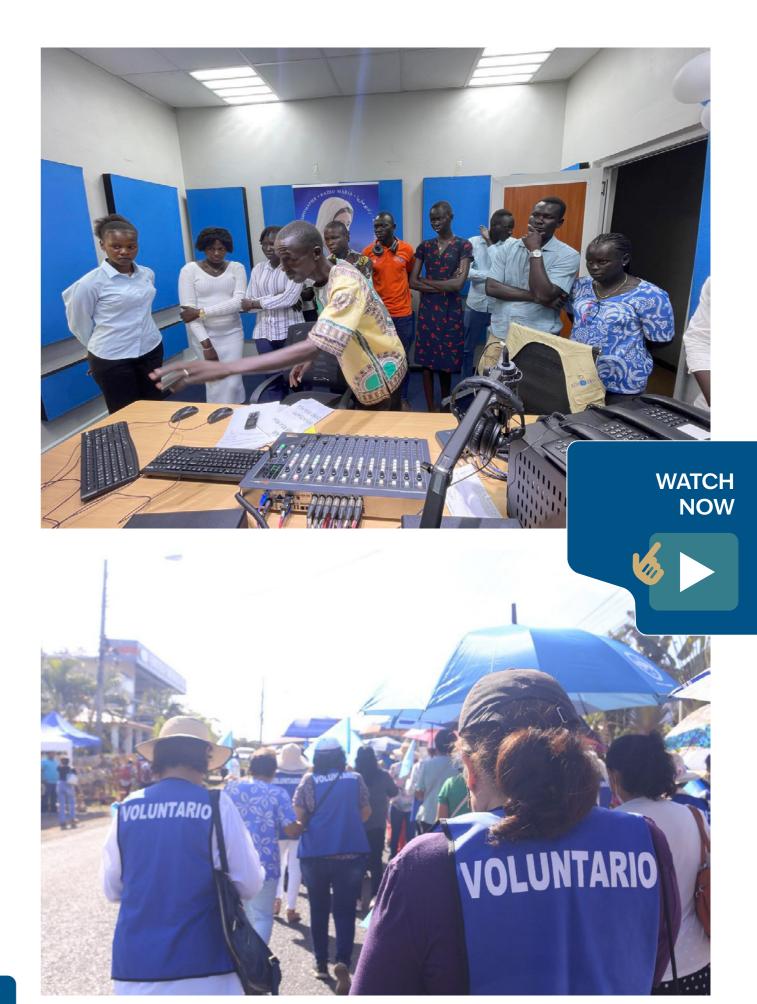
Regular training ensures that all staff adhere to the high quality standards for which Radio Maria is known. By providing the team with resources and training in ethical broadcasting and effective communication, we maintain the integrity of our message and the trust of our listeners.

Training is not just about organizational needs, it also fosters personal development. Volunteers gain confidence, skills and a deeper understanding of their role in delivering Radio Maria's mission. This empowerment not only benefits the individual but also enriches the entire community.

In an ever-changing world, flexibility and adaptability are key. Through ongoing training, the team is able to respond effectively to new challenges, whether they are due to technological advances or changes in the audience's needs. This ability to adapt helps ensure that Radio Maria remains relevant and impactful.

Investing in the training of presidents, directors, staff and volunteers ensures a bright future for Radio Maria. It improves the ability to fulfill its mission, fosters a community of dedicated people and ultimately serves to improve the connection with listeners around the world. By prioritizing training, we affirm our commitment to excellence and our unwavering dedication to spreading the message of hope and faith.

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RADIO MARIA INTHE WORLE

Over 130 Stations (Broadcasting studios)

34 of which are substations in the local language

Programming in 83 languages
Countries including 53 native African

Almost 30,000 volunteers serving the Radio Maria project worldwide

Around 615 mobile studios at the service of the Radio Maria project in approximately 5,600 parishes and local communities.

A total of more than 14,200 prayer connections around the world

Over 740,000,000 people

and 1,021 dioceses worldwide are reached by the Radio Maria radio frequency signal



Many thanks to all those who helped put together this magazine

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Photo credit · World Family of Radio Maria, Paolo Patruno, Unsplash, Pixabay

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Radio Maria is supported solely by the prayers, sacrifices and offerings of its listeners.

To bring a voice of hope is a mission that we can share by appealing to the generosity of hearts: **every contribution and every donation counts and can make a difference** and helps us extend this project of love as far as the Virgin Mary wants.

Pope Francis to the participants of the World Conference of Radio Maria Private Audience - 29 October 2015:

"Always keep in mind that you give something great and unique: Christian hope, which is much more than simple spiritual consolation, because it is based on the power of the Resurrection, witnessed with faith and works of charity".

TOTAL NECESSARY INVESTMENTS

6,224,000€



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