



international
building global friendship

Annual Review



About us

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CISV International is a global organization dedicated to educating and inspiring for peace through inter-cultural friendship, cooperation and understanding.

**Founder: Dr Doris Twitchell Allen,
USA (1901-2002)**

Founded in 1950, today we are a federation of 70 member associations with over 200 Chapters or local groups. In over 60 years we have given countless children and young people the experience of their lives through our educational programmes.

Our innovative, fun, non-formal peace education 'learning by doing' programmes begin with our original and unique Village programme for eleven-year-olds. We offer an exciting blend of seven international camp-based, family exchange and local community programmes - each with their own character.

Through our programmes, we help our participants develop the skills they need to become informed, responsible global citizens who can make a difference in their communities and the world. Central to everything we do is the building and nurturing of inter-cultural friendship, in line with our founding belief that peace is possible through friendship and mutual understanding.

Our Purpose

CISV has a vision of a more just and peaceful world; we believe that we can all take responsibility for making this happen. This vision gives us a strong purpose, or mission, which is summed up clearly in our Statement of Purpose:

**CISV educates and inspires
action for a more just
and peaceful world.**



Foreword



While annual reports are intended to summarise the past year, 2012 will be remembered as the year in which CISV focused on preparing for our future.

Consistent with the year's educational focus on sustainable development, much of our energy was devoted to planning for the sustainable development of CISV International. How can we ensure that the dynamic experiential education provided through our programmes continues to impact upon more and more children and young people in the years ahead?

For CISV, the answer to that question has always depended upon local teams of strong and committed volunteers – and the support of their communities. In more than 200 local Chapters around the world, CISV's educational vision becomes a reality because of these volunteers. Indeed, amidst the challenge of a comprehensive organizational review of CISV International, one key principle emerged to guide the changes to our structure and operations:

Healthy Chapters are the key to the future growth and success of CISV.

Recognition and affirmation of this fundamental principle requires that CISV International organize and commit itself to meeting its primary responsibility of supporting the work of our Chapters.

With the number and global spread of our Chapters, the 'organizational sustainability' of CISV requires that we understand the needs and challenges facing our volunteers at the local level. Like so many other aspects of CISV, understanding local issues is best achieved through experience.

Like many of those who volunteer for CISV International, I continue to be inspired and motivated to work for CISV by participating in the work of my local Chapter. This year my Chapter is hosting its fourth Village and my family and I have assisted by making airport pickups, delivering materials to the Village and hosting the leaders and staff for dinner. Hosting any CISV programme requires a coordination of energy, effort and resources that can only be fully appreciated by joining in the effort.

That same coordination and commitment is also required from every community that selects and prepares the youth and adults that attend CISV's programmes.

In other words, each one of our peace education programmes represents a truly global volunteer effort all directed towards the mission of CISV. In 2012, such efforts provided a unique and unforgettable experience to nearly 12,000 youth and families. With the completion of our 62nd year of building global friendship, we are as proud of our ongoing efforts as we are excited about our future growth.

Brett Vottero,
President, CISV International

On behalf of the International Executive Committee

Chris Pollock, Vice-President
Basma Hosny, Executive Trustee
Laura Green, Executive Trustee
Pilar Villanueva, Executive Trustee



Photo: John Gayoso, CISV Philippines

Review of the year



2012 was an important year for the future of CISV International, with many significant decisions made on the governance and structure of the organization. The decisions made at our Annual International Meeting (AIM) mark

the end of a two-year long organizational review process, including wide spread consultation with our members.

Some of the key changes proposed for the international organization include:

- A new Governing Board made up of nine elected members and the Secretary General
- A new Global Conference, held every three years, offering CISV Chapters the opportunity to network, attend training, share best practices and contribute to the future direction of CISV
- A new focus on our regions and regional delivery of our support and training
- A change of the role for the International Office, with a new management structure

The recommended changes are in line with best current practice in the running of international not-for-profit organizations.

They will help us to be more effective as we look forward and, crucially for us, allow us to work more directly with CISV Chapters.

As a result of the decisions it made at AIM, our International Board called for a Transition Team to be set up. The team was selected to develop the details of the approved changes, along with an implementation plan. The Transition Team held its first meeting in Newcastle upon Tyne in November 2012 and will work through AIM 2013, when the results of its work will be presented to the Board for approval.

Another change of note in 2012 was the official renaming of our Summer Camp programme to Step Up. This reflects the aim of the programme for young people to 'step up' and take an active leadership role, during the camp and afterwards at home. The programme now works more closely with our Junior Branch, to allow young people to make the transition in their personal development from Step Up to their Chapter in a structured way.

Of course, the day-to-day life of CISV went on in 2012, within our Chapters, our programmes and our regional and international structures. There were a number of milestones and special events that you will see highlighted in this Annual Review. Despite a harsh economic climate, our participation levels remained high and we held a record number of Youth Meetings. We recognised the immense and long-standing contribution to CISV at the local, national and international level from four very special CISVers (see pages 9 and 10).

Our educational focus this year was on Sustainable Development, uniting our programmes and Junior Branch activities in looking at how we can tread lightly and reduce our environmental impact.



Photo: Martin Rottler, CISV USA

We look forward now to 2013 and making the changes we have proposed a reality. Following over a year of development, our new website will be launched, bringing with it exciting new opportunities to engage and inspire CISVers old and new. Our programme participants will be exploring the vital theme of Human Rights and what they mean to each of us. Mostly, we look forward to the friendship and dedication to building a more just and peaceful world that are the unchanged core of CISV.

Gabrielle Mandell,
Secretary General

Our programmes and so much more happen within CISV's Chapters. CISV has Chapters in 229 towns and cities worldwide. Most of our Chapters have a youth-led Junior Branch, for young CISVers aged 11-25.

In 2012 CISV International held eight Regional Training Forums, offering 33 trainings for nearly 500 volunteers from our Chapters. Meanwhile, our Train-the-Trainers certified 112 national trainers to deliver consistent and high quality training in their Chapters.

CISV International Junior Branch organized three regional meetings for over 139 young people from our local Junior Branches to network, train and learn from each other.

In 2012 CISV volunteers organized a total of 223 international programmes and two international meetings, involving a total of 8,868 participants. Additionally, 45 Mosaic projects, engaged 2,967 participants in local communities.



Special Anniversaries in 2012

50th CISV Philippines

30th CISV Argentina

New CISV Associations in 2012

CISV Romania became a full National Association

CISV Myanmar was recognised as a Promotional (developing) Association.

Firsts in 2012

CISV Poland hosted its first Village

CISV Estonia hosted its first Youth Meeting

CISV India hosted its first Step Up and Youth Meeting

Since our first Village in 1951, our volunteers have organized 6,523 CISV international programmes for 248,483 participants worldwide.



Photo: Daniel Edelshaim, CISV Canada

A year in focus

Each year, CISV focuses on one of the four content areas of our peace education curriculum: Diversity; Human Rights; Conflict and Resolution; and Sustainable Development.

In 2012, our focus area was Sustainable Development, which for CISVers meant looking at how we can tread lightly and reduce our environmental impact. We have collected some excellent materials on our website about a wide

range of topics and activities developed within our programmes that will inspire future programme participants.

Projects run with partner organizations by our programmes included reclamation of sand dunes in New Zealand, installation of a water filtration system in India, preservation of an area of noted bio-diversity in France and working with an endangered species of horse in the Czech Republic.

Earth Hour



In 2012, CISVers around the world showed their support for Earth Hour by switching off their lights for an hour. CISV International partnered with Earth Hour and

challenged CISVers everywhere to 'go beyond the hour' and take action and spread the word about the need for sustainable development.

**'I have a Mango
- a project to think,
educate and act
for sustainable
development'**

I have a Mango

I have a Mango was a collaboration between CISV Colombia and CISV Norway, comprising a team of four young CISVers. The project was funded by The Norwegian Children and Youth Council (LNU) and the Norwegian Peace Corp and lasted from August 2011 to May 2012.

The project team developed a number of brilliant resources including 'The Lunchbox' – a digestible introduction to sustainable development. The project ended with an exhibition of photographs, held in Bergen, charting the progress of the project in Bergen and Bogota. You can still visit their website www.cisv.no/mango for interesting facts, figures and ideas to inspire action for sustainability in your local community.



European Youth

Our European Junior Branch Meeting, held in Belgium, welcomed representatives from the European Youth Forum in 2012. This is one of three regional meetings organized annually by our Junior Branch, to bring together National Junior Branch Representatives so they can attend trainings, plan, and share ideas and best practices.

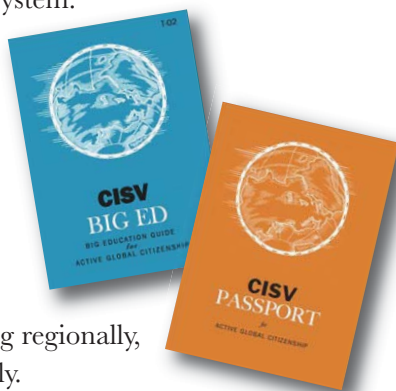
A challenge for Peace Day

As usual, CISVers around the world enthusiastically celebrated and raised awareness of Peace Day on 21 September 2012. Supporting the Global Truce campaign of our partner organization Peace One Day, CISVers produced videos, held activities and promoted the day in city centres around the world.

Research matters

Two research projects carried out by CISVers as part of their doctoral studies, were finalised in 2012. Chuck Catania of CISV USA conducted his research, at Ohio University, on the first three years of our Train the Trainers system.

His findings will help us as we look to develop and improve the training and support we offer to the dedicated volunteers we rely on to deliver training regionally, nationally and locally.



Jennifer Watson of CISV Great Britain took as the theme of her research the use and understanding of our key educational documents, Passport and The Big Education Guide, which were introduced in 2009. She also looked into the use and impact of our evaluation tool for assessing and improving the quality of our programmes. Her findings show that these materials and tools have had a significant impact and point to future developments. Jennifer's research marks a long standing association between CISV and Birkbeck College.



Photo: Walter Ring, CISV Austria

IN SUPPORT OF



In 2013

We will focus on Human Rights

Make important decisions about the future governance and working structures of the organization

We hold our last Annual International Meeting, hosted by CISV Brazil

CISV Italy and CISV Finland celebrates their 50th anniversaries

CISV Luxembourg celebrates its 40th anniversary

We will apply for membership for the Organization of American States

We launch our strengthened Child Protection policy and training

We will launch our new fully integrated website, which will include myCISV - an exciting and interactive new development of our membership database

50 years of CISV Philippines

CISV Philippines marked its 50th Anniversary in style, starting with a golf tournament for past and present CISV families in March 2012. The celebrations ended six months later with a 50th Anniversary dinner in September in Makati City, attended by 300 people from CISV Philippines and their guests from around the CISV world.

As a lasting memento of their first 50 years, CISV Philippines produced a special anniversary book that highlights the development and successes of this flourishing National Association.



Photographs from the CISV Philippines Anniversary celebration dinner: 5 of the 6 past Presidents of CISV Philippines, with Nati Toribio of CISV Philippines and CISV International Honorary Counsellor; members of Bacolod and Baguio Chapters providing some of the entertainment.



Photo: John Gayoso, CISV Philippines

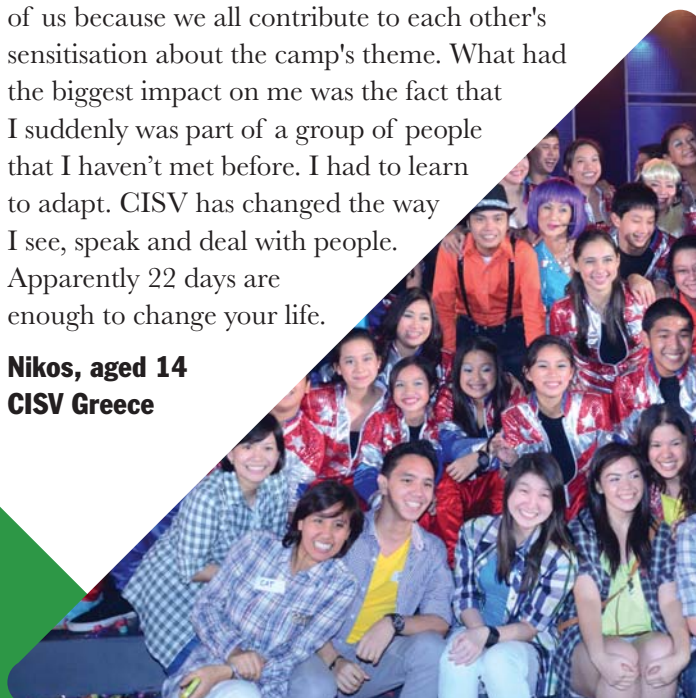
A life-changing experience

Last year was my first CISV experience. I went to a Step Up camp in Portugal called "We are the world". The camp was about resources and sustainable development. At the beginning I thought it was going to be another camp like the ones I've been to before and that I was just going to spend my vacation with people from different countries. Thankfully it was more than that. I hadn't really done any research about CISV before I went there and I was really surprised when I found out we were going to plan our own activities.



That was the best part of CISV. It's not another camp. Whatever we do there has something from each one of us because we all contribute to each other's sensitisation about the camp's theme. What had the biggest impact on me was the fact that I suddenly was part of a group of people that I haven't met before. I had to learn to adapt. CISV has changed the way I see, speak and deal with people. Apparently 22 days are enough to change your life.

Nikos, aged 14
CISV Greece



Volunteers of the Year 2012



CISV International was pleased to present awards to four outstanding volunteers, who had been nominated by their

National Associations, Chapters and fellow international members. The winners were announced at our

Annual International Meeting in Paris. You can read a little about each of the winners, from the people who nominated them.

International Volunteer of the Year

Peter Schubert, CISV Germany

"Peter applied to do a voluntary internship at the International Office in 2011. He worked tirelessly on our Programme Guides, sifting through hundreds of pages to help make them more accessible and user-friendly for our Chapter volunteers. He also became an invaluable member of the web development team, helping us to analyse extensive documentation from developers, asking incisive questions and providing support to staff and volunteers. While he was at the International Office, Peter became chair of the German National Mosaic Committee. Somehow by the time he left, he was also joining the International Mosaic Committee and remains an active and busy member."

Not only has Peter made an outstanding contribution to the development of CISV International throughout the last year, he is also great fun to have around. Someone from CISV Germany said that having Peter on a project is like always knowing there is an 'app' for whatever you need. He is talented, resourceful, creative and motivated and inspires others to be the same."

Photo © : Portrait Innovations Inc.



National Volunteer of the Year

Ellen Fowler, CISV USA

"Ellen has served as National Treasurer for CISV USA for the last six years. She's kind and radiates calm in high pressure situations, while accommodating the diverse needs and many requests of our large NA. She is proactive, reliable, friendly, patient, respectful of other volunteers' time, and always takes the time to build personal relationships with other people in CISV."

After doing such a fantastic job for the last six years, CISV USA is of course thinking about the transition to a new treasurer in the fall. Ellen has been mentoring and training a replacement, which demonstrates her foresight and leadership skills and will help the next treasurer to be successful."

Ellen's CISV passion, skill set, dedication, and leadership make her an ideal recipient of the National Volunteer award. We feel very fortunate to have her as a member and a vital part of CISV USA."

"Our success continues to depend upon the work and passion of our committed volunteers"

Brett Vottero, President CISV International



Volunteers of the Year 2012

Chapter Volunteer of the Year

Mona Casén, Helsingborg Chapter, CISV Sweden

"CISV provides the opportunity for youth and adults to meet, develop, become active global citizens and change the world. Behind these beautiful meetings, backstage, there are a lot of practical things that need to be done. Mona has for over a decade been the person backstage in CISV Helsingborg. She has assisted the Chapter with knowledge and experience about CISV, coordinated volunteers when the Chapter has arranged programmes and made sure that participants, parents and leaders have always been well prepared. If someone in the Chapter needs help, she is always there for them, giving her knowledge, time and support. Even after leaving the Board in early 2012, Mona has supported five delegations and coordinated a Village. She is the reason these people can take part in CISV. Mona renders possible for others to change the world."

Honorary Counsellor

Junko Imanishi of **CISV Japan** was made an Honorary Counsellor, in recognition of her considerable contribution to CISV International, CISV Japan and the CISV Asia Pacific region.



We are aware that CISV is very fortunate to have many volunteers who have consistently contributed to the organization over a long period of time. For that reason, in 2012 we created a new award:



Outstanding Contribution Award

Jennifer Watson, CISV Great Britain

Jennifer receiving her award at AIM 2012

"Following in her mother's footsteps, Jennifer has tirelessly dedicated thousands of hours towards the success and development of the organization nationally and internationally."

As National Secretary Jennifer is a font of CISV knowledge and history. She is never missing from a meeting and always has so much wisdom to offer. Recently she has been instrumental in the development of two new Chapters in the UK in addition to her long list of other tasks. CISV Great Britain would be lost without her - she keeps us in shape. The time that she must spend week in week out doing many necessary tasks is impressive."

Jennifer's commitment and hard work internationally has ensured that we fulfil our research priorities. Serving as part of (and Chair) of the Research Committee in many of its guises. Always ready for a challenge, Jennifer recently took up a PhD and moved to London in order to carry on with her important work. It is rare to see a volunteer with such long standing commitment, enthusiasm and drive to move things forward!"

CISV educational programmes

Village our flagship camp for 11-year-olds/28 days

Interchange a 2-way family exchange for 12 to 15-year-olds/14-28 days

Youth Meeting a smaller, regional camp for 12 to 19+ year-olds/8 or 15 days

Step Up (formerly Summer Camp) a camp planned by staff and participants aged 14-15 years /23 days

Seminar Camp a camp planned and run by participants aged 17-18 years/21 days

International People's Project an international community project for adults aged 19+/14-23 days

Mosaic a local community development project for all ages/up to 12 months

Help us to make a difference

- You can start today by getting in touch with your local CISV Chapter or National Association.
- You can help deliver one of our international programmes or local projects
- You can get involved in the running of your local Chapter (if you don't have a local Chapter, perhaps you could help us to get one started!)
- You can give money or donations-in-kind to support our activities and programmes
- You can work with us to develop community initiatives to address local issues

For details of your nearest Chapter, please get in touch with CISV in your country; you will find their email address on the back cover.

Thank you!

Most of CISV fundraising happens at the local and national level, as our National Associations and Chapters receive vital support from individuals, businesses, trusts, foundations and government grants. Thank you to all of our supporters worldwide.

CISV International is extremely grateful to our supporters and partners. With their assistance, we are able to invest in and develop our educational programmes, support our Chapters, widen access to our activities, and to develop and deliver training for our volunteers.

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For more details about
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