

History in Brief

AEFJN was founded by General Superiors in Rome in 1988 who saw with sorrow that, for all the missionary and development work the Church was doing, Africa's economic situation was still weak. In spite of the natural resilience and initiative of African people, it was clear that European economic policies were undermining their progress. Rome saw an opportunity for religious returning to Europe from the missions to use their grassroots experience and contacts to influence policy-makers in Europe. From this 'mustard seed' the Network has now spread to eleven European countries through the development of 'Antennae', national groups of religious working with a common aim: to address the causes of poverty arising from one-sided economic relations. The Network is now developing in Africa, too. This will help more Africans become aware of how international economic policies threaten their countries and guide them in how to work towards a more prosperous future.

