

Strategic Plan of Itaka-Escolapios, 2015-2021

(Approved by the Advisory Board and the Board of Trustees on January 28, 2015)

A. MISSION

Contributing to build a more fair and fraternal society through education and evangelization, especially of the poorest and most vulnerable children and youth, being a platform of shared mission and a space of call and participation in the Pious Schools.

B. VISION

To be an established international network with local roots, integrated in the life and mission of the Demarcations and Fraternities of the Pious Schools, a promoter of the Piarist Christian community and its evangelizing, educational and social work updating the steps of St. Joseph of Calasanz.

C. PRINCIPLES AND VALUES

- i. **Christian and piarist identity.** Taking the Gospel as fundamental inspiration, Itaka-Escolapios participates in the Church from the charism of Calasanz and specific mission of the Pious Schools, to which it belongs.
- ii. **Option for the poor.** Itaka-Escolapios responds to the reality of impoverished people and works to eliminate the causes of poverty and exclusion, with special attention to the needs of children and youth.
- iii. **Integral Mission.** Itaka-Escolapios acts on the three dimensions of the piarist mission (education, evangelization and social transformation), from the conviction that they enrich and provide feedback to each other.
- iv. **Voluntary commitment.** Itaka-Escolapios bases its action on volunteer work, opening spaces and giving it priority and promotion in all its projects, for its educational value and as an expression of generous commitment to others.
- v. **Responsible management.** Itaka-Escolapios is committed to teamwork, building trust and austerity in performance, as well as to long-term sustainability (people, identity and economic resources) of its projects.
- vi. **Networking.** Itaka-Escolapios understands itself as a piarist network operating with criteria such as solidarity, interdependence and shared responsibility.

D. STRATEGIC LINES

I. To contribute to the strengthening of the Pious Schools and the growth of those participating in them.

1. To Support the Calasanz Movement, globally and in specific places, providing human resources, knowledge, organization and training, as well as helping to settle the vocational culture.
2. To assist in the implementation and development of Piarist presences.
3. To promote the initiation and consolidation of the Fraternities, offering collaboration with their learning processes and those of the piarist religious life.
4. To promote new initiatives to expand and strengthen the social base of Itaka-Escolapios (volunteers, collaborative partners, etc.) in conveying attitude towards shared mission and the Piarist Christian community.
5. To provide Piarists, members of Fraternities and participants of shared mission and discernment stages with a significant and demanding commitment space, adapted to different life situations which can gradually grow.

II. To enrich the piarist mission in its educational, pastoral and social transformation dimension, in response to identified needs.

6. To boost the resources provided to schools in order to advance as a comprehensive full time school: values education, awareness campaigns, social and educational initiatives, pastoral training, promotion and support of volunteering.
7. To encourage the link of Itaka-Escolapios with the educational and parish community (families, teachers and staff, alumni, neighbourhood) through communication actions and specific proposals.
8. To strengthen the institutional alliance between each piarist work with the headquarters of Itaka-Escolapios, inside the demarcational chart and the local piarist presence.
9. To implement initiatives to address the new needs that arise in each place, especially those which place us as a reference entity in the socio-educational field.
10. To enhance the quality of our projects looking after the different phases: identification, implementation and evaluation, using tools that help the continuous improvement of processes.
11. To improve the economic sustainability of the projects, using both local and network resources, promoting public, private and church financing and exploiting the possibilities of the places where we work.

III. To work and share in the piarist network, as well as in church and social networks.

12. To introduce the reality of Itaka-Escolapios and the possibilities it offers to Demarcations, Fraternities and piarist mission to grow.
13. To strengthen the Itaka-Escolapios network in the existing sites, especially in identity, participation in the network and local presence.
14. To generate the international teams needed to attend the network, in connection with reinforced demarcational and local teams, all of them having their own managers, planning and targets.
15. Promote and participate in alliances with like-minded church, educational and social networks.