

# Changed People change the World.

Project brochure  
Youngstars International



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### **Youngstars International**

As the umbrella organization for world-wide youth work, YI has been promoting the establishment of Youngstars groups around the world since 2004 through networking, further education,

and knowledge exchange. The umbrella organization currently consists of 12 member countries: Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Romania, Poland, Latvia, Moldova, Bulgaria, Hungary, Ukraine, Brazil, and Cuba.



# 1 Encouraging youth – changing lives

Millions of children and young people are left alone in their personal development towards becoming resilient individuals and are not supported in tapping into their God-given potential. Structures are lacking in which they can learn what true unity means, what it means to take responsibility, to grow in faith, and to be able to cope with everyday challenges.

*Appreciation Resilience Group management  
Knowledge Community Empathy Faith  
Teamwork Conflict resolution Friendship Honesty  
Creativity Growth Self-confidence*

## Why

What children learn early on shapes them for a lifetime. All too often, their learning and upbringing are left to chance because no real alternative is available. The reason for this is the lack of structures for building a holistic Christian youth work that uniquely and formatively promotes faith, community, and personal development.

“Youngstars challenges people and enables them to grow into their God-given potential.”

Hensie Van der Merwe,  
President Youngstars International

## What

Youngstars International fills this gap by establishing youth group work around the world, where children and young people can grow up and beyond themselves in a meaningful environment.

For strong youth group work. Worldwide and with God’s help.

“Youth group work is a great thing. It would be so nice if even more children across Europe could experience youth groups.”

Andy and Michelle Flückiger,  
Network Partners in Latvia

## 2 The project at a glance

### Goal

Youngstars International networks and expands existing youth group associations worldwide and supports the establishment of new structures in other countries without established christian youth work. YI thereby creates a strong global network of Youngstars groups that empowers children and young people.

### Initial situation

Delegates from 12 countries are already part of the YI movement. They actively participate in network activities and have been able to sustainably improve their youth group work through this exchange. Assessments by the umbrella organization show that there is potential and need for a YI movement in 60 more countries.

### Target group

Interested, aspiring Youngstars leaders in the countries defined for development (see 4. Project area).

### Measures

The umbrella organization supports Youngstars groups formations worldwide in the areas of development, coaching, and the implementation of projects such as events, courses, or camps, and initiates joint meetings to strengthen the network (see 3. How we build a Youngstars ministry). For the support of a country to be developed, YI employs qualified regional supervisors.

### Project phases

The countries where youth group work can be started immediately (see 4. Project area) will be supported first. The choice of country is left to the donor. E.g., Eritrea, Colombia, Portugal.

### Contact

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9000 St. Gallen

[www.youngstarsint.org](http://www.youngstarsint.org)

### Responsible for the project

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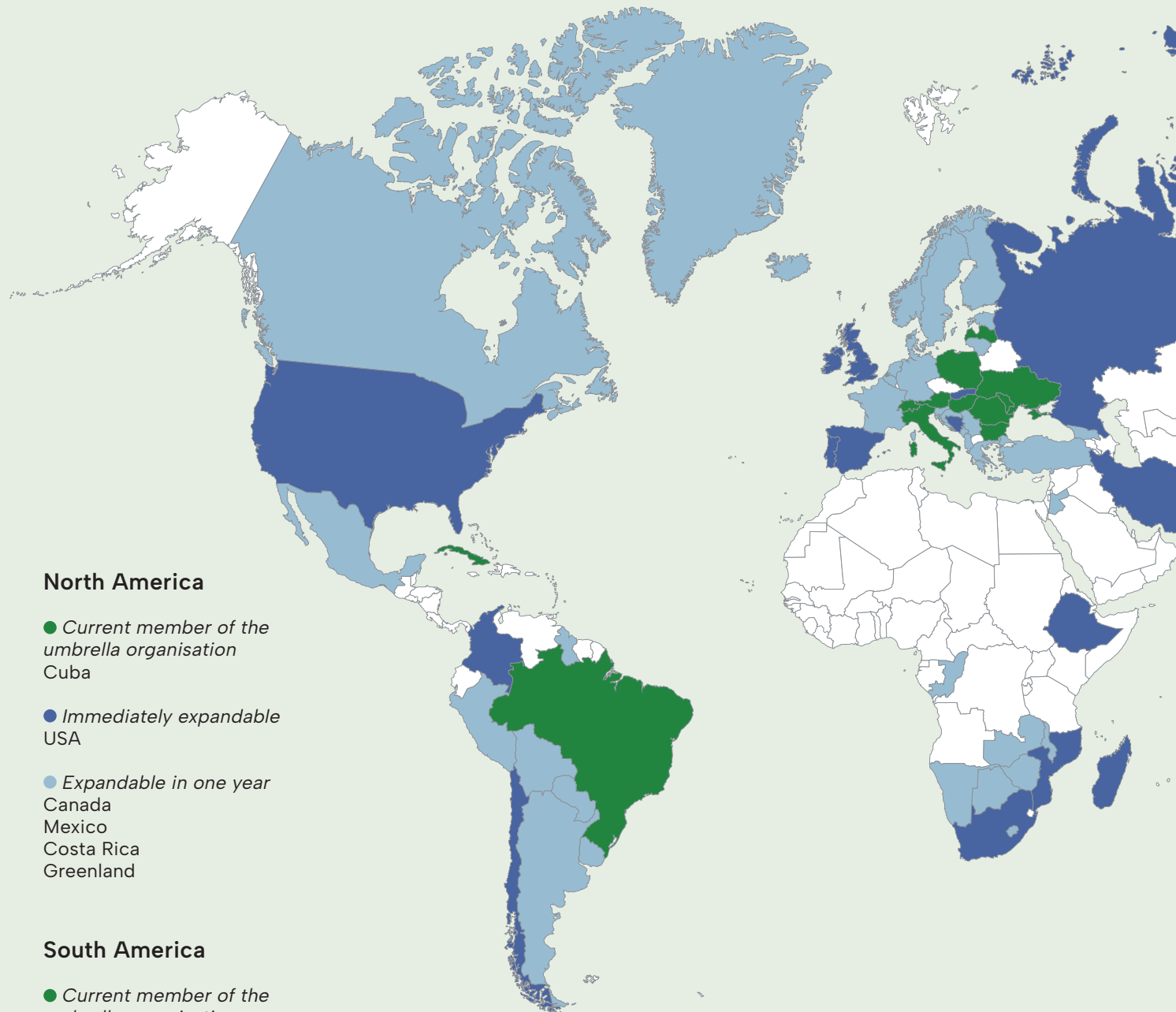


# 3 How we build a Youngstars ministry

The development of a new Youngstars ministry happens step by step up to the maintenance of a strong, vibrant network and regular training and further education opportunities. The following section explains these project steps.

| Project step                   | Content                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Clarifications                 | The project team evaluated, based on existing contacts, interested partners, or possible contexts, in which countries the establishment of a Youngstars movement would be feasible.                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Development                    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YI contacts potential Youngstars movements and supports committed leadership persons in building a national association.</li> <li>• YI supports local leadership persons in recruiting team members.</li> <li>• YI supports other YI members in organizing Youngstars group days and summer camps.</li> </ul>                                                     |
| Coaching                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YI coaches national coordinators.</li> <li>• YI provides advisory and supportive assistance with questions about state regulations.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Training and further education | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YI supports the implementation of projects such as events, courses, or camps.</li> <li>• YI develops context-sensitive training materials as a foundation for practical youth group work.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                              |
| Network                        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• YI organizes monthly online exchanges to strengthen its network and enable cross-continental knowledge sharing. These meetings are held virtually to facilitate participation from diverse regions.</li> <li>• Once a year, YI organizes a large-scale event in one of its member countries to promote personal interaction and strengthen motivation.</li> </ul> |

# 4 Project area



## North America

- *Current member of the umbrella organisation*  
Cuba
- *Immediately expandable*  
USA
- *Expandable in one year*  
Canada  
Mexico  
Costa Rica  
Greenland

## South America

- *Current member of the umbrella organisation*  
Brazil
- *Immediately expandable*  
Chile  
Colombia
- *Expandable in one year*  
Peru  
Argentina  
Uruguay  
Bolivien  
Venezuela  
Paraguay  
Guyana

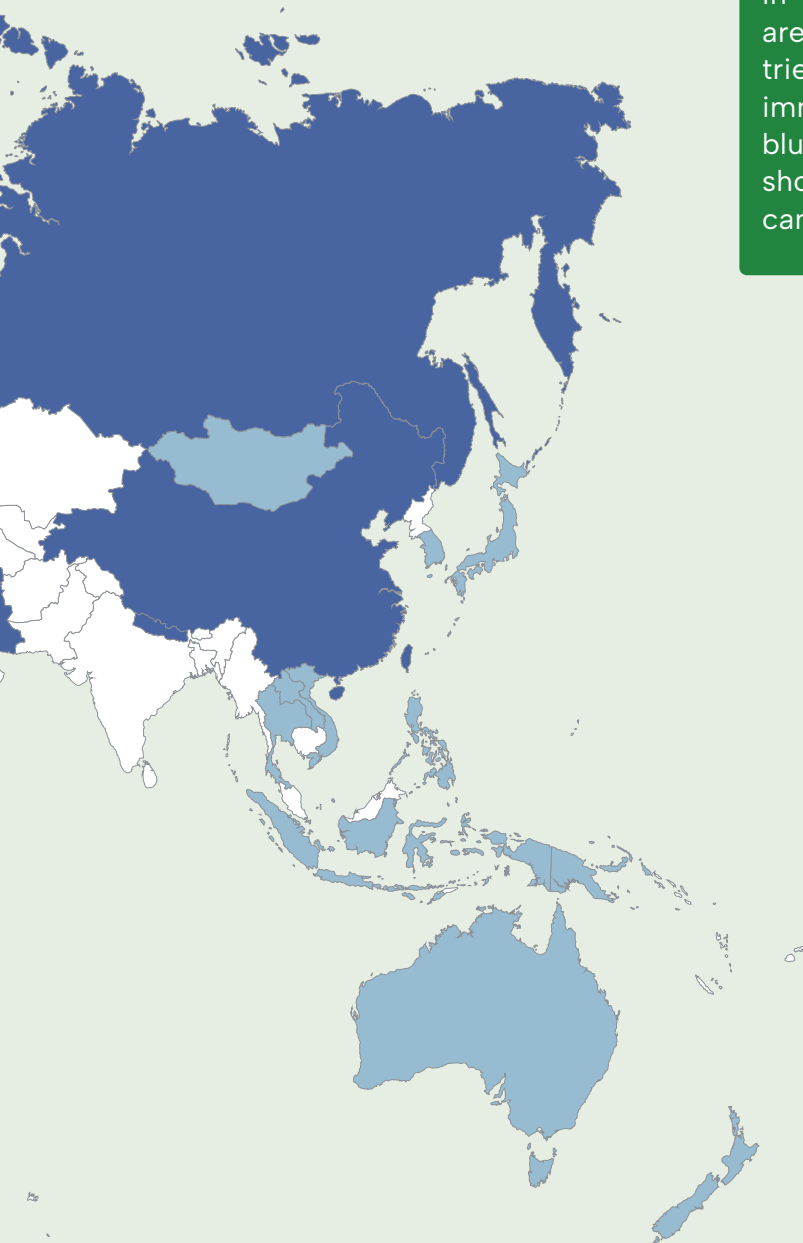
## Europe

- *Current member of the umbrella organisation*  
Switzerland  
Austria  
Italy  
Romania  
Poland  
Latvia  
Moldova
- *Immediately expandable*  
Bulgaria  
Hungary  
Ukraine  
Great Britain  
Ireland  
Portugal  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Slovakia  
Spain

- *Expandable in one year*  
Germany  
France  
Greece  
Scotland  
Belgium  
Netherlands  
Finland  
Denmark  
Norway  
Sweden

 INFO

In the green marked countries, youth groups are already present. In the violet marked countries, contacts are available and development is immediately possible upon funding. In the light blue marked countries, youth group movements should be developed. The country to be funded can be freely selected.



Iceland  
Estonia  
Lithuania  
Albania  
Malta  
Slovenia  
Montenegro  
Serbia  
Croatia

### Australia – Oceania

● *Expandable in one year*  
Papua New Guinea  
Indonesia  
Australia  
New Zealand

### Africa

● *Immediately expandable*  
Ethiopia  
South Africa  
Madagascar  
Mozambique

● *Expandable in one year*  
Botswana  
Namibia  
Zambia  
Zimbabwe  
Lesotho  
Malawi  
Congo

### Asia

● *Immediately expandable*  
China  
Iran  
Nepal  
Russia

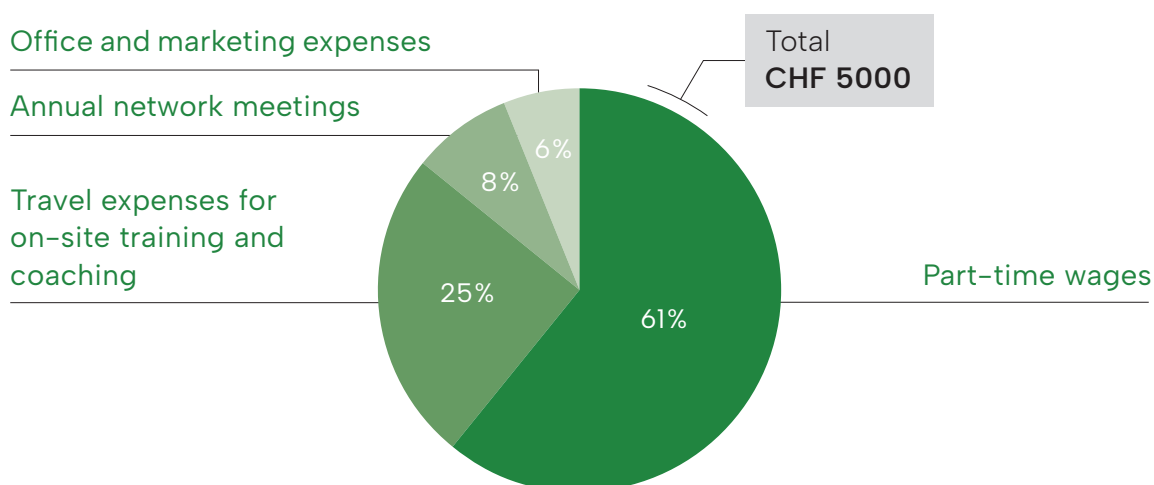
● *Expandable in one year*  
Japan  
Jordan  
Thailand  
Singapore  
South Korea  
Laos  
Philippines  
Turkey  
Vietnam  
Mongolia

## 5 Costs and financing plan

In addition to the 12 countries where a YI team has already been established, Youngstars International sees potential for building such teams in 60 more countries (see pages 6/7). This requires qualified regional supervisors who take care of the development work, coaching, further education, and network activities in the new countries.

### Costs

For the annual support (development, coaching, further education, networking) of a new country, the expenses would be divided as follows:



### Donations to measure: financing options

|                                                                   |                                                                     |                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Bronze plan</b><br><b>CHF 150</b><br>Enable training materials | <b>Silver plan</b><br><b>CHF 750</b><br>Finance a further education | <b>Gold plan</b><br><b>CHF 5000</b><br>Finance the development of a Youngstars Member work over a year |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

# 6 How we create independent Youngstars ministries

Through further education and courses, we bring important competencies to the countries that want to build up independent Youngstars members. This empowers them. An illustrative report of a further education for aspiring Youngstars leaders.

## Course Content

- Expert training in youth group technique, combined with experiential education principles and methods
- Application of what has been learned in planning and conducting one's own Youngstars afternoon
- Experiencing and understanding a unified program based on a Christian theme with a focus on youth group technique and experiential education

## Example of a daily program on the theme "I am the good shepherd"

### Entry Youngstars technique

The group builds an oven with a cooking chamber together and according to instructions from experienced youth group leaders and cooks their own lunch in it. *Takeaways: Youngstars technique*

### Morning Program

The participants visit a shepherd who explains to the group about his work with the animals. The group tries to guide the sheep themselves. As a deepening, the group immerses themselves together in the biblical text about the good shepherd in the Gospel of John and reflects on how the story relates to

the experienced reality of the shepherd. *Takeaways: Christian foundation, experiential education*

### Afternoon Program

In the afternoon, what was experienced and learned during the day flows into a cooperative Youngstars game, which could be applied 1 to 1 at a youth group afternoon. The content of the game: The teams are never allowed to let go of their entrusted "sheep" (a watermelon). This way, they practically experience what it can mean for a shepherd to look after his sheep and be a good shepherd.

*Takeaways: Implementation of what was experienced and learned as a Youngstars program*



# 7 The Team

Our team is resident and active in various countries.  
We are international and we are on site.

## Executive board



President  
**Hensie van der Merwe**  
Ukraine



Vice president  
**Rudolf Hächler**  
Austria



Secretary  
**Viktoria Rüdiger**  
Bulgaria



Treasurer  
**Mirjam Klausberger**  
Switzerland

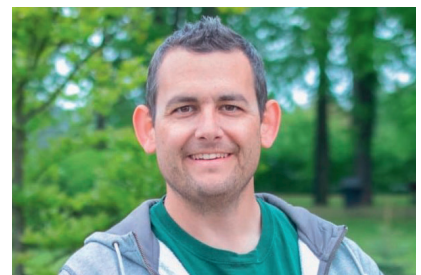


Board member  
**Jordelio Souza**  
Brazil

## Employed



Managing director  
**Cosmin Tamas**  
Romania



Communication  
**Marcel Klausberger**  
Switzerland

# 8 Contact

✉ [info@youngstarsint.org](mailto:info@youngstarsint.org)

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## **Euro bank account**

IBAN CH20 0900 0000 9106 2220 6

Bankkontonummer 91-62220-6

BIC POFICHBEXXX



## **CHF bank account**

IBAN CH83 0900 0000 8926 2592 3

Bankkontonummer 89-262592-3

BIC POFICHBEXXX



