We are territories
We are cities
We are municipalities
We are citizens

FAMSI
A vehicle to promote a fairer reality for everyone
The Andalusian Municipality Fund for International Solidarity, FAMSI, is a network of provincial and local governments. City Councils and provincial governments have been joined by other entities such as NGDOs, universities, foundations, research centres, rural development groups and businesses, that have added foreign action and solidarity to their tasks. The aim of the FAMSI is to bring about change conducive to building a fairer reality for everyone, through the active involvement of all the partner institutions and entities.

The FAMSI was created in 2000 with the aim of coordinating the interest and technical and financial resources directed to cooperation. Over the years, and with experience acquired, it has increased its activity by diversifying subject areas, scopes of action, working networks and regional and international impact.

- It encourages an exchange of experiences between Andalusia and other world regions.
- It takes part in preparing autonomous, national and international strategies of international cooperation and development.
- It connects the players in local decentralised cooperation in Andalusia with those in other countries in the north and south, as well as with communities undergoing socioeconomic development processes, with the support of international cooperation.
The Sustainable Development Goals include the local role played in the creation of sustainable cities and communities, among the challenges of an ambitious action plan with 17 targets and 169 economic, social and environmental goals over a fifteen year period. The FAMSI supports this new commitment, placing these objectives and goals as an essential point of reference for all its solidarity and cooperation initiatives.

**Networks, alliances and initiatives to transform the world**

The work of the FAMSI is carried out in a number of different areas. From traditional international cooperation based on development support and humanitarian aid, to the creation of specialised networks to provide the necessary skills and qualifications to the local technical teams and the public on matters related to development, awareness and education on development geared to the population in general, and political and institutional impact; through its participation in international networks, the Andalusian territory and its local and provision interest and experiences take part in the international debate on key issues regarding the development of communities.

The fight against climate change, migrations, the construction of diverse and peaceful societies, compliance with international legislation, the pursuit of gender equality and increased opportunities for women and girls, the eradication of hate crimes, the achievement of decent employment for all, freedom of sexual orientation and gender identity, the elimination of all forms of violence, the fight against food waste, the right to food and the eradication of poverty, access to water, education and qualification, the right of freedom of expression, participative democracy and the internationalisation of cities; all these and many other issues are covered by the programmes and projects addressed by the FAMSI.
To this end, it has forged many alliances within Andalusia and abroad which have allowed it to place Andalusia in a relevant position in terms of international action, at all times underlining its municipal nature and its experience in the management of public policies.

Institutional relationships and programmes in Andalusia

The FAMSI promotes the participation of city councils, provincial governments and member collaborating institutions in its various programmes. Its action plan includes certain themes such as social inclusion, migration policies, equality issues and all municipal competencies concerning solidarity and development policies in the territories.

Education for development, awareness campaigns, training, research, promoting meetings, seminars and debates, advice and employment, all play a relevant role in the entity’s activities, further strengthened by the relaunch of the ‘Aula Solidaria’ tele-training platform (www.aulasolidaria.org).

Foreign cooperation

International cooperation forms part of the broad strategy of relationships between territories and cities, combining classic cooperation with advocacy alliances and networks.

In Africa, direct actions are under way in the Maghrib, particularly from the technical office in Tangiers, in the regions of the North and with the municipalities connected with the AN-MAR network, in various development sectors. As for the countries and actions, there is a close relationship with the Sahel in triangulation and south-south cooperation actions, with Morocco as the focal point. In the West Africa-Sahel region, work is mainly concentrated in Mauritania.
and Senegal, involving a cooperation strategy designed to promote basic public services. In the Southern Africa region, we must mention the work carried out for over eleven years in Malawi, in the sector of Integral Rural Development. In Latin America, work has been done in recent years in Cuba, Haiti and the Dominican Republic in the Caribbean region, and in Ecuador, Bolivia, Peru and Colombia in the Andean region. In these countries, action has always focused on territorial human development at three levels: institutional, social and economic.

Moreover, identification and technical exchange missions such as those carried out in Ecuador, Mauritania, Morocco, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Malawi and Haiti are becoming more frequent.

In all these initiatives, the qualification and specialisation of technicians and local and provincial elected officials are key to ensuring the defence of the common good through the promotion of public policies that place citizens at the forefront, both in terms of the relevance of their participation and as the target audience towards which they are directed.

Our work in European programmes

As a municipality-based entity, the FAMSI’s partners include city councils and provincial governments, plus local, provincial and regional entities specialising in many areas: migration management, social economy and solidarity, local and participative communication, local economic development, among others.

On the basis of this experience, we encourage participation in projects which, through the FAMSI, can contribute knowledge and know-how; values which are added to the knowledge held on each of the subject areas and that of other entities, all geared towards promoting values and changes in attitude in pursuit of a fairer and more equitable society.
In this regard, the FAMSI has collaborated with local and regional governments of Tunisia, Lebanon, Italy, Romania, Croatia, Bulgaria, France, the United Kingdom, Latvia, Portugal, Germany, Cyprus, Greece, Belgium and other territories in Latin American and Africa that have joined these triangular cooperation experiences, such as Brazil, Mozambique, Senegal or Cape Verde.

Education for Development is a FAMSI vehicle designed to work in close proximity at a regional level on the issues which make up some of the great challenges of the current situation, helping young generations to face the future with a broader approach and a deeper understanding of the complexity of a globalised world. Thus, many of the European programmes are focused on the younger segment of the population addressing, at different educational levels, the management of the migration situation, responsible consumption, good and environmental conservation, the adoption of production models that are less life threatening, the fight against discrimination, the defence of freedom of sexual orientation, the eradication of violence towards women and hate crimes.

All these issues have been the focus of initiatives to which the FAMSI contributes its close relationship with the population through city councils and provincial governments, and its knowledge of public proximity policies and vice versa; that is, enabling local and provincial authorities and their technical teams to take part in European projects with partners from different countries and different realities, and to bring these issues closer to the grassroots, through the activities contained in the various programmes.

In any event, the idea is to get local governments to participate in global action, aiming to transform global reality right from each municipality and assisted by their knowledge.
The voice of local and provincial governments in a worldwide context

Right from the start, the FAMSI has sought to get municipalities to participate in the design of global policies, to have a voice on the stages in which the strategic decisions on our reality are made. To this end, it has spent decades strengthening alliances all over the world to bring local representation to the arena and to a management style that places people at the core of public policies.

Moreover, the Andalusian city councils and provincial governments, like in the rest of the country, have become true best practices testing grounds that have consolidated and perfected the democratic history of our country and become a reference, thanks to their positive impact and versatility, in decentralisation processes in other countries in Latin America and Africa.

The FAMSI today plays a key role in various international networks. To begin with, it is an active member of the Confederation of Cooperation Funds CONFOCO. At a Community level, it forms part of the European Alliance of Local Networks for International Cooperation, along with the Italian Funds (FELCOS, FPMCI), the Fund from Extremadura (FELCODE) and the Inter-municipal fund for Cooperation and Development of Portugal (RICD), and Platform, a European network of local and regional governments for development. Moreover, it has always promote the strength of municipal cooperation in the various scopes of action:

AN^MAR FEDERATION OF LOCAL GROUPS IN THE NORTH OF MOROCCO AND ANDALUSIA, of which the FAMSI is a founding member. It began as a network of municipalities in 2006, eventually becoming a legal entity in 2014 as a federation with over 60 local entities.

http://www.an-mar.org
THE PROGRAMME OF LOCAL MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT AND INTEGRAL Cooperation of the Territory in Morocco, Mauritania, Senegal and Tunisia.

The pioneering initiative to create the WORLD LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FORUM (SEVILLE, SPAIN), whose first edition took place in 2011, followed by the second in Foça do Iguaçu (Brazil) in 2013, and a third edition in Turin (Italy in 2015; in 2017, the World Local Economic Development Forum held its fourth edition in Praia, Cape Verde.

THE ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN UNITED CITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, CGLU, the organisation boasting the most representation of local and regional governments in the world and highly active in Local Economic Development. As part of CGLU, the FAMSI forms part of the Political Council of the Entity, shares the chairmanship of Local Economic Development Committee with the Canadian Federation of Municipalities (FCM) and takes part in the Global Taskforce, a network of international networks of local governments with enormous relevance worldwide.

As a member of the CGLU, FAMSI has taken part in the summit Habitat III on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development which culminated with the approval of the New Urban Agenda, and is collaborating with its partners in the dissemination and implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Sustainable Development Targets. In addition, its participation in CGLU has enabled the FAMSI to play a relevant role in the Summit of Local and Regional Leaders held in parallel to the World Assembly of Local and Regional Governments in Bogota (Colombia, 2016), leading the Local Economic Development Workshop in collaboration with the Canadian Federation of Municipalities, with the participation of over one
hundred institutions and presenting a key political document on local economic development and SDGs. 
https://www.uclg.org/es

LATIN AMERICAN LOCAL AUTHORITIES ALLIANCE (ALLAS). This is an initiative headed by Mexico City, born from a group of entities working towards the internationalisation of cities. It is currently a solid alliance of organisations and cities with an intense educational and political activity designed to increase the international projection of cities and best practices. 
https://www.projectoallas.net/

MERCOCIUDADES, the main network of local governments of the Mercosur, founded in 1995, has a fluid relationship with the FAMSI both in terms of consulting tasks in urban economy and online training and participation in FAMSI projects, such as the Hercules initiative designed for training and specialising young people in international cooperation action and internships in international bodies. www.mercociudades.org/
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You can find us in
www.andaluciasolidaria.org
www.aulasolidaria.org
www.transparenciafamsi.org

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