



ΠΦΠΓÚΠ ΘJΘ ΗΛ VΦSTΘ, ΠΦΠΓÚΠ ΘÍDΘ ΗΛ ΣSCVCHΛDΘ,

# ANNUAL REPORT 2023

ΠΦΠΓVΠΛ ΜΣΠΤΣ ΗΛ ΦΜΛGΦΠΛDΘ

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## Words from the National Director

Paul writes in his first letter to the Corinthians "Now, brothers and sisters, I want to remind you of the gospel I preached to you, which you received and on which you have taken your stand." A little later in the same chapter he reminds them of a central point of the why and how of their mission "If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. 14 And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith." (1 Cor. 15:1,13-14). What wonderful news this is, the hope we have in the resurrection of Christ. In the midst of our context marked by uncertainty at the socio-political level, new waves of migration and the change in the process to enter university that is affecting the lives of many students. It has been a great joy and challenge to study together the letter of 1 Corinthians as the book of the year and to deepen its application in the university and professional context. We have learned a lot about life in community, love, servant leadership and spiritual gifts.

For CECE it has been a year of working on the transition process of the National Director and the great joy of participating in the IFES World Assembly with a large delegation from Ecuador active in serving.

Even in the midst of the challenges of the current context, we continue to see God sustaining the mission in the country's universities. Currently, we have 40 student coordinators, who serve and proclaim Jesus with their peers every week in 26 active University Groups (GU), with an average of 135 students participating weekly, in 25 universities in 12 cities across the country.

With creativity and consistency we have proclaimed and served with Bible studies, workshops, spaces for building community and events. This fruitful work does not happen by itself. While it is true that the university students are the protagonists of the mission, each part of the team is important. It has been a great privilege to serve alongside the National Board (NB), the Pastoral Staff Team, the administrative assistant, the members of the National Student Coordination (CNE), the Communication Team (EqCom), our Mission Partners, partner organizations and churches during these four years and I thank God for each one of your lives. Thank you for being part of reaching the University with the Gospel! I close with the words of Paul in 1 Corinthians 15:58 "Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."



Ruth Hicks  
CECE National Director



# Campus Ministries

## From the University Campus...

The heart of our mission as CECE is to share, form and send to serve. Here, we will share about the different spaces and strategies with which we serve as a community.

## University Groups (GU)

The GUs are a key part and the core of mission to the University. They are small communities in mission that share Jesus through community life, acts of service and Bible studies each week.

**ESTUDIOS DE 1 CORINTIOS**  
CECE UNEMI

**HORARIO**  
MIÉRCOLES 11:30AM

**LUGAR**  
CRAI PRIMERA PLANTA

**CONTACTO**  
JOEL 0997079562  
JUAN 0994938634

¿QUIERES DESCUBRIR LO QUE NINGÚN OJO HA VISTO, NINGÚN OÍDO HA ESCUCHADO Y NINGUNA MENTE HA IMAGINADO?

ΠΗΓΟΥΘ ΕΘΗ ΗΛ ΒΨΤΘ, ΠΗΓΟΥΘ ΘΙΔΘ ΗΛ ΣΣCVΧΛΔΘ, ΠΗΓΟΥΘ ΜΣΠΤΣ ΗΛ ΦΜΛΓΦΠΛΔΘ



Currently, we have 26 GUs, meeting in 25 universities in 12 cities across the country, with an average of 135 students participating each week. This year we explored the book of 1 Corinthians and the Gospel of John through Bible Studies. It continues to be a challenge for some groups to find a common time to meet face-to-face and in some cases they continue to use a combination of in-person and virtual meetings.

The following chart shows the participation of students in GU's each week at a national level:

Trimester	Total
October - December 2022	118
January - March 2023	103
April - June 2023	166
July - September 2023	153
<b>Average</b>	<b>135</b>



Trimester	# GUs	#Decisions to follow Christ	# Non believing participants	# Universities
October - December 2022	25	0	16	24
January - March 2023	25	0	18	23
April - June 2023	29	1	19	25
July - September 2023	25	3	16	21
<b>Average</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>23</b>

Melanie is studying Food Agroindustry at Yachay. She helped CECE form a group inviting students on the university's social media, and around 50 students expressed interest in attending the CECE meetings. Melanie was not a believer, but as a result of getting involved in the GU she is affirming her faith. Thanks to people like Jonathan and Johii (graduate volunteers) who have worked to reopen the group at Yachay.



*Students at Yachay*

Students continue to use Proxi and Uncover as ways to share the Gospel. They have also worked on being communities in active mission and to make each GU visible in the University.

Other ways of proclaiming the Gospel have been the workshops organized by each GU, which aim to respond to specific needs of their classmates. For example, some themes have been: Enebollado or Salchipapas: Student Nutrition, Aim for 10/10; Real Love or Fatal Attraction and Developing your Life Project, which allow sharing God's love in very practical ways and consolidate friendships in the groups.

The Staff Team has sought to accompany and work with the GU's in all the cities. For several Staff members this means visiting the groups 1-2 times per semester, with discipleship meetings using zoom. The National Director also visited students, coordinators, Staff and graduates in the cities of Guayaquil, Quito, Milagro, Cuenca, Loja, Ambato, Manta, Portoviejo, Ibarra and Babahoyo. It is always a great joy to share these times.



## Pioneer Groups (GP)

A very important part of the proclamation, formation and service occurs with the Pioneer Groups, which are GU in new campuses or universities around the country. The work with GP has always been part of CECE's DNA, but it has consolidated and grown with the constant and joyful work of Guadalupe Muñoz, who serves with a national role of coordination of the GP since 2020. We are grateful for the financial support from the IFES Breaking New Grounds area to continue with the work of the Pioneer Groups.

We thank God for the new groups that have opened in Portoviejo, Yachay and a virtual group at UNEMI in Milagro. It has been challenging for other groups to meet regularly such as UTB in Babahoyo, UEB in Guaranda and UTN in Ibarra. The repioneering work in Loja has yielded very good results, but we continue to pray for the consolidation of groups that are in the pioneer phase. The following table summarizes the current status of the Pioneer Groups since 2020.

Pioneer Groups Summary 2020-2023	Current Status
Cuenca	pioneer
Manta	pioneer
UPSE Santa Elena	not active
Portoviejo <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UTM</li> <li>• San Gregorio</li> </ul>	pioneer pioneer
UNEMI Milagro <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• presencial</li> <li>• virtual</li> </ul>	consolidated pioneer
IKIAM Tena	not active
ESPE Latacunga	pioneer
UEB Guaranda	not active
UTB Babahoyo	pioneer
Guayaquil <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• U. Agraria</li> <li>• UPS</li> </ul>	consolidated not active
Ibarra <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Yachay</li> <li>• UTN</li> </ul>	pioneer not active

\*Pioneer: A campus or university where, for the first time, CECE is initiating work to form a GU.

Re-pioneer work (2020-2023)	Actual Status
Ambato	consolidated
Guayaquil U Artes	consolidated
Loja <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UNL</li> <li>• UTPL</li> </ul>	consolidated consolidated
Quito <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• UPS</li> <li>• UDLA</li> <li>• UTE</li> <li>• EPN</li> <li>• UCE Dorado</li> <li>• USFQ</li> </ul>	consolidated pioneer not active not active consolidated pioneer



\*Repioneer: It is a campus or university where CECE has had an established GU before, but is currently replanting the group.

"Matthew is studying Civil Engineering at UTM. He is passionate about sharing the Good News of Jesus everywhere he goes. A few weeks ago I asked how the meeting went, to which Matthew replied:

"Very well! I had already told some of my classmates about God and they seemed encouraged. But because of some issues we had not been able to pray together. I had also mentioned to them about the CECE group. So, without expecting it, they came to the GU meeting and there in the study right in the application question of study 6 of 1 Corinthians, was the question about getting to know Christ. And they accepted. After months of sharing with them about Jesus, today was the day."



The GU continued to meet and Matthew invited his classmates to explore Luke's Uncover. During vacation time they had meetings in the park to strengthen the community"

Andrea Utreras, Pastoral Staff for Portoviejo and Manta.

## National Student Coordination (CNE)

The National Student Coordination (CNE) is fundamental to the life and mission of CECE. Our student coordinators guide and move campus work forward, and their participation directs our mission from the grassroot level. Being part of the CNE contributes to the growth of the students. We thank God for this team which has been so committed serving this year in spaces such as the National Camp (CN), Student Leaders Training (EFE) and other formation spaces.

We want to thank all the hard work and dedicated service of this year's CNE: Marilín García, Jéssica Angos, Lisseth Muñoz, Kerly Cando, Jordano Sornoza, Juan Andrade, Joel Sarabia, Isaac Peralta, Lady Suconota, Briana Micolta and Isaac Gómez.



You can read more testimonies here: [Crecer en liderazgo y servicio - CECE \(somoslacece.com\)](https://somoslacece.com)

"The CNE is a space of service that allows you to grow in different aspects, many times you will feel challenged to recognize and understand more closely the needs of the university context and you will find yourself in constant growth, preparation and guidance to respond from the word of God, with love and mercy. Serving in the CNE has brought a lot of lessons to my life and it is my desire that more students can grow, connect with God and with the university".

Jéssica Angos, Quito

## National Camp

From March 7-10, we had our National Camp 2023, at "El Refugio" in La Troncal. It was our annual camp for students and professionals, in which we explored the book of 1 Corinthians, discovering what: "no eye has seen, no ear has heard and no mind has imagined" through different spaces such as liturgy, art, small groups, workshops, games and biblical expositions.

More than 100 people participated, including students, professionals and Staff from all over the country. We experienced a very enriching time of learning in community.

We are grateful for the excellent work of the CNE, the Staff team and our dear Brazilian friends from IFES, Ricardo and Ruth Borges, who were with us as biblical expositors.

We invite you to listen to the biblical expositions here:

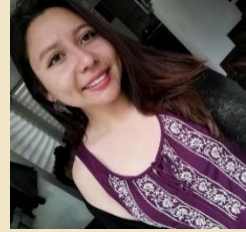
[https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL\\_GlggOkTajPjmEbKDO1JmG4n2QHvCP2s&si=A1SPYbYLoYysSRIJ](https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL_GlggOkTajPjmEbKDO1JmG4n2QHvCP2s&si=A1SPYbYLoYysSRIJ)







"The CN 2023 impacted my life, many people had told me how transforming and healing the CECE camps are. I loved feeling so welcomed by the community, I understood the value of having people around to push you to keep searching God. 1 Corinthians changed the perspective in which I looked at many areas of my life. Going deeper into God's true love filled my heart and answered some of my doubts! I learned a lot, shared and made friends with students from different cities"



Emily Jácome, Quito

## CECE Anniversary – CECE de Corazón

We celebrate the CECE anniversary during the month of April. In 2023, we are grateful for 32 years of institutional life. CECE de Corazón reminds us of our roots and our identity with three central elements: celebration, communication and an invitation to get involved. Being CECE de Corazón means being active in your space as a student, Mission Partner, Staff and professional. Being CECE de Corazón is an attitude and commitment to God's mission.

This year, our celebration focused on sharing testimonies of lives impacted by the CECE mission and raising funds for the participation of the IFES World Assembly delegation. One way to make the mission visible are CECE products (cap, t-shirt, stickers and more) available for purchase at the [CECE shop](#)

You are always invited to be a Mission Partner, who pray and/or gives to Staff To sign up to receive news and give in Ecuador click this link: [Dona - CECE \(somoslacece.com\)](#)

Support from outside Ecuador can be given through IFES at this link: [Welcome to our New Giving Platform! - IFES \(ifesworld.org\)](#)



## Mission resources

### Training Modules

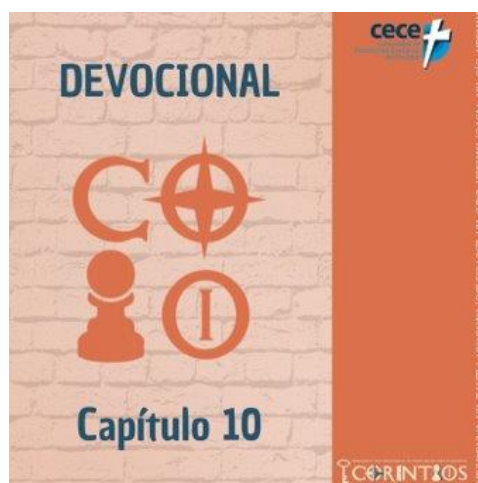
This year we have continued to use the training modules in University and Graduate Groups. The main objective of the material is to deepen the formation processes for students and help them create bridges to dialogue on current issues in the University. The topics being used are: Leadership, Healthy Interpersonal Relationships, Art and Faith, Science and Faith.

This year the Art and Faith resources were made available on our website, which includes the module, an art gallery and resources developed over the years. This was possible thanks to the work of Isabela Pineda (Graduate Volunteer) and the project she developed through the Logos and Cosmos Initiative.

We invite you to check it out here: <https://www.somoslacece.com/arte-y-fe/>

### Bible Studies, Devotionals and Intagram Live

During 2023, two series of Bible Studies on the book of the year 1 Corinthians and the Gospel of John were produced, which had a very good response in all the University Groups. We also shared 17 devotionals in the form of editable PDFs to complement and deepen the dialogue with the text of 1 Corinthians. The devotionals were shared between May and August and were combined with three Instagram Live with special guests to interact with questions and topics from the book of the year.



**The book:** *Connecting with the University* was published through IFES and is an excellent resource for dialogue in the University and building bridges between science and faith. Josué Olmedo collaborated in the compilation of the Spanish version. CECE printed 190 copies with the support of the Norwegian Alliance Mission in Guayaquil and this has been given to student coordinators, staff, leaders of supporting organisations, pastors and university professors.



## Student Leaders Training (EFE)



On the weekend of September 22-24, we held our Student Leaders Training (EFE 2023) in Riobamba. The theme was: "Strong, firm and courageous" with areas of training including: Bible, Tools for Mission and growing the character of the disciple of Christ, guided from the book of 1 Corinthians.

This event brought together 65 students, current and potential coordinators, Staff and Graduate Volunteers. We explored some of the metaphors of 1 Corinthians, with emphasis on the body, spiritual gifts, leadership and being athletes for the life of the student coordinator. We had different workshops, group work, dialogue tables, liturgy, CECE - IFES night, prayer and much more. We are grateful for all the deep conversations, questions and lessons learned.

“El EFE me capacitó para la misión en la Universidad, dándome herramientas de cómo podemos afrontar problemas en las universidades, siendo seguidores de Cristo. También saber que cada persona tiene un don que es un regalo de Dios para servir a la comunidad. Me llevo el desafío de compartir con mis amigos el Evangelio, con el ánimo que recibo del CECE me alienta a no avergonzarme del Evangelio y seguir firme en la misión”.



Jordy Apolo, Loja

## World Student Day

As part of our big international IFES family, we celebrated World Student Day (WSD) on October 20. This year's theme was: "Persevere" An invitation to be resilient, courageous witnesses and to have joy even in adversity. It was 48 hours of prayer to celebrate all that God is doing in the universities and to pray for students around the world.

The University Groups carried out different activities to pray and invite students to persevere as disciples of Jesus in mission at the university. We also participated in the virtual celebration of the Latin American region.

"Today we intentionally went out to the campus to pray with the students, we talked to get to know them more. In addition, we had a small devotional and prayer for the movements in Europe, the prayer cards and the IFES devotionals helped a lot".

UNEMI, Milagro



## COFA Scholarships

From 2016 to the present, CECE has been part of the COFA SCHOLARSHIP programme (Corporación Fondo Ágil) which originates from the Bread for the World organization in Germany. We thank God for the opportunity to continue supporting the education of 10 university students with scholarships between 2021-2024.

This year 10 student who receive scholarships have been actively serving in different areas of the CECE. This group participated in a COFA training workshop in October. It is important to highlight the service given by Jéssica Angos to coordinate the wider COFA student network. We would also like to thank our Staff Wendy Panchi for her coordination and followup of the scholarship recipients.





## Ministry to Professionals/Alumni

### Graduate Groups

CECE's impact is reflected in the university classroom and extends into the workplace. We pray for continued growth and strengthening of our work with professionals/alumni. We give thanks for Angie Défaz's coordination of this area of ministry at the national level, and also for her participation in the regional training process for professional leaders.

This year 2023 the participation of graduates in the National Camp was very significant. In addition, there has been consolidation of the Quito and Guayaquil groups. Some of the topics studied were: 1 Corinthians, Limits, Faith and Work, Mere Christianity, Romans, and What does it mean to be the Church, among others. A local retreat was held in Quito.



As part of the training, we affirm the participation of Wendy Panchi, Samantha Acaro, Angie Défaz, Ruth Hicks, Edison Vásquez and Andrea Lanás in modules 2 and 3 of the Contracorriente program virtually with the region. The first module Faith and Work of Contracorriente has been reproduced in the form of a workshop for professionals at the National Camp, and in a 5 weeks block in meetings of the Quito Groups during June.

We are thankful for the involvement of new professionals in mission activities supporting local groups, for example, in Yachay. Also the good participation of graduates in the transition celebrations in Guayaquil, Loja, Cuenca and Quito.



## Surviving the Transition

This year, a new cycle of Surviving the Transition was held for students who are going through the transition from university to professional life. Eighteen people from 4 cities signed up, 10 of them participated in a weekend retreat in July. Ten themes were explored with three objectives: to offer pastoral care, to cultivate a life of fidelity to Jesus after university, and to provide practical tools to live this transition in a healthy way.

We invite professionals to continue to be an active part of CECE, serving as Staff, Graduate Volunteers and Mission Partners.



## Graduate Volunteers

We are thankful for the service of our Graduate Volunteers, who have given between 8-10 hours per month of their time and gifts on a voluntary basis for the benefit of the Local Groups. Currently, we have 13 Graduate Volunteers in 4 cities.



The following people completed their service in this role in March 2023: Karolyne Saltos, Diana Cortés, Michael Ojedis, Daniela Merchán, Karol Guallachico, Raquel Chinchin, Jocelyn Herrera.

Continuing to serve in this role are: Edison Vásquez, Sara Terán, Angie Défaz, Álvaro Pérez, David Vera, Isabela Pineda, Valeria Castro, Tatiana Murillo, Jonathan Guangancela, Andrea Lanas, Samantha Acaro, Jonathan Lema and Milena Calderón.

## Logos and Cosmos Initiative

The Logos and Cosmos Initiative (LCI) is a project of IFES with the support of the John Templeton Foundation. The ILC has a presence in 15 countries in Latin America and Francophone Africa. The purpose is to strengthen the capacities of Christian scholars to foster intelligent dialogues and practices between their academic disciplines and Christian theology.

In 2023, Isabela Pineda completed her Level 2 project and Álvaro Pérez started his. Isabela's project culminated in February with the publication of a selection of Faith and Art resources on the CECE website and the organization of a panel discussion on Art and Faith.

The academic panel discussion "Art and Faith" was held at the Faculty of Architecture and Urbanism of the Universidad Central del Ecuador, with the contribution of three panelists: M.Sc. Agustín Garcells, Professor and researcher in Art and Theology; Ms. Josselyn Herrera: Visual Artist from PUCE; M.Sc. Sergio Vidal: Musician and composer graduated from UDLA.

After the presentation of the panelists, the importance of establishing dialogues between art and faith was affirmed, and a workshop was offered to promote this dialogue with students of the University.



In addition, due to her experience with the Art and Faith project, Isabela shared a presentation on Art and Faith at the IFES World Assembly in August.

Alvaro Perez's level 2 project consists of exploring the topic: Scientific and theological perspectives on gene editing and bioethics. There are three elements of the project including an interview with an expert in the field, writing a scientific article and holding an academic panel discussion in the university that is planned for the first week of February 2024.

## Staff Team

CECE Pastoral Staff walk alongside student coordinators, offering guidance and resources to serve on campus. The Staff accompany, disciple, form and model with their lives the integrity, the sharing of the Gospel and the love for the Word of God.

There are currently 13 Pastoral staff who accompany 27 University Groups in 13 cities of Ecuador. Each Staff member serves part-time and their work is supported by a network of Mission Partners who sustain their work in prayer and offerings.

We are grateful for the excellent pastoral work of this team: Cristina Chiluiza (Ambato), Guadalupe Muñoz, Lizandro Bravo y Miguel Peñafiel (Guayaquil), Jouseth Moya, Andrea Utreras, Daniel Castillo, Wendy Panchi, Jeremy Guaña, Tatiana Vera (Quito), Carlos Ruiz, Eduardo Gutiérrez and Nathaly Chamba (Loja).



The biweekly team meetings and two annual retreats have been important spaces to nurture the team. During the year Miguel Peñafiel joined the team as Junior Staff in Guayaquil.

## National Team

We appreciate the work of the National Team, which meets weekly to guide the strategic areas of the CECE. This, in turn, is a space for leadership development. This team includes: Jouseth Moya (Communication), Andrea Utreras (Training), Guadalupe Muñoz (Pioneer Groups) and Ruth Hicks (National Director). Support is provided by Tatiana Paredes as Administrative Assistant and Angie Défaz from the Professional Coordination.

## Communication Team

A big thanks to the constant and creative work of the National Communication Team. The core team has been led by Jouseth Moya together with Jefferson Cuasque, Milena Calderón and Jaime Quishpe. Thanks to Jocelyn Herrera and Juan Vásquez who finished their service in the core team, but together with Génesis Benítez, David Bermeo, Fercho Vera, Filippo Toscano, Jimmy Sarango and Miguel Peñafiel have worked on specific projects as part of the support team. The following table summarizes the communication projects during 2023.

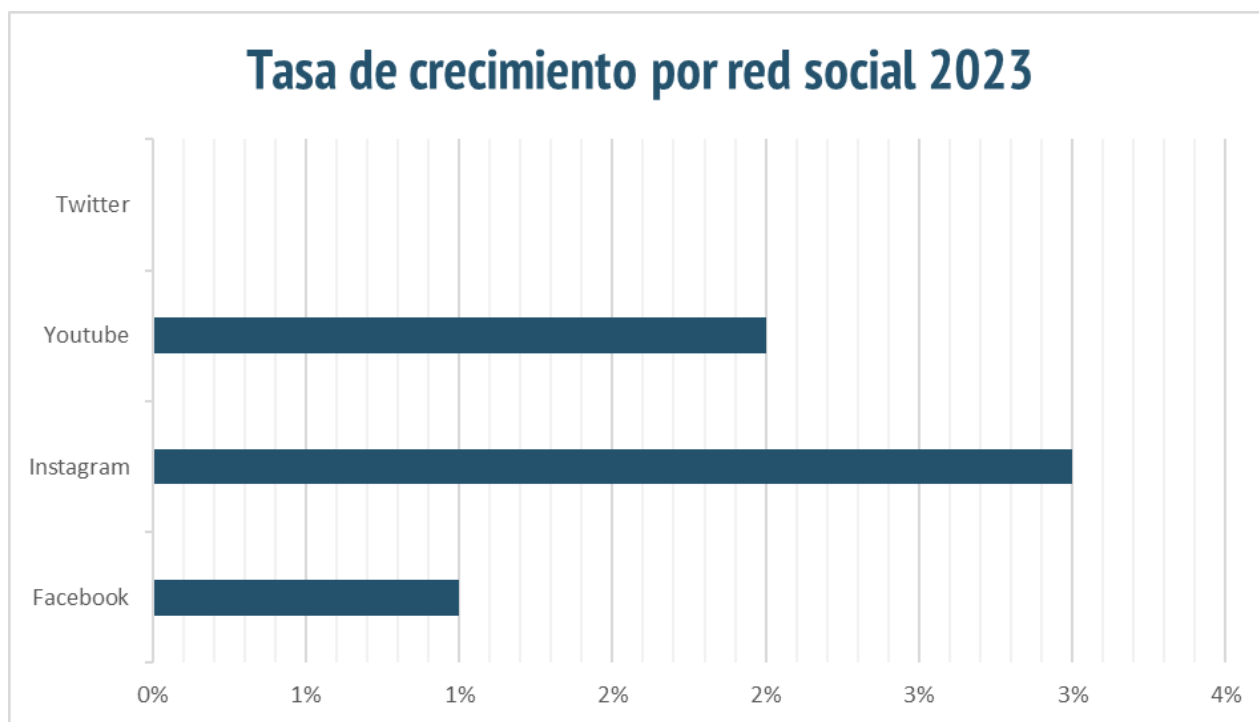


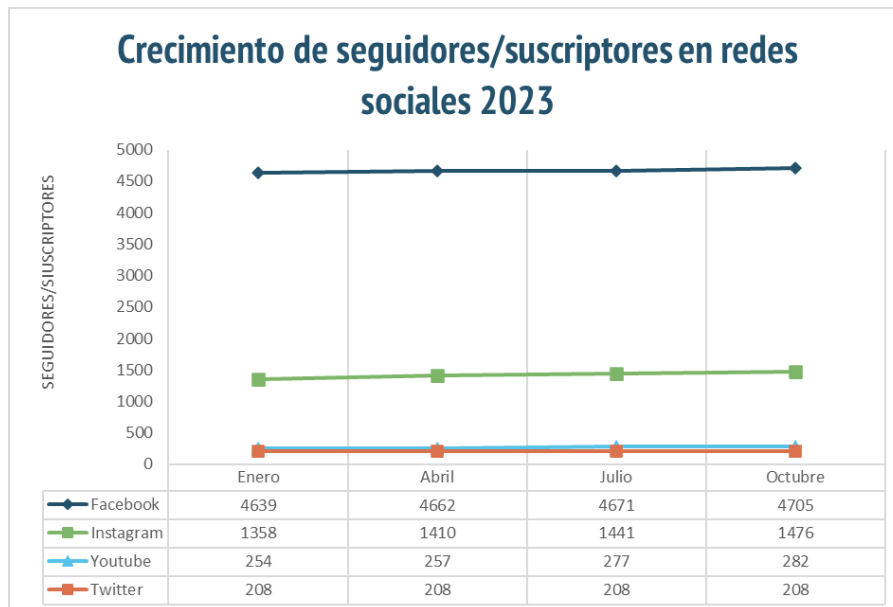




Communication Projects 2023	
Book of the year design 2023 & 2024	National Prayer Spaces
Weekly blogs	World Student Day publicity
Devotionals with an interactive PDF from 1 Corinthians	Design of 1 Corinthians Bible Studies
National Camp publicity and work books	Design for John Bible Studies
EFE – Student leaders training Event publicity and work book	Promotion for “From high school to Uni” and “Surviving the transition” workshops
Instagram Lives for 1 Corinthians	Publicity for the Transition Celebrations
CECE de Corazón -anniversary	The Memory Project – CECE's History
Updating Institutional and Staff brochures	Annual Report & Video Summary for 2023
CECE Shop update and product photos	Fondotón promotion for 2024

Below, we share the charts that summarize the growth in social networks.





## CECE Weekly Blog

The blog is published weekly and is a great resource to deepen our knowledge on different current issues, promote dialogue with the University and student life, and explore topics raised in the book of the year. These blogs are written by national and international authors, also serve for reflection and sharing information in the University Groups of Ecuador and in the region.



We give thanks for the work of Josué Olmedo, Brett Schaffner who began the production of 44 blogs (2017-2019), and Andrea Utreras and Ruth Hicks, producing 203 blogs for CECE (2020-2023). This year highlights included 2 series: "Books for Life" and making visible graduate research topics undertaken by members of our community.

We invite you to read and share them by visiting our website: <https://www.somoslacece.com/blog/>

## National Board

CECE's National Board (NB) is responsible for giving direction to the organization and ensuring the mission, vision and the supervision of the performance and impact of ministry is taking place. We also supervise the administrative and legal "representation of the organization..."

The NB is made up of ten members with different profiles, academic and work backgrounds, together with two student delegates and the National Director. All of whom have a solid



commitment to the proclamation of the Gospel in the universities and the professional environment of Ecuador.

We are convinced that part of the Christian testimony of CECE is to be good stewards of the resources that the Lord has provided us. Additionally, to encourage more students to share the Gospel to the universities of our country.

Since November 2022, the NB was renewed for the next three years, its members are; Irma Padilla, Edwin Chamorro, Daniel Macías, Iliana Ninahualpa, Merwin Chávez, Daniela Larrea, Soraya Estévez, Nury Devia, Juan Pablo Naula and Josefina Talabera.

In its first year of work, it prioritized the process of transition of the National Director.

At the July Board meeting, the new CECE Director, Guadalupe Muñoz, was appointed. Previously the National Directors have been from Quito, Ambato, New Zealand and now from Guayaquil, the Pearl of the Pacific.

Since her designation, she has been working on the transition process accompanied by the outgoing Director until January, when Guadalupe will formally begin her new role.

I thank the members of the Commission for their confidentiality and valuable contributions to the process. At the same time, we invite the entire community to pray for our new Director and support her with everything within our reach. The success of her administration will rebound to the common good for the entire CECE family. Likewise, we must keep Ruth and her family in mind in their future challenges.

*Nahum 1:7 "The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble. He cares for those who trust in him."*



## Leadership Transition Celebrations

We thank God for the significant spaces in Guayaquil, Cuenca, Loja and Quito to celebrate the transition of our National Leadership. It was great to share about the joys and challenges of the

mission in the University, with several generations of students, Staff, graduates, pastors and mission partners of the CECE.



## Administrative Assistant

We thank God for the work of Tatiana Paredes who continues to serve as the part-time Administrative Assistant in the national office. This work is crucial for the fulfillment of the ministry to university students and professionals.

## Global Partners and Interinstitutional Relations

We are grateful to have a number strategic partners to carry out the mission. We would like to highlight the projects developed jointly with SIM in Loja and Cuenca; Norwegian Alliance Mission in Guayaquil. We share the following table of our inter-institutional relations.

Interinstitutional Relationships: Strategic Partners	
<b>Objective:</b> To grow and deepen connections with strategic partners to fulfill our mission	
Vínculos para el Cambio	Misión Alianza en Guayaquil
Paz y Esperanza	SIM in Loja
TSCF	Confraternidad Evangélica Ecuatoriana
Comité Ecuménico de Proyectos - Becas COFA	IFES/ IFES Latin America



English Fellowship Church	Iglesia Evangélica de Iñaquito
Ministerios Steiger	Participation in meeting for religious organizations with the Ecuadorean Ministry of Government
Iglesia Arca de Noé Guayaquil	Breaking New Ground -IFES

## Our global IFES family

We are part of an international IFES family, serving university students in more than 170 countries. We thank God for the support received during 2023 from the Staff to Staff fund for Staff and Breaking New Ground for Pioneer Groups. We encourage you to learn more about IFES here: <https://ifesworld.org/>

## IFES World Assembly

The IFES World Assembly occurs every four years and brings together student movements to celebrate what God is doing in universities around the world. This year it was held from August 2-9 in Jakarta, Indonesia. Nearly 900 participants from 161 countries and more than 100 online small groups attended.

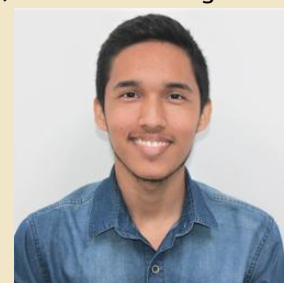
The theme was "Tabah dan Tangguh: Witness in the university and beyond". Through Bible expositions, seminars, small groups, arts, we explored the book of Psalms. "Tabah dan Tangguh" means: strength in the face of adversity, perseverance, faithfulness and resilience.

CECE was very well represented with its delegates, who were part of various service teams: Josué Olmedo (Bible expositor), Ruth Hicks (seminar and translator), Guadalupe Muñoz (Pioneer Groups), Isabela Pineda (LCI Faith and Arts speaker), Jouseth Moya (LCI and program logistics), Andrea Utreras (translator), Tatiana Vera (Staff) and Juan Andrade (student representative and liturgy). We thank God for His provision through your offerings to participate in this event.

You can access the biblical expositions of the World Assembly here: <https://youtube.com/playlist?list=PL-m4j5a97yT4SyqBfMSLeYnAffW6-a7SO&si=jNyVGdwVcwPSgEjK>



“Sharing with students from all over the world was a moving experience, which encouraged me to stay involved in the mission to the University. Not everything has been easy for students: we are coming out of a pandemic, political outbreaks and economic crisis. All this has made being a university student chaotic. We have been sustained by resting in the Lord as our refuge. We are called to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus on our campuses, bringing hope to those who have not yet seen, heard and imagined the wonders of God.”



Juan Andrade, Milagro.

## Partner with Us

### Financial Support

We thank the Lord for his provision, through Mission Partners who give and pray to support the ministry to the university students.

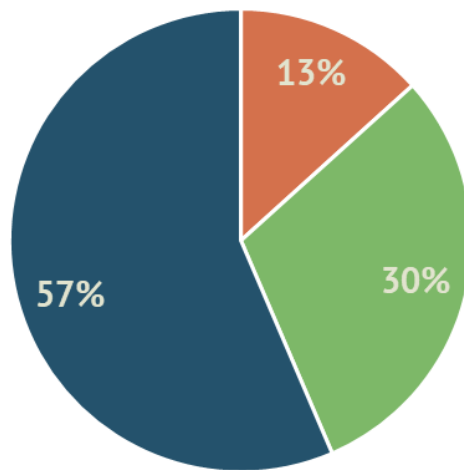
Number of Donors Per Year							
2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
15	33	40	98	85	100	115	85

*\*This year 2023 does not include data from Partners supporting Fondotón*

God has been faithful in providing for the mission through your generosity. Thank you! Below is a summary of income and expenses up to October 2023.

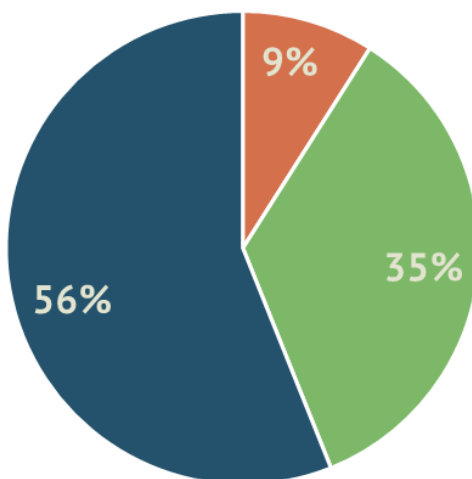


## Income January to October 2023



- General Support \$9692.88
- Mision in the University (Training and Evangelism) \$21983.41
- Special contributions \$41082.37

## Expenditure January to October 2023



- Administration \$5388.06
- Mision in the University (Training and Evangelism) \$20858.69
- Staff Team Support \$33493.95

## Ministry Partners

We are very grateful for your support and interest in the mission we have to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to all the universities in Ecuador. A mission partner is someone who commits to pray and/or give to CECE. There are several ways to do this. One is to pray, receive news and or financially give regularly to Staff. We invite you to do so at this link: [Dona - CECE \(somoslacece.com\)](https://somoslacece.com). Another way to support is to communicate and invite others to be part of the mission in the university.

If you are interested in giving to CECE, you can make your donation through a transfer or direct deposit in the following information:

<b>Account name</b>	Comunidad de Estudiantes Cristianos del Ecuador
<b>Banking entity</b>	Banco del Pichincha
<b>Account type</b>	Corriente
<b>Account number</b>	2100303365
<b>RUC</b>	1791786343001

After giving, please send an email to [cece@somoslacece.com](mailto:cece@somoslacece.com) to confirm your deposit. You can also give internationally through IFES in the link shared previously.

## Prayer requests

We invite you to join us in prayer:

- For new students committed to serving their campus and consolidating the pioneer groups.
- For the strengthening of the Staff Team and Volunteer Graduates.
- For a good accompaniment from the National Board to the new National Director and to affirm administrative processes.
- For the economic support to grow and continue with the mission.
- For our country with the challenges of insecurity, political, economic and social.

## Vision for the Future

I feel very honored to continue the good work that my predecessors started, especially the work of Ruth Hicks during the last period. God led us to new opportunities in 2023, so we are confident that 2024 will be full of challenges and joys, such as consolidating the Pioneer Groups, seeing new University Groups begin and growing in the active participation of the Professional Groups.

My invitation is that we continue to be Community, a community that loves, even in the midst of hostile and changing contexts. With this statement I leave you a clue as to which book we will explore next year.

Thank you in advance for your commitment to the Mission of God in the universities of Ecuador in 2024.

Let us remember this encouragement from Paul to the Corinthians:

*13 If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised.*

*14 And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith.*

