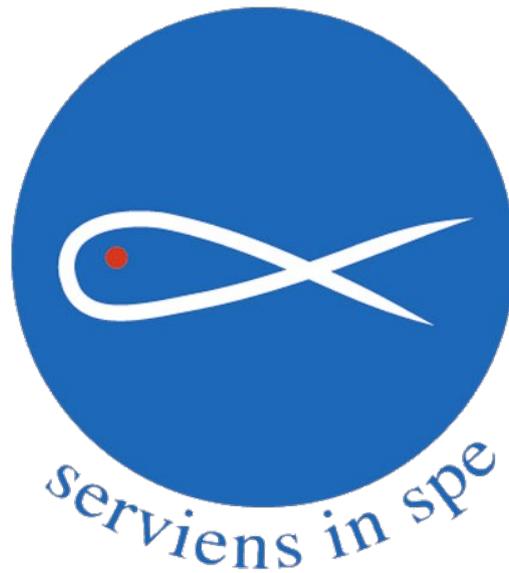


Twinning General



Society of St Vincent de Paul (Scotland)

Registered Office: 113 West Regent Street, Glasgow, G2 2RU

Registered Charity SC006326

**Application to be Twinned with An
Overseas Conference
(Block Capitals and Dark Ink only please)**

Conference Name: _____

Town: _____

Group Council _____

Diocesan Council _____

Contact's Name: _____

Contact's Address _____

Post Code (essential): _____

We, the members of this Conference, hereby promise to:

Pray for our Twinned Conference each week

Correspond at least three times each year

Send £120.00 every year to our Twin via the National Office by
Standing Order.

Indian Twin Req'd

South African Req'd

Conference President: _____ Date: _____

Name & Address to which details should be sent:

Post Code (essential): _____

Twinning Background

For about 45 years the Twinning Scheme has enabled the Society in developing countries to thrive and grow, strengthened by the spiritual, financial and moral support the members have received. What is a very small sum of money for a Conference in Scotland can make a vast difference in a poor country, where a poor person may earn about 50 pence per day (if they are fortunate); just enough for one day's food.

Whilst the major part of Twinning in terms of Conference to Conference Twinning is currently with India and South Africa, the link with Hungary is also growing. Each of these countries has its own unique problems and the Twinning scheme is tailored to each so that we can offer the best help within the resources available. The Society in each country shares the same Spirit that guides us in our work for the poor and each country benefits from the encouragement that Twinning offers.

Prayer is the key aspect of any successful Twinning. The promise to pray for the Twin is really what sets Twinning apart from a secular exercise.

It is impossible to really have a good relationship with a Twin without a closer link. **Correspondence** is the answer and letters should be exchanged at least three times each year. In this way a true bond can be established. In many instances, language and literacy may be problems with our Twin Conferences and we should therefore try and be patient when replies are delayed.

Our **Financial Support** shows the tangible evidence of our sharing. This helps our overseas Sisters and Brothers to increase their efforts to overcome the poverty in their own Parishes.

Other Aspects of Twinning

Twinning involves a commitment to a Conference overseas, which includes regular prayer, some correspondence and financial support to a Conference overseas. Please ask either the National Twinning Officer or the National Office for more details.

Projects the former system of funding twinning projects has been totally changed. Previously a project from an Indian Conference which had been recommended by the National Council of India was sent to the twinned Scottish Conference, requesting that they help to fund the particular project. However, often it was left to our National Council to fund these projects which, due to financial restraints, is no longer possible. It was decided to set up a Project Fund to which every Conference in Scotland could contribute and when enough money had been donated by the Conferences to this fund, it would allow us then to consider the funding of these projects. In other words, if sufficient donations are not provided by the Scottish Conferences, NO projects can be funded! If a Conference decides to offer a donation to the Project fund, all it needs to do is send a cheque to the National Office for the amount donated, indicating on the back of the cheque that it is for the Project Fund.

Disaster Fund is designed to meet the immediate needs of the poor ANYWHERE when a disaster of any kind strikes. Almost as soon as it has reached the news, it is likely that a donation is on its way to the National Council of the affected country. This money will be used to buy items that are needed to alleviate the immediate suffering or to help with the long-term aid of those affected when immediate International Aid ceases.

For more information contact the National Twinning Officer or the National Office.
