

PRESS RELEASE

CORONAVIRUS EMERGENCY: UNIPOL DONATES 1 MILLION FOR BERGAMO

The Insurance Group supports Bergamo with Cesvi. A portable CT scanner purchased for the new field hospital organised by the Italian Alpine troops to tackle the Covid-19 emergency. Unipol has committed a total of €20m to help the most severely affected areas of our country.

Bergamo, 30 March 2020

Unipol has stepped up to help the Bergamo community, one of the hardest hit by the Covid-19 emergency, supporting the actions taken by the **humanitarian organisation Cesvi**. The Insurance Company, one of the leading insurance groups in Europe and the Italian leader in the Non-Life business, has donated one million euros for the purchase of a **portable CT scanner, a machine of fundamental importance at this stage of the emergency, for the field hospital organised by the Alpine troops in Bergamo. This healthcare structure, established to tackle the Covid-19 emergency and back up the work of the city hospitals**, is the biggest field hospital in Europe, capable of accommodating about 200 patients in 6000 square metres in the Bergamo Fair Pavilion B.

Unipol, which allocated €20m to support the most severely affected areas in Italy, has already taken action to deal with the Coronavirus emergency in agreement with the Lombardy Region, donating €6m to be used as follows:

- to create a new emergency facility in the Fiera Milano City pavilions, a 400-bed hospital devoted to intensive care and semi-intensive care for patients with the Covid-19 virus;
- for the extraordinary purchase of ventilators and consumables such as masks, protective suits, disinfectants and instruments for the healthcare facilities in order to treat patients as best as possible and limit the risk of contagion.

Cesvi has made its thirty years' experience in tackling emergencies available since the emergency began, immediately launching a drive to gather funds to support the Papa Giovanni XXIII Hospital and provide social assistance in the Bergamo and Milan territories to help the most vulnerable over-65 group. Some of the funds collected have been used to provide personal protective equipment to hospital operators and medical equipment to treat patients with Covid-19. In association with the Bergamo and Milan public institutions, and in partnership with the territorial associations, Cesvi has also been providing backup assistance for the elderly in their homes and guaranteeing support to fragile or isolated households or those experiencing emergencies with actions linked to primary needs (delivery of meals, shopping, distribution of masks and medicines to homes) and to prevent situations of exclusion or isolation.

In order to join the display of solidarity promoted by Cesvi and make a contribution, online donations can be made on the Cesvi website or by making a bank transfer to current account number IT92R03111129900000000095 or taking part in a dedicated crowdfunding campaign on Go Fund me: <https://www.gofundme.com/f/emergenza-covid-cesvi-per-bergamo>. The toll-free number 800 036 036 is also available to make telephone donations.

Cesvi – Cooperation and Development

Cesvi is an Italian independent lay humanitarian organisation, founded in Bergamo in 1985.

With a total of 52 foreign offices, it operates in 23 countries transforming humanitarian actions into opportunities to construct long-term projects that promote self-development in communities, encouraging them to take the lead.

It works to ensure food security and agricultural development, promoting sustainable development and environmental protection, and working to offset the effects of climate change. It protects the life and health of the most vulnerable children in the world through the *Case del Sorriso*. In Italy, it is involved in a programme to prevent and combat violence against children and to protect and help unaccompanied foreign minors integrate.

It carries out awareness-raising campaigns to encourage people in Italy and in Europe, especially young people, to become responsible citizens and take the lead in cultural and social change.

In 2018, Cesvi helped over 1 million people in Africa, the Middle East, Asia, South America and Europe, working with 114 local NGOs on 109 projects and investing 87% of its resources directly in the field.

It was the first non-profit organisation to be awarded the “Oscar di Bilancio” (best financial reporting) for transparency by FERPI (*Federazione Relazioni Pubbliche Italiana*, Italian Public Relations Federation) in 2000, receiving the award again in 2011 and 2017.

It forms part of the Alliance2015 European network, along with 7 other European NGOs, to increase effectiveness in fighting world poverty and help achieve Sustainable Development Goals.

For more info, see: www.cesvi.org

Unipol Gruppo S.p.A.

Unipol is one of the main insurance groups in Europe and the leading company in Italy in the non-life insurance sector, (especially in the MV and Health businesses), with total premiums of approximately €14.0bn, of which €8.2bn in Non-Life and €5.8bn in Life (2019 figures). Unipol adopts an integrated offer strategy and covers the entire range of insurance and financial products, operating primarily through the subsidiary UnipolSai Assicurazioni S.p.A. The Group is also active in direct MV insurance (Linear Assicurazioni), transport and aviation insurance (Siat), health insurance (UniSalute), supplementary pensions and also covers the bancassurance channel (Arca Vita, Arca Assicurazioni and Incontra). It also manages significant diversified assets in the debt collection (UnipolReC), real estate, hotel (Gruppo UNA), medical-healthcare and agricultural (Tenute del Cerro) sectors. Unipol Gruppo S.p.A. is listed on the Italian Stock Exchange.

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