

## Specialisations

- Feasibility studies / Project set-up / Project evaluation
- Implementation of refugee aid programs
- Professional training
- Supervision of self-build programs projects
- Restoration of historical buildings
- Ecological construction
- Post disaster reconstruction and rehabilitation programs
- Earthquake-proof construction
- Hurricane-proof construction
- Complex structures (arches, vaults, domes)
- Clay building techniques
- Installation of material production facilities

## Profile

Born on 07/10/1958 in Sedan - France  
Married, father of two children

*Trained in masonry by the Compagnons du Devoir and the Tour de France, Olivier Scherrer discovered building with earth when he volunteered in Mali to put in place a program to build schools, dispensaries and maternity wards between 1983 and 1985.*

*Parallel to obtaining a specialisation in earth architecture (CEA Terre at the Grenoble School of Architecture), in 1985 he co-founded the ACROTERRE association (Association des Constructeurs pour la Réhabilitation et l'Optimisation de la Terre) with which he took part in numerous development projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America.*

*Between 1989 and 1993, he was involved in the creation and management of a training center for Afghan refugees in Peshawar, Pakistan, and in a program to support reconstruction in Afghanistan, in partnership with German cooperation.*

*Beyond the technical, economic and organisational aspects, he is passionate about the human and social dimension of projects (Master's degree in Social Sciences, University of Lyon II, obtained in 1996).*

*Back in France in 2000, after 3 years in Colombia devoted to the implementation of a major social housing program, self-built by the inhabitants of a shantytown shantytown (mostly people displaced by violence), he created the company Ecoterre, which was transformed into a SCOP (a cooperative) in 2009.*

*Between 2000 and 2017, he alternated between managing the SCOP, construction sites in France, and consultancy missions abroad (Mali, Guinea, Burkina, Ivory Coast, Nepal, Colombia, Brazil, Haiti, etc.).*

*In 2018, following cyclone Irma, alongside the ANCB (Association Nationale des Compagnons Bâisseurs) he committed himself to the reconstruction of Saint Martin and set up a vast project to help rebuild the rooves of underprivileged people.*

*Since June 2019, Olivier Scherrer has resumed his activities as an independent consultant and is available to put his skills at the disposal of any interesting and motivating project.*

# International and Overseas Professional Experience

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## Education and Diplomas

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- Master's Degree in Social and Educational Sciences  
University Lumière Lyon II – 1996
- Certificate of Advanced Studies in Architecture, specialising in earth architecture  
UPA Grenoble – 1987
- CAP in masonry  
Compagnons du Devoir  
Reims – 1979
- DEUG English  
University of Reims – 1978
- Baccalauréat A4  
Academy of Reims – 1976

## languages

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- French : mother tongue
- English : fluent
- Spanish : fluent
- German : second language at school
- Bambara : conversational
- Portuguese : basics
- Persian/Dari : basics
- Creole : basics

**ANBC** (Association Nationale des Compagnons Bâisseurs)  
**FDf** (Fondation de France)  
2018-2019  
Saint Martin  
West Indies

Project Manager  
« Helping vulnerable communities rebuild their homes after Cyclone Irma. »

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**Urgence patrimoine Acroterre**  
January 2017  
Bondoukou  
Ivory Coast

Consultant  
Diagnosis of the Touré house.

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**Acroterre**  
March 2016  
Katmandhu  
Nepal

Consultant  
Identification and search for partnerships as part of a post-earthquake reconstruction project.

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**Minéalithe - Acroterre**  
February 2016  
Djenné  
Mali

Consultant  
Experimentation in situ of a process for stabilising renders using geopolymer-based products.

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**Mopti AKTC** (Trust Aga Khan for Culture)  
January 2016  
Mali

Instructor  
« Training of construction technique teachers » Centre de l'Architecture de terre

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**Mopti AKTC** (Trust Aga Khan for Culture)  
February 2015  
Mali

Instructor  
« Training of architects in earth building techniques. » Centre de l'Architecture de terre.

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**Mopti AKTC** (Trust Aga Khan for Culture)  
January 2015  
Mali

Instructor  
« Training of young building technicians in the BTC (compressed earth blocks) technique. » Centre de l'Architecture de terre. »

**AKTC** (Trust Aga Khan  
for Culture)  
**November-December 2013**  
Mali

Trainer / Facilitator

« First workshop for the exchange and updating of traditional construction know-how in Mopti raw earth ». Training specialists in the protection of heritage and traditional craftsmen.

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**Caritas Germany**  
March 2013  
Haiti

Consultant

Follow-up of a reconstruction program/ design of earthquake and hurricane-proof housing/ training the technical team in Miragoâne and Léogâne.

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**Caritas Germany**  
January 2012  
Haiti

Consultant

Follow-up of a reconstruction program/ design of earthquake and hurricane-proof housing/ training the technical team in Miragoâne and Léogâne.

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**Caritas Germany**  
Novembre 2011  
Haiti

Consultant

Setting up of a program of reconstruction/design of earthquake and hurricane-resistant housing/training the technical team in Miragoâne and Léogâne.

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**Acroterre** (Association des  
constructeurs pour la Réhabilita-  
tion et l'Optimisation de la terre)  
**Djenné Patrimoine**  
February 2010  
Mali

Consultant

Organisation and facilitation of a workshop on the conservation of classified historic buildings of Djenné.

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**AKTC** (Trust Aga Khan  
for Culture)  
**December 2009**  
Mali

Consultant

Technical support for the reconstruction of the south-east minaret of the Great Mosque of Djenné and diagnosis of the state of the minarets.

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**Acroterre / Djenné**  
**Patrimoine / Barey Ton**  
(Corporation des maçons de  
Djenné)  
Since 2006  
Mali

Technical Advisor

Implementation of a training project for builders for the development of traditional architecture and improvement of housing in Djenné.

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**Acroterre / Association la**  
**Voûte nubienne**  
February-March 2004  
Burkina Faso

Consultant

Monitoring a project to disseminate economical and wood-saving roof construction techniques.

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**F3E** (Fonds d'Etudes  
Préalables)  
February-March 2003  
Guinea Conakry

Consultant

Evaluation of NGO Essor's BTC (compressed earth blocks) program.

**Acroterre/ Association la Voûte nubienne**

December 2002  
Burkina Faso

Consultant

Supporting a project to disseminate economical and wood-saving roof construction techniques.

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**Acroterre**

April 2000  
Colombia

Consultant

Supporting the reconstruction of earthquake-proof social housing made of local materials (bamboo and earth) in Quimbaya.

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**Acroterre**

March-April 1999  
Colombia

Consultant

Post-earthquake diagnosis in Armenia.

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**Acroterre**

1997 - 1999  
Colombia

Project Manager

Economical housing and social integration in Giron, construction of a neighborhood of 150 social housing units in BTC, (including urban planning and infrastructures).

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**NSP/GTZ (German Cooperation)**

November-December 1996  
Afghanistan

Consultant

Socio-economic impact of the dissemination of concrete girders in Afghanistan.

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**F3E (French Cooperation)**

July-August 1995  
Colombia

Consultant

Feasibility study for the development of building material production lines in the metropolitan area of Bucaramanga.

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**DESP/GTZ**

1990 - 1993  
Pakistan / Afghanistan

Technical Advisor

Creation of a training and research centre on the use of local materials in Peshawar. Rural Reconstruction Assistance Program. Construction of schools in Afghanistan.

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**GRETE/ PSH (French NGO)**

July-August 1989  
Brazil

Consultant

Feasibility study for the implementation of a social housing program with the participation of inhabitants in Sao Paolo.

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**GRETE/ PSH (French NGO)**

June-July 1989  
Brazil

Consultant

Feasibility study for the construction of a socio-cultural center in the Itaguai shantytown.

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**DESP/GTZ**

October-December 1988  
Pakistan

Consultant

Evaluation of a housing program for Afghan refugees in Peshawar.

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**DGRCST (French cooperation)**

April-September 1988  
Turkey, Pakistan, India, Nepal

Consultant

Study tour and organisation of conferences on the theme of earth construction.

**AFVP** (French cooperation)

March-May 1987

Niger

Consultant

Feasibility study of a school development project and the development of practical and productive activities in the district of Diffa.

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**VESOS France / Kinderdorf**

**International** (charity)

January-March 1986

Mali

Consultant

Creation of a village for orphans in Sanankoroba.

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**AFVP** (coopération française)

1982 - 1985

Mali

Volunteer

Head of the Construction and Appropriate Technologies Sector. Supporting villagers in the construction of basic equipment (schools, dispensaries, maternity wards).

## Professional Experience Experience in France

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2009-2018

**Ecoterre-Scop.**

Sauve

Trainer and Manager

of Ecoterre-Scop, a cooperative company specialising in ecological construction.

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2000-2009

Sauve

Entrepreneur

Ecological construction Ecoterre.

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1981-1982

**Études et Chantiers**

Paris

Technical facilitator

youth workshops for the restoration of monuments.

## Training / Teaching Conferences in France

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since 1995 :

**Instructor  
Implementation of  
numerous educational  
activities and teaching  
worksites.**

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- For different audiences: archaeologists, architects, engineers, craftsmen, self-builders, students, people on social integration programmes and the general public.
- On different themes: lime plaster and paint, earth construction techniques, earth coatings, ecoconstruction, thermal performance of materials and insulation.
- With various organisations: Associations, CIVAM, École nationale supérieure d'Architecture de Grenoble, École nationale supérieure d'Architecture de Montpellier, CNRS UMR archéologie méditerranéenne, École des Mines d'Alès, craftsmen's unions, Centre d'architecture expérimentale de Cantercel, IFECO...