The history of the Ursuline mission is quite extensive both temporally and geographically. Here we intend to focus on the missions from which the objects stored at AGUUR come and which will be the subject of the virtual exhibition. No mention will therefore be made of the extensive US missions that took place, mostly during the 19th century; nor the missions of Australia, Mexico, Cuba, Berbice and Barbados (17th century), of India, Venezuela, Peru, Egypt, Ethiopia, Kenya and Senegal (20th century).

The Ursuline Order has the honour of having given to Christianity the first woman missionary and missionary educator. She was Marie of the Incarnation, an Ursuline from the monastery of Tours, France, foundress of the monastery of Quebec in 1639. It is easy to understand that the teaching vocation, in its expansion, results in the missionary apostolate. Marie of the Incarnation remains the great model of the Ursuline who is a cloistered nun and missionary at the same time. She was the “pioneer” of the movement, which, little by little, was going to take her sisters to the very extremities of the inhabited earth.

The artifacts that will be exhibited come from the following missions:
- Alaska 1905
- Brazil early 20th century
- British Guiana 1850
- China 1922
- Greece 1700
- Japan 1936
- Java (Indonesia) 1855
- Manchukuo 1928
- Siam (Thailand) 1924
- South Africa 1910s
- Taiwan 1949

The virtual exhibition
The objects collected from the missions and now kept at AGUUR are of various types and sizes, and tell the story of the missionary experience in the various countries. Many of these objects have already been exhibited in the Missionary Exhibition held in 1956 at the school establishments in Nantes, Northern France. Most of the objects are representative of everyday life and customs in the host country e.g. household and work utensils; clothing; small souvenirs. But there is no lack of graphic and/or painted or embroidered works depicting various subjects, from religious to secular. As well as a good number of sculptures made of different materials and also depicting various subjects. Very interesting is the presence of photographs, microfilms, journals, books and school works that testify to the educational mission of the Institute.

The project provides first of all for the cataloguing and inventorying of the objects divided by country and trying to follow, as much as possible, the cataloguing (inventory number) of the two previous inventories (1956 and 1995). The exhibition aims to portray the missionary experience by focusing on the great capacity for integration and bridging the cultural, linguistic and religious gap that the Ursuline missionaries were able to implement, and to testify to the foundation of the Provinces, many of which still belong to the Roman Union.

For the realisation of the virtual exhibition, the MOVIO software was chosen (https://www.movio.benculturali.it/index.php/en/i/home) whose project is coordinated by ICCU.