

Our Worldwide Work • Annual Report 2009

Disaster Aid
A World for the Aging and the Ill
A World for Children
A World for Disabled People



Caritas Germany
International Department



Kosovo: The integration of disabled children into school and society



Israel: Cooperation with the Jaffa Institute in supporting migrants and their children



Iraq/Afghanistan: The difficult task of providing aid in war zones and crisis-hit regions



Bolivia: A model project to combat the negative impact of climate change



South Africa: Neighbourhood help and assisted living for senior citizens

Cover picture: Flood victims. Typhoons are often accompanied by heavy rain, leaving whole regions under water.

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Other pictures: Caritas Germany, Alexander Bühler, Martin Zöller

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*Philippines, Vietnam:
Reconstruction and disaster
prevention after a year of
heavy storms and flooding*

Foreword



Just like the tsunami in the Indian Ocean five years ago, the earthquake that struck Haiti in January of this year triggered a huge response in terms of charitable donations. This annual report takes a look at the situation in Haiti as well as in other regions of the world where aid is needed.

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Dear readers, friends and supporters of Caritas Germany,

Welcome to our Annual Report 2009. Our memory of last year's events has been eclipsed by the massive earthquake that struck Haiti in January of this year. A quarter of a million people lost their lives, hundreds of thousands were injured and 1.5 million made homeless. An entire country was destroyed, which was already one of the poorest in the world. Since the tsunami five years ago, no other disaster has attracted so much public attention. Countless people got in touch with us to offer their help, showing sympathy and generosity in equal measure. We are extremely grateful to all our supporters for this.

It is clear that Haiti will be an important part of our work for many years to come. However, we must not lose sight of the many other regions in the world where aid is needed. This becomes clear when we look back on 2009, the year to which this annual report relates. Numerous earthquakes (for example in Indonesia, see page 24) claimed the lives of many people; a tsunami in Samoa caused enormous damage. Above all, however, there were many creeping disasters: droughts in East Africa that have been dragging on for months and years – and continue to do so; storms and floods that repeatedly swept across the Philippines, Vietnam and other Asian countries over a number of weeks (page 20). And then there were the disasters that have almost become part of everyday life for those that are affected by them. Disasters of poverty and hunger, of social inequality, brought about by unfair trade structures and fuelled by the global economic crisis. The impact of climate change, caused by the industrialised nations but affecting the poorest countries the most, is intensifying all the time (page 16).

The main purpose of this Annual Report 2009 is to highlight these silent and creeping disasters. It is also intended to provide an insight into how Caritas operates internationally: in cooperation with local partners, with an emphasis on forward-thinking disaster prevention and a long-term commitment to reconstruction. This includes working in war zones and crisis-hit regions (page 10), a task that is both dangerous and indispensable, be it in Afghanistan, Iraq or the Congo. It also includes working on long-term projects that offer children, people with disabilities and the elderly in different regions of the world the prospect of a better future (pages 26-30). Our ongoing work always focuses on the fundamentals, for example by helping former child soldiers in the Congo reintegrate into civilian life or by supporting the integration of disabled children and their families in Kosovo. Disaster aid and long-term project work go hand in hand. Many years of experience have taught us that disasters – or at least their worst consequences – can best be prevented through the improvement of living conditions.

The continuity of the work carried out by Caritas Germany, the international wing of the German Caritas Association, is only made possible by the continuous and long-term support we receive from a large number of partners and donors. The diversity of our projects on every continent of the world is mirrored by the breadth and variety of solidarity and aid. For example, when experts from all over the world gather at a Caritas conference in Berlin to discuss international drug policy, its social consequences and possible ways of helping drug users (page 30), this represents very real, long-term and far-reaching help for all those who are faced with these problems on a daily basis. And when year after year, right across Germany, the employees of local Caritas facilities light thousands of candles and raise funds for a variety of projects as part of the “One Million Stars”

campaign, this too is a clear sign of solidarity. Solidarity with disadvantaged people as well as with their Caritas colleagues throughout the world.

Thank you very much for your practical, financial and moral support!



Peter Neher

Prelate Dr. Peter Neher
President of the German
Caritas Association



Oliver Müller

Dr. Oliver Müller
Director International
Department
Caritas Germany

Lessons learned?

Need, suffering and grief are very personal experiences which everyone deals with in different ways. Through its assistance, Caritas Germany addresses the specific needs of the people concerned. In doing so, the relief organisation builds on decades of experience which is constantly being improved.

At first there is shock, horror and grief: houses and entire streets have been turned to rubble; traumatised people wander around disoriented, crying and screaming; thousands, even hundreds of thousands are dead, injured, missing or homeless. It is a dreadful experience which the survivors will never forget.

Then come the inevitable questions: How could this happen? Why did buildings collapse like a house of cards? Why were people forced to live in such cramped and vulnerable conditions? And what about the survivors' prospects – what does the future hold for them?

The disaster, the horror, the need are not the same for everyone. Each victim's experience and reaction is different. We therefore need to support those who have lost children, parents, relatives or friends in their own unique grief, to help them in the personal misfortune that has befallen them. This is a humanitarian imperative. It is essential to alleviate need wherever possible. Because humanitarian aid can and must save people's lives. And it can help people to take their destiny back into their own hands after a disaster.

Experience is an invaluable asset if this is to be achieved. In the aftermath of a disaster, it is vital to draw on past experiences and aid operations and to compare and weigh them up as quickly as possible before drawing the right conclusions. Professional disaster relief organisations like Caritas Germany, which are confronted with the aftermath of earthquakes, floods, droughts and storms year after year, have an obligation to learn from experience. "Lessons learned" is therefore an important part of our follow-up to every operation and relief effort.

What lessons have we learned? Employees of the major aid agencies that are part of the 'Aktionsbündnis Kata-

strophenhilfe' (Alliance for Disaster Aid) asked themselves this question last December. The alliance includes the German Red Cross and the 'Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe' disaster relief organisation as well as Unicef and Caritas Germany. Five years after the Indian Ocean seaquake and tsunami that killed around 250,000 people in Sri Lanka, India, Indonesia and other countries in the region, stock was taken of the tsunami relief effort.

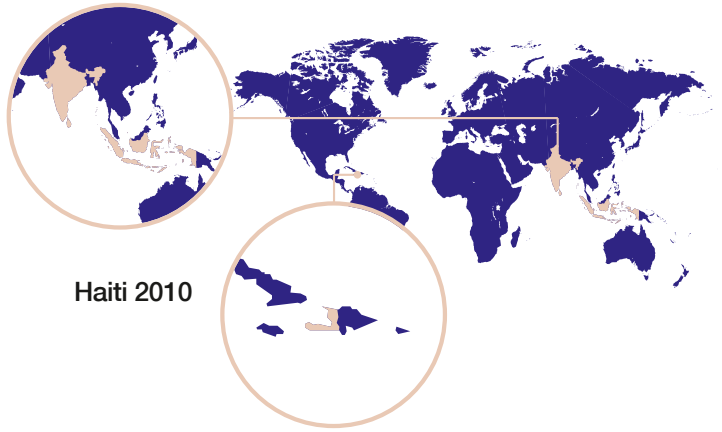
"Those that are on the ground before a disaster strikes can provide particularly rapid help."

Such a stocktaking exercise cannot be about determining whether results were good or bad. It is not a question of an economist auditing the books and calculating the size of profits or losses. For many of the victims, the personal loss of their relatives is felt to this day. Many are still struggling to cope with the traumatic experiences of five years ago and have yet to find a way back to normality.

Nevertheless, the aid has made a difference. Five years after the 2004 Boxing Day Tsunami, the situation of the poorest families in the most affected areas has improved substantially, according to the "Alliance for Disaster Aid". The quality of the schools, health care facilities and water supply is significantly better now than it was before the disaster. Many people who used to be excluded have now become better integrated. There have also been significant improvements in terms of disaster protection – as manifested by the powerful earthquake in Indonesia in October 2009.

In order for reconstruction to succeed, it was crucial that the 'Alliance for Disaster Aid' organisations involved

Tsunami 2004



Haiti 2010



What next? The path to reconstruction in Haiti is rocky and uncertain. Mutual support helps. © Caritas Germany



*The children of Banda Aceh in Indonesia have new homes.
Five years after the tsunami, they also have prospects again.*

© Caritas Germany



*Towards a better future
together: schoolchildren in
Haiti © Caritas Germany*

the local population directly in the reconstruction process. “Those that already had an active local presence and worked with partner organisations before the disaster struck were able to provide particularly rapid and effective assistance. International support was only made effective and sustainable thanks to the local emergency and reconstruction workers,” says Oliver Müller. According to Müller, helping those affected by the disaster to organise themselves is just as important as installing early warning systems. “In the long term, this is the most important form of disaster prevention,” says the Director of the international department of Caritas Germany, “because many disasters have particularly disastrous consequences due to poverty.”

“Reconstruction must involve those that have been affected.”

Even if the lessons from these experiences have long since become guiding principles of the work performed by Caritas Germany, it is important that we remind ourselves of them again and again. And it is particularly important that we speak out on these issues in the public arena: on the fight against hunger and poverty, so that people can protect themselves; on participation and self-determination in order to ensure the effectiveness of disaster prevention and protection; and on close cooperation with our partners on the ground. They can provide the quickest and most effective help in the event of a disaster by virtue of their local knowledge and the fact that they are already in situ while international aid is still being mobilised.

The importance of arguing for implementation of these guiding principles was illustrated by the terrible events in Haiti in January. People there were simply unable to

protect themselves. Most of the houses had not been built to withstand earthquakes, while the infrastructure was so bad in many places that those who survived the disaster had to wait far too long for help to arrive.

However, learning also means keeping sight of the mistakes and failings that had allowed Haiti to become one of the poorest countries in the world even before the earthquake struck. These include undesirable social developments, lack of education, poor health care, corruption and a host of other structural problems for which the national government and the small privileged upper class, as well as international partners and players in part, bear responsibility. In this case, “lessons learned” also means not repeating the mistakes of the past, but instead working with those affected by the disaster to build something new – a future with prospects.

Herein lies an opportunity for this poor and battered country. If it is not only buildings and roads that are constructed, if there is more than merely lip-service, if the international human, logistical and financial aid can be used to invest in education as well as in a social and medical infrastructure and sustainable development, only then will it be possible to talk of a successful new beginning.

After the 2004 tsunami, more than 200,000 donors gave a total of 62.5 million euros to Caritas Germany. Following the initial emergency aid, this allowed extensive reconstruction programmes to be launched - some still ongoing today - which have made a major contribution to improving living conditions in the countries concerned.

Between the front lines

Afghanistan, Iraq, Congo: working in war zones is dangerous and places great demands on all involved. The international department of Caritas Germany supports projects in these countries which are focused on children, the elderly and people with disabilities.



Living in permanent fear and under constant threat leaves deep scars – not least in the children that find themselves in war and

crisis. © Caritas Germany, Gabriela Keller

A slender, pale-faced woman hurries through the streets of Zafaraniya, a poor suburb on the southern outskirts of Baghdad. Following close behind her, a thin girl with curly brown hair struggles to keep up with her mother. “We don’t like to go out. This area isn’t safe,” says Zaher Zamal. The 38-year-old pulls her chador more tightly around her as she opens the door of a low-rise block of flats.

There is no sign to indicate the fact that the ground floor houses one of the ten social centres run by Caritas in Iraq. The aid organisation’s employees regularly receive death threats, so attracting attention can put their lives in danger. Among other things, the centres offer the “Well Baby” programme, which is funded by Caritas Germany and is aimed at undernourished children under the age of eight as well as pregnant women and nursing mothers. Zaher Zamal and her daughter join the crowd of people in the waiting room. The six-year-old’s face has a look of seriousness way beyond her years. “She hardly speaks, suffers from headaches and often refuses to eat,” says her mother. “She is no longer the lively child she used to be.”

Although the ‘war proper’ ended with the overthrow of Saddam Hussein’s regime, there are repeated outbreaks of fighting between Iraqi government forces or international troops on the one hand and mostly Islamist groups on the other. The current situation in Iraq can hardly be defined with the usual concepts of war and peace. Terrorism, conventional crime and a state of near civil war alternate with relatively quiet phases and a tentative revival of civil life.

Yet even in such relatively quiet times, people’s lives are still deeply affected by the war; by the terrible memories and by its consequences for the present and the future. Zaher Zamal is no exception. Her Shiite family comes



from Diyala, a province to the northeast of Baghdad. “We lived in a Sunni area. In June 2006, Al Qaeda terrorists came and blew up our house,” she recounts in a hoarse voice. The family fled and settled on the outskirts of the capital, Baghdad. Today, she lives on the five US dollars a day that her husband earns as a porter, whenever he can find work. Often he can’t find any. Without centres like those run by Caritas, families with children in particular would find it virtually impossible to get by.

The situation is much the same in other areas affected by war and civil war, such as Afghanistan. The argument as to whether or not there is actually a war going on there is not limited to German politicians. “The situation in the country differs considerably from area to area,” says Marianne Huber, Director of the Caritas Germany office in Kabul. “In some areas, clashes between the Taliban and international troops, terrorist attacks or civil war-like conditions are almost daily occurrences, whereas some provinces are largely peaceful”. This means that Caritas needs to be very flexible in carrying out its work. While reconstruction is certainly making progress in places like rural Hazarajat, with wells being sunk and schools and health centres being built and run with Caritas’ help, the priority in regions where there is fighting continues to be the provision of emergency aid in the form of food and water supplies. “All over this country, people have been deeply traumatised by decades of war,” says Huber. “Many of them do not know how to resolve conflicts peacefully. The economy, political power, trade – everything has been affected by the violence of war.”

Iraq visit

Flashback
20th to 23rd July



© Caritas Germany, Thomas Gleißner

The Archbishop of Baghdad, Jean Sleiman (right), and the Director of Caritas Iraq, Nabil Nissan (second from left), visiting Germany. Wolfgang Fritz (left), Iraq expert at the international department of Caritas Germany, and Diocesan Caritas Director Franz-Heinrich Fischler receive the guests in Berlin.

Caritas Germany seeks to break the spiral of violence and counterviolence, providing assistance irrespective of social, cultural or religious affiliation. But when the lines between the civilian and military spheres become blurred, this always threatens our own neutrality. It is not only the independence of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that is at stake, but also the safety of their employees. Because when the Afghans – especially the warring groups – treat the military and the development aid workers as one and the same, the risk of attacks increases. The frequency of attacks on aid workers is already increasing. In the past year alone, 172 attacks on aid workers were recorded in Afghanistan, 16 of which were fatal. For this reason, the United Nations (UN) decided to halve the number of its staff while other



Former child soldiers in the Congo

“I do get nightmares about it, but killing had become part of normality for me, like shaking hands,” says one of the former child soldiers who are now seeking to build a new life with the help of Caritas. And Pamela, just 13 years old, adds: “I still get nightmares and wake up screaming. I even get nightmares when I am not asleep. I hear voices, threatening to kill me.”

After they are freed from the ranks of the militias, the child soldiers need special care and support. Many of them are traumatised, their life prospects ruined. The aim of the project is to disarm the children and reintegrate them into civilian life. In order to achieve this, it must be made possible for them to return to their families. To this end, Caritas supports five transition centres where the boys and girls receive medical and psychological care. Efforts are also being made to raise public awareness of the issue of children's rights. This is aimed among other things at increasing the pressure on militia leaders to release the child soldiers in their ranks.

Caritas Goma, with the support of Caritas Germany, has been supporting the cause of former child soldiers in northeastern Congo for more than 15 years. Over this period, Caritas employees have secured the release of countless child soldiers.

organisations have moved out of particularly dangerous regions or pulled out of the country altogether. That is why the international department of Caritas Germany and other German aid organisations fundamentally reject civilian-military cooperation as it is practised in Afghanistan.

This clear stance is not an expression of a political position; it is the logical consequence of our many years of experience. Especially in war and crisis zones, good and effective humanitarian aid requires trusting cooperation with partners and the civilian population. Direct cooperation with the military would undermine this trust. And it would run counter to our convictions, which the Programme Manager of Caritas Iraq, Iman Shamaoun, sums up very clearly: “We have a very ambitious approach: we want to contribute to the establishment of a peaceful civil society. Our centres bring together Arabs and Kurds, Sunnis, Shiites and Christians. And that's no easy thing to do anywhere else in Iraq.”

Last year, Caritas Germany implemented 37 projects in Afghanistan with a total value of 1.88 million euros; the help ranged from winter aid through to trauma work with victims of the war. In Iraq, a good quarter of a million euros was spent on ten projects targeted primarily at children and displaced persons. In the Congo, more than 3.6 million euros were invested in a total of 47 projects, including work with former child soldiers (p. 11).



In many countries that are ravaged by war or civil war, reading and education in general have become a luxury.

© Caritas Germany, Martin Gerner

Battling the elements

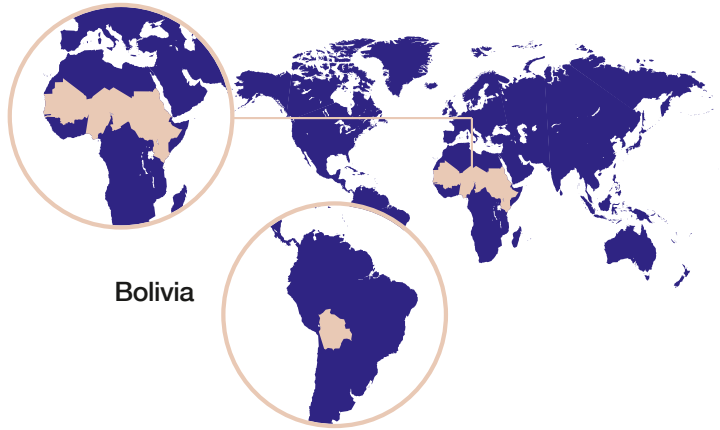
Droughts, floods and hurricanes caused by climate change are becoming ever more frequent. The international department of Caritas Germany is actively involved in disaster prevention projects, such as in Bolivia, countries in the Sahel region and Bangladesh. The relief organisation is also involved politically in national and international alliances.



Wells, cisterns and water tanks can also help to tide over long, persistent droughts. © Paul Jeffrey

Caritas Germany sponsors disaster prevention projects all over the world. Following the great drought of 1998, the “Million Cisterns Project” was created in northeastern Brazil which, to date, has brought a safe supply of drinking water to many thousands of families and aims to build a total of one million water tanks. In Bangladesh, Caritas constructed protection shelters and set up a disaster prevention warning system following Cyclone Sidr in November 2007. A total of around 4.7 million people in the country benefit from these measures.

Sahel Region



Bolivia

Time for a virtual world tour through 2009, setting sail in East Africa. Online newspaper “Schattenblick” reported in autumn that “Kenya is already experiencing its fourth consecutive year of drought”. Millions of people are suffering famine and the harvests are so meagre that cattle have to be destroyed. “Scientists,” the story continues, “do not deem this to be a sufficiently broad statistical basis. One should not expect that it will force them to assert this to be a sure indication of climate change. Notwithstanding this, scarcity of precipitation in East Africa lasting several years corresponds precisely to climate researchers’ computer generated forecasts for this region.”

The journey continues to the centre and the west of the continent. From Chad across Niger and Mali to Senegal, severe flooding hit the entire southern area of the Sahel region. “In Burkina Faso alone,” reported the *Süddeutsche Zeitung* on 8th September, “around 200,000 people were left homeless last week after the same quantity of rain fell in one single day as would normally fall in a year”. Over 150 people died and several millions across the entire region were badly affected by the heaviest rainfall in 90 years.

On the other side of the Atlantic, too, the weather is up to new tricks. On 25th May, the *Rheinische Post* reported on “Climate chaos in the Amazon”: “Throughout the entire Amazon Basin, riparians are adding new storeys to their stilt houses, literally to keep themselves above water. 44 people died in the floods, 376,000 were made homeless.” Scientists here are also asking themselves how such an increase in extreme weather can occur.

“Floods are not a rarity here,” the newspaper report continues, “but this year the bodies of water rose so high and are lingering for so long as has not been seen for decades. Where fruit trees are now completely floo-

ded, just four years ago there was such a drought that the fish perished in heaps on the dry land.

The journey could continue through the Andean highlands where glaciers are melting, across Central America where hurricane Ida claimed several hundred lives, and to Asia and the Philippines where a whole series of severe storms and flooding was seen last year. Amidst all these climate-related disasters, questions are raised as to their cause. What role does global climate change play in all this? Is it questionable to place individual weather events in the context of climate debate? Or can this be justified scientifically?

“In Kenya, there is much discussion as to whether or not the ever more persistent droughts are a con-

“It rained as much in one single day as it did the rest of the year.”

sequence of global climate change,” says Janet Mangera, National Executive Secretary of Caritas Kenya. “People feel the changes in the weather and ask themselves where the causes of this development are to be found.” In December 2009, Janet Mangera travelled to Copenhagen as part of an almost 40-strong delegation from Caritas Germany in order to campaign for “Climate Justice”.

The point is not simply to attribute every flood, drought and storm to the changing climate, losing sight of all other causes in the process. But at the same time it is not viable to sit back and wait for scientists to give a verdict on each case before taking action. Caritas therefore makes the consequences of climate change a priority of its international work, both through practical



Local people know local conditions better than anyone. Without them, effective disaster prevention is impossible.

© Caritas Germany, José Lavayen Tamayo

disaster prevention projects and in the form of a long-term political campaign.

That which is difficult to detect in individual cases takes ever clearer shape when it forms part of a whole. The number of climate-related disasters grows continuously. Whereas twenty years ago there were around 200 humanitarian disasters each year, that figure has now doubled, and 70 percent of them are climate-related. It is also certain that climate change is primarily caused by emissions from transport, heating and industry – first and foremost in industrialised nations. On the other hand, this change affects people most severely in places where poverty and famine are already widespread: in the fragile regions of Sahel, South East Asia, Central America and other locations where tropical storms occur.

An extremely complex phenomenon whose effects are felt across the globe, climate change can only be countered if managed in a sufficiently flexible manner. This is precisely where the strength of an association such as Caritas lies. The German Caritas Association has initiated projects such as “Stromspar-Check” (energy saving assessment) which aims to promote active climate protection by supporting low-income households in Germany to lower their energy consumption. And at local and diocesan level too, buildings are insulated or solar power is generated in order to reduce the emission of carbon dioxide.

At the same time, Caritas Germany supports various projects taking countermeasures against climatic changes, for example in Bangladesh. People here have always lived with cyclones and flooding, but the frequency and intensity of the storms and floods are increasing.

Thanks to the construction of protection shelters, supported by Caritas, the number of victims claimed by disasters was dramatically reduced. The people now have a place of refuge should water flood their village. In West Africa, too, water management is key to prevention. Rain rarely visits this part of the world, but when it comes it is extremely heavy. Water collection tanks and wells are intended to ensure that more water is collected to provide for dry periods.

In Bolivia, disaster prevention is more complex. A model project run by Caritas Bolivia, which is supported by the international department of Caritas Germany and in which 35 villages from four different climate zones are involved, is testing extremely diverse measures. For example, a village in the highlands struggles with water shortages whilst somewhat lower in the valley lies another village which is cut off from the world for months by flooding each spring. The project therefore deals with matters such as prevention and warning systems between the villages and with technical questions concerning the construction of dams and reservoirs. It also ensures the participation of those affected who should contribute their experiences and their knowledge.

After just three years, a programme has emerged through which stable bridges, dams and pumps for drinking water supply are constructed. In regions affected by flooding, water level detectors have been set up which transmit warnings via radio. Training is given and seminars and teaching programmes are developed so that the knowledge can be passed on. The programme has now been extended to cover the whole country. This is not only a success for the work of Caritas in Bolivia. The project also shows that people are not helpless at the mercy of climate change, but that they can take countermeasures – locally and globally.

Copenhagen climate summit

Flashback
7th to 18th December

In December, a total of 40 Caritas employees traveled from all over the world to the United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, campaigning for binding obligations for the reduction of carbon dioxide emissions to be imposed on industrialised nations, and for financial support for those most seriously affected by climate change. Though the summit may have foundered, the Caritas campaign for "Climate Justice" continues. A new attempt will be made to reach an agreement at the next conference in Mexico at the end of 2010. The crucial importance of swift action is made clear by three Caritas representatives from Guatemala, Kenya and India.

"Central America is ravaged by hurricanes year after year. Environmental protection and social improvements are equally necessary. This is because it chiefly affects the poorest people who live at the bottom of hillsides or close to rivers and are therefore defenceless against landslides and flooding."



Manuel de J. Morán Hidalgo represented Caritas El Salvador at the UN Climate Conference in Copenhagen in December 2009.

"The droughts of the past years have hit Kenya hard. We can alleviate the suffering by constructing wells and building up water reserves. However, in order to soften the long-term impact of climate change, the industrialised nations must become active. After all, they are responsible for the warming of the earth's atmosphere."



Janet Magera, National Executive Secretary of Caritas Kenya, is an active member of the Caritas Internationalis working group on the consequences of climate change.

"The effects of climate change are clearly noticeable in India. In the north we have to struggle with the melting of Himalayan glaciers, which currently often leads to flooding and in the long-term will lead to water shortage. And in the south, floods are becoming more common owing to increasingly heavy monsoon rains."



Sunil Simon works for Caritas India in the field of rural development and climate protection.

The brochure "Klimagerechtigkeit" (Climate Justice) can be obtained free of charge from: Deutscher Caritasverband e. V., Caritas international, Referat Öffentlichkeitsarbeit, Postfach 420, 79004 Freiburg, Germany.

Weekly storms and flooding

During the typhoon season in autumn, several storms often move across East and South East Asia in quick succession. In 2009 they were even more destructive than in previous years. The Philippines, Cambodia and Vietnam were worst affected.



After a typhoon, entire cities and landscapes sink below the floods. © REUTERS/Cheryl Ravelo

Vietnam · Philippines



Within just five weeks between the end of September and the beginning of November, the northern islands of the Philippines were hit three times by a severe cyclone. Typhoons Ketsana, Parma and Mirinae wrought terrible destruction and led to spring tides, flooding, mudslides and landslides. Around 1000 people were killed and a total of three million people were affected by the disasters. The government declared a state of emergency for 27 provinces. Even the Asian mainland was affected. Several hundreds of people died in Vietnam and Cambodia, and entire stretches of land remained flooded for weeks.

“We are particularly concerned about the million poor people who live in corrugated iron huts under bridges, on river banks and in hollows,” stated Anton Pascal, the director of Caritas Manila. “We carried out a small credit project with 16,000 women in need. Ninety percent of them lost everything in the storms.”

In the slums of Manila, the great extent to which the impact of a disaster is dependent on social conditions was demonstrated once again. The people who lived alongside rivers or who settled on slopes and in areas that are not easily accessible were most badly affected. They could not afford to build homes in safe areas, they had to (and still do have to) live without sewage systems and with poor infrastructure. This was the case for inhabitants of La Trinidad, a town that was buried by a mountain slope landslide. The landslide buried 32 houses, surprising inhabitants in their sleep. None of them survived.

In collaboration with the St. Paul University of Manila, the international Caritas network supplied a total of 16,000 families (80,000 people) with food, dry clothing, mosquito nets, sanitary products and medicines against

diarrhoea. In addition to this urgently needed emergency aid, the aid provided by the international department of Caritas Germany is also always targeted towards

“It rained as much in one single day as it did the rest of the year.”

disaster prevention. This is demonstrated by a project in Vietnam: here, the construction of a two-storey, multi-functional building in the poor community of Hai Thanh enables both disaster prevention and social development in equal measure. On the one hand, it serves as a nursery school where 3 to 5-year old children from poor families can prepare for attendance at primary school later on, and on the other it serves as a refuge for the local population in times of flooding.

This idea of constructing central protective buildings in areas which are as easily accessible as possible for large numbers of inhabitants has proven itself in many places. In Bangladesh, for instance, Caritas Germany has financed precisely this type of construction. This has helped to significantly reduce the number of victims claimed by storms and flooding – a success story achieved through targeted disaster prevention.

Within the international Caritas confederation, Caritas Germany provides relief in the countries affected. In 2009, a total of 600,000 euros were fed into projects in Vietnam, and 137,000 euros to projects in the Philippines.

“There are easy ways of stopping cholera”

In Zimbabwe, a cholera epidemic has been rampaging since 2008 affecting ten thousand people and resulting in several thousand deaths. Caritas Germany launched a relief project to provide the sick with direct aid and stop the disease from spreading. In this interview, the doctor Joost Butenop reports on medical relief in Zimbabwe, developments in this south-east African country and the work of Caritas.



“The hospitals are poorly equipped and staff are not paid enough.”

© Caritas Germany



Dr Joost Butenop, doctor and medical expert at Caritas Germany, advises medical staff on the ground and organises training on hygiene, the use of water and first aid.

© Caritas Germany

You were in Zimbabwe early in 2009 before the cholera epidemic was under control. We don't hear about it any more now. Did the situation in Zimbabwe improve as quickly as that?

Butenop: No, the underlying conditions are still inadequate. The infrastructure, medical care, agriculture – none of this works in Zimbabwe or only very poorly. Nothing changed here during the past year. Hospitals are poorly equipped, there is a lack of materials and the staff aren't paid enough. What has changed is people's attitudes. They have learnt quickly, so cholera hasn't had such a devastating effect this year as it had in the past.

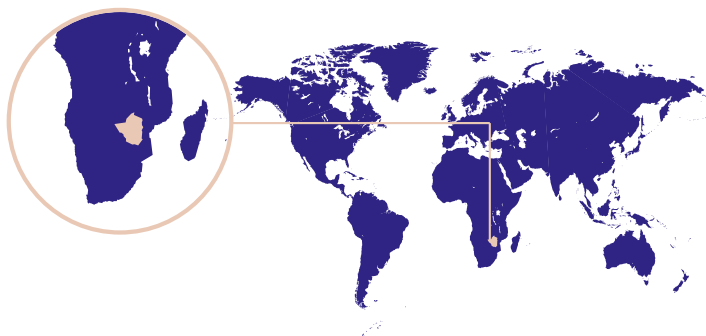
Is learning all that it takes?

Butenop: Not quite. There is also a need to address the causes, i.e. fundamentally improve basic hygiene and the ramshackle water supply and waste disposal system. But the crucial first step is for people to stop the proliferation of cholera through their own conduct. The golden rules are to boil drinking water and wash hands. Within the Caritas project, we focussed on educating people on these issues, in addition to delivering further training and education in hospitals.

In practical terms, what form does the fight against cholera take?

Butenop: First of all, it's a fight to stop it spreading. A year ago, there were almost 100,000 cases of cholera, whereas this year there were less than 500. This has a lot to do with people changing their habits, as already described. As well as health education and the provision of clean drinking water, it is also important to keep patients strictly isolated in the clinics. That is very expensive, though it works much better today than it did a year ago.

Zimbabwe

**Why is cholera so dangerous?**

It is very infectious and spreads very easily. Cholera is caused by a bacterium. Its route of transmission is faecal-oral, generally because faecal matter, and therefore the bacteria in it, gets into drinking water. The bacteria proliferate in the gut and trigger a major process of dehydration. Under normal circumstances, water in the gut is secreted into the body but with cholera this process is reversed. The bacteria secrete a toxin which causes large volumes of water – up to eight litres a day – to flush from the body into the gut. If the patient does not counter this by drinking large quantities of water, the body literally dries out. Without treatment, the condition leads very rapidly to death.

What is the medical procedure?

The treatment is simple. Patients must drink as much saline solution as they possibly can. If that is no longer possible, the solution must be administered intravenously. So it's straightforward and doesn't take long either. People can generally go home on the third day, even those who were half dead when they arrived.

So the epidemic is under control now. What work is there still to do in Zimbabwe?

As before, a key issue is public health, in other words everything that happens outside the clinics. The work of education goes on. But we also need to restore the water system and fundamentally improve the healthcare infrastructure. In Harare, for example, there used to be a good water system, so much so that you could drink the water straight from the tap. But in the course of time the water and waste disposal pipes have deteriorated progressively. Leaks have allowed waste water to infiltrate the fresh water pipes and so have infected the drinking water with cholera pathogens. The example shows that it all hinges on prevention. We are supporting our partners in this endeavour.

Help for AIDS orphans



© David Snyder, Caritas Internationalis

Amongst the countries of the world, Zimbabwe is one of the worst affected by HIV and AIDS. 35% of adults and adolescents between 15 and 49 years of age are infected with the HI virus. 80% of infected adolescents are female. The current annual death toll attributable to this illness is over 100,000. Families disintegrate, leaving AIDS orphans in their wake. Zimbabwe has 1.6 million such orphans, about 10% of the population.

Caritas Zimbabwe addresses discrimination and violence in a society marked by extreme poverty. One key activity of the projects is their work with AIDS orphans and the two million people who live with the HI virus. The international department of Caritas Germany supports this work with both funding and advice.

A worldwide family

After the earthquake in Sumatra on 30th September and 1st October 2009, which cost approx. 1,000 human lives, many helpers from the international Caritas network became involved in the relief work. They support the local staff in their work. A field report from Christina Grawe.



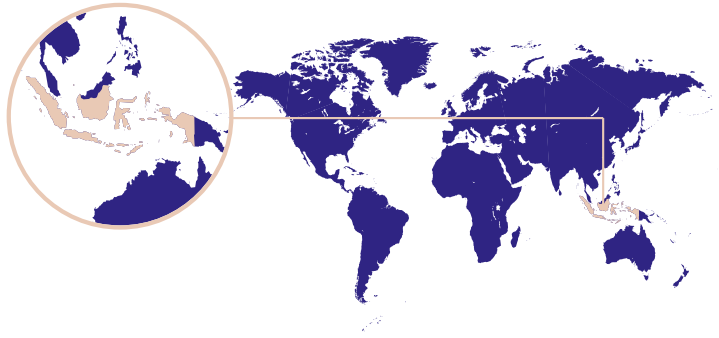
A simple school building on the outskirts of the town of Padang. Although nearly all of the neighbouring buildings collapsed, two large rooms remained intact here. They are built of wood. There are no children playing here nowadays. That has been replaced with tumultuous activity as cars and mopeds criss-cross the small school playground.

The date is 8th October 2009, one week after the severe earthquake. Workers from the Caritas network from all over the world have converged here. Laura from America, Tim from Australia, Yudhi from Indonesia and many more. Martin from the Czech Republic has just arrived. "We can find the money to finance the delivery of your tents," he says, coming straight to the point with his German colleague Fabian. No time for small talk. Immediately, everyone begins phoning, e-mailing and negotiating. The hum of a generator can be heard all day long. Inside, workers plan their relief work while sitting on the rickety little school benches. This is the improvised headquarters of Caritas Germany, the relief organisation of the German Caritas Association and its various partners from throughout the world. In just two days, a man from the community has managed to set up an Internet connection that works well.

There is an aroma of clove cigarettes and fried eggs. In one corner, women from the Catholic community have set up a kitchen and are preparing rice, eggs and vegetables for us. The school blackboard shows the outcomes of the previous evening's coordination meeting. In the corner someone has written, "Has anyone brought any vitamin C?" Eloi from France has some tablets on him. The school playground is full of parked cars. Nearby, there are a few tents and an awning to house an improvised latrine and a shower. People sleep in one of the buildings, on the floor. By now, there are hardly any hotels left unscathed in the town.

Relief work provides shelter from the elements and all the necessities of life. © Caritas Germany

Indonesia



Amid it all is an elderly gentleman with a serious expression. He, too, has put his laptop on a rickety child's table and is speaking, switching between Indonesian, English, German and French. His telephone rings. He speaks in fluent Italian. "The Vatican," he tells me with a smile.

He is the Bishop of Padang, Bishop Martinus Dogma Situmorang. The only hint of his high rank in the church is the ring on his finger. "Have you Germans found somewhere to sleep?" he asks me. He tells me that his house has been damaged by the earthquake as well, but even so he offers us shelter there and clean water any time we want it.

Now 62 years old, he's been living in Padang for 26 years and has already experienced many minor earthquakes. And some major ones, too. "We are still dealing with reconstruction on the Mentawai Islands," he sighs. Two severe earthquakes devastated large areas of the islands in 2007. But the whole world has rallied round and representatives from everywhere are gathered in this little school building on the outskirts of Padang to plan and deliver aid. This is impressive evidence, he continues, that wherever we are in the world, we are all 'una famiglia'. "And after all," says Bishop Martinus, "that is a good and consoling thought, even or especially in such a situation as this."

The international Caritas network has estimated that its aid operations by the end of the reconstruction phases in Sumatra will cost 1.2 million euros. The work of Caritas Germany was made possible by donations and by 136,000 euros from the Foreign Ministry. This grant financed the supply of tents for earthquake victims.

Tsunami hits Tonga and Samoa



© David Snyder, Caritas Internationalis

The earthquake in late September 2009, unleashed huge ocean waves – also known as tsunamis – which hit Tonga and Samoa, resulting in about fifty deaths and the loss of many homes.

"Caritas Germany and Caritas Austria very rapidly pledged their support after the seaquakes in the Tonga and Samoa region," reports Tim Walsh, Regional Coordinator for Caritas Oceania, "This has prompted us to start just as rapidly with the reconstruction work." Caritas New Zealand and Caritas Australia took immediate relief action in support of local helpers. Caritas Oceania, in association with 'Habitat for Humanity', a non-governmental organisation in Samoa, was able to arrange for the construction of a settlement of 80 houses.

Happy to be in a residential community

In South Africa, almost everything revolves around young people. Successful business men and women, underprivileged homeland children and gangs of youths dominate the picture. Little is known about the lives of older generations, and many elderly people live in poverty or on the margins of society. NOAH: 'Neighbourhood Old Age Homes' wants to change this. It is a pioneering project for senior citizens in Cape Town which integrates neighbourhood help and assisted living.

There's no doubt in Winnie Kaleni's mind about where she wants to be when she dies. Every day, the old lady visits the Caritas neighbourhood centre for the elderly in her township of Khayelitsha in Cape Town – and will do, for as long as she is mobile enough. And when the time comes and her strength ebbs away, she sees only one solution, "Over there and nowhere else," she says emphatically, pointing vigorously to the annex of the neighbourhood centre where NOAH provides assisted living for those in need. But Winnie Kaleni isn't ready for that yet. The 66-year-old lives with her sister in a hut in the township. She has spent her whole life as a housemaid living from hand to mouth until a serious illness stopped her working. Winnie Kaleni has positively blossomed in the neighbourhood centre. Here, she summons up all her energy and plays an active role in the centre's organisation committee.

Home, health and happiness is the motto of NOAH, the Caritas organisation for the elderly in need. It offers a range of activities - from karaoke to drama, from discussion groups about the problems faced by senior citizens to trips in and around Cape Town. For example, NOAH has recently organised a trip to Robben Island, the prison where Nelson Mandela and many other political detainees were held in custody under the apartheid regime. Subjects such as these are all part of the NOAH programme. Founded 28 years ago, the project also sees itself as an anti-racist human rights organisation encouraging elderly people in need to stand up for themselves and their rights. In 1981, when NOAH launched its residential groups and neighbourhood centres for people of every skin colour, it was still an illegal project for the elderly. This was the period when rigid race laws were in force. And even today, in the much-vaunted rainbow nation, it is still by no means a commonplace occurrence for whites and blacks to live and socialize together.

In addition to its two neighbourhood centres, NOAH has set up twelve residential communities for the elderly in eight different parts of Cape Town. Up to nine elderly people live together in each of the houses and organise the communal living arrangements themselves. But whenever assistance is needed, members of the NOAH staff are on hand with advice and help. This is also true for health problems, since the regular visits also cover medical and other forms of care for the residents.

In Woodstock, a district near the centre of Cape Town, NOAH also runs a geriatric outpatients clinic. This is a small clinic specialising in the healthcare needs of elderly people and is mainly, though not exclusively, for the residents of the NOAH houses. Winnie Kaleni has good reason to value this service very highly. This is because social policy in South Africa is directed mainly at young people – and the huge problems of HIV/AIDS, unemployment and the high rate of criminality. Because of this, elderly people often fall by the wayside. At the same time, however, it is the elderly who bear the brunt of so many of the social problems of modern South Africa. These people, who grew up under the unjust regime of racial separation and fought for the dawning of a new age, are often burdened with responsibility for their children and grandchildren. 60% of orphans grow up with their grandparents.

So, the redoubtable Winnie Kaleni's greatest concern is to step up assistance and relief for senior citizens. "Here at NOAH we have a good life, but there just aren't enough centres like this! My sister, my friends and neighbours all want to come here, too, but there simply isn't enough room."

South Africa



*"Many want to come here, but there simply isn't enough room."
Winnie Kaleni (left) and Julia Siyo at the NOAH centre for senior
citizens. © Caritas Germany*

Friends that are the same and different

Many Jewish people from all over the world seek refuge in Israel each year, and increasingly, non-Jews are also migrating there. This creates a wealth of cultural diversity, but also often leads to tensions. The Jaffa Institute promotes social integration in Israel – especially that of immigrant children.



Chris and his friends at the school of the Jaffa Institute.

© Caritas Germany

The “Jaffa Institute”, founded 25 years ago, is a Jewish-Israeli non-government organisation financed exclusively through donations. Its aim is to support children in Jaffa who come from socially disadvantaged backgrounds, irrespective of religion or ethnicity. To this end, it runs schemes including learning, creativity, violence prevention and anti-drugs programmes. It began collaborating with Caritas five years ago.

Israel



Israel is, by definition, an immigration country, since one of the reasons for founding the state was to create a place of refuge for Jewish men and women from all over the world. It is not easy to integrate so many people from very different countries, especially since from the early 1990s onwards more and more non-Jewish temporary workers have been coming to Israel in addition to Jewish immigrants. Many of the immigrating families are poor, there is discrimination and in many cases conflicts of identity as well. Gaps in language and education among immigrants and their children do not make integration any easier. This is where the Jaffa Institute steps in.

Eight-year-old Chris is a model pupil. He likes coming here, to the Yarden School in southern Tel Aviv. And yet Chris's living conditions are anything but good. Five years ago, he and his parents came here from Nigeria. His two younger brothers were both born in Tel Aviv. Two years ago, Chris's father was expelled from Israel because his visa had expired. Since then, his mother has been fending for the family on her own. She does cleaning work, generally more than twelve hours a day, for a meagre wage. And after school, Chris has to care for his little brothers in the cramped flat.

For an eight-year-old, this is a big responsibility that is sometimes too much. This and the separation from his Nigerian family, especially his grandmother, have scarred this little boy's spirit. He talks of the fear that he might be separated from his mother and his brothers as well. "But I feel safe when I'm being cared for by the school in the afternoons. I really like going to school," he says. "I feel just like all the others here. I learn and get a hot meal. But I only feel good when I'm at school."

Caritas Germany supports the Jaffa Institute, which every day gives 70 schoolchildren like Chris four extra

lessons and out-of-school activities as well. The aim is to help disadvantaged children break out of the vicious circle of poverty and integrate into Israeli society.

As well as getting traditional help with homework, reading, writing and preparation for tests and examinations, the children are also encouraged to learn through play. Examples include sports projects, computer and technology courses or other activities which children enjoy. The result is that Hebrew, art, maths or science are not just school subjects, but are taught through play in these courses and extracurricular activities. That is exactly what is important to the Jaffa Institute.

**"When I get to school
I feel safe."**

The Institute wants the children to improve their performance in school, but not only that. It also wants the children to develop their social and emotional skills through extracurricular activities such as music tuition and theatre courses. Issashar Dror, Director of the Jaffa Institute, explains: "The progress made by the children is particularly obvious when we look at creativity and self-expression. Painting, music and other activities foster the creative potential of children, which in reverse also leads to better cognitive performance and higher self-esteem.

Music, whatever cultural roots it may have, can sometimes build bridges between people without a common language or cultural identity. This helps Chris, too, to feel as though he belongs. "I now have friends that look like me and friends that look quite different."

Early help is most effective

Early intervention, integration and the education of children with disabilities – the work of Caritas in Kosovo leads by example. In addition to schools and education centres, a network has been built up to support families, while volunteers provide assistance.

I could see straight away that Blerion wasn't healthy: his head was far too large and deformed. The doctor told me my son had hydrocephalus, water on the brain. He was operated on just two days after he was born. I thought everything would be fine, but then there were complications and Blerion's brain was partially damaged. I was completely devastated and cried a great deal at that time," recounts Myrvete Dullaj, who lives with her family in Kosovo.

Raising a disabled child in Kosovo is an enormous undertaking. Myrvete Dullaj knows this. The state provides virtually no support for families affected by disability. They only receive a standard payment of 100 euros per month – but treatment costs regularly total several times this amount. There are only a few organisations nationwide which offer support of any kind to affected families. What is more, disability is a taboo subject in Kosovo. Children like Blerion are sometimes kept secret and hidden in the house by their families.

Caritas Kosovo took action and founded an integrated nursery school and training centres in the city of Prizren. An early intervention centre for disabled infants and toddlers was added in 2008. "Early help is most effective," explains manager Ida Delhysa. "The earlier and more intensively children are supported in their motor activity and perception, thinking and speech, the more independently they will be able to shape their life later on."

A team made up of physiotherapists, nurses and social workers draws up a training and development plan for every child – in 2009 there were 38. The children come to the centre for around three hours per week and receive individual support. In addition, employees train parents in caring for their child and provide information about the causes of the disability, typical symptoms and

possible treatments. Being informed and having a somewhere to go gives parents support and security. Monthly discussion groups in which they can share their experiences with other families affected by disability also contribute to this.

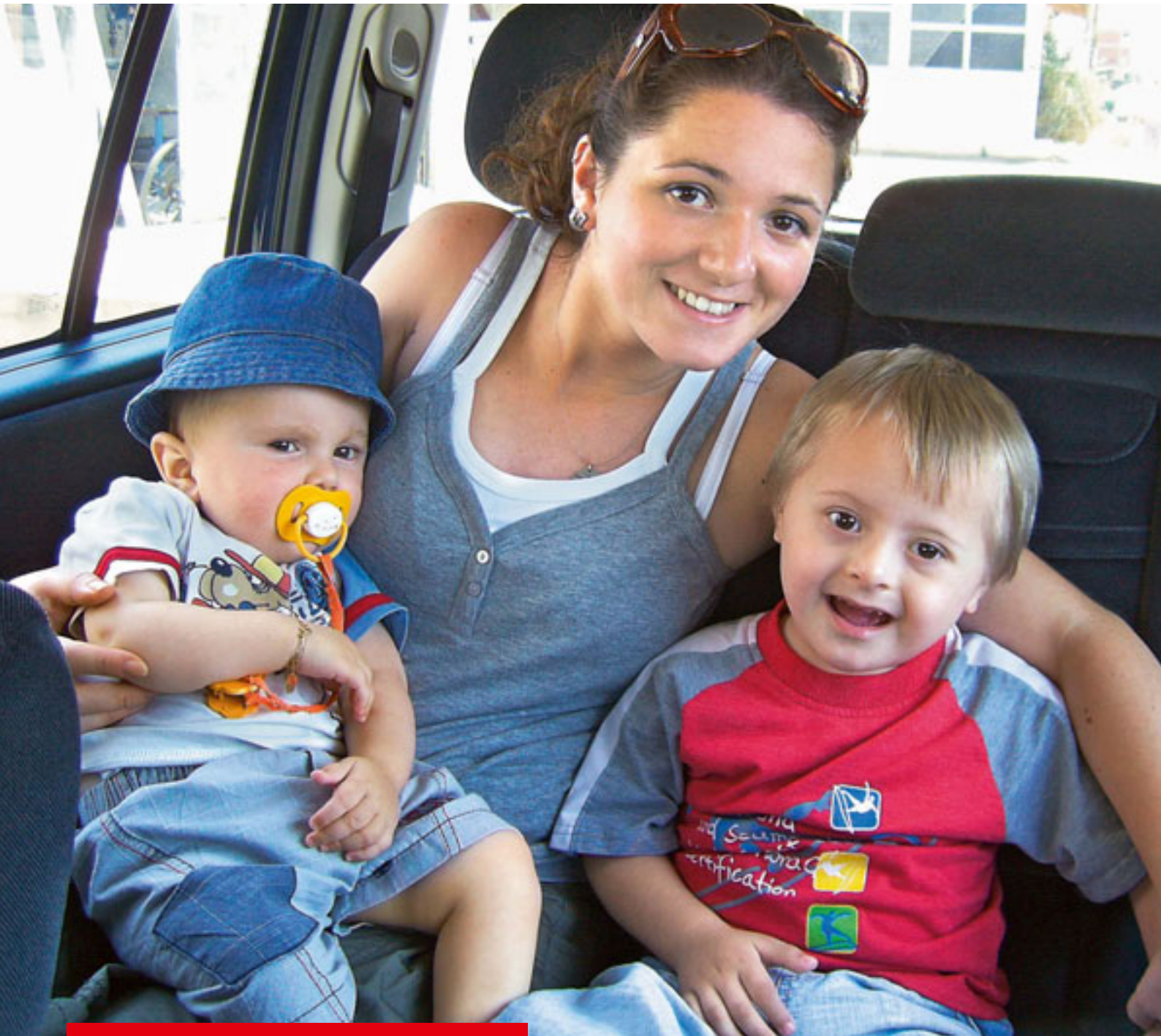
"The attitude among Kosovans toward people with disabilities is slowly improving, though a great deal remains to be done," explains Ida Delhysa. Some parents are still afraid to step out in public with their children. That is why the early intervention centre, local clinics and organisations for disabled people are working hand in hand. They notify one another of newborn babies with disabilities and create a network aimed at supporting families and preventing them from becoming isolated.

"The attitude among Kosovans toward people with disabilities is slowly improving."

Volunteers actively approach those affected and offer support. This was also Myrvete Dullaj's experience. "I was wary when all of a sudden two women were standing at my front door," she recalls. "But when they offered me help I was glad. Because we live in a very remote area, the Caritas volunteers treat my son at home. My little boy has made good progress: he can now walk, he's beginning to talk, he laughs and responds to me. And now I know how I can support Blerion's development.

Supporting people with disabilities is a priority of the work of Caritas Germany. A total of over 3.3 million euros was made available for this purpose in 2009.

Kosovo



The earlier children are supported and integrated, the more independence they will have later in life.

© Caritas Germany, Heinrich Schurad

„Eine Million Sterne“

58 Caritas member associations and organisations last year took part in the “One Million Stars” campaign. The idea, which originated in France, has now grown into a solidarity campaign of the international Caritas network which is implemented in many European countries during the run-up to Christmas.



An advertisement for treating one another with respect.

© Matthias Frühmorgen

The rain and wind were so severe that a large number of candles failed to light on 14th November 2009. However, most of the Caritas candles in the sturdy clay pots proved to be sufficiently weather-proof that ultimately the “One Million Stars” campaign could once again boast of great success. Under the direction of the international department of Caritas Germany, 58 Caritas member organisations all over Germany took part, many of them for the third time.

Through the illuminations in central town squares, each year before Christmas Caritas points the way towards solidarity and a just world. “Every candle represents a person in a difficult situation,” explains Georg Cremer, Secretary General of the German Caritas Association, at Freiburg’s Münsterplatz. “We promote respectful interaction with one another and independent participation in the life of the community.” Member associations were collecting donations on this occasion for a project in Brazil, where the money benefits children whose livelihood comes from gathering and selling rubbish.

The campaign organised by the Caritas association in Mainz, which took place in parallel to the cathedral’s 1000th anniversary celebrations, was particularly large. Under the motto “One Million Stars – that children may live”, 4300 candles burned on the cathedral square in the shape of the Caritas burning cross - one for every child in Mainz living in poverty. In other places, volunteers formed various motifs with the candles such as circles, stars or the Caritas burning cross. It was not only Caritas workers who were involved; others were inspired by the idea and made their contribution to the event’s success. For example, pupils from the Gießen-Ost secondary school placed candles on the church square in the forms of a star, sun and peace symbol, while in Constance young people strolled through the streets with candles and lit them all at once.

“Drugs policy must become more humane”

Drugs problems have long since stepped beyond the boundaries of production countries such as Columbia and Afghanistan, and consumer regions in industrialised nations. There is now a growing number of addicts in southern countries. The international department of Caritas Germany took up this theme at the international conference “Drug consumption: new forms, new answers, new policy”.

The global demand for illegal drugs is rising, while the area used to cultivate opium poppies, coca and cannabis is expanding. The aim of the UN General Assembly to create a drug-free world, announced at a special session on drugs in 1998, is far from having been achieved. The repressive policy of the nation states, initiated in 1972 by the USA as the “War Against Drugs”, has been unsuccessful in reducing both drug production and consumer numbers, which currently stand at 250 million people.

From 21st – 23rd January 2009, 120 participants from 26 countries met at the Alice Salomon University of Applied Sciences for Social Work (ASFH) in Berlin to discuss a more humane international policy on drugs at the outset of the new UN Decade Against Drug Abuse and to present alternatives to the “War Against Drugs”. International drugs experts, including Ricardo Vargas, the Colombian Deputy Health Minister Carlos Ignacio Cuervo Valencia and the departmental manager of Drug Demand Reduction at the Ministry of Health in Afghanistan, Dr Abdullah Wardack, met with students and tutors at ASFH, as well as Caritas employees from all over the world.

Experiences, ideas and methods were discussed, participants presented their work approaches and projects, workshops provided space for exchanging experiences and a joint stance on drug consumption, prevention and addiction aid was developed. This resulted finally in a joint position paper, the “Berlin Declaration”, which establishes the aims of the forthcoming UN Decade Against Drug Abuse.

International drugs policy must adopt a more humane and preventative approach, urged Peter Neher, President of the German Caritas Association in his speech to those responsible. Oliver Müller, Director of the inter-

Flashback 21st to 23rd January ◀ ▶

Drugs conference



© Caritas Germany

Work with drug addicts occupies Caritas activities in many countries, such as here in Indonesia. 120 participants discussed assistance for drug users and drugs policy at the international drugs conference. They adopted the “Berlin Declaration” which shifts the focus onto people and seeks to protect the rights and the health of consumers.

national department of Caritas Germany, added: “Effective drugs policy and effective addiction aid must adopt a bottom-up approach. It must be a ‘drugs policy from below’, a drugs policy that is relevant to the people.”

Since 1996, Caritas projects have been run in ten Latin American countries showing those in need the way out of addiction. The aims include social and legal rehabilitation into society and reducing drug demand. Networks are being established by aid organisations in order to provide help in as many regions as possible. Children and adolescents particularly need support when they come into contact with AIDS, tuberculosis and sexually transmitted diseases through their drug consumption.

Partnerships and alliances

The international department of Caritas Germany cooperates with various relief organisations and the worldwide Caritas network, both within Germany and on international assignments. This creates positive synergy effects and enables the manifold tasks involved in relief work to be allocated sensibly.

Aktionsbündnis Katastrophenhilfe (Alliance for Disaster Aid)

The large relief organisations Caritas Germany, Deutsches Rotes Kreuz (German Red Cross) and Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe work together in the "Aktionsbündnis Katastrophenhilfe" (Alliance for Disaster Aid). Together with their cooperation partner, the German television station ZDF, they appeal to the media and the public in order to mobilise relief efforts when disaster strikes.

Misereor

Caritas Germany cooperates closely with the episcopal relief organisation Misereor. The two organisations share information, support joint programmes and carry out joint public relations work in certain areas. This cooperation also includes over two million euros per year being transferred from Misereor to Caritas. In long-term projects following on from disaster aid, both organisations take a wider view of the situation of people in the affected areas and are therefore able to ensure that emergency aid develops into sustainable development.

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe

The international department of Caritas Germany has worked in close partnership with the disaster relief organisation Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe for many years. The organisations cooperate in various areas. Their work involves providing disaster relief directly in the affected regions and also public relations work.

Project: "For a successful future of international church relief work in Germany"

In 2009, the six Catholic relief organisations Adveniat, Caritas Germany, Kindermissionswerk "Die Sternsinger", Missio, Misereor and Renovabis agreed to cooperate more closely both in their project work and external presentation. At the same time it was agreed that the autonomy and specific profile of each organisation should

be preserved. The project, "For a successful future of international church relief work in Germany", which was initiated in 2006, was supported by the German Conference of Catholic Bishops together with the 27 dioceses and the relief organisations joined together under the MARMICK association. Even in the past, the organisations have collaborated in their international church relief work, however in future, exchange will take place on a more regular and more intensive basis. At the same time, sharpening the profiles of the individual organisations should enable their different fields and focuses of work to become more clearly apparent, and enable clearer boundaries to be drawn between them.

The international Caritas confederation

Caritas Germany's international department collaborates closely with 165 national Caritas organisations and is a member of the umbrella organisation Caritas Internationalis, headquartered in Rome. The 165 Caritas organisations provide disaster relief, development aid and funding for social projects around the world. Committed and expert local staff ensure the sustained success of the individual projects in each country. After all, they are best placed to understand the situation and requirements in their specific region. Caritas is active worldwide and works independently of religion and nationality. The Rome-based umbrella organisation Caritas Internationalis serves as a central forum through which member organisations can share information and experiences, learn from each other and support each other. Caritas Internationalis is involved in anti-poverty lobbying, represents the interests of its members in the United Nations and other international organisations, and initiates international campaigns. The staff of Caritas Internationalis support the Caritas organisations worldwide in providing emergency and development aid. The international Caritas organisation acts as a voice and a legal representative for the poor.



Close collaboration and cooperation among experts help to improve infrastructure. © Paul Jeffrey

The statutory branches of the German Caritas Association

Caritas Germany's international department is the relief organisation of the German Caritas Association (Deutscher Caritasverband e. V. – DCV) and is integrated into the Association's organisational structure. As a department of the DCV headquarters, at its registered address in Freiburg, it reports to the President of the full-time Board. For further information on the branches of the DCV, visit www.caritas.de.

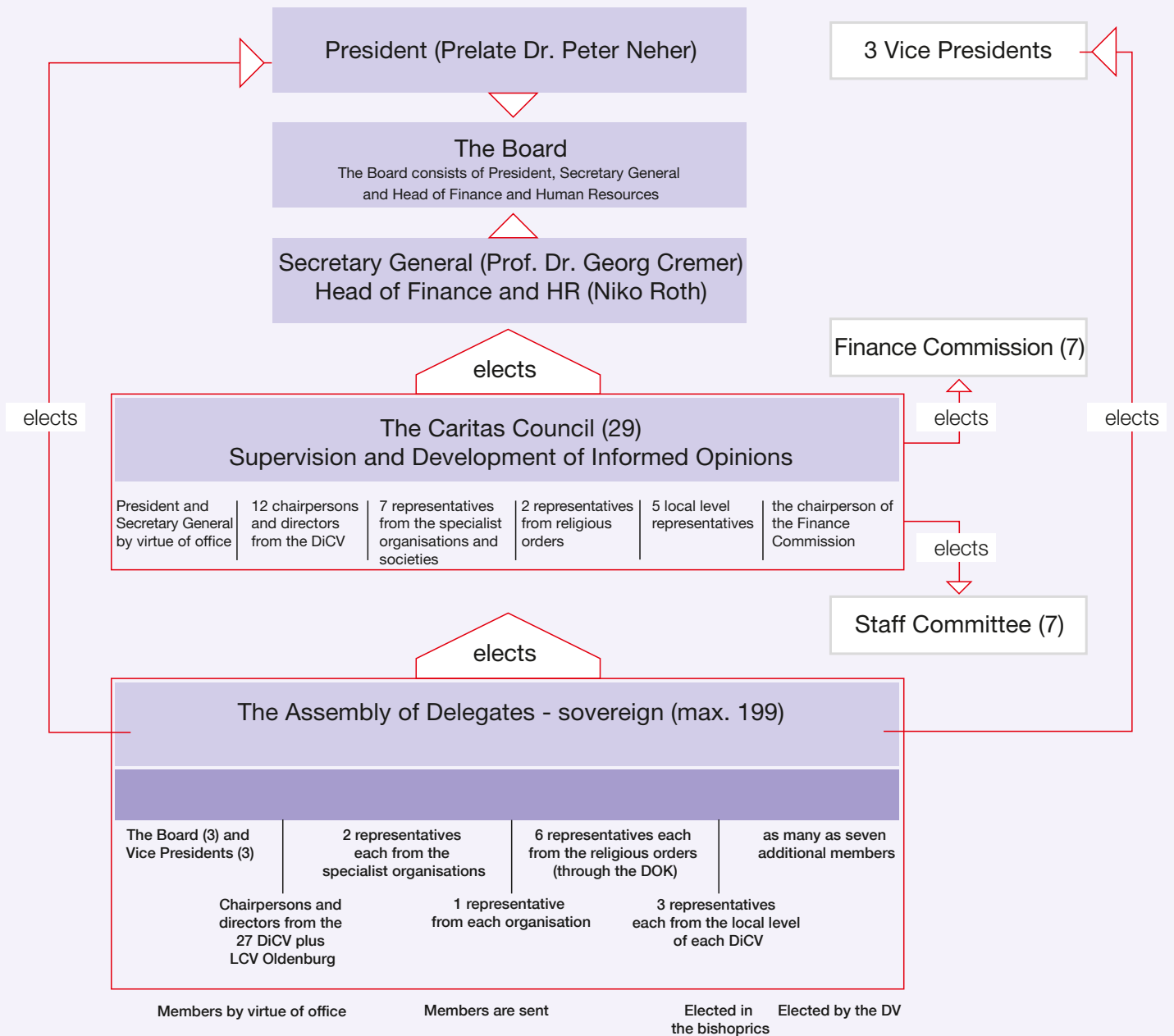
Members of the Caritas Council:

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Chairman
Dr. Matthias Berger,
Chairman of the Finance Commission
Prof. Dr. Georg Cremer,
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Hans-Joachim Thömmes,
Deputy Chairman of the KKVD e. V.
Msgr. Wolfgang Tripp, Director of the DiCV Rottenburg-
Stuttgart e. V.

Consultant members:

Mario Junglas, Head of the Berlin office of the DCV e. V.
Niko Roth, Head of Finance and Human Resources
at the DCV e. V.
Prelate Karl-Heinz Zerrle,
Head of the Munich office of the DCV e. V.



DiCV: Diözesan-Caritasverbände = Diocesan Caritas Associations
 LCV: Landes-Caritasverbände = National Caritas Associations
 DV: Delgiertenversammlung = Assembly of Delegates
 DOK: Deutsche Ordensoberenkonferenz = German Conference of Major Superiors

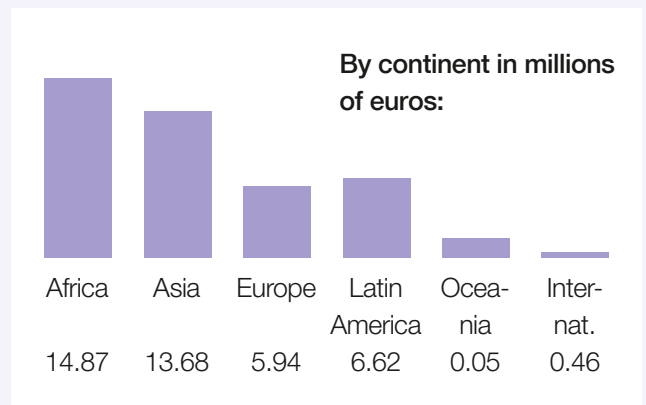
Project Expenditure



By Target Group

- Disaster aid and prevention, reconstruction 54.7 %
- A World for the Aging and the Ill 9.8 %
- A World for Children and Adolescents 21.3 %
- A World for Disabled People 8.0 %
- Other (Migration, establishment of Caritas organisations worldwide, etc.) 6.2 %

Total expenditures: 41.6 million euros



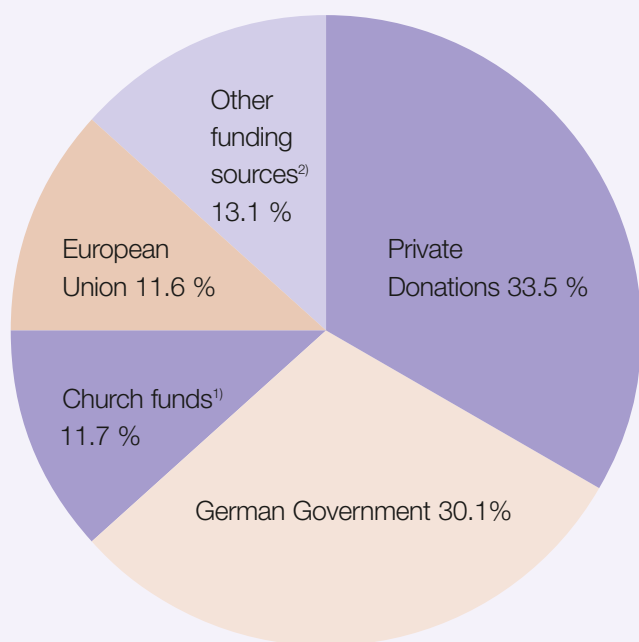
How You Can Help:

It is your support that enables us to work where people are dependent on the help and solidarity of others. Your trust confirms our belief that our strategy – effective help so others can help themselves – is the right strategy everywhere in the world.

In order to provide lasting aid, Caritas Germany remains dependent on your donations in the future as well. When you donate, you can choose from a wide spectrum of aid projects and target your support to a project you deem important. We guarantee that your donation reaches the destination you have selected. Each and every step from the receipt of your donation to its practical application is documented.

If you choose not to tag your donation we will employ your money where it is most needed. Thus, we are able to give disaster aid even when a disaster gets little public attention and to help people who might otherwise be forgotten.

You can transfer your donation to our account, number 202 at the Bank für Sozialwirtschaft in Karlsruhe, bank code 660 205 00. Pre-printed transfer slips are also available at banks and building societies. You can find out more about our projects and make an online donation at www.caritas-international.de. Or give us a call on ++49 (0)761 200-288 and we will gladly advise you in person.



By Funding Source

The diagram shows the funds allocated to projects in 2009. The amount of aid is not identical with the donation income and public grants of the year 2009. Some programs run for several years and are financed successively.

¹⁾ Funds from the Association of German Dioceses as well as from the bishoprics of Freiburg, Cologne and Rottenburg-Stuttgart

²⁾ Funds from Misereor, other Caritas associations and other sources

Public Funding

German Government (total)		European Union (total)	
	12,506,247 EUR		4,829,066 EUR
Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation Foreign Ministry	9,860,952 EUR 2,645,295 EUR	Humanitarian Aid for	
Church Funds (total)	4,883,935 EUR	Afghanistan	587,755 EUR
Association of German Dioceses	4,386,734 EUR	Bangladesh	185,420 EUR
Bishoprics of Freiburg, Cologne, Rottenburg-Stuttgart	497,201 EUR	Burundi	1,517,124 EUR
		Ethiopia	740,284 EUR
		India	226,996 EUR
		Pakistan	60,000 EUR
		Social Projects for	
		Afghanistan	180,000 EUR
		Brazil	71,683 EUR
		Colombia	554,116 EUR
		Serbia	288,313 EUR
		South Africa	186,663 EUR
		Tajikistan	230,712 EUR

Country Overview

Africa

Africa (general)/11 Projects	85,437.17 EUR
Egypt/11 Projects	475,813.09 EUR
Angola/2 Projects	32,974.80 EUR
Ethiopia/10 Projects	1,045,498.52 EUR
Benin/7 Projects	237,988.97 EUR
Burundi/8 Projects	1,766,091.34 EUR
Guinea/2 Projects	59,000.00 EUR
Kenya/11 Projects	171,778.16 EUR
Dem. Rep. of Congo/ 47 Projects	3,639,064.78 EUR
Liberia/3 Projects	224,092.74 EUR
Mali/5 Projects	323,200.01 EUR
Morocco/2 Projects	45,100.00 EUR
Mozambique/8 Projects	795,000.00 EUR
Mauretania/3 Projects	35,000.00 EUR
Niger/15 Projects	317,909.09 EUR
Rwanda/6 Projects	125,028.00 EUR
Senegal/2 Projects	175,126.00 EUR
Sierra Leone/14 Projects	796,960.76 EUR
Somalia/4 Projects	350,000,.00 EUR
Sudan/13 Projects	990,944.68 EUR
South Africa/11 Projects	785,736.13 EUR
Tanzania/16 Projects	577,278.86 EUR
Togo/7 Projects	336,548.69 EUR
Chad/2 Projects	85,000.00 EUR
Uganda/2 Projects	167,500.00 EUR

Asia

Afghanistan/37 Projects	1,883,857.39 EUR
Bangladesh/12 Projects	690,556.85 EUR
Burma (Myanmar)/7 Projects	553,058.82 EUR
China/12 Projects	608,225.83 EUR
India/38 Projects	1,271,296.27 EUR
Indonesia/39 Projects	1,374,735.39 EUR
Iran/2 Projects	5,000.00 EUR
Iraq/10 Projects	254,000.00 EUR
Israel and Palestine/21 Projects	1,106,798.93 EUR
Jordan/6 Projects	392,335.55 EUR
Cambodia/7 Projects	256,935.65 EUR
Korea (North Korea)/ 4 Projects	287,034.07 EUR
Lebanon/5 Projects	97,411.05 EUR
Mongolia/2 Projects	66,000.00 EUR
Nepal/10 Projects	93,021.24 EUR
Pakistan/27 Projects	1,951,687.79 EUR
Philippines/3 Projects	137,000.00 EUR
Sri Lanka/17 Projects	658,337.06 EUR
Syria/1 Projectst	44,000.00 EUR
Tajikistan/20 Projects	993,677.97 EUR
Thailand/6 Projects	410,000.00 EUR
Vietnam/17 Projects	609,749.57 EUR

Europe

Europe (general)/22 Projects	386,812.39 EUR
Albania/6 Projects	214,659.94 EUR
Armenia/7 Projects	227,322.51 EUR
Bosnia and Herzegovina/ 10 Projects	481,903.87 EUR
Bulgaria/7 Projects	420,661.82 EUR
Germany/4 Projects	164,929.06 EUR
Georgia/10 Projects	588,804.44 EUR
Greece/1 Project	25,000.00 EUR
Kosovo/2 Projects	188,331.20 EUR
Lithuania/1 Project	741.95 EUR
Moldova/4 Projects	229,327.82 EUR
Montenegro/2 Projects	36,270.88 EUR
Poland/12 Projects	57,000.00 EUR
Romania/8 Projects	122,001.60 EUR
Russia/36 Projects	642,986.53 EUR
Serbia/8 Projects	521,666.20 EUR
Czech Republic/2 Projects	85,000.00 EUR
Turkey/8 Projects	145,274.80 EUR
Ukraine/12 Projects	625,095.29 EUR

Latin America

Latin America (general)/ 15 Projects	536,676.25 EUR
Argentina/3 Projects	305,940.21 EUR
Bolivia/12 Projects	542,764.02 EUR
Brazil/32 Projects	1,420,645.12 EUR
Chile/5 Projects	168,930.00 EUR
Costa Rica/1 Project	10,496.00 EUR
Ecuador/6 Projects	114,062.18 EUR
El Salvador/5 Projects	143,620.00 EUR
Guatemala/3 Projects	25,923.20 EUR
Haiti/2 Projects	15,000.00 EUR
Honduras/6 Projects	119,116.28 EUR
Colombia/22 Projects	1,661,988.31 EUR
Cuba/2 Projects	33,995.70 EUR
Mexico/7 Projects	206,553.66 EUR
Nicaragua/3 Projects	187,784.99 EUR
Panama/4 Projects	110,275.00 EUR
Peru/10 Projects	1,006,797.45 EUR
Uruguay/1 Project	5,000.00 EUR

Oceania

Samoa/1 Project	50,000.00 EUR
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International

International/9 Projects	463,541.15 EUR
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Statement of Account

(January 1 to December 31, 2009)

Income in euros	2009	2008
Grants		
German government	12,973,492.60	13,225,711.84
Church funds	4,432,377.79	5,208,624.98
European Union	4,178,554.23	6,254,342.11
Other grants	7,076,488.86	7,705,120.22
Total grants	28,660,913.48	32,393,799.15
Donations, inheritances and other charitable contributions		
Project donations	11,192,763.15	15,859,472.74
Proceeds from assets and interest income	3,103,314.92	6,395.73
Inheritances, legacies	101,887.59	168,181.06
Other	171,776.58	141,211.36
Total donations, inheritances and other charitable contributions	14.569.742,24	16.175.260,89
Total income	43.230.655,72	48.569.060,04

Notes

Church grants: Funds from the Association of German Dioceses as well as from the bishoprics of Freiburg, Cologne and Rottenburg-Stuttgart.

Other grants: Funds from Misereor, other Caritas organisations and other sources.

Interest income: Proceeds from temporarily invested trust funds. Trust funds are funds that have been reserved for and tagged to projects and purposes but could not yet be forwarded to those responsible for implementation.

In the case of proceeds from assets and interest income, corresponding expenditure (realised losses due to market fluctuations and book value depreciation of financial investments) has been balanced. As a result of the financial crisis we were unable to generate a surplus from short-term investments of donations in 2008. Following a decision taken by the board for the 2008 business year, no funds were debited from donations due to the crisis in the financial market. The international department of Caritas Germany is able to provide every donor with the guarantee that his or her donation, less an appropriate administration fee, will be used solely for the intended purpose.

Costs in euros	2009	2008
I. Project expenditures	41,617,707.25	47,401,125.50
Emergency and disaster aid / Reconstruction/ Social work for children and adolescents, the elderly, the ill and the disabled / Other projects		
II. Personnel, materials, and amortisation		
1. Personnel expenses: wages and salaries, social benefits, retirement funds (thereof directly allocable to projects)	4,313,247.64 (2,887,274.11)	3,943,034.44 (2,666,967.31)
2. Cost of materials: project work, educational and PR work, fundraising (thereof directly allocable to projects)	3,806,756.64 (1,837,821.67)	3,639,719.70 (1,830,322.55)
3. Levies: service charges etc.	727,639.30	741,518.95
4. Depreciation/amortisation	72,749.98	83,795.21
Total costs	50.538.100,81	55.809.193,80
Result for the Division	-7.307.445,09	-7.240.133,76

Project expenditure: Expenditures comprises contributions to more than 700 aid projects.

Personnel, materials, and amortisation: This item includes all expenses incurred for proper and efficient project implementation. It includes the costs of processing applications for aid, controlling fund allocation and accounting, as well as providing accountability towards donors.

Result for the Division: The result shown is withdrawn from the trust funds. On December 31, 2009, the funds amounted to EUR 86,064,052.92. The amount from the previous year was EUR 93,371,498.01 (see above note on interest income).

Administration and Advertising Costs

Administrative and advertising costs are all those expenses which, in view of their content, cannot be directly allocated to the tax-deductible purposes stated in the Association Statutes. According to the DZI (German Central Institute for Social Affairs), advertising and administrative costs exceeding 35% of total expenditure are not tenable.

The DZI deems administrative and advertising costs of below 20% to be reasonable. Administrative and advertising costs of below 10% are regarded as low.

In 2009, the share of advertising and administrative expenditure for Caritas Germany was 8.3%.

Administrative costs calculation pursuant to DZI guidelines¹⁾:

Project promotion ¹⁾	43,034,303.84 EUR	85.2 %
(of this, personnel costs)	(349,419.17 EUR)	
Project assistance	2,885,078.61 EUR	5.7 %
(of this, personnel costs)	(2,411,165.49 EUR)	
Campaigns and educational work	423,420.58 EUR	0.8 %
(of this, personnel costs)	(126,689.45 EUR)	
Total project expenditures	46,342,803.03 EUR	91.7 %
Administration	2,115,228.80 EUR	4.2 %
(of this, personnel costs)	(1,027,518.09 EUR)	
Advertising and PR work	2,080,069.00 EUR	4.1 %
(of this, personnel costs)	(398,455.45 EUR)	
Total administrative and advertising expenditure	4,195,297.80 EUR	8.3 %
Total expenditures	50,538,100.83 EUR	100.0 %

¹⁾ The figures contain expenditure for the international department of Caritas Germany, which is allocated to the funding of projects in accordance with the DZI.

We would be pleased to provide information regarding legacies and donations. Tel: +49 (0)761/200-288

Auditor's Report on the Division Result

The division statement of results for the donation-relevant international division (Caritas Germany, International Department) is derived from Caritas Germany's Annual Report 2009 audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers AG Auditing Company.²⁾

As an extension of the annual audit we requested our auditors to control the divisional results relevant to donations. The results of the international division were audited (as derived from the bookkeeping upon which the annual financial statement is based) as well as expenditures from and income to cost centres.

Moreover, the annual auditor was asked to check adherence to the "Voluntary Guidelines and Implementation Rules for Non-profit, National and Donation-Collecting Organisations" (DZI Guidelines) in the version from September 15, 2006. The DZI guidelines require, among other things, an intended purpose and effective application of funds, commensurability of compensation, true, clear and accurate fundraising, as well as a proper financial statement.

The annual auditor reported to the board that their findings lead to no objections.

²⁾ The 2009 annual and business reports for Caritas Germany are published under www.caritas.de.

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The International Department of Caritas Germany, the relief organisation of the German Caritas Association, provides disaster aid worldwide and sponsors social projects for children, for the elderly, the ill and the disabled. Caritas Germany helps independently of religion and nationality and works with 160 national Caritas organisations around the world.

www.caritas-international.de