



Annual Report 2012

Our Work Worldwide

Caritas Germany
International Department





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Dear readers, friends and supporters of Caritas **Germany**,

Unlike previous years, many of the major disasters over the past year were not the consequences of earthquakes, tsunamis or droughts. Instead, they were and are caused by man: the civil war in Syria, the conflict in Mali, new outbreaks of fighting in the Congo and the long-standing hostilities in Afghanistan. All over these regions, humanitarian aid is facing extraordinary challenges. Countless refugees and displaced persons have not only had to leave their belongings behind, but also their family and friends. They are living in constant fear and anguish. Work in conflict zones is dangerous and often virtually impossible, when even life and limb of the relief workers are at risk. Moreover, the refugees have no idea if or when they will be able to return to "normal life".

To make matters worse, religious overtones to these conflicts are becoming increasingly common. At times, there is even talk of "faith wars", of "religious conflicts" or of "wars of religions". But what truth is there in such headlines? Unfortunately, there

THE YEAR 2012 IN PICTURES

Relief aid for flood victims in Brazil:

25,000 people had to be evacuated following violent storms in the south-east of the country. Caritas is assisting by providing the most basic needs in emergency shelters.



Humanitarian aid in the face of danger:

Humanitarian aid is especially dangerous in conflict zones: the number of attacks on humanitarian aid workers has tripled over the last decade.

January



February

Caught between the fronts:

Hostilities in Syria are escalating. More and more people are being forced to flee. Caritas Germany and its partners in the field are assisting in Syria and in neighbouring countries.

March

9. Forum Globale Fragen kompakt
Das Humanitäre Dilemma -
Möglichkeit der Humanitären Hilfe in Konflikten
Berlin, 1. März 2012



really were and are conflicts caused by religion: attacks on members of the Christian minority in Pakistan; threats to and displacement of minorities in Syria, such as the Armenian Christians who left their homeland in their thousands; the danger posed to religious minorities in other Arab countries, especially in countries such as Egypt or Tunisia, where Islamists are in government; the violence in Mali, where the North was in the hands of Islamist rebels until the French intervened; the radical Islamist propaganda in Iran against everything Western-Christian and Israeli-Jewish; and last but not least, the conflicts in India between Hindus and Muslims that have been ongoing for years, or in Indonesia between Muslims, Buddhists, Christians and Hindus. But a closer look at the conflicts also shows that religious motives are often just a mask for economic, social or political grounds. And it is often just a small number of fanatics who turn conflicts – which are already undeniably underway – into faith wars. The vast majority of people in all of the mentioned countries and regions can be assumed to wish for the peaceful coexistence of religions and cultures.

>>



April

Drought and famine in Sahel:

In parts of West Africa, drought, conflict and structural poverty lead to hunger and destitution. Caritas Germany, which has been present in the field for many years, is supplying food and medical help.



May

Renewed hostilities in Central Africa:

In the east of the Congo, civil war has broken out again. Caritas is supporting refugees and is also assisting in remote regions of the country.



June

Aid out of Christian conviction:

Musician Paddy Kelly travelled to Ethiopia in his role as an ambassador for Caritas Germany, to see the aid projects for himself. He will also be supporting the work financially with the proceeds from his concert tour.

The International Department of Caritas Germany is backing communication between religious groups. Examples of such work include projects with liberal Islamic schools in West Africa, to ensure that there is provision for children there to learn to read and write. In Pakistan, Caritas Germany is supporting the National Commission for Inter-Religious Dialogue and Ecumenism (NCIDE), which was established in response to escalating religious conflicts. Indeed, peace-building and inter-religious dialogue are even embedded in Caritas projects in multi-religious Indonesia. In all of these cases, Caritas Germany's principle of partnership plays a central role (see article on page 24), because the local partner – whether the local Caritas representation office, a Muslim or a non-denominational partner – is well informed and knows the dangers of a smouldering dispute. Some of the local employees have been cooperating for years with people of other beliefs and with religious associations and institutions. They are renowned for the independence of their work and for the objectivity of their relief aid. This allows Caritas to work effectively in many project regions where other organisations have long since pulled out, such as Afghanistan. Caritas' independent work in Iraq is well recognised far beyond the Christian diaspora because it is really intended for all those in need. This principle of affording

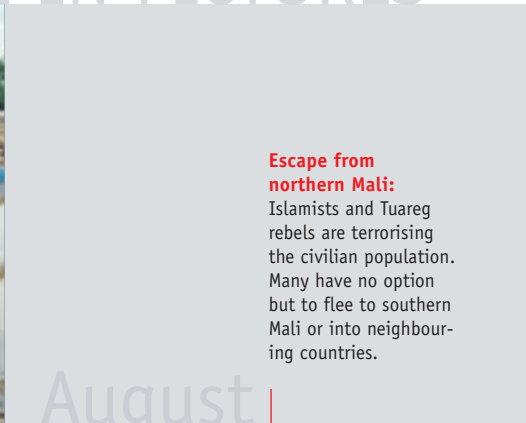
THE YEAR 2012 IN PICTURES



July

Severe flooding in Russia:

Entire regions in the south of the country are under water. Caritas is providing in particular for people in need such as the elderly, those who are ill or disabled, as well as for families who do not receive government aid.



September

Off the street and onto the pitch:

Alina Tselutina is completing her trial period with the German women's football league. The 20-year-old learnt to play through a Caritas project aimed at street kids in Odessa (Ukraine).



Escape from northern Mali:

Islamists and Tuareg rebels are terrorising the civilian population. Many have no option but to flee to southern Mali or into neighbouring countries.

August

help and protection regardless of ethnicity, religion or other distinction always means that there is an aspect of peacebuilding, too. Where Christian charity provides relief for anyone in need, it gives the most credible response to any religious conflict or dispute.

With your help, dear donors, supporters and friends of Caritas Germany, we will be able to continue this type of relief into the future. For that, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!



Prelate Dr. Peter Neher
President of the German
Caritas Association

Dr. Oliver Müller
Director International Department
Caritas Germany

Flooding in Pakistan:

More than a million people have been affected and around 75,000 homes have been destroyed by the floodwaters. Caritas Germany is helping with food, drinking water and shelter.



Lasting impressions of Colombia:

A Caritas delegate mission finds a spirit of optimism. Despite conflict and corruption, project workers are committed and full of hope.

October



November

Escalating violence in Guinea-Bissau:

The military regime is attacking the civilian population with brute force. A small radio station is providing a forum for the pro-democracy movement, and assists peacebuilding. Caritas has been supporting the project for several years.

December



Volunteers working with refugees

The war in Syria is forcing hundreds of thousands of people to leave their homes – predominantly to neighbouring countries. Some organisations estimate that the number of refugees in Lebanon is one million, whilst in Jordan it is thought to be around 500,000. And every day, hundreds more are crossing the borders. Caritas is responding – with its heart and soul, and the help of thousands of volunteers.

In their day-to-day lives, Majid (24) is a lawyer, Susann (21) is a business management student, and Ibrahim (23) studies financial management. These pursuits are what they should be occupying their days with. Living in Jordan's capital of Amman, they should be able to ignore the plight of the refugees on their country's borders. In

theory, anyway. But Majid, Susann and Ibrahim, along with dozens of other young people, have decided to devote some of their time to volunteering at Caritas Jordan, helping Syrian refugees. Today saw them handing out relief goods in Madaba, a town to the south of Amman. They distributed light mattresses, soap, shampoo and

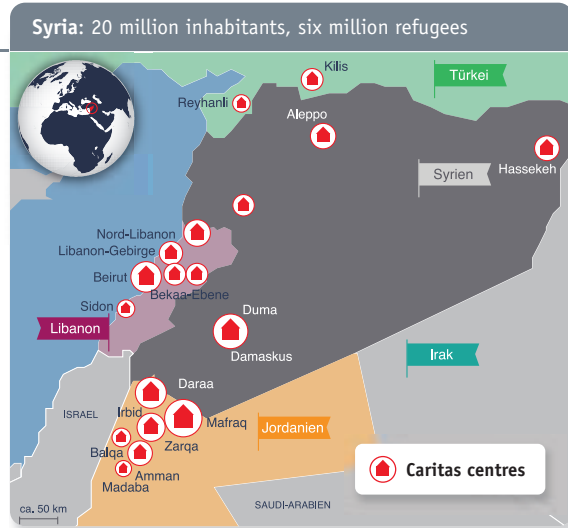
Many Syrian refugees

long to return to a peaceful life. A large number of volunteers help make their fate a little more bearable.

toothbrushes to people who had been forced to leave everything behind. People such as Hazar Akrad (23), who has been in Jordan since the beginning of the year. She has two children: a boy and a girl. "One day, my husband was attacked by government soldiers," she recounts. "We had never been involved in politics. My husband is a window carpenter. We had a good life." After Hazar's husband was beaten up in front of his young children, the family decided to flee. Hazar and the children were the first to leave. "We had to bribe so many people to get here. It cost us a large part of our savings but we had to leave Syria." Hazar's four-year-old daughter, Can, has stopped speaking since the brutal attacks at their home, while her six-year-old brother is too scared to leave the house on his own and go to school. And, to make matters worse, they hardly have any money. "There's little work for us refugees," says Hazar. "Particularly for women." Hazar's husband didn't make it to Jordan until a few months after his family and he's currently still being forced to wait at the Zaatari refugee camp. "But we hope that he will be able to join us soon."

It will probably be some while before Hazar becomes fully aware of the psychological consequences of this distressing time. For the moment, she is concentrating on providing the bare necessities for her children: a roof over their heads, food on the table and acceptable hygienic conditions. Caritas Jordan is helping her and this is where Majid, Susann and Ibrahim, who are all of a similar age to Hazar, come in. Their lives are entirely different from Hazar's, because their country is still stable. They speak the same language and there are many family ties between Jordan and Syria. Now, they are amongst those who are giving out aid, which is so important for the survival of people on the other side. Despite its spontaneity, the aid is well organised. Caritas Jordan has entered all people in need into a national database and categorised them according to their degree of need, based on factors such as whether there are any family members with disabilities or chronic diseases, if the family is particularly impoverished or if it has many young

"We will accept our fate until we can return to Syria."



children. Using these criteria as a strict guideline, the staff at Caritas Jordan select those refugees from the database who are eligible for receiving relief goods on a regular basis – and they also make sure that nobody collects relief goods twice from two different places. This is ensured by the database entry. Today, Majid, Susann and Ibrahim are giving out Caritas relief supplies in Madaba. More than 200 families receive aid here. People are calmly moving into the courtyard of the centre of the Christian community of Madaba, where Caritas Jordan has established a point of contact for the refugees. They wait patiently to be given their relief goods, with nobody trying to jump the queue. "We have to accept our fate here until the situation improves, because ultimately, all we want is to go home," explains Hazar Akrad, who is now sharing two rooms with



Syria



Taking care of need

True to this motto, Caritas not only helps refugees in Lebanon and Jordan. More than a motto, this is one of its driving principles.

27 other people, comprising her parents and her husband's extended family. "It's just too much," says Hazar. "We want our old lives back." Majid, Susann and Ibrahim, who work for Caritas at least twice a week, are doing all they can to help alleviate the suffering, lend courage and show people that they are not alone. "It makes me happy to see people light up for a moment when they receive aid, and also when they see that someone cares," says Susann. The three volunteers don't worry much about the fact that they are sacrificing a lot of their own time. "There are

24 hours in a day. If I sleep eight hours and spend two hours working for Caritas, there's still enough time left for other things," says Majid. The volunteers make no bones about the fact that they themselves also benefit. "This is an experience I couldn't gain anywhere else," explains Ibrahim. Volunteer work for Caritas Jordan not only attracts Christians, who, at less than 10%, are a minority in Jordan: Muslim volunteers have also joined the Catholic organisation. 20-year-old Rahaf is one of five Muslim volunteers working for Caritas at the refugee centre in Zarqa, in the

CARITAS NETWORK

"As if I were reliving the past"

Jouman al-Boutani, an Iraqi doctor, cares for Syrian refugees at the Caritas centre in Mafraq



Dr Jouman al-Boutani knows exactly what it's like to be one of thousands of refugees fleeing from Syria into a neighbouring country such as Jordan, Lebanon or Turkey. Following the American invasion of Iraq and the subsequent civil war, she was forced to leave her home country in 2007 and came to Jordan as one of 700,000 Iraqi refugees. "Caritas Jordan helped me, and to repay them for their amazing support, I started helping other Iraqi refugees as a volunteer doctor. Today, Dr al-Boutani works at the Caritas

centre in the Jordanian city of Mafraq, a mere 15 kilometres from the Syrian border. Every day, hundreds of people arrive in the city, looking for shelter with host families, in private homes, garages, barns and cellars. These people often live in precarious conditions. Many have little more than the clothes on their backs and most of them are utterly exhausted after the – sometimes life-threatening – flight from their home towns and villages. Moreover, a significant number arrive in Jordan with untreated gunshot wounds or other injuries. 80% of the refugees are women – many of them pregnant – and children; the men mostly decide to stick it out at home or stay behind and fight for one

“Caritas embodies a particular spirit.”



north of the country. She was a refugee herself, having been forced to leave Syria in October 2012. In Damascus, she had been a student of Arab literature. Now, as a refugee in Jordan, she can no longer afford to study, so, instead, she is doing what she can to help other refugees. “I made a conscious decision to work for Caritas,” she explains. “It embodies a particular spirit and a special motivation to help people.” Caritas does more than distribute relief goods; it gives refugees the opportunity to enrich their lives by learning something new. ■

of the parties in the civil war. Others urgently require medication. Caritas provides them with the bare necessities: medical assistance, medication, food and personal care items, blankets and mattresses. What does it feel like for a former refugee to now be in a position to help alleviate the suffering of others? “It’s not always easy, sometimes the memories come flooding back – flashbacks. Then it feels as if I were reliving the past. On the other hand, I understand what the Syrian refugees are going through, I know what it feels like to be in that situation, I can empathise and therefore I am more aware of their needs.”

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

11

In 2012, Caritas Germany supported a total of 55,842 people affected by the civil war in Syria with €1,744,645. The aid programme is ongoing. Examples of emergency aid:

Around 6,700 people from 1,340 families living in northern Jordan near the Syrian border were provided with heaters and blankets, food packages and personal care items. > Caritas Germany raised more than €190,000 for this project. The HIT Stiftung foundation donated €59,000.



Around 1,000 refugee families and 250 Syrian mothers and their babies cared for at the Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center in northern Lebanon received clothes, blankets, heating fuel, personal care items and psychosocial support. > €365,000 was provided for this intervention.

Around 125, mostly Christian, families in the Syrian diocese of Aleppo who were particularly affected received food, medical and psychosocial help as well as funding for school visits. > €20,000 in donations was made available for this campaign.

In the Syrian city of Homs, 687 people in need were provided with medication and food. > Funding of €61,137 was granted for this relief.



“I SUFFER WITH THEM”

The Iraqi doctor Jouman al-Boutani, working for Caritas in Jordan, was once a refugee herself.

The sum of many crises

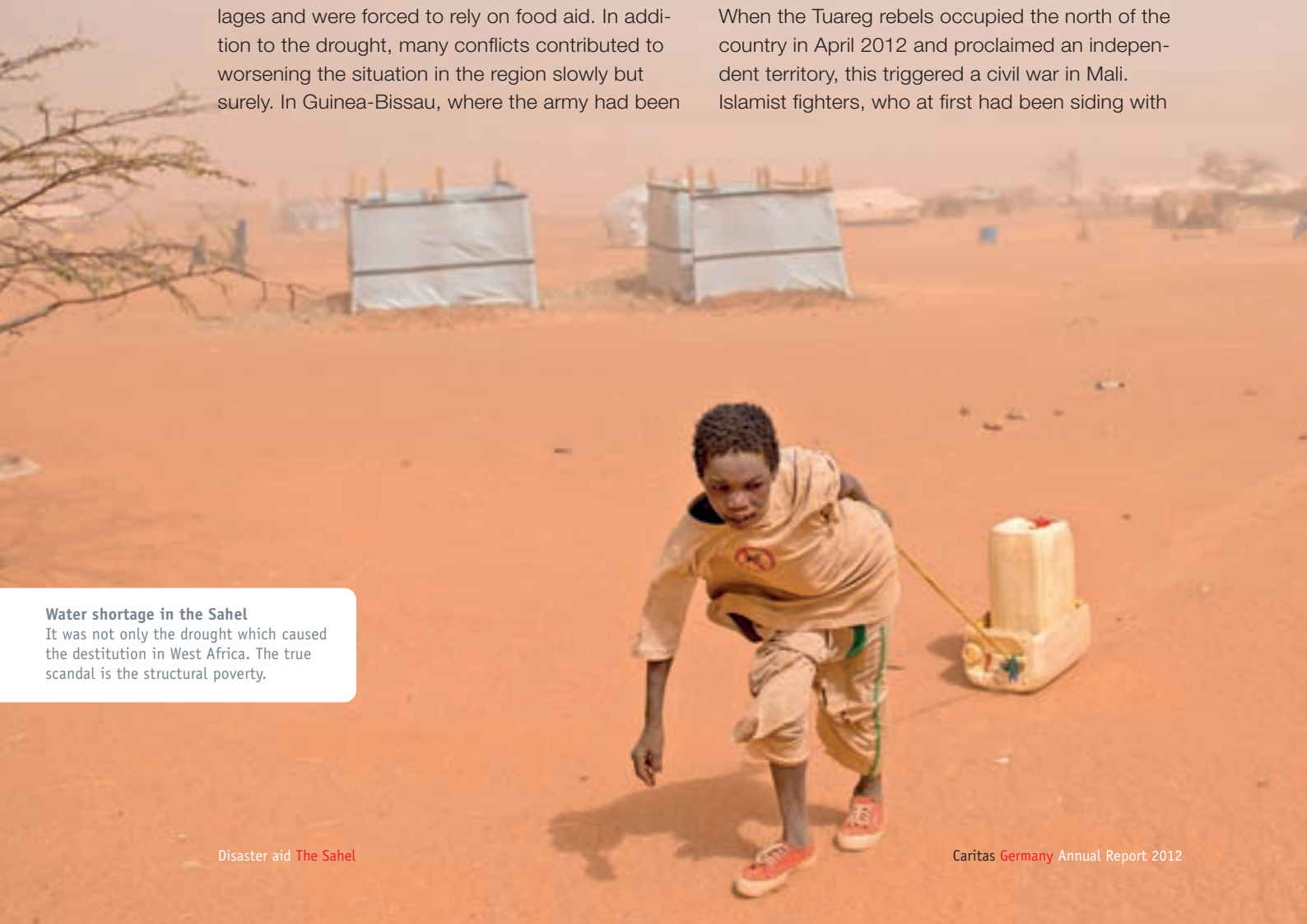
Poverty, drought, war and flight have been intensifying the crisis raging in Mali and other West African states. More than 20 million people were affected by the **crisis in the Sahel**, which left over ten million starving.

It was the sum total of all these events which has been plunging Mali and other West African countries into a severe crisis since the end of 2011. When even during the rainy season there was hardly any precipitation, and in some regions it didn't rain at all, the international early warning system for famines predicted an "acute food crisis in West Africa in the spring of 2012". The United Nations counted up to eleven million people starving and 22.9 million people affected by the drought. Tens of thousands had to leave their villages and were forced to rely on food aid. In addition to the drought, many conflicts contributed to worsening the situation in the region slowly but surely. In Guinea-Bissau, where the army had been

nipping any attempts at democratisation in the bud for many years, violence escalated following another coup d'état in October and November 2012. In Nigeria, the Islamist group Boko Haram held up the peace process with countless acts of aggression. Since mid 2010, the terrorist group has been responsible for many violent attacks with a total death toll of 2,800. The main reasons for the mass flight from Mali, which destabilised the entire region, were the hostilities in the country (see article on page 15 for more on this situation). When the Tuareg rebels occupied the north of the country in April 2012 and proclaimed an independent territory, this triggered a civil war in Mali. Islamist fighters, who at first had been siding with

Water shortage in the Sahel

It was not only the drought which caused the destitution in West Africa. The true scandal is the structural poverty.



“For many people in West Africa, **food** is much too expensive.”



the Tuareg, soon took control of their former allies and started terrorising the civilian population with brutal attacks. More than 230,000 people fled to southern Mali, while another 200,000 made it over the borders to neighbouring Niger, Mauritania or Burkina Faso. These countries, which already rank as some of the poorest in the world, are themselves suffering due to the ongoing droughts. Caritas Germany responded quickly to the overlapping crises by intensifying the existing long-term aid programme and expanding financial support. From the beginning, the International Department of the German Caritas Association avoided blatant buzz words such as “catastrophic drought” or “famine”. Why? One of the most important duties of aid organisations is to respond to looming disaster quickly. However, sounding the alarm too often is like crying wolf: people stop listening. Staff and partners on the ground all agreed that what was being witnessed in the Sahel region had not been the result of one major disaster with a clear cause, but of a multitude of crises which to-

“We need more wells, because droughts are becoming more and more frequent”.

gether took on life-threatening dimensions across many regions. What Caritas Germany wanted to do in this situation was to give direct and local aid, to prevent a widespread disaster and to closely observe the regional trouble spots.

The staff on the ground were well informed because Caritas Germany has been active in the region for many years and has established long-term cooperations with various partner organisations.

The causes behind the various crises which intensified each other were no secret, and long- and medium-term projects to fight these triggers had been initiated years ago. The frequent droughts which had led to water shortages in the region in 2005, 2007 and 2009 respectively were met with Caritas projects for

disaster relief. These included building grain stores and water storage reservoirs as well as dams. Extreme weather conditions not only provoke long periods of drought, but may also lead to local, regional and sometimes even severe flooding. In the Sahel region, it is predominantly the population’s chronic poverty that makes people starve;

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Caritas Germany has been implementing long-term programmes to fight poverty, prevent disasters and promote peace in the West African countries of the Sahel region. During the 2012 crisis, these programmes were expanded and additional aid projects were launched, which benefited both the people affected by the drought and war refugees from Mali.



9,743 people in five regions across **Mali** took part in cash-for-work programmes to provide for themselves and their families; the project reached 64,527 people in total. **> €788,250 was spent on this programme.**

In various regions in Mali, **grain stores** were built to help people survive periods of drought. **> This programme in central Mali was funded with €800,000.**

In Gao and Mopti, the main centres where refugees from northern Mali gather, **1,500 people in particular need** were provided with food and drinking water. These aid programmes will continue throughout 2013. **> Caritas Germany funded these interventions with a total of €170,000 in 2012; another €180,000 has been earmarked for 2013.**

Drought in the Sahel



here, aid has to help build structures. The real scandal lies in the fact that in many parts of West Africa, crisis is simply normal. Good harvests from fruitful years are not stored for bad times, but are sold in the world markets. The best agricultural land is used for growing export goods such as coffee, cotton or tropical fruit, so that only inferior land is left for cultivating cereals and vegetables. On the flip side, the region is frequently swamped with cheap, often subsidised, agricultural products from Europe and the United States, which destroy the domestic markets. "There's enough food in African markets," says Hannes Stegemann, West Africa expert at Caritas Germany. "The problem is not that there isn't enough; the problem is the lack of access to food and the chronic poverty in the Sahel region. For many people in West Africa, food is much too expensive."

This is where Caritas' aid comes in. The crisis has been tackled sustainably: not with a quick fix by providing food, but with programmes

which help generate income. In five regions in Mali, Caritas Germany has been implementing cash-for-work measures together with its local partner, ENDA. The families of the workers – all of them smallholders who had only reaped a small harvest and were running out of food – were put in a position where they could earn the money needed to feed their families in a dignified way. The irrigation systems they have built will also contribute to coping better with future dry periods.

In other regions of the Sahel, similar methods have been used to build grain stores, wells and cisterns. More long-term projects adapted to the local conditions are needed to solve, or at least improve, structural shortcomings. These include better access to water, the introduction of drought-resistant seeds, the construction of grain stores, erosion protection and improved access to loans for smallholders. Caritas Germany will continue to help improve the livelihoods of people in the region in the medium and long term. The International Department of the German Caritas Association sees crisis prevention as an integral part of disaster aid. It is about saving lives by providing immediate emergency aid, but at the same time it is also about enabling people to cope better with future crises. ■



SUSTAINABLE SUPPORT

Caritas Germany only gives out food aid in cases of severe crisis; otherwise the principle of **helping people to help themselves** is advocated.



Mali: a third of people live in absolute poverty

Anywhere but Timbuktu

When the Islamist rebels occupied the north of the country between April 2012 and January 2013, Mali became a nation divided. Murder, rape and the recruitment of child soldiers became everyday occurrences. People fled in their hundreds of thousands. Caritas worker, Helen Blakesley, describes what she saw when she visited refugees in Bamako.

On the day that the rebels reached Timbuktu, Djélika Haidara was sitting with other pupils in their classroom, following the lesson. It was her favourite subjects: physics and chemistry. Suddenly, the teenagers were startled by gunfire. The rebels weren't far away. The randomly aimed bullets flying around hit some innocent victims in the small school building. Some pupils fainted, some hid, a few others were shot – and several of those died. Djélika had just fallen pregnant at the time. The newlywed young woman knew that she had to get outside as quickly as possible. She fled the classroom, ran round the school and made it to the back wall that marked the boundary of the school grounds. She climbed over the wall and carried on running. When Djélika's mother-in-law found out what had happened, it was clear to her that no more risks could be taken. In tears, she asked her son, Mohamed, Djélika's husband, to get the family to safety. Anywhere, just away from Timbuktu. The next day, a crowd gathered outside a neighbour's house. Djélika asked a woman what was going on. "They cut off his hand, because they claimed that he'd stolen something." It was high time. The family packed up all that they could fit into their bags and paid other refugees to take them with them in their cars. It wiped out virtually all their savings. Three days later, they reached Bamako, Mali's capital city. There, they now share a few rented rooms with 20 family members. They have just one bathroom between them. Life in the capital is expensive: a short while ago, a bag of rice cost the equivalent of US\$40 but the last time Djélika went to market, it was



Hope of returning home soon: Djélika (r.) fled from the war. Caritas is supporting her in exile.

“When the rebels came to Timbuktu and spread their terror, the young family fled south.”

US\$80. Djélika's family is dependent on aid. The money they receive from Caritas covers the rent and pays for a little rice and millet. Djélika misses school and her home, but at least her whole family is together. And in her arms is her child, who was born a refugee. Little Ousmane reaches out with a tiny hand for his mother's cheek. When this is all over, Djélika and her family plan to return to Timbuktu. She has a very clear idea of what she wants her future to hold: she wants to work as a midwife, supporting women as their children come into the world. All in the hope that the world will then be a peaceful place. ■

Turbulent times

In the Philippines and on the islands of the Caribbean, in the USA and in India, **hurricanes** cause considerable damage. The increasing regularity and intensity of such natural disasters require new strategies – including from Caritas Germany.

When Hurricane Sandy left death and destruction in its wake across several countries in October 2012, it was widely reported in headlines over several days. But it wasn't just the death toll of around 150 in Haiti, Cuba, the United States and other countries that featured in the headlines: the substantial damage in the Caribbean would likely have gone virtually unmentioned by the media, had it not been for Sandy reaching New York. TV cameras showed a great city in darkness, after an explosion in a substation left 250,000 New Yorkers without power for several hours. Sandy also caused dozens of deaths in the USA, with inadequate civil protection procedures taking the blame. And yet most of New York got off comparatively lightly, while in Haiti the storm made thousands homeless. Disaster struck particularly hard in those regions where people were already living in poverty. The extent of the damage and number of victims in a disaster depend on how well prepared a country and its people are. The poorest are least able to protect themselves. According to



a study by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), hurricanes caused on average 17 deaths in the USA between 1980 and 2002; in Bangladesh, the figure is nearer 2,000. Climate change is expected to intensify these developments. Since the 1960s, the number of natural disaster victims has increased nine-fold. Rising sea temperatures have led to hurricanes becoming more frequent and more intense. While developed nations are able to protect themselves from the effects of climbing temperatures, people in developing countries are often left to the mercy of the forces of nature. This was also the case for many people on the Philippine island of Mindanao, where Tropical Storm Washi wreaked havoc at the end of 2011. The death toll from the storm and the floods that followed was around 2,000 – mostly in the poorest areas. Caritas Germany has been providing emergency aid for those affected on Mindanao. Relief work concentrated on sanitation, since dirt and polluted water cause illness and epidemics. A few days later, Cyclone Thane moved through the Bay of Bengal, bringing heavy rainfall and intense winds with it. More than 50 people lost their lives. Here too, it was the poorest that were hit the hardest. Together with its partner organisations, Caritas India provided immediate





Those most affected: the poor

In other regions it is also those who are not able to protect themselves adequately that are most affected by tropical storms.

disaster relief; staff reported that the storm had wreaked devastation on shanty housing in particular, burying the residents under the wreckage. Disaster preparedness has become a central component of Caritas Germany's humanitarian aid efforts over the past few years. Dam construction in Pakistan, tree planting on hillsides in Central America or the introduction of warning systems in South America and East Asia are all examples of projects being used to meet the increasing danger posed by climate change-related disasters. "People must be put in a position where they can adjust to climate change," says Oliver Müller, Di-

Caritas Germany provided emergency aid throughout 2012 in countries that were affected by tropical storms and other disasters caused by the weather. At the same time, Caritas Germany has been intensifying its aid work for disaster preparedness in high-risk areas.

5,243 people affected by Tropical Storm Washi on Mindanao received food, drinking water, clothes, blankets and medication. > Caritas Germany made €135,000 available.

In areas close to rivers, Caritas has been instructing village committees in disaster preparedness and coordinating protective measures. Those affected by storm and flood disasters are provided with food and drinking water.

> Caritas has been managing disaster preparedness projects in India for many years. In 2012, aid work relating to flood relief cost Caritas Germany €98,629.

After Hurricane Sandy, those in need on Cuba and Haiti received emergency aid packages including, food, soap and detergent. > Caritas Germany made a total of €50,000 available.



rector of Caritas Germany. "We've achieved some great results through these schemes, for example through hurricane shelters in Bangladesh or drought prevention in Africa. But we must also ensure that the emissions targets that were agreed among politicians are upheld." Recent experience has shown that disaster preparedness must take into consideration concepts and projects in the most vulnerable countries and regions, as well as in those regions where climate change is caused – in the highly industrialised countries that produce most of the greenhouse gases. ■



A trail of destruction

Tropical Storm Washi wiped out entire villages on Mindanao (the Philippines).

Back to school – back to life

Caritas reintegration programmes for **child soldiers** in the Congo focus on education and psychosocial help – on the basis of fundamental Christian values.



It takes a lot of sensitivity and patience to reintegrate **child soldiers** like 8-year-old Germain.

Germain Muhindo is top of the class. Yet the eight-year-old only started attending a proper school a few months ago. He spent his earliest years in a different school – the “killing school”. Germain was forcibly recruited when rebels attacked his village in the east of the Republic of the Congo, and within a week, the little boy had to learn things that children really ought to be protected from. Killing. Pillaging. Torture. In order to become blunted and lose his scruples, he had to witness unbelievable savagery, massacres and rapes. Not on the television, not at the cinema, but in real life. But what “school” in the army failed

to teach him was how to read and write. He suffered the same fate as thousands of other child soldiers in Africa: he became both the victim and the perpetrator. In the Congo, the abduction and forced recruitment of children is one of the darkest aspects of the ongoing civil war, which has been raging since 1996. Thousands of children and young people have had to endure for years the torturing that goes with it. Thanks to Caritas’ aid, Germain was freed within “just” a few months. Caritas Goma has set up five transition centres throughout the Congo to reintegrate children like Germain into society. The return to civil life is a long process, which requires a lot of patience, love and sensitivity on the part of the counsellors. It helps the former child soldiers to regain their social skills and discover Christian values such as love, empathy, respect for life and the dignity of each and every individual. During the intensive psychosocial intervention, they learn to cope with their pent-up feelings of hate, and to forgive – even their torturers. Games and other activities help to develop their community spirit, while training courses run by Caritas further their job prospects. Since the project was launched in 2004, around 1,800 child soldiers have been looked after by Caritas. More than half of all cases succeed in returning to their families and beginning a new life. And that’s just what will happen to Germain. Of that the Caritas team is sure. ■

The new HelpCard

from Caritas Germany means that not only can you support former child soldiers in the Congo, but also other projects around the world for people in need. This giftcard for good causes makes a great birthday present for friends – or why not as a corporate gift for your customers? Visit our online HelpCard shop at www.caritas-international.de/helpcard



WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

We have made **€120,000** available for the **reintegration of child soldiers in eastern Congo**.

- > Around **800 former child soldiers** have been demobilised and are being cared for.
- > The military, the police and the authorities are being familiarised with **children’s rights**.



Visits from Caritas care workers are the only contact that some older people have with the outside world.

“She weeps every Friday”

With no support from family and friends, **people in need of care** in Eastern Europe often have to make do without. But Caritas Germany is establishing home care.

Maria is already waiting for us. At nearly 100 years old, she is sitting on her bed; woven wall-hangings alongside photos of her children, parents and siblings complete the room. It is cold; Sister Maria switches on the gas oven – the old woman can no longer manage it herself. The dangers of turning the gas on and lighting it are too great now that her fingers aren't as willing as they once were. Work and the cold have curled up her hands. The care worker tidies up, gives the elderly woman her medication, helps her wash, butters some bread and warms up food. Then Maria is alone again – with her old radio as her only companion. “She weeps every Friday,” reveals Sister Maria. “Because she knows that, for two long days, she'll see no one.” There are many other

older people in need of care in Ukraine and other eastern and south-eastern European countries, just like this elderly woman from Lviv. Caritas workers are often the only people who can help, because increasingly, family structures no longer exist, and governments have cut back sharply on social care. Over the past few years, local Caritas organisations, with financial support and expertise from Caritas Germany, have been developing plans for home care from Ukraine to Kosovo and from Georgia to Armenia. Care workers are being trained, and the level of organisation is improving. And with lasting success: many Caritas projects are being run without support from Germany and are being funded in the long term through the governments and through communities. ■

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

Home care programmes are now being managed by Caritas Germany in **Armenia, Georgia, Ukraine, Russia, Kosovo, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro and Tajikistan**. Below are two examples of home care projects:

- > **874 older people in need of care** in Kosovo receive home care and medication. **€165,000** from donations has been made available.
- > **€200,000** has been earmarked for the development of home care in Armenia, where **320 people in need of care** are being looked after.





BRAZIL

A new outlook for youth work

Eleven young people are sitting in small groups around a laptop and flicking through hundreds of photos. What angles work best? Where are people portrayed with dignity? What should the photo be about and what response will it provoke from the audience? These young people have been on the hunt, camera in hand, around their local areas in Recife, looking for stories, documenting the living conditions and public spaces of the neighbourhood – the picturesque parts as well as the litter-strewn squares. For Anderson, it was the long concrete walls that divide a supermarket and the smart, middle-class blocks of flats from the poorer neighbourhood opposite that caught his attention. Meanwhile, Natalia and Renata went for the litter piling up in many corners of the residential areas, while Ruan visited people living in a single room covered by tarpaulins, with their grandmother, their uncle, and their grandchildren. A media education project that is being supported by Caritas Germany and implemented by adolscer.org, a youth social work organisation, is adopting new ways to boost young people and publicise their stories.

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> A total of **€87,344** has been made available for this media education project in Recife, Brazil.



PAKISTAN

More rights for brick yard workers

Thousands of people in Pakistan live and work in a system of servitude that, in many cases, spans generations, all because of wage dumping and debt. Caritas is advising and supporting the brick yard workers in the Lahore region, together with partner organisation Society for Human Development. The work focuses on training in order to inform people about their rights.

- > The project has been running for over two years and has received **€21,815** in funding. Money to sustain this in the future will come from the ecumenical donations raised by Arbeitsgemeinschaft Christlicher Kirchen in Deutschland (Working Group of Christian Churches in Germany).



UGANDA

Helping children with nodding disease

The civil war in northern Uganda, which has lasted decades, has not only led to material poverty and displacement (photo: a boy in a refugee camp) but there have been severe physical and psychosomatic effects, too. Nodding disease, about which there is as yet little research and which primarily affects children, is one of these consequences. The disease causes epileptic fits and developmental defects. Medicine is being provided for 1,600 children via a Caritas project in Gulu, where project workers are also being trained.

- > The project will be maintained for an initial two-year period with **€130,000** of Church funds.

GEORGIA

Street schools in Tbilisi

Thousands of children and young people in Georgia's capital Tbilisi live on the streets – without any help from their parents or from educational groups. Since 1997, Caritas Georgia has been running youth centres in the two poorest districts of the city. Caritas Georgia has also been getting involved with mobile youth work near the city centre. Social workers are operating directly in the areas where around 600 street children live. Joined by psychologists and volunteers, they drive around isolated areas and find these children and young people. They then provide basic lessons in reading, writing and arithmetic to around 90 children in a “street school”.

- > Caritas Foundation Germany is providing **€23,000** of support to this project.





IRAQ

Centre for disabled children

“She used to be very reserved,” says Istabrak Ismael about his daughter, Sundus. “Now, whenever she finds herself in a strange place, she’ll run straight up to people. She’s met lots of other children here and become a lot more social.” Father and daughter are sitting in the centre for disabled children and their families, which Caritas Germany and Caritas Iraq set up here in Baghdad. They’ve been coming here for a year – and it’s been worth it: while Sundus could hardly speak when she first started visiting the centre, now she can express her feelings, wishes and ideas easily in simple sentences, and has also learnt to read and write.

- > The programme for the integration and inclusion of people with disabilities supports 160 families with children who have mental or physical disabilities, and receives **€84,000 of funding**.



BOLIVIA

Inclusion pilot project

Since 2006, Caritas has been running pilot projects in the dioceses of El Alto, Coroico und Achacachi to provide inclusion for people with disabilities through help and support. In this way, living conditions for disabled people in these regions of Bolivia are improving in the long term. Because of the limited number of specialised institutions, parents and family members are receiving training and support so that they can look after their disabled children at home and help them to become more independent. Rehabilitation and integration work is also included in the project brief, as are publicity and lobbying activities. This means that more and more people with disabilities can live a more independent life.

- > Caritas Germany is supporting and financing these **community-based rehabilitation** pilot projects for **people with disabilities** over the long term.





COLOMBIA

Help for a fresh start

Even though the civil war is over, violence is rife in the Colombian provinces of Norte de Santander and Arauca, to the east of Medellín, at the hands of the military, guerrilla groups and paramilitary factions, or groups of smugglers. Here, human rights violations, extrajudicial executions and forced displacement are everyday occurrences. Caritas Colombia is supporting the displaced persons through measures designed to improve their income and to provide agricultural training and development, legal advice and psychosocial support.

> The **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** is supporting Caritas Colombia's projects across six locations.

NORTH KOREA

Vaccinations for children

Caritas Germany is even providing aid to arguably the world's most secretive country. As a result of the desperate shortage of food, many North Koreans are malnourished. Tuberculosis, hepatitis and other diseases are widespread. Caritas Germany has been running a successful vaccination programme in schools to protect children from the dangerous hepatitis B. Within the last two years, around 3.8 million children between the ages of six and 16 have been immunised. A campaign has now been rolled out to fight Japanese encephalitis, which can cause inflammation of the membranes around the brain. Furthermore, Caritas Germany is caring for TB patients in 150 health facilities.

> The **German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)** is supporting the TB programme.

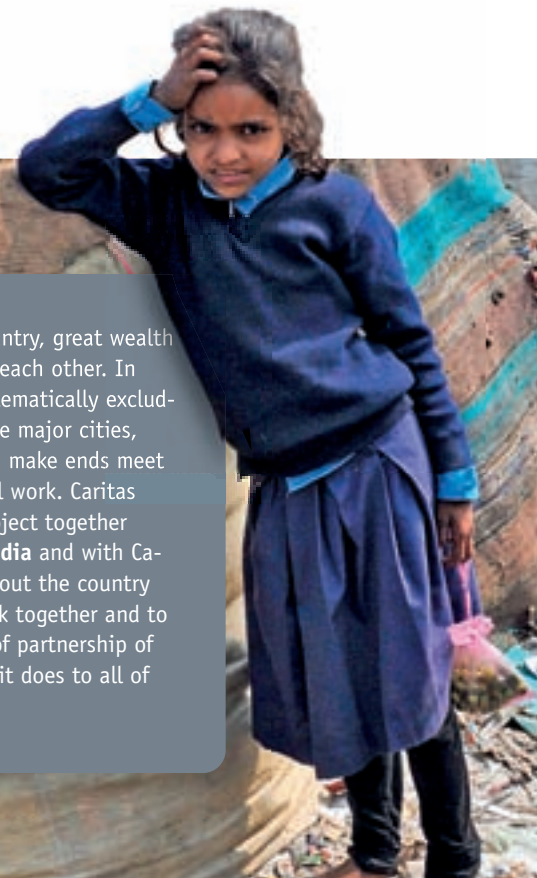


The principle of partnership

In 2012 alone, Caritas Germany implemented 731 projects in 81 countries. But what is a project? And what is this **principle of partnership** that underlies every Caritas Germany project? Here we'll provide some answers, drawing on an example from a project in India which is dedicated to fighting poverty both in urban slums and rural areas.

Working for and alongside the poorest of the poor

In India, a newly industrialised country, great wealth and bitter poverty jostle alongside each other. In rural areas, "untouchables" are systematically excluded from social progress, while in the major cities, millions of people live in slums and make ends meet by collecting rubbish or with casual work. Caritas Germany has been developing a project together with the **poorest of the poor in India** and with Caritas representation offices throughout the country to encourage those affected to work together and to assist with training. The principle of partnership of course applies to this case, just as it does to all of Caritas Germany's projects.



8. Handover to local partners

The prerequisites for the handover of responsibility and trusteeship to **the local Caritas partner** have been fulfilled. Structures have been established, funding from our own and from governmental sources is in place. Nonetheless, Caritas Germany continues the partnership by remaining in contact. The principle of helping people to help themselves has taken root.

7. Monitoring impact

During the course of the project, and before it finishes, it is evaluated. What has the project achieved? **Impact monitoring** is routine for aid provided by Caritas Germany. In the case of our example, the review turns out to be positive: many of the participating women and children have completed a course of education or training. And crucially, social ties have been strengthened.

1. Paths out of destitution

Destitution rears its ugly head – after a disaster, during crises and conflicts, or even simply where poverty is prevalent. Those affected organise themselves into **self-help and community groups**. In our example, it is women in particular who try to navigate the way for themselves and their families out of the poverty of the slums in major Indian cities.



2. Caritas identifies a need

Those affected turn to workers at their **local Caritas centre**. Local Caritas staff have regular contact with self-help groups in the area. Together, they develop project ideas. In our example, the idea is to improve educational opportunities for women and their children. Caritas can see the need for an education programme, and has high hopes for it, too.

3. The needs assessment

Before the project can begin, its necessity has to be thoroughly investigated. Existing provision is closely scrutinised – in the case of our example project, educational institutions. What **training** would really benefit these women? How can their children be looked after while they study? Caritas Germany and its partners examine this so that they can offer targeted assistance.

4. A project requires funding

Now that the need has been identified, the ideas can be formulated into a project proposal. This includes the project's objectives, activities and outcomes. **Logistical help and advice** is routinely made available, as is **financial support**, which Caritas Germany either funds from aid donations or through "third-party funds" (from Church or governmental sources).

6. Consulting

Caritas' work hinges on the principle of partnership and helping people to help themselves. Nevertheless, **expert support** is often required – be it from architects, doctors or other specialists. In our example, Indian expert Sebastian James provided advice on networking and community action.

5. The project goes live

The "hot" project phase gets off the ground: supported by the local Caritas centre and by Caritas Germany, the participating women can begin their training courses. Central to Caritas' work is the reinforcement of the target group's rights – the right to work and the right to education. Here, too, the **principle of partnership** takes on a central role: Caritas Germany, the local Caritas representation office and other partners all coordinate with each other.



Royal recognition

Queen Silvia of Sweden presenting the prize to Anna Mollel (centre). Anna Mollel brought Lomyaki (back left) with her from Tanzania. She has been working with this boy at the Caritas centre to help him improve his prospects despite his disability.

Photo: Christine Olsson/World's Children's Prize

World's Children's Prize for Anna Mollel

Caritas worker Anna Mollel, from Tanzania, was awarded the **World's Children's Prize** 2012. She has been fighting for children with disabilities in her country for over 20 years.

On 23 April 2012, Anna Mollel, long-time director of a Caritas Germany-funded project for people with disabilities in Tanzania, was presented with the World's Children's Prize by Queen Silvia of Sweden. The prize, which is awarded annually, acts as a kind of Nobel prize for people who fight for children's rights. Instead of comprising prominent people from the worlds of aristocracy, politics or

science, the jury is solely made up of children: 2.5 million boys and girls from schools all over the world. For Anna Mollel, 61, this prize means the recognition of her sustained and commendable commitment to children with disabilities. "To be honoured, supported and loved by children from all over the world means so much to me that I really am lost for

words," she said as she thanked the jury of children. Anna Mollel led the Caritas rehabilitation centre for children with disabilities, which provides a home for disabled children and facilitates operations in Monduli, Tanzania, from 2000 to 2008. Anna Mollel also set up professional educational work geared towards disabilities, in Maasai communities. A team of workers travel from village to village, educating the local healers and midwives, speaking to the families of those affected by a disability, and explaining and teaching diagnostic and care methods for disabled people. Reflecting on her achievements, Anna Mollel says that "what pleases me most is the several hundred cases where children were able to return to their village communities following rehabilitation and reintegrate into normal school life." For Anna, the World's Children's Prize isn't just a personal honour; it is recognition of the high quality of Caritas' work as a whole. ■



Photo: Tora Wärens



A message of solidarity

Committed to the poorest
Musician and artist Paddy Kelly visits a project for street children in Ethiopia.

An artist with a Christian sense of responsibility: Paddy Kelly is fighting for peace and progress.

Paddy Kelly once thought he had left his music career and life in the public eye far behind. Following the success of the Kelly Family and his solo career, the musician had spent six years living in France as a monk. Since then, Kelly has stepped back into public life. Inspired by his faith, the artist has often used his popularity for good causes, for example as an ambassador of and for Caritas Germany. Last year, he was part of a team of TV stars and Caritas Germany staff travelling through Ethiopia over the course of a week, to experience Caritas' projects first-hand. The artist was clearly surprised by how much can be done with relatively small amounts of money. Simple constructions like sand dams, which can provide people in their vicinity with water for up to six months during the dry season and cost just €8,000 to build, have already saved the lives of many people. Motivated by what he saw, Paddy Kelly then set off on his concert tour. "Every concert ticket can ensure a family's survival in Ethiopia," he enthused, as he handed over a cheque for €40,000 to the President of the German Caritas Association, Peter Neher. Following the successful concert tour, he is now continuing his efforts to support Caritas Germany

with an art project called Art Peace. Through selling his works of art, Kelly, who is a painter as well as a musician, is supporting the peacebuilding efforts of Caritas Germany in Guinea-Bissau, a country torn apart by civil wars and political unrest that has lasted decades. ■





Shining a light on poverty

The **One Million Stars** campaign took place across 70 locations in November, all in support of street children in Kenya.

The One Million Stars solidarity campaign tied into Caritas' theme for 2012, "Poverty leads to illness – everyone deserves to be healthy". The organisers used this to emphasise that people living in poverty have an increased risk of illness and a lower life expectancy than other people. A nationwide day of action in Germany was once again coordinated by Caritas Germany, in partnership with local Caritas associations, institutions and parishes. The focus of this year's campaign was an aid project for a hundred children and young people who scratch out a living among the rubbish on the landfill sites around the industrial town of Nakuru. Caritas Nakuru provides these young people, and particularly the youngest among them, with a real opportunity to catch up on the education they never had – and it's been proven a success: year on year, many of these street children make the jump from the street to the classroom, and subsequently often into a job, too. Furthermore, Caritas Nakuru is running programmes to prevent poverty-related diseases and is working to reintegrate children and young people into their families. Proceeds from the One Million Stars campaign are enabling these young people to break out of the cycle of poverty through education and vocational training. From Ahaus to Zühr, One Million Stars twinkled in some 70 places in 2012. ■

A journey of discovery

The latest educational trip organised by Caritas Germany saw **project workers from Kenya** travelling to Germany.

There's no comparison between social work with children on the streets of Kenya and with those in Germany – something that experts and a former Caritas Nakuru service user found out during their two-week visit to Germany in October 2012. Despite this, they were able to draw some parallels. Peter Njuguna, Basil Munyao and Pauline Thogo, Director of Caritas Nakuru's social services, were invited on the trip by Caritas Germany. "We wanted to see how our Caritas colleagues in Germany deal with children and young people from chal-



lenging social backgrounds, and to share our approach," explains Basil. "Before, I would never have even dreamt that there might be street children in a wealthy country like Germany as well." For the first time in the history of "Caritas for Caritas", there weren't only experts on the visit, but a former service user, too. Peter, himself a former street kid in Kenya and now a volunteer on the Caritas Nakuru "Mwzanga" project, also saw the differences in the social realities of the two countries. "I really don't want to downplay the destitution of poor people in Germany," he said during his visit to Berlin, "but if I were to tell a street kid in Africa about all the different social services here in Germany, he would think it was a paradise by comparison." ■



Dialogue in a country rife with conflict

Caritas staff travelled to **Colombia** for talks in remote areas with committed partners.

Most people who end up on the Caribbean coast of Colombia tend to be globetrotters and holidaymakers from a variety of countries, all looking for wild, romantic beaches and secluded places. But the group who travelled here at the start of December 2012 weren't looking for seclusion – they were looking for dialogue with Caritas Germany project partners and people who benefit from these partnerships. Every year, Caritas Germany organises these trips for leaders within Caritas Germany and this year, the destination was Colombia. In addition to relief for people who have been forcibly displaced, work with marginalised groups and drug assistance programmes remain core areas of Caritas' rebuilding work, following heavy flooding two years ago. And in San Cristóbal, the location being visited by the group, it's clear that the project is making real progress. Caritas Germany is supporting a community building project, erecting little brick houses that cost just €750 each in materials. The 100 homes are being built by the locals themselves, who are highly committed to the project and are being provided with on-hand expert support to ensure that the buildings are better able to withstand any further flooding. In any case, the group who travelled here can take comfort in the knowledge that Caritas relief aid is even proving useful in corners of the world that are rarely heard of. ■

A life devoted to Caritas worldwide

Prelate Georg Hüssler, former President of the German Caritas Association and former President of Caritas Internationalis, passed away on 14 April 2013.

Caritas has lost a man who, through his deep belief in a merciful God, his personal humility, his love of people and his mental strength, was one of the greatest members of the Caritas family – not just in Caritas Germany, but in Caritas all over the world," said President of the German Caritas Association Peter Neher of the organisation's late former president. Prelate Dr Georg Hüssler was born on 7 July 1921 in Einöd, a village in Germany's Federal State of Saarland. While studying medicine, he was conscripted into the medical service in 1942. His experiences during the war affected him so deeply that he decided to study theology in Rome once the fighting came to an end. It was there on 10 October



1951 that he was ordained as a priest. In 1959, he was appointed as Secretary General of the German Caritas Association, and in October 1969, he was selected to be President, an office he occupied until 1991. Georg Hüssler committed himself – without concern for his own situation and showing courage in the face of risk – to people suffering destitution all over the world, be it in North and South Vietnam, Algeria, Egypt, Libya or Palestine. His commitment during the Nigerian-Biafran War saw him become a pioneer of Caritas' international humanitarian aid work. His knowledge as a man of the Church who had travelled extensively earned him yet higher recognition when, in 1975, he was selected as President of Caritas Internationalis, the worldwide union of all national Caritas organisations. Caritas now mourns the passing of a man who used his individual approach, intelligence, humorous nature and steadfast belief to shape Caritas as the charity of the Church. A life well lived has now drawn to a close. ■



On-site planning. Social workers, architects and other experts work closely together with local residents, as well as with project workers, to develop and implement plans – just like here in Haiti.

Plan ahead but stay flexible

Impact orientation in humanitarian aid. In this interview, Caritas worker Volker Gerdesmeier talks about the fine line between emergency and disaster aid.

Unlike the long-term planning involved in development work, emergency aid often has to be planned overnight. So how can you plan and monitor the impact of each undertaking?

Volker Gerdesmeier: It is only really possible in the area of emergency aid if you define clear procedures and processes beforehand. This is where Caritas Germany's principle of partnership comes into play. This has enabled us to have workers on the ground in nearly every disaster area who are well-informed and familiar with the facts. What's more, we're able to put together disaster preparedness programmes because of this long-term cooperation: without these partners in the field, we wouldn't be able to do it. As a result, we can definitely plan for the middle and longer term, although, of course, we have to be able to improvise and react quickly.

Can you give an example of impact monitoring?

Gerdesmeier: Let's take the rebuilding of homes on Haiti that were destroyed by the earthquake in 2010 as an example. We not only looked at whether the new buildings would be sturdy and hurricane-proof. We also examined social structures: what has integrating the local residents in the reconstruction programme delivered? Does the neighbourhood work? What about schools and jobs? Mid- and long-term monitoring can help to reduce and correct mistakes. In the end, we can see what effect the intervention really had and whether the reconstruction work actually improved development in the area in the long term.

Before the earthquake, disaster preparedness was far from sufficient in Haiti. What could have been done better?

BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

Volker Gerdesmeier is Director of Quality Management and Auditing for Caritas Germany. A political analyst with a specialist knowledge of water supply management, he is the co-author of the Impact Orientation in Humanitarian Aid scheme.



Gerdesmeier: Disaster preparedness in Haiti has certainly been effective: houses that had been rebuilt to be storm-proof after the hurricanes in 2008 were also able to withstand the earthquake, by and large. Civil protection committees, whose members had been trained beforehand, were able to supply very good needs assessments following the earthquake. But the situation in Haiti was – and still is – quite unique: it is the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere, and help was needed fast. There was no time for a full assessment of the situation we were walking into in order for a before and after comparison to be made. We therefore back-evaluated the situation once we’d got through the initial, intensive emergency aid phase, and the results were very encouraging. Now, many more local partners would be able to organise emergency aid, should another major disaster come to pass.

So what role does impact monitoring play in this?

Gerdesmeier: Right from the very beginning, the emergency aid operation has included efforts to work closely with those affected, and we constantly monitor the outcomes so that we can make changes if necessary. It’s similar for other emergency aid cases: we evaluate our projects in other violent conflicts, asking ourselves how we can ensure that we’re upholding humanitarian principles, for example the impartiality of the project.

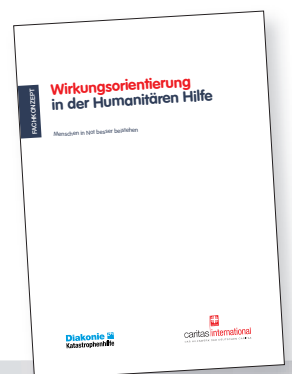


What form does the impact monitoring take if – unlike in the case of Haiti – it can be planned in the longer term?

Gerdesmeier: We’re just starting a long-term disaster preparedness project in Cambodia. An initial needs assessment will be carried out in the villages concerned, and together with those villagers, the dangers of events such as flooding will be evaluated. From that, the steps that need to be taken can be worked out. These could include building dams, reinforcing houses or developing an evacuation plan, or indeed a combination of the three. Once it has been put together, we can check whether and how our interventions work. In this way, we can monitor and regulate both sustainably and continually local changes that may, for example, come about as a result of climate change.

Is it not the case that such measures differ so much from country to country that implementing similar standards poses a problem?

Gerdesmeier: Developing standards doesn’t mean that everything has to be the same. Together with the Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe disaster relief organisation, we have just created a specialised scheme called Impact Orientation in Humanitarian Aid, which is set out as follows: evaluate steps and projects right from the beginning, define the need, provide implementation support, measure the impact and remain flexible, so that the many unforeseeable events that occur during disaster relief can be accommodated for by the relief workers. We work closely with the 165 Caritas organisations worldwide, as doing so offers so many opportunities to learn from their experiences, meaning that we can continually improve our own efforts. That’s the aim of Impact orientation. ■



Impact Orientation in Humanitarian Aid: providing better assistance to destitute people – a joint scheme from the Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe disaster relief organisation and Caritas Germany. To obtain a copy, please call +49 (0)761 200 288, contact@caritas-international.de or download it from www.caritas-international.de

Relief work needs great ideas

Last year, Caritas Germany's supporters showed their creativity and commitment yet again when it came to recruiting helpers for good causes. School-children, parishes, businesses, Caritas groups, trusts, media partners and the general public all came out in full support of organising relief for the destitute. The activities listed here are just a few examples of the many used to support Caritas Germany, which ranged

from sporting and cultural events to bazaars and tombolas and from fundraising to unconventional campaigns involving much hard work. Proceeds from donations went to those in need in Syria and Mali, as well as to those in countries that receive less media attention. On behalf of the people in every country that receives aid from Caritas Germany, we would like to express our **heartfelt thanks** to all our supporters!!

Making waffles for refugee aid

CAMPAIGN

With the help of their parents and nursery school staff, preschool children from the St. Severinus family centre in Wenden, near Cologne, have been supporting relief operations for Syrian refugees with a **waffle bake sale**. With the slogan "We're baking for Syria", they raised a total of €395 from waffle sales. A local bakery donated the waffle mix.

Operation "Wash Street" in Kamp-Lintfort

CAMPAIGN

Over two days in October, **apprentices and volunteers** from the Moers-Xanten Caritas Association offered a free car wash to the residents of Kamp-Lintfort, near Düsseldorf, in return for a voluntary donation.

The fire service made their premises available for Operation Wash Street.

At the car wash, soup, coffee and cake were on offer „while-you-wait“. The proceeds are destined to help people in East Africa.





Signing up for a good cause



“Now I ride around in the autograph car,” says Georg Heckert of his unusual initiative. He parked his **old car** in the garage at the Holy Family Parish near Munich and let people sign it for €1. “The Children especially found it hard to resist.” It was less about money and more about using the car to catch people’s attention and raise awareness of the plight of Syrian refugees. Nevertheless, he still managed to raise €400 for Caritas Germany.

HELPING CHILDREN TO ESCAPE POVERTY

By becoming a “Wegbegleiter” (Friend) you can help children worldwide who are living in the direst of poverty. By donating just €20 each month, you can give them the **chance of a better future** – with regular meals, medical care, and access to education and training. Find out more online at: www.caritas-international.de/Wegbegleiter



Schools in and around Bonn support children in Fukushima



A quick and speedy recovery – this is what the crane represents for Japan. Pupils from the Rheinbach and the Robert Wetzlar vocational colleges in the Bonn area presented Caritas Germany with an origami crane – along with €4,657. This money is going towards supporting summer activities for children and young people from Fukushima who are recovering from radiation exposure, following the nuclear reactor disaster on 11 March 2011.



The statutory branches of the German Caritas Association

STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF THE RESPONSIBLE BODIES



President Prelate Dr Peter Neher

Secretary General Prof. Dr Georg Cremer
Head of Finance and HR Hans Jörg Millies

The above three together constitute the **Board**

The Caritas Council (29 members): Development of Informed Opinions and Supervision

President and Secretary General by virtue of office	12 chairpersons and directors from the DiCV	7 representatives from the specialist organisations and societies	2 representatives from religious orders	5 local level representatives	1 chairperson of the Finance Commission
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elects the **Secretary General, the Head of Finance and HR, 7 members of the Finance Commission and 7 members of the Staff Committee**

The Assembly of Delegates (max. 199 members)

The Board (3) and Vice Presidents (3)	Chairpersons and Directors from the 27 DiCV, plus LCV Oldenburg	2 representatives from each specialist organisation	1 representative from each society	6 representatives from the religious orders (through the DOK)	3 representatives each from the local level of each DiCV	Up to 7 additional members
<i>Members by virtue of office</i>			<i>Members are sent</i>		<i>Elected in the dioceses</i>	<i>Elected by the DV</i>

elects the **President of the German Caritas Association, 3 Vice Presidents and the Caritas Council**

DiCV: Diocesan Caritas Associations; LCV: National Caritas Associations; DV: Assembly of Delegates; DOK: German Conference of Major Superiors

STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION

The International Department of Caritas Germany

The International Department of Caritas Germany 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 in the DCV headquarters, at its registered address in Freiburg, it reports to the President’s full-time Board. The International Department of Caritas Germany is made up of six departments.



Director: Dr Oliver Müller



Department	Department	Department	Department	Department	Department
Africa and Middle East	Asia	Europe and Latin America	Quality Management & Auditing	Disaster Aid Coordination	Public Relations
<i>Director:</i> Christoph Klitsch-Ott	<i>Director:</i> Dr Reinhard Würkner	<i>Acting Director:</i> Gernot Krauss	<i>Director:</i> Volker Gerdesmeier	<i>Director:</i> Dr Oliver Müller	<i>Director:</i> Michael Brücker
<p>The three regionally defined departments and the local partners plan, organise and implement projects in the areas of disaster aid and social work. During 2012, Caritas Germany delivered a total of 731 projects in 81 countries.</p>			<p>Develops fundamental principles of sustainable aid and evaluates them critically.</p>	<p>Organises immediate-response disaster aid and develops methodology.</p>	<p>Creates awareness, motivates aid-giving, publicises the concerns of the poorest.</p>

Members of the Caritas Council

Prelate **Dr Peter Neher**, President of the DCV, Chairman; Brother **Peter Berg**, General Director and CEO, Barmherzige Brüder Trier; **Dr Matthias Berger**, Finance Commission Chairman; **Prof. Dr Georg Cremer**, Secretary General, DCV.; **Heinz Dargel**, Managing Director, CV Bremen-Nord Deanery e.V.; **Egon Engler**, Chairman, CV Freiburg Stadt e.V.; **Hartmut Fritz**, Director, CV Frankfurt e.V.; **Gaby Hagmans**, National Secretary, SkF e.V.; **Hanno Heil**, Chairman, VKAD e.V.; **Canon Bruno Heller**, Director, Diocese of Erfurt e.V.; **Dr Frank Johannes Hensel**, Director, DiCV Cologne e.V.; **Heinz-Josef Kessmann**, Director, DiCV Münster e.V.; **Dr Wolfgang Kues**, Director, DiCV Passau e.V.; **Dr Birgit Kugel**, Director, DiCV Trier e.V.; **Hans-Georg Liegener**, Managing Director, CV Krefeld e.V.; Prelate **Hans Lindenberger**, Director, DiCV Munich and Friesing e.V.; **Maria Loers**, National Chair, CKD e.V.; **Franz Loth**, Director, DiCV Osnabrück e.V.; Sister **Edith-Maria Magar**, Vice President, DCV e.V.;

Dr Hejo Manderscheid, Director, DiCV Limburg e.V.; **Matthias Mitzscherlich**, Director, DiCV Dresden-Meißen e.V.; **Martin Pfriem**, Director, DiCV Würzburg e.V.; **Andreas Rölle**, Managing Director, CV Zwickau e.V.; Father **Clemens Schliermann** SDB, Deputy Chairman, BVKe e.V.; **Burkard Schröders**, Director, DiCV Aachen e. V.; **Dr Irme Stetter-Karp**, Vice President, DCV e.V.; Mgr. **Wolfgang Tripp**, Director, DiCV Rottenburg-Stuttgart e.V.; **Thomas Vorkamp**, Managing Director, KKVD e.V.; **Karl, Prince of Löwenstein**, Managing Director, Malteser Hilfsdienst e.V.

Consultant Members: **Mario Junglas**, Head of the Berlin Office, DCV e.V.; **Hans Jörg Millies**, Head of Finance and HR, DCV e.V.; Prelate **Bernhard Piendl**, Head of the Munich Representation Office, DCV e.V.

We say *thank you!*

For many years, bequests to the organisation have formed an essential part of the funding for our relief work and have meant that we have been able to offer disaster victims ongoing aid. But more than that, proceeds from these bequests have enabled us to support long-term social projects. Through these, we are improving the living conditions

of disadvantaged children and of the sick, the elderly and those living with disabilities. We'd therefore like to thank you from the bottom of our hearts for offering such committed support for our work. For more information on how you could support our work by leaving us a legacy, please get in touch or request our brochure, "Bewahren, was wichtig ist".



A LASTING LEGACY

What can I do when I die?

There are many people who would like to leave something beneficial behind them when they die. You can do just that by making a gift in your will to Caritas Germany, and by doing so you'll bring hope as well as help to relieve destitution – right where it's needed most. Caritas Germany's Birgit Winterhalter is here to answer any questions you may have about leaving your legacy to help the poor, and has put together answers to some frequently asked questions:

How significant are legacies to Caritas Germany's work?

For many years, bequests to the organisation have formed an important, indeed essential part of funding for our project work. Every sum, no matter how small, enables us to carry out and expand our work.

What types of legacy can be left?

There are two ways of leaving a legacy. You can choose to leave part of your estate to Caritas Germany, which will result in us becoming a beneficiary of your will. Alternatively, you can choose to donate a fixed amount as defined in your will.

Can I decide how my money is to be used?

Yes, you can. Caritas Germany believes that it is very important that you should be able to decide what your legacy is used for. In your will, you define whether you want your donation to support street children in Brazil or victims of disaster. Often though, people who leave us something in their will simply request that we use the money where it is needed most. Such donations are really important to us, since through them, we are able to deliver aid quickly to the disasters which do not get much news coverage and so receive less from fundraising ap-

peals. We are humbled by the immense trust that such offers bring with them.

How sure can I be that my money is used wisely?

We promise that we will put your bequest to work with the utmost care and complete transparency and openness. For over 60 years, Caritas Germany has been providing disaster aid worldwide and sponsors social projects for children, the elderly, the ill and the disabled. We guarantee that funds will be used for the purposes you have chosen. Every step, from the receipt of the donation to the money being put to use, is documented and checked by an independent auditing company. All of the important information about our work and the use of monies is published online. Perhaps you would like to visit one of Caritas Germany's projects. Even that can be arranged.

How can I find out more?

The easiest way is to give us a call: we can offer you the best advice through a one-to-one conversation. That way, you can readily get an idea of our work. If you prefer, we can even come and visit you at home to discuss your options. If these ways of finding out more are not for you, then our website offers all of the most important information. We would also be happy to send you our brochure and project description pack, "Looking after the important things", which provides further information.

■ **"Bewahren, was wichtig ist" (Looking after the important things). This free brochure about legacies and trusts contains valuable advice on current inheritance law (only available in German). Please do not hesitate to contact us to order your copy or for further information.**

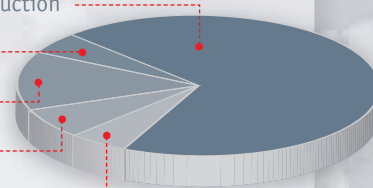
Contact:
Birgit Winterhalter
 Tel. +49 (0)761 200 319
 birgit.winterhalter@caritas.de

Project expenditure Total expenditure €50,424,323

BY TARGET GROUP

The categorisation in this overview is intended for general guidance only. Many social projects are designed with more than one target group in mind, for instance where aid is intended for disabled children or for victims of an earthquake.

- 69.25%** Post-disaster relief provision, reconstruction
- 5.15%** World for the aging and the ill
- 13.57%** World for children and adolescents
- 6.92%** World for disabled people
- 5.11%** Other projects¹⁾

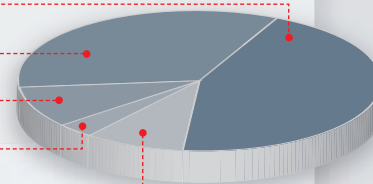


1) Migration, establishment of Caritas organisations worldwide, etc.

BY FUNDING SOURCE

The diagram shows the funds allocated to projects in 2012. The amount of aid is not identical to the year's donation income and public grants, because many of the programmes run over several years and are financed successively.

- 44.61%** Private donations
- 33.82%** German government
- 9.38%** Other funding sources¹⁾
- 3.47%** European Union
- 8.72%** Church funds²⁾



1) Funds from Misereor, other Caritas associations, etc. 2) Funds from the Association of German Dioceses as well as grants from the dioceses of Freiburg, Cologne and Rottenburg-Stuttgart.

PUBLIC FUNDING

German government total **€17,053,991**

of which: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development €12,529,896
of which: Federal Foreign Office €4,524,095

Church funds total **€4,397,728**

of which: Association of German Dioceses €3,808,319
of which: Dioceses of Freiburg, Cologne, Rottenburg-Stuttgart €589,409

European Union total* **€1,746,646**

Emergency aid Afghanistan €19,268
Emergency aid Burundi €128,971
Emergency aid Colombia €197,700
Emergency aid Ethiopia €627,615
Emergency aid India €1,466
Emergency aid America collectively €240,995



Social projects Afghanistan €201,594
Social projects Brazil €15,060
Social projects Colombia €310,000
Social projects Tajikistan €48,320
Social projects South Africa €4,203



* The EU grants come from the European Commission Humanitarian Aid fund (ECHO) and from resources of the European Development Cooperation.

Worldwide aid

Caritas Germany's commitment in the year 2012 embraced 731 projects in 81 countries. Universal result: **the aid reached those in need of it.**

AFRICA

Africa (general) / 7 projects	€769,221.07
Mauritania / 1 project	€30,000.00
Morocco / 1 project	€40,000.00
Niger / 4 projects	€177,715.29
Mali / 10 projects	€2,197,907.34
Senegal / 1 project	€163,163.38
Togo / 3 projects	€84,124.00
Benin / 3 projects	€166,741.87
Guinea-Bissau / 3 projects	€812,091.39
Sierra Leone / 10 projects	€600,789.04
Liberia / 4 projects	€884,389.82
Egypt / 10 projects	€573,685.39
Southern Sudan / 6 projects	€188,582.10
Ethiopia / 14 projects	€1,293,902.32
Somalia / 2 projects	€395,000.00
Rwanda / 6 projects	€98,532.85
Uganda / 5 projects	€121,978.38
Kenya / 11 projects	€583,983.40
Tanzania / 12 projects	€548,384.77
Angola / 1 project	€1,483.14
Mozambique / 6 projects	€172,210.11
Dem. Rep. Congo / 41 projects	€5,479,982.22
Burundi / 5 projects	€891,006.19
South Africa / 9 projects	€602,451.75
Eritrea / 1 project	€75,000.00

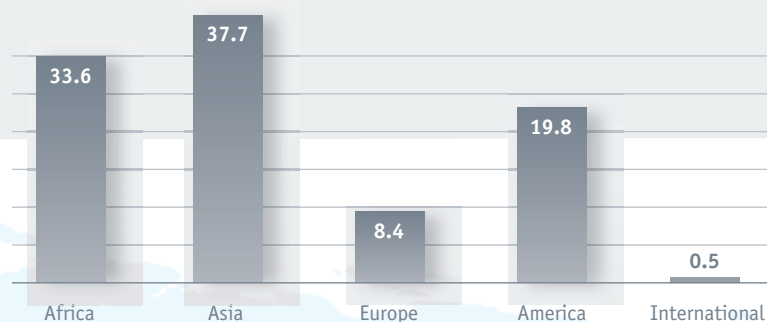
Africa total / 176 projects €16,952,325.82

ASIA

Asia (general) / 11 projects	€26,378.45
Azerbaijan / 1 project	€200.00
Bangladesh / 10 projects	€613,728.67
Afghanistan / 19 projects	€1,574,803.08
Iraq / 11 projects	€691,688.70
Israel and Palestine / 14 projects	€919,712.23
Lebanon / 9 projects	€1,004,840.50
Syria / 6 projects	€232,137.00
Jordan / 9 projects	€742,917.80
Iran / 1 project	€55,000.00
Pakistan / 49 projects	€4,485,250.55
India / 27 projects	€1,208,744.37
Sri Lanka / 15 projects	€519,355.43
Nepal / 5 projects	€131,775.00
Myanmar / 2 projects	€42,800.00
Vietnam / 9 projects	€498,077.46
Cambodia / 9 projects	€249,663.98
Thailand / 6 projects	€217,952.03
Japan / 6 projects	€2,930,311.81
Korea / 10 projects	€1,109,120.07
China / 12 projects	€386,429.92
Mongolia / 1 project	€15,000.00
Tajikistan / 16 projects	€302,231.70
The Philippines / 4 projects	€135,000.00
Indonesia / 34 projects	€937,912.35

Asia total / 296 projects €19,031,031.10

OVERVIEW OF RELATIVE AID WEIGHTING IN PERCENT



EUROPE

Europe (general) / 13 projects	€437,538.78
Germany / 8 projects	€623,608.28
Greece / 2 projects	€11,698.55
Poland / 1 project	€30,000.00
Albania / 5 projects	€373,680.09
Romania / 1 project	€15,163.00
Ukraine / 7 projects	€502,936.29
Russia / 16 projects	€679,073.79
Moldova / 2 projects	€16,721.17
Serbia / 2 projects	€207,025.67
Montenegro / 5 projects	€196,533.01
Bosnia-Herzegovina / 2 projects	€188,847.47
Czech Republic / 1 project	€9,360.00
Kosovo / 3 projects	€76,140.23
Armenia / 5 projects	€372,857.07
Georgia / 8 projects	€332,125.51
Turkey / 5 projects	€182,666.58

Europe total / 86 projects €4,255,975.49

LATIN AMERICA

America (general) / 16 projects	€740,042.23
Mexico / 5 projects	€227,671.54
Guatemala / 8 projects	€132,597.04
Honduras / 4 projects	€181,538.05
El Salvador / 8 projects	€303,225.54
Nicaragua / 4 projects	€185,425.09
Panama / 2 projects	€72,296.68
Cuba / 2 projects	€83,741.00
Haiti / 18 projects	€3,307,244.29
Colombia / 28 projects	€2,653,312.24
Ecuador / 3 projects	€110,000.00
Peru / 10 projects	€553,401.68
Brazil / 36 projects	€863,325.55
Bolivia / 14 projects	€366,697.81
Paraguay / 1 project	€31,000.00
Chile / 3 projects	€139,085.04
Argentina / 2 projects	€15,715.00

America total / 164 projects €9,966,318.78

INTERNATIONAL

International / 9 projects €218,671.88

Note

The figures in this overview do not tally completely with the donation receipts and grants total for the year 2012. Reconstruction following disasters, such as in India, on the Philippines or in the Sahel, will often continue for years to come. Funds at Caritas Germany's disposal will accordingly be expended over the long term, with a view to the future. This approach is essential, as responsibly managed disaster aid will necessarily extend to rebuilding social structures and taking steps to improve disaster preparedness.

Statement of account

The aid programmes of **Caritas Germany** are funded by Church and state grants, and private and institutional donations.

INCOME	2012	2011
Public and Church grants		
German government	€17,419,406.78	€16,416,921.95
Church funds	€4,570,773.21	€5,260,563.52
European Union	€1,978,015.90	€2,157,373.97
Other public and Church grants	€4,807,138.22	€5,020,794.80
Total	€28,775,334.11	€28,855,654.24
Donations and other charitable contributions		
Project donations	€12,820,322.97	€29,488,652.22
Trust fund monies and corporate cooperations	€1,901,831.71	€2,464,602.94
Total	€14,722,154.68	€31,953,255.16
Legacies and other income		
Proceeds from assets and interest income	€2,755,181.32	€2,031,777.22
Inheritances, legacies	€506,785.84	€92,000.22
Other	€138,068.57	€73,996.33
Total	€3,400,035.73	€2,197,773.77
TOTAL INCOME	€46,897,524.52	€63,006,683.17

Notes

Church funds: Funds from the Association of German Dioceses as well as from the dioceses of Freiburg, Cologne und Rottenburg-Stuttgart.

Other public and Church grants: Funds from Misereor, other national Caritas associations etc.; Caritas Germany cooperates closely with the episcopal aid organisation **Misereor**. The two aid organisations exchange professional expertise, cooperate in programme support and pursue part of their public relations activities on a shared basis. The cooperation also embraces the forwarding of over two million euros annually to Caritas Germany by Misereor. With regard to the programmes that will continue after the disaster aid, both organisations are focusing on the overall situation of people on the ground and thus paving the way for disaster aid to evolve into long-term development. To find out more about our partners and collaborative work, please visit: www.caritas-international.de/ueberuns

Project donations: Donations from private individuals, religious houses, etc. and Church collections.

Trust fund monies: Includes grants from media trusts such as the BR "Sternstunden" fund (€43,722.50), and "Bild hilft – Ein Herz für Kinder" (Bild AID – Have a Heart for Children) (€586,175).

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.

COSTS	2012	2011
Project expenditure		
Emergency and disaster aid/reconstruction, social work for children and young people, the elderly, the ill and the disabled, other projects		
Project expenditure total	€50,424,323.07	€52,137,875.08
Personnel, materials and amortisation		
1. Personnel expenses:		
wages and salaries, social benefits, retirement funds (thereof directly allocable to projects)	€4,894,765.02 (€3,434,023.18)	€4,627,225.54 (€3,258,620.18)
2. Cost of materials:		
project work, educational and PR work, fundraising (thereof directly allocable to projects)	€4,085,733.28 (€1,976,603.29)	€3,981,612.66 (€2,188,529.76)
3. Levies:		
service charges (e.g. data processing)	€927,293.42	€852,331.80
4. Depreciation/amortisation	€35,458.32	€174,442.06
TOTAL COSTS	€60,367,573.11	€61,773,487.14
RESULT FOR THE DIVISION	€-13,470,048.59	€1,233,196.03

Notes

Project expenditure: Expenditure comprises contributions to around 730 ongoing 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 or paid into them as the case may be. As of 31 December 2012, the funds amounted to €103,338,691.95, against €116,808,740.54 in the previous year (note on interest income).

Administrative 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), administrative and advertising costs exceeding 30% 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 2012, the share of administrative and advertising costs for Caritas Germany was 7.51%.

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS CALCULATION PURSUANT TO DZI GUIDELINES

Project promotion ¹⁾	€52,103,715.00	86.31%
(of which personnel costs)	(€422,617.57)	
Project assistance	€3,290,677.67	5.45%
(of which personnel costs)	(€2,836,803.50)	
Statute-compliant campaigns, educational and awareness-raising work	€440,556.87	0.73%
(of which personnel costs)	(€174,602.11)	
Total project expenditure	€55,834,949.54	92.49%
Administration	€2,100,740.89	3.48%
(of which personnel costs)	(€923,489.86)	
WAdvertising and PR work	€2,431,882.68	4.03%
(of which personnel costs)	(€537,251.98)	
Total administrative and advertising expenditure	€4,532,623.57	7.51%
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	€60,367,573.11	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.

Auditor's report on the division result

The International Department of Caritas Germany is the relief organisation of the German Caritas Association (DCV). The division statement of results for the donation-relevant international division (Caritas Germany, International Department) is derived from Caritas Germany's Annual Report 2012 audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers AG auditing company.²⁾ As an extension of the annual audit, we requested our auditors to examine 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. Moreover, the annual auditor was asked to check adherence to the Voluntary Guidelines and Implementation Rules for Non-profit, National and Donation-Collecting Organisations set up by the DZI (DZI Guidelines) in the version dated 15 September 2006 or, insofar as is applicable, the version dated 17 September 2010. 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.³⁾ The annual auditor reported to the board that their findings led to no objections.

²⁾ The 2012 annual and business reports for Caritas Germany are published at www.caritas.de.

³⁾ Additional information about the DZI Guidelines 2010 and a document on transparency are also available at www.caritas.de/glossare/transparenz.

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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