

INTERNATIONAL

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ANNUAL REPORT 2016

GLOBAL TARGET-BASED RELIEF IN 16 COUNTRIES Our project countries and key activities



Hilfswerk Austria International provides disaster relief, reconstruction and effective development cooperation around the world. Our focus is on the people, their health, the improvement of their living conditions and the promotion of families - and especially children.

Haiti Colombia

r tomorrow

LATIN AMERICA

Haiti (active since 2009) Training and education of hospital staff, 2016 disaster relief after Hurricane Matthew *Read more on page 12*



Colombia

(active since 2000) Food security through river basin management and agricultural support, strengthening indigenous rights, peace promotion *Read more on page 14*

AFRICA

Donating to for a bet

> **Libya** (active since 2011) Psycho-social therapy for children and young people

Mozambique (active since 2000) Education, healthcare, water and electricity supply, agricultural support

Read more on page 10 and 11



Zimbabwe (active since 1998) Support of women and small enterprises, food security, 2016 humanitarian relief due to extreme drought *Read more on page 13*

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Libya

Zii

Tunisia

Tunisia (active since 2012) Vocational training for young people, small projects for job creation

EASTERN-/SOUTH-EASTERN EUROPE/SOUTH CAUCASUS

Armenia (active since 1999) Rural development, green energy, strengthening social structures *Read more on page 15*

Azerbaijan (active since 2009) Strengthening social structures and promotion of health

Bosnia and Herzegovina

(active since 1996)



Rebuilding, promotion and integration of children affected by disabilities, social housing

projects for disadvantaged populations, reintegration of refugees, initiatives aimed at generating income *Read more on page 8 and 9* **Georgia** (active since 2013) Vocational training, reintegration and re-socialisation for socially disadvantaged people, rural development *Read more on page 15*

Republic of Moldova

(active since 2001) Support and social integration of children with disabilities, strengthening social structures



ASIA

Kyrgyzstan (active since 2008) and **Tajikistan** (active since 2003)



Agricultural advice, strengthening of small enterprises in the food sector *Read more on page 16 and 17* **Nepal** (active from 2015 to 2017) Renovation of schools following the earthquake in 2015

The Philippines

(active from 2013 to 2016) Disaster relief and rebuilding

THE MIDDLE EAST

Syria/Lebanon

(active since 2006) Psycho-social support and education of Syrian refugee children and young people in Lebanon, winter aid, promotion of health of women and children in the informal Al-Marj refugee camp in Beqaa valley *Read more on page 18 and 19*





HILFSWERK AUSTRIA INTERNATIONAL Help that connects people

How we help

Hilfswerk Austria International supports families in crisis-hit regions and concentrates its efforts on disadvantaged groups of the population.



Strengthening the position of girls and women is just as important to us as the economic development of families and the promotion of children with disabilities. We are there when children and adults find themselves in need and ensure that sustainable improvements are put in place. Our goal is to support people in being able to develop or redevelop their own potential.

Disaster relief, reconstruction and development collaboration form the three pillars of our work.



Our principles

- Sustainable aid to help people help themselves
- Supporting social, economic, democratic and ecological development
- Collaboration with Austrian business and personal engagement

Our values

- Global social responsibility
- Respect for culture, history and tradition
- Strengthening the rights of women and children

Humanitatian aid Social / law **Reconstruction /** Education housing procurement Agricultural support / **Economic development** food security Health / medical support **Electricity / water supply**



OUR PRIORITIES

Our Team



Hilfswerk Austria International, Vienna office (from left to right): Nicole Bauer/Program Coordinator South Caucasus, Sonja Schilling/Program Coordinator Haiti, Bianca Weissel/Communications, Fredy Rivera/Senior Expert for Health Systems, Knowledge and Innovation Management, Elisabeth Huber/Finances, Bernhard Stepanek/EDP, Andreas Aichholzer/Communications, Stoyanka Manolcheva/Program Coordinator Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Katrin Jordan/ Program Coordinator Colombia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, Stefan Fritz/Managing Director, Luzia Wibiral/Communications, Gerda Huber-Zafarpour/ Communications, Martina Mattes/Finances, Nina Borufka/Program Coordinator Africa and Middle East, Lorenz Mayer/Finances, Doris Svejnoch/Finances, Petra Steinkogler/Country Council Bosnia and Herzegovina

Board of Directors

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President:

Christian Domany Vicepresident: Heidi Burkhart Vicepresident: Christian Struber Finance Officer: Gerhard Schlack

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Members of the Board of Directors also sit on the Advisory Board. The members of the Board work on a voluntary basis and receive no compensation for their efforts.

Our relief projects are sustainably geared towards the needs of the people.

We compile clear reports on our work and the use of the materials available to us. We would love to see you at our annual Donors' Conference or Christmas gala. You can find more details and dates at www.hilfwerk.at/international.

Donors' Conference 2016

More than 130 donors attended the Hilfswerk Austria International Donors' Conference on 24th June 2016 at the Kunsthistorisches Museum in Vienna.

Jeannine Schiller, ambassador for children in need, told us about her relief work for children with disabilities in the



Republic of Moldova. President **Christian Domany** and CEO **Stefan Fritz** shared the latest news from the projects. And in the usual professional manner, **Claus Reitan** hosted the programme.

Christmas Gala 2016

On Thursday 1st December, **Ingrid Wendl** inspired our 300 guests as part of an upbeat and reflective evening.



The Lanner-Strauss Ensemble Wien set the mood with their musical accompaniment. Thanks to ticket purchases and the numerous donations and sponsors, Syrian refugee children in Lebanon will receive psycho-social support and education. It was another fun-filled night thanks to **Christiane**

> **Teschl-Hofmeister** and her second time hosting the event.



Future. Life. Worldwide.

We strongly believe that the life of every human being is priceless. This is precisely why we put the preservation of independence and human dignity at the top of our list. Our sustainability projects can only succeed with the willingness of the local population to get involved. At the end of the day, it is less about the work we do and more about changing the fates of these people for the better through our work.

Mother and child find a new livelihood through the development and marketing of local plants such as amaranth.

In 2016 we were able to...

- provide life-saving clean water, rations and medical supplies to the victims of natural disasters
- rebuild destroyed homes, schools and infrastructure
- support locals with seeds, equipment and know-how for making their livelihood
- help children and adults gain educational and vocational training
- introduce a programme for improving mother-child health
- support refugee children and young people with social work and education
- integrate minorities into society and effectively promote peace
- introduce income-generating initiatives
- strengthen local social structures and stimulate local potential
- and much more



COLOMBIA / GUAVIARE

Food security, health programmes and peace initiatives for indigenous groups and farmers.



Bosnia and Herzegovina: 20 years of helping people help themselves

Bosnia and Herzegovina is a perfect example of how successful we can be together. As the three-and-a-half year long, bloody Bosnian War came to an end in 1995 as a result of the Dayton Agreement, the country and its people needed fast yet long-term reconstruction. Shortly after, in March 1996, Hilfswerk Austria International was on location. Aid supplies were brought to Sarajevo and distributed to the population. Since then, we have reached 16,000 people in need and completed 104 projects, investing 67 million euros in the areas of social integration, housing, job creation and regional development for repatriates, internally displaced persons and Roma.

Medicinal herbs made in Bosnia and Herzegovina

The Kadric family is the best example for showing how people's fates have been changed in Bosnia and Herzegovina over the past 20 years. Over ten years ago we started our relief work on



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA Income-generating initiatives and a roof over the head for minors and displaced persons who are returning to their home.



Stefan Fritz in Saida/Lebanon

the 800 metre high Sitni-plateau. This is where the Kadric family grew herbs on a leased plot of land. The income was just about enough to make ends meet. Now, ten years later, thanks to our support and hard work, they are able to successfully export medicinal herbs to the USA. They now employ 300 people from the region at their plant.

A second example would be the Kojić family who, after the war, returned to their home to face the ruins of their

> existence. You can read more about the nationwide famous buckwheat pizza on pages 8 and 9.

All of this success would not have been possible without the support of our donors, company cooperation, public funding bodies, institutional partners, sponsors and testators who all provide us with the necessary financial basis to support childSYRIA / LEBANON Education and psycho-social care for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon.

ren and adults in crisis regions. I would like to offer you all my sincerest thank-you.

I would also like to thank our globally active employees who dedicate themselves day in, day out to the effective implementation of our projects for the well-being of people in critical living situations to create a future for them.

In this report we will give you an insight into the diversity of our relief measures and the resulting development opportunities for people in crisis regions.

Thank you very much!

Stefan Fritz Managing Director



BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA 20 years of helping people help themselves

Driven out of your home

As the war raged on in Bosnia from 1992 until 1995, more than two million people (source: UNHCR) had to flee their homes.

Fleeing and displacement caused many families to split up. Deprived of their homes and jobs, they lived in terrible conditions in derelict accommodation centres without clean running water and without any support. Even today, it is anything but easy for those returning to their homes. They are returning to an area that was the setting for intense battle during the war.

Our relief since 1996

Hilfswerk Austria International supports people returning to their homes to help ensure they are able to settle in again.

• Rebuilding

Rebuilding of technical infrastructure such as roads, sanitary systems and electricity and water supplies for over **16,000** returnees and other people in need of support.

• Creation of accommodation After the war and the flood disaster in May 2014, **5,000 apartments and** houses were renovated or rebuilt.

Facts about Bosnia and Herzegovina

- Land area: around 50,000 km² (Austria: around 82,000 km²)
- Internally displaced persons: around 85,000 people
- Returning persons: more than 47,000 people

Sources: UNHCR, WKO

After all, it is only possible to find a job and feed your family once you have a stable living situation.

We built **21 houses and 204 apart**ments for socially deprived families.

Income generation

So far we have been able to grant 7,880 subsidies and to create 150 new jobs through the promotion of small and medium-sized businesses.

From buckwheat to pizzeria

A success story of professional independence through subsidies is the Nišići pizzeria on the Nišići plateau. Owners Dragislav and Biljana Kojić run the pizzeria together with their two daughters, Zorana and Jovana.





Upon returning after the war they were faced with the ruins of their existence. They owned around 40 hectares of land but no seed material to farm on it. But everything changed when they received buckwheat seeds from us. The buckwheat thrived thanks to the height of the plateau. Every year brought an even bigger harvest.

It was clear that they had much more buckwheat than they needed for themselves and so they came to the decision to open a small bakery and sell buckwheat cakes. This idea significantly changed the lives of the Kojić family. Their buckwheat cakes sold so well that the next expansion soon followed: buckwheat pizzas and buckwheat doughnuts. They also set up a shop on their premises with various regional products such as honey, jam and much more. Jovana: "We are able to help each other and even advertise the products of our friends."

Our long-term initiative plan in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Even in the coming years we will continue our programme of social integration, income generation and regional development for returning and displaced persons.

Our aims are

- to work on sustainable solutions for the worst affected internally displaced families
- to significantly improve their living situations
- to raise awareness of the problems

facing internally displaced persons, minorities returning home and female war victims

• to support social integration of groups of the Roma population

We also actively support people who are affected by the long-term effects of the 2014 flood disaster. The flood disaster destroyed over 100,000 homes and damaged structures to the point that extensive mould growth is still an everpresent issue.



Hilfswerk Austria International Projects

Accommodation and job creation as well as regional development for displaced and returning persons in the Tuzla and Zenica-Doboj districts Improvement of living circumstances and living area of 156 families in need in eleven communities

Social housing: Accommodation for 104 people in six communities

Project activities in the following areas: Social housing for Roma, social inclusion, integration of children with disabilities, internally displaced persons, energy efficiency.

Project investment 2016: 3,118,140 Euro







MOZAMBIQUE ComuSanas – for the life of mother and child

Nothing is more valuable than life

Far too many mothers and children die before, during or after birth due to poor health care. Public health stations can hardly provide the relevant aid: they do not possess the vital medication and equipment nor do they have a clean, flowing water and electricity supply.

Pregnant women must often walk for days to reach the health stations. This means that traditional healers and midwives have a very important role in villages in Mozambique. Their advice has a large audience and their treatment methods are trusted by many. However, in emergencies they do not have the medical measures to guarantee the **survival of mother and child**.

Hilfswerk Austria International has been active in Mozambique since 2000. With a newly developed, extensive health programme, we have succeeded together with the Ministry of Health to significantly reduce **motherchild mortality** in our project area in the Sofala province.

Aims we have achieved in detail:

- Equipping of 15 public health stations with medical material and 15 solar panels for generating electricity and cooling for vital medication
- Establishment of 15 wells securing running water in 25 public health stations
- Introduction of a reliable transport system to public health stations for expectant mothers
- Construction of 15 birthing centres in close proximity to surrounding villages as a place to go before birth.
- Completion of 37 workshops on the topic of water and hygiene for the prevention of diarrhoea and malaria
- Promotion of cooperation between traditional medicine and public health stations. The motto here is learning from one another.

Mother-child mortality in Mozambique

- Life expectancy: barely **57** years (Austria: **82** years)
- Child mortality rate (<1 year): **72** per 1000 births (Austria: **3**)
- Mother mortality rate: **480** deaths for 100,000 births (Austria: **4**)





Sarita and Rita did it

Sarita holds her daughter Rita lovingly in her arms. Both are healthy thanks to prompt medical care. When Sarita was eight months pregnant, she fell sick with extreme diarrhoea. She had drunk unclean water. Her family had no means to clean the water from the public water

point. Weakened by heavy diarrhoea, she met one of our health assistants. He is responsible for all medical matters in Sarita's village. When he saw her he was able to treat her quickly and immediately brought Sarita to one of our birthing centres. She was able to receive treatment at just the right time. A few days later and the life of Sarita and her unborn daughter would have been in jeopardy.

Our long-term initiative plan in Mozambique

Our aim is to reduce mother-child mortality in another six districts of the Sofala province providing two to three representative health stations in each district.

- We are able to ensure a supply of electricity and running water for health stations with the help of sustainable energy sources such as solar energy
- We want to establish cooperation between traditional healers and midwives and public health officials in all Sofala districts
- We educate health assistants, run workshops on mother-child mortality prevention measures and raise awareness of the topic for all people in our project area



Hilfswerk Austria International Projects

► The ComuSanas health programme

reduced mother-child mortality by 80% in six Sofala districts so far; we aim to start this programme in the other further six districts from 2017



- ► Food security through river basin management and agricultural education on the banks of the Buzi and Pungwe rivers
 - Support of population with the cultivation, processing and marketing of their products such as coal, moringa, sesame, peanuts, etc.
 - · Establishment of irrigation systems
 - · Implementation of established technology for agricultural soil remediation
 - · Initiatives for the prevention of soil erosion and sedimentation such as afforestation of mangrove forests

95,000 inhabitants in eight communities along the

Project investment 2016: 692,880 euros

Your help goes a long way in Mozambique!

ComuSanas – Health for 393,300 women and children

Food security and stable income for 245,000 inhabitants in the communities along the Buzi and Pungwe rivers





Basic medical care in Haiti

> Rural areas in Haiti have limited access to health care. There are so-called "pharmacies" but these have neither the qualified staff nor the necessary medication for treating sick people, only official employees have health insurance in Haiti, unemployed people and employees in the shadow economy make up around 80% of the population.

The Ministry of Health is permanently under-funded. In its place there are private clinics or NGOs but these are by no means sufficient for providing healthcare to the majority of the population. For most, healthcare is mostly unaffordable and inaccessible.

Sonja Schilling | Project coordinator Haiti

HAITI Help to survive

Essential medical care for the survival for pregnant women, children and the injured at Saint-Louis du Nord hospital.

The earthquake in January 2010 took 220,000 lives and left behind mass destruction. Many medical experts died and hospitals were reduced to rubble. Hilfswerk Austria International set up a hospital in Saint-Louis du Nord, one of the poorest regions of Haiti, for reliable medical care. In order to combat the high mother, child and infant mortality in the region, we expanded the hospital into a mother-child centre. Women and newborns can receive medical and surgical care here both during and after birth.

Dorica can sleep easy again

Dorica and her son Patrice go to show just how important medical care and the protection of mother and child can be. As her son lies dripping in sweat and hunched in pain, Dorica quickly makes her way to the Saint-Louis du Nord hospital. Only here can she hope for help as people who cannot afford expensive medicine are treated only here. As she arrives at the hospital with her son, it becomes clear: Patrice's appendix is inflamed - he must undergo surgery.

There is no time to lose in cases like these. Patrice is prepared for the operation. Every step is carefully planned. Dorica can sense immedi-



ately that her son is in good hands here. When Patrice wakes up shortly after the operation, a huge load is lifted off the mother's shoulders. Tonight, she will finally sleep easy again.

Hilfswerk Austria International Projects

2010/11: Establishment of the Saint-Louis du Nord hospital in one of the poorest regions of Haiti

2016: basic medical care for around 10,000 patients; focus: trauma surgery, gynaecology and obstetrics, paediatrics

Also from October 2016: Disaster relief after Hurricane Matthew with provision of drinking water and food rations for families. Distribution of seed material as part of rebuilding livelihoods

Project investment 2016: 601,000 euros



Number of directly supported people:

10,000 patients in the hospital and over **7,500 children and adults** via humanitarian aid after Hurricane Matthew





ZIMBABWE Food security

The power of native plants

Monkeybread tree, also called the common baobab, or rampion - these are just two of around 900 plants that could lead Zimbabwe's population out of famine. They are in strong demand both nationally and internationally in medicine and cosmetics. However, small farmers which form the backbone of the local economy do not possess the knowledge or resources for profitable food production. Thus a large number of families have to go hungry in areas particularly affected by drought. Together with these people, Hilfswerk Austria International has been making drought-resistant plants into a sustainable livelihood since 1998.

We support the people with the cultivation and marketing of ten of the most interesting plants, garden fruits, oils and spices. A total of 29 new products have been introduced onto the market through this project.

The biggest success is, however, the fact that the average **household income** in our project region has been increased from 30 dollars to 101 dollars since 2013. This allows families to enjoy regular meals and be able to send their children to school. We also helped with the distribution of meals for children in schools as they rarely had the opportunity to eat at home due to the extreme drought as a result of El Niño.

Food situation in Zimbabwe

- Number of people who suffer from famine: over 4 million
- Percentage of population: 44%
- Number of affected districts: around 60

Source: World Food Programme



Mrs Mashingaidze relies on chilli and papaya

Thanks to our project, Mrs Mashingaidze, mother of three children, can now produce chilli and papaya in sufficient quantities as to be able to make a livelihood for her family. Mrs Mashingaidze: "We used to live from hand to mouth. We often had to go hungry and couldn't pay school fees or for medical treatment!" Today it is completely different: the family can enjoy three meals a day, the children go to school and they can even afford medical care. The family now even have electricity in their house so that Mrs Mashingaidze can cool and sell fresh fish.

Jozambique

South Africa

Hilfswerk Austria International Projects ► Distribution of meals ► Food security, income gene-Zambia ration and regional, econoto school children in our mic development through project areas analysis, increase in production Project investment 2016: and marketing of indigenous Hwange 550,150 euros plants ► Training for more than 6,820 Chimaniman farmers in sustainable, biologi-Chipino cal agriculture since 2013 Botswana

COLOMBIA Support for indigenous people



Learning from one another for a better future

The decades-long, bloody conflict in Colombia claimed many people's lives - including many indigenous people. Even today they do not have access to public education nor the opportunity for political participation. Their habitat - the Amazon - is being massively restricted through deforestation and new landowners. This means traditional fishing and hunting for food is almost no longer possible. Famine and malnutrition are widespread and primarily affect children. Indigenous people are confronted by small farmers who move to Guaviare in the sparsely populated south in the hope for work. Unfamiliar

with the new circumstances, their existence is also threatened.

Hilfswerk Austria International has been supporting indigenous families and farmers in Colombia for 17 years. Through the exchange of experience and river basin management, the natural habitat and primary food sources can be maintained for both groups. Together with farmers and indigenous people, we were thus able to work on extensive, sustainable cultivation plans for approx. 300 family businesses and the redevelopment of indigenous farming areas and methods. Education helped indigenous people and farmers to learn from one another in the areas of hunting, cultivation and food procurement. We support local innovation and small businesses in order to sustainably ensure a source of income for both groups.

Daniel could be saved

Daniel, a Nukak boy, goes to show how essential the support of indigenous people can be. The Nukak are an indigenous population in Colombia. Malnutrition – often life-threatening – is a harsh reality for them. When one of

The situation in Colombia

- Project area Guaviare: 489,000 hectares
- Indigenous groups in Colombia: around 80; three indigenous groups in Guaviare: Jiw, Nukak and Tukanos

our project team members met Daniel six years ago, he was so emaciated and weak that he was unable to walk.

Thanks to strengthening meals in one of our nutrition centres, Daniel recovered quickly and was soon able to return to his family. Today Daniel is doing well and thanks to river basin management put in place by us in the region, there is now more fish for everyone. That means Daniel and his family must no longer go hungry.



Hilfswerk Austria International Projects

- Food security for farmers and indigenous populations through fish farming and vegetable cultivation and the establishment of centres for malnourished children
- Rural development through the exchange of knowledge and experience between various population groups
- New sources of income through the promotion of crafts, local innovation and small businesses
- Conservation of natural habitats through river basin management and reforestation
- Strengthening of indigenous people's rights through education for a strong political, social and organisational awareness and strengthening of cooperation between indigenous groups

Peacekeeping through mediation between various population groups for cohabitation







GEORGIA AND ARMENIA A secure livelihood

With cooperative societies for a better life

Thousands of families live in poverty on the border between Georgia and Armenia. Many, though, do own land and livestock. However, the yield and income from this is not sufficient to provide for the family. Men must thus often work abroad. The women and children stay behind on barely mechanised farms. They lack investments and knowledge to be able to live off the agriculture and livestock breeding.



Hilfswerk Austria International has been supporting the foundation of cooperative societies since 2013. Women share equipment, vehicles and grazing areas and market their products as part of a network.

- Two women's cooperative societies have been founded through this project which sell their products at five national agricultural trade fairs in both the capital cities of Tbilisi and Yerevan and at regional farmers' markets.
- The production buildings for the milk collection point in the Armenian village of Aregnadem and the dairy farm in the Georgian village of Disveli could be renovated, equipped and put into operation.
- Eight women were trained as bookkeepers, laboratory technicians and

Hilfswerk Austria International Projects

- Support with the foundation of two dairy cooperative societies: Stable income for the members, who can produce and process up to 2,000 litres of milk per day
- Foundation of six "Rural Women Councils/Women groups" in three Armenian (Are-

gnadem, Byurakn, Voghji) and three Georgian villages (Akaurta, Balichi/Kazreti, Disveli). The approx. 60 members tackle widespread social issues

Project investment 2016: 340,000 euros



The situation in Georgia and Armenia

Inhabitants and employment:

- Kvemo Kartli (Georgia): 426,400 inhabitants, 42.5% of employed are in agriculture, unemployment rate 12%
- Shirak region (Armenia): 251,900 inhabitants, 41.6% of employed are in agriculture, unemployment rate: 18.5 %
- Income per capita: €360 a month Austria: €3,500 a month

Sources : GEOSTAT, ARMSTAT, SDC, WKC

skilled workers in cheese production. This results in better employment and income opportunities for these women in the future.

Working for a joint future

Ketevan is the mother of three children. She runs a small farm in Georgia. Money for school books or warm winter clothing for the children was always tight and there was almost no hope of improvement. Through our project she, together with other women, was able to significantly increase milk production. Ketevan now also produces cheese that she successfully sells in supermarkets. She is pleased: "So much has changed. Working together with other female farmers in the village allows us all to gain an income which can finance our livelihoods. That is a fine feeling."





TAJIKISTAN AND KYRGYZSTAN Central Asia's fruit loft

An undiscovered treasure

The central Asian countries of Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan are some of the poorest countries in the world with more than 40% of the population below the poverty line. But both countries have an undiscovered treasure: dried fruit which can be sold for a good price on the international market. As a part of our project work, in summer 2016 the entry of dried apricot from central Asia managed to become a new UNECE standard. This gave it a significantly higher market value, benefiting farmers and small and medium-sized grocers as well as their sales. Hilfswerk Austria International has been aiming to support farmers and processing centres with the production and marketing of dried fruit, nuts and honey since 2008. Through our cooperation with associations and unions, we help small and medium-sized businesses gain access to the international markets. Our aims:

- Developing cooperation between farmers, processing and export centres in order to improve value-added chains
- Developing market entry strategies or adapting existing market cultivation strategies

 Transferring knowledge for the introduction of a public support system which enables small and medium-sized businesses to gain the financial means to introduce revenue-oriented standards such as Fairtrade, Global GAP and Organic

In order to improve the legal and economic circumstances for small and medium sized grocery producers in both countries, we are helping to develop laws for supporting the food industry and improve business and investment conditions.

From apricots and grapes to more education

Rukhsona is a mother of two children and runs a small processing centre in the Khatlon province in Tajikistan. Thanks to



The situation in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan

- GDP per capita: 984 euros in Tajikistan 1205 euros in Kyrgyzstan (37,000 euros in Austria)
- Employed in agriculture: approx. 67% (Austria: 4.4%)
- 70% of those employed in agriculture are women



training by our project partners, Rukhsona acquired the knowledge she needed to market and sell her products. She was so successful after just two years that she was able to employ other women. She proudly tells us: "I am so happy about the support that allowed me to develop my small business. Now I can earn enough to send my daughters to school. They will have a better future and I am very grateful for that."

Our long-term initiative plan in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan

In the future we will continue to focus our strategy in both countries on the promotion of small and medium-sized business in the fruit and vegetable sector. They should play an important role on the international grocery market in the future. To do so we will support companies with the use of innovative production methods, quality improvement, complying with international food standards, biological development and the implementation of Fairtrade principles. An important focus will be on the cooperation between research institutes and companies which aim to promote further innovation.



Hilfswerk Austria International Projects in Central Asia since 2008

- Support for agricultural economics and improvement of the production and marketing of dried fruit, nuts and honey
- Increase in the amount of trade relations in Central Asia
- Introduction of new, innovative business ideas
- Improvement of services and public support systems for small and medium-sized businesses as well as young food processing companies
- Entry of dried apricot from central Asia as a new UNECE standard
- Introduction of production and processing standards such as Fairtrade, Global GAP and Organic
- Systemisation of cooperation between various players within a value-added chain (production, processing, sales and export)



Your help goes a long way in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan!



SYRIA / LEBANON A new life for refugee children

Robbed of their childhood

For a sixth year now, the civil war that aimed to democratise Syria continues to force millions of people to flee - either to other regions in Syria or to a neighbouring country such as Lebanon. It particularly affects the children as they struggle through traumatic experiences during their flight. Many are unable to go to school and must work under exploitative conditions as just a small child, working either in agriculture or on the streets. Hilfswerk Austria International has been championing the protection of these children and their families since 2012. We provide regular meals, psycho-social care and education. We help over 1,500 Syrian refugee children in **seven child and youth centres** across Lebanon.

- **Language lessons** for integration (local languages are French and Arabic)
- School education for a chance at entering the Lebanese educational system

- **Psychological support** for processing traumatic flight experiences
- **Leisure activities** for refugee children and their families

We also distribute warm winter clothing for 7,000 children in the Al Marj refugee camp.

Back-to-School: Abir is going to school

Twelve-year old Abir smiles and says: "It's good to laugh again. It has been a long time since my family could be proud of something. Now they are proud of me." This is because Abir can go back to school. After fleeing Syria three years ago, her family had

The situation for Syrian refugees in Lebanon

- Inhabitants in Lebanon: approx. 6.2 M (in an area as big as Upper Austria)
- Syrian refugees in Lebanon: more than 1.5 M, 50% of which are children and young people





nowhere to stay for a long time. Abir's everyday life was bleak. But everything changed when they were taken in by our relief programme. Abir is now going back to school thanks to our Back-to-School programme. Her father found a job on the vegetable market in Tripoli. Now the family has hope for a dignified life again. Something that many refugee families have lost.

Our long-term initiative plan for Syrian refugee children

The aim of our "Back-to-School" project is to give as many Syrian boys and girls as possible in seven locations access to education. Thanks to a tailored catch-up programme, the children are able to enter the new educational system in Lebanon. Psycho-social support helps the children and young people to work through the traumatic experiences of war and displacement.

Hilfswerk Austria International Projects

- Support and education for children and young people in seven children centres in Burj Hammoud, Jnah (Beirut), Saida (South Lebanon), Kfar Zabad, Zahlé (Beqaa), Tripoli (North Lebanon) and Halba (Akkar)
- Access to health services for 500 Syrian women and 1,500 children in the Al Marj refugee camp in the areas of pregnancy and childbirth, nutrition, gynaecology and family planning

Distribution of winter clothing to 7000 children in the AI Marj refugee camp

Integration through sport

Joint sporting activities between Syrian and Lebanese children promote acceptance of Syrian refugees in Lebanese society

Project investment 2016: 439,270 euros

Number of supported people in 2016:

- over 10,000 children and their families
- another 500 women through the health programme



THIS IS HOW YOU CAN HELP Your donations give people in crisis situations hope again. Thank you!



In 2016, our humanitarian relief was characterised by two large natural disasters: Hurricane Matthew devastated large parts of Haiti and destroyed crops for the coming months. Extreme drought in southern Africa brought mass famine, particularly in the drought regions of Zimbabwe.

Hilfswerk Austria International provides humanitarian aid to ensure the survival of families in need. We organise clean drinking water, strengthening meals and provide the relevant help to see to all needs in crisis situations.

Our rebuilding projects and self-help initiatives create new livelihoods and give children access to an extensive education.

Online donating made easy

Would you like to support families in crisis situations? You can find extensive information on our relief measures and news from our project countries on our new website at www.hilfswerk.at/international.

Donations via our website are particularly helpful for disaster situations. This allows us to act fast and take life-saving measures.



Donations instead of gifts

Birthdays, wedding celebrations and anniversaries are increasingly being used to dispense with gifts in return for making a donation to children in need.



Benefits in kind and sponsorship

Regular sponsors support us with photos, office materials, drinks and much more for our office in Vienna as well as for our information events. Venues, publications and invitations are also made possible thanks to our sponsors.





Lasting marks with testation

Many people use their will to fulfil their wish to leave something long-lasting behind; something that is close to their heart. In doing so they provide for people close to them. For a world in which the following generations can grow up and thrive. Thanks to donations and legacies, children such as Pablo have better chances for the future: In Pablo's home in the Amazon region of Colombia, many species of fish are threatened. This means children like Pablo often have to go hungry. Through workshops families learn to protect their habitat as well to use efficient methods for fishing, agriculture and livestock breeding. We host regular information events in cooperation with public notaries.

Our employee, Luzia Wibiral is happy to answer any of your questions on **inheritances and legacies.**

Charity Christmas market

The charity punch stand on the Freyung in Vienna took place on 13 December 2016. Supporters donated 1,050 euros for Syrian refugee children in Lebanon. Thank you very much!

We would like to invite you to our next punch stand in December 2017.

You will find the exact date on our website at www.hilfswerk.at/ international and in our newsletter.



President Christian Domany and members of the board August Astl and David Bachmann (f.l.t.r.) attend to our guests at the punch stand



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Help that reaches those who need it.

In 2016, Hilfswerk Austria International's total expenditure was \in 8,668,413 of which a total of \in 7,728,233 was spent on project work. 5.0% was used for fundraising and 5.9% for administration.



We ensure that the donation funds are used carefully and effectively, and commit ourselves to a strict control of the accounting by independent auditors. In 2016, we were able to implement education and training for children and young people, food security, basic medical care and health improvement, economic development support, peace promotion initiatives and much more.

Thank you very much for your support!

Donors, co-operative partners, sponsors, voluntary supporters and people who have named Hilfswerk Austria International in their will - all of you help to permanently improve the lives of people in crisis situations. Together, we work on finding solutions to poverty, hunger and need.

Our thanks go to:

- ADA Austrian Development Agency
- Advantage Austria
- Austrian Economic Chamber
- Austrian Federal Ministry of Defence and Sports
- Austrian Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy
- City of Vienna
- DFID Department For International Development
- EC European Commission
- ECHO European Commission's Humanitarian Aid Department
- Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation
- Erste Foundation
- IV The Federation of Austrian Industries
- Kahane Foundation
- LED Liechtenstein Development Service
- Medicor Foundation
- Neighbour in Need
- Province of Lower Austria
- Province of Styria
- Province of Tyrol
- Province of Upper Austria
- OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)
- UNDP United Nations Development Programmes
- UNHCR United States Agency for International Development
- USAID United States Agency for International Development
- "We build life" campaign

Shaping the future together

Hilfswerk Austria International is a reliable partner for the Austrian economy. Companies profit from our know-how as well as our networks and structures in the project countries. The social commitment in partnership with Hilfswerk Austria International allows companies to position themselves as trendsetting, trustworthy companies.

ARMENIA:

Green energy for sustainable, regional development



The Shirak region in north-west Armenia is among the poorest regions of the country. Large parts of the population are made up of socially deprived families who cannot sufficiently fulfil their basic needs such as heating and access to drinking and warm water.

Together with the European Union, Gebrüder Weiss GmbH and our local partner organisations, we have provided renewable energy to kindergartens, community centres, social institutions and agricultural cooperative societies in 25 villages - including solar-operated systems for irrigation, water heating and central heating, thermal sanitation measures and energy efficient lighting.

We have also developed "green" income opportunities through greenhouses with heat pumps for an extended crop season or solar-operated dried fruit plants. We have also run information campaigns on low-carbon technology and founded a "green centre" which serves as an information and advice point for the local population. In doing so we are creating the groundwork for sustainable development in Armenia whilst helping to combat poverty in the Shirak region.

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA : ProDem – more youth participation in democratic processes

Change does not happen automatically. Those who want to take part in the future of a country must use their right to vote. Many young people in Moldova are not aware of this.



Andrei is one of the many young people in the Republic of Moldova who have almost no access to political information. The 18-year old himself is even surprised to hear he is allowed to vote in the next parliamentary elections. Many other young people also aren't aware that they can take part in politics: voter turnout for 18-25-year olds lied at just 35 percent in 2014.

Working together with the ADA and the Erste Foundation, we are running a tailor-made programme with the aim of motivating young first-time voters in eight communities to actively take part in elections. We aim to reach at least



8,000 young people through a widereaching information campaign; 800 of these will gain in-depth knowledge on election mechanisms and processes through training.

TUNISIA: Vocational training and jobs



The province of Tataouine in south-eastern Tunisia has been an economically marginalised region for decades. A lack of qualifications limit the job and future prospects of the population.

In cooperation with OMV, Hilfswerk Austria International offers people in Tunisia new opportunities and life prospects. We create jobs and train skilled workers so that the qualifications of young people suit the requirements of the job market. 444 people have already found employment thanks to the scheme. Jobs are created through the support of local business initiatives. Targeted support has allowed start-ups in the handicraft, packing industry, agriculture and tourism sectors to flourish. We work together with local officials and partners to guarantee sustainable success.



WHEN HELP KNOWS NO BORDERS. Thank you for your support!

LEGAL NOTICE:

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The names of all children and adults involved in our projects have been changed to protect their right to privacy.

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Future. Life. Worldwide.

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