



HILFSWERK
AUSTRIA

INTERNATIONAL



ANNUAL
REPORT
2015



Dercia shoulders her brother Horacio and skilfully wraps two blankets around him. She does so like an adult. She cares for the infant as if it were the most natural thing in the world. Except that Dercia is still a little girl who's just six years old.

Like Dercia, many children in crisis-hit regions carry heavy burdens - particularly girls. They have to work in the fields and in the home, care for their siblings and often fetch water from far away. Day in, day out. There's no time left over for school or training.



Children in crisis-hit regions often carry heavy burdens. To improve their future prospects, Hilfswerk Austria International launches educational projects and food security programmes.

WORLDWIDE

Aid to help people help themselves

Training and development for children and youth, agricultural funding for securing a sustainable existence, reducing mother-child mortality, aid for AIDS orphans and many other achievements were realised by Hilfswerk Austria International in 2015. Business cooperation projects, public funding bodies and private donors make sustainable development possible for children and families in crisis-hit regions.

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 supporting Indigenous and Roma and providing assistance for children with disabilities.

We are there when children and adults find themselves in need and ensure that forward-looking improvements are put in place. Our goal is to support people to develop or redevelop their own potential. Schooling and vocational training as well as food security form the basis of our relief efforts.

Humanitarian aid, reconstruction and development collaboration form the three pillars of our work. 2015 was marked by the catastrophic living conditions of Syrian refugees. A wave of solidarity enabled us to offer children and youth protection and assistance at three children's centres in Burj Hammoud, Sin el Fil and Zahlé: through education, psychological support and nutrition.

In our project areas in Mozambique, we were able to reduce the mortality rate amongst mothers by over 80% with a range of eleven health initiatives. In Guaviare province in Colombia, we succeeded in motivating farmers and Indigenas to collaborate in important areas of life, with the resulting synergies enabling food security and a more peaceful co-existence for both groups of people.

Our donors, CSR cooperation partners, public funding bodies, institutions and sponsors enable the changes we report about on the following pages. A big thank you to you all!



Yours sincerely,

Stefan Fritz
Managing Director

Over 400 Syrian refugee children and youth in Lebanon receive education and psycho-social support so that they are better able to process what they have experienced and integrate properly into their new surroundings.



Mozambique/Sofala: Elias is alive. His mother was able to get to the health station in time, where she delivered her healthy little boy.



COLOMBIA

Food security

Pablo's favourite food is fish. Yet in his home of Guaviare, in the Amazon region of Colombia, many species of fish are under threat. The fields are also becoming less productive. The rivers are polluted, the soil exhausted. Pablo and his siblings often have to go to bed hungry. River basin management and training courses teach the families how to protect their natural habitat better and to apply effective, more productive methods in the areas of fish farming, agriculture and animal husbandry.

Learning from one another – living with one another

The farmers and indigenous population in Guaviare have extensive and valuable agricultural knowledge. We come together with them in workshops to develop plans that combine the proven methods and expertise of both groups.

This enables the families to achieve agricultural use of their land over a sustained period of time and better yields. In doing so, the food supply can be secured for the long term.

Healthy soil as the basis for adequate and balanced nutrition

Two important measures for a better harvest are more effective soil management and the cultivation of vegetables that adapt to the climatic conditions of the region. For example, different kinds of vegetables are cultivated in the dry



Hilfswerk Austria International has been active in Colombia for fifteen years with the aim of placing the livelihood of the population on a sustainable footing. Thanks to our deliberately integrated approach, our projects help to improve the ecological, social and economic living conditions of the rural population.



season than in the rainy season. In order to ensure sustainable farming, only the biological resources of the individual farms are used to fertilise the soil.

In Colombia, Hilfswerk Austria International supports the planting of plantain, yucca, soya and maize on 15 hectares of land worked by the participating farms.

In 2015, 20,000 fruit trees were also planted, amongst them orange, mandarin, mango and guanábana trees.

Rivers secure food diversity and income

In the river basins of the Río Guaviare, Río Ariari and Inírida, we work with families specifically to apply the indigenous knowledge of numerous fish species and their habitats. For example, sustainable fish farming operations can be established for groups of 30 women each as a way to preserve the ecological balance.

Fifty groups of women took up fish farming in 2015, with a total of 1,500 families benefiting from it in the form of food security and a small additional income. ■



The province of Guaviare is situated in the South of Colombia, has 95,000 inhabitants and an area of 54,000 km²; on average there are 2 people per km² (by comparison, Austria has 102 people per km²).

This regional development project allows us to support 32,000 people, the majority of whom are children of either the Indigenas or the farmers.

Priority project areas and investments:

Food security and economic development of needy families in the project area.

A total of €539,231 was spent on implementing the measures in 2015.



Fredy Rivera Senior Expert

› The indigenous population groups have thus far been seriously disadvantaged and scarcely able to exercise their rights as citizens. Their living conditions were made considerably worse by the deforestation of their natural habitat and the pollution of the rivers. The region's farmers also have to battle with poor harvests and increasing pollution of the river water. These common problems connect

people and enable the holding of workshops attended by representatives of all groups. This breaks down prejudices and develops shared knowledge, which in future will enable the rural population in Guaviare to enjoy more productive and sustainable agricultural use of the land and rivers. Food security and a better income as well as peaceful coexistence are the expected goals of this integrative project. ◀



SYRIA / LEBANON

Trauma work, schooling and vocational training

Hiba fled with her neighbours from Syria to Lebanon. An area the size of Upper Austria already accommodates 1.1 million Syrian refugees in extremely difficult conditions. Hiba is one of the children here. She has found a place in a children's centre, where someone takes care of her and helps her to deal with the terrible experiences. For three hours a day, Hiba can be a child again. The language classes will help her to make new friends more quickly in her new home and to attend school.

are scarcely available, especially for the refugee families from Syria.

Half of the children and youth have no chance of getting a place at school or on a training course. Due to the precarious situation, the children have to contribute to their families' livelihood by begging or doing odd jobs, and find themselves pushed into the informal labour market.

Education as a way out of poverty

Hilfswerk Austria International has acted as a stabilising force in Lebanon for ten years with a range of different projects which have enabled 15,000 children and 5,000 Syrian refugees to receive support for a future worth living.

At three children and young people's centres in Burj Hammoud, Sin el Fil (Beirut) and Zahlé (Bekaa), Hilfswerk Austria International employees are currently supporting over 400 girls



Five years after the outbreak of the Syrian conflict, the conditions for millions of refugees in neighbouring countries and internally displaced people in Syria have worsened alarmingly. The economic and social consequences of the Syrian crisis are proving catastrophic for Lebanon.

Only a very low level of public services can be guaranteed. Medical services, education, electricity and clean water



Opportunities for the young

The provision of professional training courses with nationally recognised final examinations in the areas of food and services boosts young people's confidence in their own abilities and gives them a sense of stability after the daunting experience of fleeing their homeland.

and boys with language lessons (the local languages are French and Arabic), schooling and vocational training, psychological support, leisure activities and awareness-raising initiatives. This ensures better integration into the new surroundings and enables admission to the school system.

The programme was launched in 2015 with an initial batch of 50 young people - the plan is to extend it significantly in 2016 with the areas of Administration, EDP and Trades.



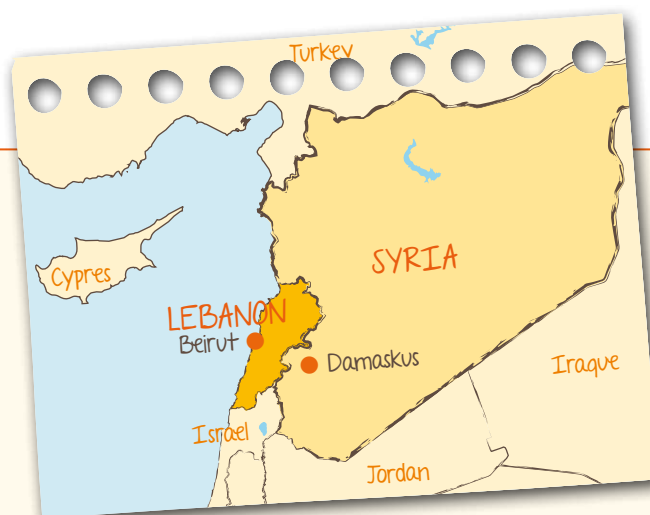
Lebanon, a country smaller than the province of Upper Austria, is home to 4.5 million Lebanese people as well as a further 1.1 million Syrian refugees and hundreds of thousands of other Palestinian refugees who were already living in Lebanon before the Syrian crisis. In other words, more than a quarter of the people living in the country are refugees. More than 50 percent of them are children and young people.

Priority project areas and investments:

In 2015, a total of €242,189 was spent on the education and psychosocial support of over 400 children and youth at our three children's centres in Burj Hammoud, Sin el Fil (Beirut) and Zahlé (Bekaa).

For 2016, we are planning to expand the activities to the regions of North and South Lebanon.

This should enable at least an additional 800 Syrian children and youth to find support and training.



Corina Zeisel

Project Officer Humanitarian Aid

› Education is the key to fighting poverty. Education is also a basic prerequisite for social and economic development. Each person also has a right to an education. Our professional and sustainable training courses rebuild children and young people's confidence in their own abilities and allow them to play an active part in

public life. School preparatory courses enable Syrian refugee children to enter the national school system as soon as a suitable place becomes available. As in other crisis-hit areas, Hilfswerk Austria International also offers children and youth the prospect of an education and a future in Lebanon as well. ◀





BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

A future for Roma families

For as long as he can remember, Marko has lived with his parents and siblings on a rubbish dump in Čapljina. The entire belongings of this Roma family amount to a couple of broken pieces of furniture they found in the rubbish. Accidents are a frequent occurrence and fires regularly break out. When they do, what little the family has been able to collect over the weeks to live on is destroyed again. The children are faced with constant dangers. The social project of Hilfswerk Austria International offers a safe home for Marko and new prospects for his family.



Marko remembers with sadness his little brother, who lost his life one day in a fire on the rubbish dump. He cannot understand why he has to search the rubbish every day for something to eat and items of value while other children can go to school and play. Marko belongs to the minority known as the Roma. Many children like him cannot go to school, are avoided by other children and have no chance of

ever escaping this hopeless situation. Most of the adults, too, live quite literally from hand to mouth. They are denied access both to the labour market and to education. The majority of Roma families live under catastrophic, often life-threatening conditions on rubbish dumps or in makeshift huts.

A safe home needs an income

A roof over one's head is one of the requirements for being able to find suitable work and feeding a family. Hilfswerk Austria International has developed an integrated model with a specific focus on homeless groups of people and with the active participation of all stakeholders.

In order to improve living conditions, social services and dwellings are made available. Workshops on topics such as finding a home, education, employment and healthcare are keenly attended by Roma families. The knowledge they acquire boosts their



sense of self-worth and above all raises their awareness about the possibility of leading a better life.

Many families do not know which forms of state support they can claim or how to apply for them. Training courses are therefore held which improve the families' livelihood.

A new life begins

150 especially needy families were able to move into new accommodation in 2015. Simple houses and social dwellings were built or renovated and furnished.

Marko's family was able to move off the rubbish dump and into one of the newly built houses. All five children now go to school. The family is embarking on a completely new life.

Political participation through integration and educational programmes

Hilfswerk Austria International takes care of finding somewhere for the

families to live as well as possible new sources of income for them and their economic development. Efforts are also made to increase the participation of Roma in meetings with local authorities with the aim of breaking down barriers and promoting integration. The result is a brisk exchange of knowledge and experience between everyone involved. Supporting training courses and workshops, some of which are led by Roma themselves, are designed to further strengthen their understanding of their democratic rights and to actually exercise them. ■

Roma are amongst the minorities worst affected by poverty and exclusion in Bosnia and Herzegovina. As a result many Roma are unemployed and large numbers of children do not go to school. Politically, the Roma have no representation either. Many Roma are unregistered, receive no healthcare and have no access to other social services.

Project area: City of Tuzla as well as the municipalities of Gradacac, Gracanica, Banovici (Tuzla Canton), Kakanj, Zavidovici and Zenica

Priority project areas and investments:

Hilfswerk Austria International is active in Bosnia and Herzegovina with 16 projects. Our aid measures are primarily directed at low-income and socially disadvantaged families such as Roma and internally displaced people. Our work focuses on education and income boosting, health-related measures, finding somewhere to live and social integration. In 2015, we spent a total of € 2,154,956 on improving the living conditions of disadvantaged families.



Beatrice Matuschka

Desk Officer Bosnia and Herzegovina and Colombia

› The kind of social housing we have had so many good experiences with in Austria is only just getting off the ground in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Needy families often don't find any of the social structures they need to escape poverty on their own. Education and training usually remain beyond their reach. Hilfswerk Austria International has developed a model that

provides these families with accommodation, economic development and social inclusion. Sensitisation activities draw the attention of public authorities to the plight of the Roma and in doing so promote direct dialogue with them. The project creates new perspectives for the future and helps the families to find a way out of poverty under their power. ◀



MOZAMBIQUE

ComuSanas gives life

Elias is alive. In his home in Sofala, Mozambique, that's a small sensation. Because Elias came into the world too early and needed urgent medical care. Had he stayed in his parents' village, he would not have survived. Fortunately for him, his mother Helena learned from the birth houses well in advance that Hilfswerk Austria International had set up an office in Sofala. She set off there in order to give her baby a healthy birth.



For almost 15 years, Hilfswerk Austria International has been supporting the population of Sofala, one of the poorest provinces in Mozambique, on its jour-

ney towards a healthier future.

In close collaboration with the people of Chemba in Sofala province, the authorities and funding agencies, Hilfswerk Austria International pursues a holistic approach to improving the situation of the local population. We have implemented eleven jointly developed measures for improving mother-child health in our project regions.

In each village, health workers are trained as the point of contact for ten "model families" each. These work closely with the families in order to

explain the importance of avoiding early marriage and the risks of teenage births. This is reducing the number of problematic pregnancies.

Healthy mothers – healthy children

Hard work in the fields and a lack of nutrition lead to elevated risks during pregnancy for both mother and child. This knowledge is imparted to the village communities through workshops and theatre performances.



The distribution of improved seed increases agricultural yields and puts the family association in a position to offer pregnant members greater protection and a more balanced diet.

Due to a lack of public transportation, chopelas (tuk-tuks) are purchased to bring the women to the health station, which is often several days' walk away, where at least four pregnancy checks are performed and entered into a mother-child passport.

Nurses and health agents meet regularly to discuss the medicines and measures required to assist the women. Each health station is also equipped with baby scales and measuring tapes in order to check how the children are

developing. Training courses and discussions between the women increase their knowledge about caring for and feeding their babies.

In cooperation with the health ministry, a collaboration has been effected between traditional midwives and state-registered nurses. It is therefore now possible for mothers-to-be to take their trusted midwife with them to the birth of their child. Close by the state health stations we are building birth houses where mothers-to-be can be looked after by their traditional midwives and a highly trained nurse.



Another measure is the installation of fountains and solar systems, which are required to ensure a stable power supply for keeping the lifesaving medicines cool.



The province of Sofala is located in Eastern Mozambique, has 1.5 million inhabitants and an area of 68,000 km²; the average population density is 22 people per km² (in Austria: 102 people)

“ComuSanas – mutual aid/collaboration”

ComuSanas takes a holistic approach to improving the health of families in Mozambique. Particular importance is given to girls and women because of the key role they play in the family.

Priority project areas and investments: Living conditions for families in Sofala province are being effectively improved through education, awareness-raising and health programmes. €899,132 was spent in 2015 on improving the health of 72,000 women and children in eight municipalities across Chemba district.

Fredy Rivera **Senior Expert**

› With the holistic approach of ComuSanas and the developed health initiatives, we have been able to achieve considerable success in collaboration with the local population and authorities. For example, maternal mortality in all our project areas has so far been reduced by over 80%, more and more people are acquiring a good awareness of health issues and the cohesion of village communities has also significantly improved.

The developed methods have been added to the national health system so that other provinces can also benefit from the synergies. It is currently particularly important to train health agents in other districts of Chemba province and to install model families who pass on the knowledge acquired in a kind of snowball effect; this will enable as many women as possible to have a risk-free pregnancy and ensure that their children grow up healthily. ◀



AID THAT GETS WHERE IT'S NEEDED

An overview of Hilfswerk Austria International



Hilfswerk Austria International, Vienna office (from left to right): Nicole Bauer/Regional Manager South Caucasus, Sonja Schilling/Project Manager Haiti, Bianca Weissel/Communications/Media, Fredy Rivera/Senior Expert for Health Systems, Knowledge and Innovation Management, Elisabeth Huber/Finance, Bernhard Stepanek/EDP, Stoyanka Manolcheva/Desk Officer Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia, Corina Zeisel/Project Officer Humanitarian Aid, Stefan Fritz/Managing Director, Luzia Wibiral/Communications/CSR/Inheritances, Gerda Huber-Zafarpour/Donor and Association Support, Martina Mattes/Finance, Nina Borufka/Desk Officer North Africa, Lorenz Mayer/Finance, Doris Svejnoch/Finance, Beatrice Matuschka/Desk Officer Bosnia & Herzegovina and Colombia.

We get involved

Hilfswerk Austria International has spent decades learning in depth how to improve people's living conditions - quickly, efficiently and sustainably. Our projects are distributed across the world, our priorities are always the same:



Humanitarian aid

Where children, families and innocent civilians suffer hardship due to natural disasters or military confrontations and become refugees, we are ready to help.



Rebuilding

When it comes to repairing homes, schools and infrastructure or building them from scratch, we have the endurance required.



Agricultural support

Where people need a helping hand to be able to support themselves again, we send them seeds, equipment and experts.



Health

Where a lack of knowledge of illnesses and hygiene or a lack of resources threaten people's lives, we take action.



Social

When it comes to integrating minorities and marginalised groups into society, we offer our hand.



Education

Wherever we engage, schooling and vocational training as well as training for professionals are extremely important.

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



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Vicepresident:

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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.

Christian Domany and Heidi Burkhart in conversation



› Hilfswerk Austria International stands for a close networking of the Austrian economy with our projects in many countries around the world. The trendsetting collaboration is based

on sustainable and trendsetting CSR* cooperations from which our partner companies benefit just as much as the young people, families and society in the project countries overall. Hilfswerk Austria International also makes an important contribution in crisis-hit areas, where helping people to help themselves is a fundamental factor for stabilising and rebuilding social structures. We are therefore also ready to arrange an education for young Syrian people in Lebanon. This is the basis for a liveable future in their homeland, < says President Christian Domany.

› Wherever people are in need, we don't only see the suffering. We are also amazed by their courage, strength and perseverance. On each deployment,

we sense people's unbridled desire for a better future. The collaboration of our donors opens up opportunities for lasting change. The joy of this is infectious and shows how valuable every single contribution is, < as Vice President Heidi Burkhart explains her very personal commitment.



*) CSR/Corporate Social Responsibility





LIBYA / TUNISIA

Shaping the future together

Numerous companies and foundations already support the work done by Hilfswerk Austria International. CSR cooperations, joint ventures and individual donations enable Hilfswerk Austria International to respond quickly and sustainably. By cooperating with Hilfswerk Austria International, companies can invest in sustainable projects on the ground. This improves the families' economic conditions and makes it possible for them to earn a steady income. This in turn is a prerequisite for strengthening the social fabric of communities and ensuring that the children develop more healthily.

In the capital Tripoli, the “Libya Youth Centre”, a project set up in cooperation with OMV, provides children with a peaceful place to lessen their concerns and gain self-confidence. Leisure activities promote cohesiveness amongst the children and boost their social skills. Trained psychologists and social workers take care of the worries and concerns of over 800 children and youth, while joint workshops train them how to deal respectfully with one another and develop an understanding of democracy.

The Libya Youth Centre was handed over to local control at the end of 2015 following a period of preparation. In future, a Libyan team will be responsible for peace-promoting initiatives for children and young people in Tripoli.



LIBYA: Securing peace

Political conditions in Libya remain highly volatile. Children and young people in particular are suffering from the absence of prospects and a lack of self-confidence. The consequences of decades of violence are clearly evident in their families. The parents are usually so wrapped up in their daily lives that they have no time to deal with their children's problems.



TUNISIA: Creating jobs

The province of Tataouine in South-Eastern Tunisia has been an economically marginalised region for decades. The population suffers from a high level of poverty and unemployment. A lack



of educational opportunities reduces job prospects and future opportunities.

In a CSR cooperation with OMV, Hilfswerk Austria International built a training centre that focuses on vocational training, finding work and supporting local business initiatives, such as the construction of an ecolodge in the traditional Berber style.

To date, 196 people have received technical training as welders or plumbers. Small-scale projects in the areas of tourism and agriculture created 257 new jobs. Language classes and training courses on entrepreneurship were attended by 915 people. ■



The collaboration between companies and Hilfswerk Austria International enables sustainable and trendsetting changes in crisis-hit regions.

Training and development as well as the creation of jobs promote local productivity levels and makes an important contribution to strengthening families' economic standing. The children in particular benefit from this. They subsequently get a better education and the protection of an intact family unit.

Multi-year project funding enables Hilfswerk Austria International to make predictable and sustainable changes for the population in crisis-hit regions.

Nina Borufka Desk Officer North Africa

➤ Business cooperations have great potential for alleviating poverty in the long term.

The companies themselves also benefit from the collaboration with Hilfswerk Austria International. Our many years of experience put us in close proximity with stakeholders, who in turn help the partners with the early identification of opportunities and crisis potential. In Tunisia and Libya, for example, we have also been able to show how the local population benefits from business cooperations. ◀



TRIGOS 2015

OMV and Hilfswerk Austria International were awarded the TRIGOS 2015 in the category "Best Partnership" for the projects in Tunisia, which prepares young adults for the labour market, and in Libya, where children and young people are able to participate in an educational programme and receive psychological support.

Outstanding examples of entrepreneurial responsibility are rewarded with one of the sought-after TRIGOS trophies. The prize is awarded by a broad platform of industrial and civil society sponsors.





CHRISTMAS GALA 2015

26 years of the Christmas appeal for children in need



„Saxolady“
Daniela Krammer
served up a musical
feast for the ears.



At 7.30 pm on 23 November 2015, Hilfswerk Austria International together with its numerous guests launched the Christmas appeal for children in need at Haus der Industrie on Schwarzenbergplatz in Vienna for the twenty-sixth time.



In his welcome address, President **Christian Domany** gave a brief overview of the past year and thanked Heidi Burkhart for 25 years of successful management. She handed over to Stefan Fritz on 1 April before taking her seat

on the Board of Directors, where she will continue to provide support and advice in her role as Vice President.

Special thanks are due the supporters: “With your help, we are able to bring about change for the future. Over 300,000 of the Syrian refugee children living in Lebanon do not regularly attend school at present. Help is therefore particularly important in this area. We provide schooling and professional training in our children’s centres. We

want to significantly increase the number of sponsored children in 2016,” says a committed Christian Domany.

Humorous entertainment was provided by the artist duo **Barbara Wussow** and **Albert Fortell** with their programme “Relationships, erotic to material – 2000 years of literature rich in associations”.

ORF journalist **Christiane Teschl-Hofmeister** also placed herself at the service of this good cause and contributed to a successful evening with her hosting skills.



Amongst the many guests: Ambassador for children in need **Jeannine Schiller** with her husband **Friedrich Schiller**.



DONORS' CONFERENCE 2015

Diverse projects secure forward-looking changes on the ground

Over 100 guests gathered at Palais Niederösterreich on Herrengasse, Vienna, on Friday, 25 September.

When help knows no borders – under this slogan, we render disaster aid, get involved in reconstruction and support families in all manner of emergency situations. Our work focuses on the children - because they are particularly vulnerable. The children frequently find their access to education blocked due to their families' poverty. The girls and boys are usually forced onto the informal labour market and have to contribute to their families' income through poorly paid jobs. Constantly hungry and with no prospects for the future, they often grow up in grim surroundings.

“Effective aid based on the needs of the local population is required here,” says managing director Stefan Fritz. “Apart

from humanitarian aid, Hilfswerk Austria International stands for substantial solutions in the respective project countries with a clear focus on helping people to help themselves. The holistic approaches to projects, which are embedded at community level, ensure a sustainable achievement of objectives and strengthen rural capacities, regardless of whether economic or agricultural regional development, improvements in health, vocational training and education or social inclusion is addressed. The financial donations made by private individuals, companies and foundations are an important contribution that actually makes it possible for us to provide this initial helping hand at all. Our sincere thanks to you all!” said the new managing director.



In particular, our sincere thanks go to the artists Barbara Wussow, Albert Fortell and Daniela Krammer, as well as to the hosts Claus Reitan and Christiane Teschl-Hofmeister for supporting the donors' conference and the Christmas Gala in such entertaining fashion.

Save the date – Christmas Gala 2016

Date: Thursday, 1 December 2016,
from 7.30 pm
Venue: Haus der Industrie,
Great Hall, Schwarzenbergplatz 4,
1030 Vienna

CHARITY CHRISTMAS MARKET ON FREYUNG

Punch stall in aid of Syrian refugee children in Lebanon

Over €2,700 was raised on 15 December 2015 thanks to the active assistance of our members of the Board of Directors August Astl, Gerhard Schlack, President Christian Domany and other volunteer helpers. We are delighted with this achievement and cordially invite you to visit our punch stand again in December 2016. The date will be announced in our newsletter and on the website at www.hilfswerk-austria.at.

You can find details at

www.hilfswerk-austria.at/aktuell/veranstaltungen



Picture (from left to right): Ulrike Domany-Funtan and Thomas Wang – both Funk International – as well as advisory board member Edith Hütthaler and board member August Astl

With the support of





REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Standing on one's own two feet

Mirela has a special wish. She'd like to play with other children. But that's not so easy. The little girl, who is now 9 years old, was born with a serious movement disorder. She couldn't even lift her own head. Since April 2014, Mirela has been lovingly supported and assisted at the Blue Bird Day Centre together with over 30 other children. This is made possible by "Ambassador for children in need" Jeannine Schiller.

Mirela needs special assistance. She has physical limitations, such as with breathing; she quickly gets tired and easily loses her balance. In the past, she was hardly able to move her arms, keep her head upright or concentrate properly.

Blue Bird Day Centre: A future for children with disabilities

Mirela has been brought to the centre every day since April 2014. For eight full hours, she gets the support she needs to develop her skills: speech therapy, group therapy, occupational therapy and movement therapy.

Mirela's world is getting lively

Mirela has made great progress: she can lift her head on her own and turn it to both sides. Her concentration is much

improved - she can now also absorb and understand what she has heard. Mirela really likes riding, an activity that is quite incidentally supporting her development. Her parents are now also learning how they can best support their daughter.

2015 was a very successful year

Additional staff were taken on to give the children regular support and assistance thanks to the funding provided by Jeannine Schiller. Furthermore, the





thermal insulation and the renovation of the front of the house have been completed. A new footpath was built and a rain-water drainage system installed.

The gym was completely fitted out and the children now have all the equipment they need for the physical therapy sessions. ■



Ambassador for children in need

Jeannine Schiller

gets involved for the children in Moldova with great flair and personal dedication

› Helping these children is close to my heart. Because they are particularly needy and need people who are there for them and fund urgently required therapies. Without these treatments, many of the children would be unable to move at all, ◀ says a visibly moved Jeannine Schiller.



Help that opens up new opportunities

Around 60 disabled children from low-income families are supported at the Blue Bird Centre in Hincesti and at the Soul Drops Centre in Pripiceni. The children come to the centres in the daytime and receive supportive therapies, basic care and education. The children's social integration is promoted by playing games and doing sports.

Parents are empowered through training on the everyday requirements they face when dealing with their children and have, where needed, the possibility to attend special training courses, such as learning sign language.



Stoyanka Manolcheva

Desk Officer for Eastern Europe, the Caucasus and Central Asia

› Inclusive education is a human right. Being excluded from educational institutions has negative effects both on children with disabilities and on their families. For the parents, the care and the cost of therapies and medications usually represent an insurmountable obstacle. Without suitable support, however, the children grow up isolated and lonely. At the centres financed by Jeannine Schiller, children with disabilities are assisted on the way to developing their personality. The goal is for them to master their everyday

life with the greatest possible degree of self-determination and fulfilment, despite all the difficulties they face. In addition to this, we concentrate - in cooperation with the Erste Foundation - on the advancement of young people with special learning needs. This is intended, for example, to boost the social acceptance of the young people in society. The focus is on inclusive teaching methods. New counselling options and training courses for both parents and teaching staff are also offered. ◀





Thank you
for making
change possible!

**YOUR DONATION WORKS. WORLDWIDE.
EFFICIENTLY.**

This is how you can help.

Sponsors, donors, people who remember Hilfswerk Austria International in their will – every single one of them helps to permanently improve the lives of people in crisis situations. A big thank you to you all!

Your donation for people in crisis-hit regions

Hilfswerk Austria International renders humanitarian aid around the world as well as providing competent project management for the development work. At the centre of everything are the people, their health, the improvement of their life opportunities and the support of the family - especially the children.

2015 was all about disaster aid: the earthquake in Nepal and the huge



number of Syrian refugees confronted our teams with particular challenges. The great wave of willingness to help fills us with gratitude.

We are also thankful for the ongoing rise in the number of loyal donors. Their regular contributions ensure sustainable education projects and the economic development of the families.

Online donating made easy

You can find full details about our projects at www.hilfswerk-austria.at. It is also possible to make donations easily and safely online.

You can have your donation deducted from your account as a direct transfer by using our form or even set up a direct debit mandate for regular amounts. Donations can also be made



by credit card (but please note that the credit card company reserves the right to withhold a percentage of your donation as it would for any other transaction).

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.





Birthday girl Dietlind Erschen:

➤ On my 90th birthday, my granddaughter gave me the idea to ask for donations instead of presents. I am touched by the current refugee situation. I consider education to be the most important building block for the well-being of future generations. That's why I'm delighted to help provide an education and psychological support for two Syrian refugee children in Lebanon with my birthday donations of €1,000! ◀

Christmas donations instead of presents make a better future possible for families in crisis-hit regions and are becoming increasingly popular both with companies and private individuals. We would be pleased to prepare documents for your communication purposes and send you certificates on request, which you can give to customers, relatives or friends.

Knitting for a good cause

Josefine Schuhmann supports children in Eastern Europe with the proceeds she earns from knitting gloves, socks and scarves herself: "I combine my hobby with something useful and am happy when I'm able to give children in need better prospects for the future." She has already "knitted" over €11,600 since 2001, all of which she has donated. Thank you very much! Flee markets, punch stalls, book



bazaars and many other activities can provide valuable aid. We would be happy to provide you with further information.

Making contributions in kind

We regularly need printer paper, office equipment, drinks and many other things for our office in Vienna and for the events we organise.

Thank you to our mineral water, wine and sparkling wine sponsors, each of whom is listed in the programme of events. Venues, publications and invitations are also made possible thanks to our sponsors.



Leaving something in your will for children in need

Increasing numbers of people would like to leave something behind for posterity beyond life. Especially if you have no legal heirs, a will in favour of a charitable organisation such as Hilfswerk Austria International is a good opportunity to provide meaningful assistance with your assets and to be remembered for doing so.

If you let us know of your intentions we would be pleased to advise and assist you with the handling of your personal affairs.



We are here for you:

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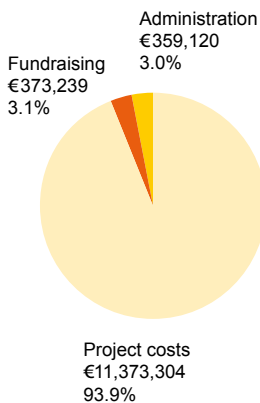
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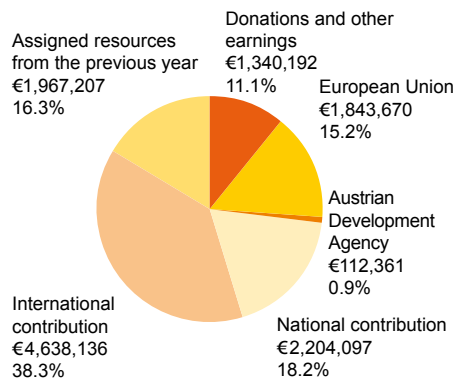


In 2015, Hilfswerk Austria International's total expenditure was €12,105,663 of which a total of €11,373,304 was spent on project work. 3.1% was used for fundraising and 3.0% for administration.

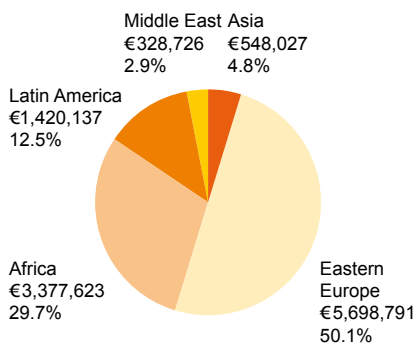
Use of funds €12,105,663



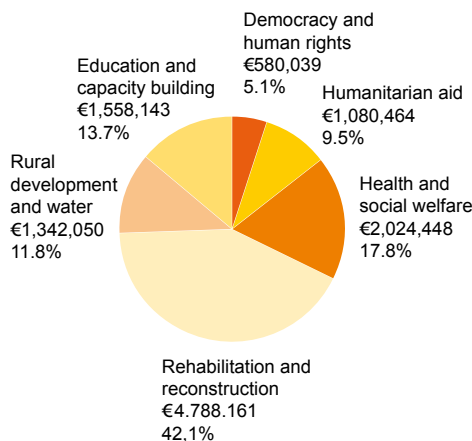
Sources of funds €12,105,663



Regional distribution €11,373,304



Sectoral distribution €11,373,304



such dramatic outcomes and in the best case scenario avoiding them altogether. In order to ensure the sustainability of the project, the aim now is to hand the hospital over to the local authorities in phases and to support them with being able to continue offering high-quality medical services to the population in the North of Haiti long into the future. <

Our strategic partners help us to enable sustainable opportunities for the future for people living in crisis-hit regions. Together, we work on finding solutions to poverty, hunger and need.

Our thanks go to:

- ADA – Austrian Development Agency
- Austrian Federal Economic Chamber
- Advantage Austria
- Austrian Economic Chambers
- 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
- LED – Liechtenstein Development Service
- Medicor Foundation
- Neighbour in Need
- Province of Lower Austria
- Province of Upper Austria
- OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID)
- UNDP – United Nations Development Programmes
- UNHCR – United States Agency for International Development
- “We build life” campaign

We ensure that the donations are used carefully and effectively, and undertake to submit our accounts for stringent inspection by independent auditors.

Haiti:

The hospital in St. Louis du Nord, which opened in 2011, provides medical services in the difficult to access region of

Roland Kersten,

Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation Officer for medical-humanitarian development cooperation:

> The families live in great poverty and a long way from adequate medical facilities. In the past, the consequences of frequent injuries caused by machetes while working in the fields often meant permanent disability and thus the risk of the whole family falling into poverty. The hospital, with its surgical department, provides a means for lessening



Northern Haiti. Apart from caring for mothers and their children, the hospital mainly treats burns, accidental injuries, cholera and tumours.



We take responsibility

We understand the challenges in the target countries and work closely with local partner organisations. In 2015, Hilfswerk Austria International supported 53 projects in 16 countries.

Eastern/South-Eastern Europe/ South Caucasus

1. **Armenia:** Rural development, green energy, strengthening social structures
2. **Azerbaijan:** Strengthening social structures
3. **Bosnia and Herzegovina:** Flood relief and rebuilding, integrating children affected by disabilities, daycare centres for children affected by disabilities, social housing projects for Roma, reintegrating refugees, initiatives aimed at generating income
4. **Georgia:** Vocational training, reintegration and resocialisation for

socially disadvantaged people, rural development

5. **Republic of Moldova:** Support and social integration of children with special needs, strengthening social structures

The Middle East

6. **Syria/Lebanon:** Humanitarian aid for Syrian refugees as well as schooling and vocational development for children and youth

Asia

7. **Kyrgyzstan:** Agricultural advice, strengthening of small enterprises in the food sector
8. **Nepal:** Humanitarian aid after the 2015 earthquake, reconstruction, renovation of schools
9. **Philippines:** Disaster relief and rebuilding
10. **Tajikistan:** Strengthening of small enterprises in the food sector

Africa

11. **Libya:** Psychosocial centre for children and young people
12. **Mozambique:** Education, health-care, water and electricity supply, agricultural support
13. **Zimbabwe:** Support of women and small enterprises, food security
14. **Tunisia:** Vocational training for young people, small projects for getting a job

Latin America

15. **Haiti:** Medical provisions, education and training
16. **Colombia:** Food security/river basin management, strengthening indigenous rights



Armenia: Green energy enables a sustainable power supply.



Nepal: Ensuring training through trauma work and school renovations after the major earthquake.

Zimbabwe:

Improving food diversity and developing incomes through the cultivation, processing and sale of indigenous plants, fruits, oils and spices.





WHEN HELP KNOWS NO BORDERS.

Thank you for your support!

LEGAL NOTICE:

Publisher and media owner:

Hilfswerk Austria International
Ebendorferstrasse 6/5
1010 Vienna

President: Christian Domany

Managing Director: Stefan Fritz

Editorial team: Luzia Wibiral

Proofreading: Monika Steininger

Printing: Grasl Fairprint

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

When help knows no borders,
Issue 9/2016, Sponsoring-Post
O2Z033236S.

Photos:

Hilfswerk Austria International
Andi Urban (p. 10/11/12/13)
Bill Lorenz (p. 13, Portrait Ch. Domany)
Claudia Henzler (p. 8/12/13)
David Jauk (p. 17, Donors' Conference)
Jürgen Urich (p. 16, Christmas Gala)
Martin Dudek (p. 3/7)
Thank you to Lois Lammerhuber for his photos of the OMV project in Tunis (p. 15) and to Foto Schuster/1150 Vienna for the portrait and group photos (p. 5/7/9/11/12/13/15/19/21).

Painted Picture:

Angela Richter/artemys.de
(p. 21/Himmelsblüte)

Maps:

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