

# Our Worldwide Work · Annual Report 2007

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





Caritas Germany  
International Department






# Content



Foreword	5
Asia: Precautionary measures ahead of the next flood	6
Peru: Life after the Quake	10
Armenia: Aid for the Poorest	14
Congo: Out of the Killing School	18
Cambodia: Support for All Children	22
Prevention is Better than Reconstruction	26
Transparency Creates Trust	28
The Statutory Branches of the German Caritas Association	29
How You Can Help	30
Finances	31
Publishing Details	39





© Gonna Flota

**Peru** Caritas Peru is organising reconstruction work after the earthquake as a community project in which all groups present in a village are included.



**Congo** Caritas Goma enables former child soldiers to find their way back into a normal life. It is a long process requiring a lot of patience and a good deal of empathy from Caritas care workers.



© Martin Sukasian

**Armenia** The nurses of the Caritas social service centres have developed a new care-at-home service. They regularly visit and care for people who can no longer take care of themselves.



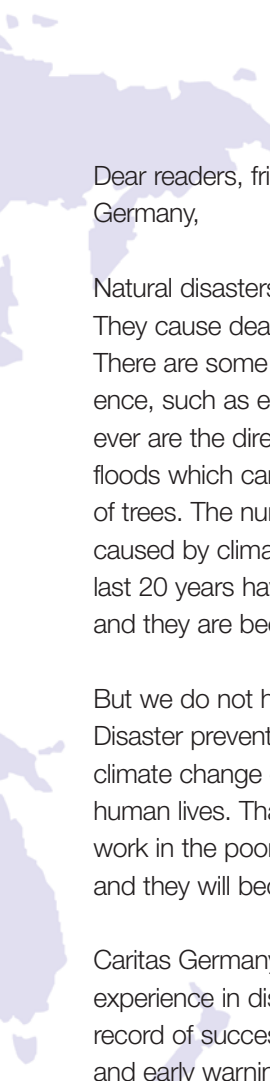
© Andreas Schwäger

**Cambodia** The 'Child Mental Health Center' of Caritas Cambodia supports mentally disabled, traumatised and underdeveloped children. It is the only one of its kind in the whole country.



© Christina Crawe

**Asia** Because climate-related natural disasters are occurring more frequently, Caritas Germany is developing a wide range of disaster prevention services in regions which are particularly at risk.



Dear readers, friends and supporters of Caritas Germany,

Natural disasters have always plagued human beings. They cause deaths and enormous damage to property. There are some disasters over which we have no influence, such as earthquakes or tsunamis. Others however are the direct result of human action – such as floods which can occur when large forests are cleared of trees. The number of floods, droughts and landslides caused by climate change is rising year on year. The last 20 years have seen a doubling of their numbers and they are becoming increasingly severe.

But we do not have to stand by and do nothing. Disaster prevention and suitable measures adapted to climate change can avoid major damage and save human lives. That is why these tasks are crucial for our work in the poor countries of the tropics and subtropics, and they will become ever more important in the future.

Caritas Germany can look back over many years of experience in disaster prevention and has a good record of success. In Bangladesh, for example, shelters and early warning systems built by Caritas saved thousands of human lives last year when the cyclone struck. And in Ethiopia, Caritas helped farmers to adapt their cultivation and animal rearing in the face of climate change in order to better protect themselves against



Prelate Dr. Peter Neher



Dr. Oliver Müller

droughts and periods of low rainfall.

Because of the risks forecast by scientists, we are supporting more and more disaster prevention projects, training our partners and fostering exchanges between partner organisations in the various regions at risk from climate change.

Now is the time to act. The human race can wait no longer. Disaster prevention measures save thousands of lives and reduce damage to the property of the poorest people. One of the purposes of this Annual Report is to show you how we can avoid disasters.

We would like to express our sincerest thanks for your support of our work.

Prelate Dr. Peter Neher  
President of the German  
Caritas Association

Dr. Oliver Müller  
Director International  
Department  
Caritas Germany

# Asia Precautionary Measures ahead of the Next Flood



From June to October 2007, Pakistan, India, Bangladesh and Nepal experienced the worst monsoon rainfalls for decades, resulting in widespread flooding. The rivers burst their banks, tearing houses, roads and bridges along with them. More than 25 million victims of the floods were literally living in water. In November, cyclone Sidr hit the coast of Bangladesh. Hundreds of thousands of people lost their homes in the storms. Because climate-related natural disasters are occurring with ever greater frequency, it is vital to set up active disaster prevention provisions. In 2007, Caritas Germany supported disaster prevention projects in India and Nepal to the value of over 470,000 euros.

**I**t is mid-October and in the area surrounding Calcutta there are still some villages and towns under water. People struggle their way through the knee-deep water in honking jeeps, on rattling mopeds and rickety bicycles. Old buses squeeze past cattle, goats and dogs on the road. And amid all this, there are groups of the faithful, barefoot and dressed in orange. Calcutta is celebrating the festival in honour of the goddess Durga. This year, say the devotees, the goddess came to the festival by boat. In drought years she comes on horseback. When cyclones devastate Bengal's coastal regions, Durga arrives at her destination astride a dragon. Natural disasters are seen as the fate of humans decided by the dictates of the gods. Human beings are apathetic and without hope – partly because they have no faith in the idle authorities.

Breaking this fatalistic attitude is one of the first steps to be taken in the disaster prevention projects which Caritas Germany supports mainly in South Asia. People need to learn that they are not helpless in the face of recurrent disasters but can influence their own fates themselves. They can do this by taking action to mitigate the effects of the disasters and by organising themselves in the villages to give early warnings and call on aid from public bodies after the disaster.





Top: Hundreds of thousands of homes like this one in Khagaria have succumbed to the floods. Most people view the destruction and death caused by the yearly inundations as their immutable fate. Caritas staff want to change this mindset.

Top right: Caritas Pakistan supports flood victims in Sindh and Beluchistan. As a local organisation, Caritas Pakistan can render aid immediately.

Right: Most of the poorer people have nothing in reserve. They are the worst affected by disasters.

© Hupika/Badische Zeitung





# Proper Preparation Saves Human Lives



“The most important thing is never to stop teaching people, to make clear to them the necessity of disaster prevention and to reinforce this message repeatedly month after month. We must teach people that there is a way of changing the situation.”

Father Louis Prakash, ‘Bihar Social Institute’, partner organisation of Caritas Germany

*Top: Indian girls in front of one of the ten healthcare camps run by Caritas Germany.*

*Right-hand page: Food aid is still needed after the flood. Disaster prevention is intended to teach people to provide for themselves.*



The warning reached us one day before the cyclone,” reports Ashalata Sarder, the director of the disaster prevention committee in Mongla, a town in the South West of Bangladesh. “We alerted the villagers and told them to go to the shelters.” Since 1992, Caritas has built 180 shelters in Bangladesh. Each one can accommodate more than 1,500 people. In Mongla, everyone survived the storm. A particular success of the early warning system was the rescue of many fishermen who, because of the alert, did not put out to sea.

---

**Climate-related causes are not the sole reasons that disasters are so severe. Social and political conditions are also involved. Those with the least power in society are hit the hardest. Their living conditions are already very poor, and disasters make them even worse.**

---

Similar programmes are in operation in regions at risk of flooding in India, Nepal and Bangladesh. Here, too, the most important thing is self-organisation in the threatened villages. Caritas community relief workers train various emergency teams. These set up an early warning system, organise first aid and learn how to evacuate people in boats and set up emergency accommodation.

Families learn how to sew life jackets and how to put by food reserves in preparation for when disaster strikes; packed in water-tight plastic sacks and, if possible, stowed away on the roof of the house. So as to maintain a supply of drinking water and also for hygiene reasons, the villagers extend the pipes from the well and install latrines on taller pedestals.

“In our meetings, we work out our disaster action plans ourselves,” says Ashalata Sarder. “And we also include the local government representatives, because they have to do their bit, too. In the past, we never used to know our rights. Thanks to Caritas, we can now stand up for ourselves with the public authorities.”

This turns disaster prevention into a means of local co-determination. The village community gains an awareness of its place in the political system and can represent its own interests vis-à-vis the authorities, instead of surrendering to the inevitable and waiting for help from above – be it from the gods or from government officials.



# Peru Life after the Quake



On 15th August, a magnitude 7.9 earthquake shakes the region between Lima, Huanavelica and Ica. More than 500 people die and several thousand are injured. The towns of Ica, Pisco and Chincha lie in ruins. More than 400,000 people are without shelter.

Seven-year-old Maria-Ana recalls with terror the day of the earthquake. “We were having our supper, when, suddenly, the walls of our house were shaking. Papa snatched me from my chair. He shouted to me to run out of the house. We all ran really quickly. Just after that, our house fell down. My little sister was buried in the rubble. Luckily, she was rescued.”

What the family of Maria-Ana experienced is typical for most of the victims of the earthquake. They lost their houses and possessions. Many people are living in temporary accommodation, as are Maria-Ana and her family. Together with the homeless families, Caritas Peru built 700 shelters of this type.

Right from the start, Caritas Peru staff and volunteers also helped to put up tents and distribute blankets, medication and food. Relief workers operated community kitchens on church premises, which opened their doors for thousands to come and eat. Many people, whose houses were not affected, helped as well. Caritas dispensed building materials and hired experts to watch over the building work. The spirit of solidarity among the people remains high and, now that reconstruction is the order of the day, it is clear that this will be a communal activity as well.



## Disaster Aid



*Top: Maria-Ana has lost her family home. She now lives in temporary accommodation and is waiting for her house and school to be rebuilt.*

*Left: In the villages, people exchange views on what is needed most.*

*Little state aid has got through to the outlying districts of major towns and to the countryside, where the earthquake destroyed almost every building, as in this quarter of Pisco. That is why Caritas concentrates its work mainly on these regions.*



# Reconstruction as a Communal Activity



© Gemma Prida

*Top: Homelessness is a particularly serious threat for the elderly. Caritas takes special care of the most needy.*

*Right-hand page: Caritas helps people after the earthquake by means of 'participatory building'. For example, the communities work together to plan the types of housing and materials that are suitable for reconstruction.*

Caritas concentrates its efforts mainly on forgotten regions that receive only little state aid: the remote areas on the coast or in the mountains of Huancaavelica that are mainly inhabited by casual workers and small farmers. Here, the people have no one else to turn to other than Caritas.

---

**The communal reconstruction work in a village does more than help the afflicted – it also strengthens the sense of belonging and community.**

---

“We pool all our resources to rebuild ruined houses, healthcare centres, kindergartens and schools,” says Friedrich Kircher, who oversees the reconstruction work in Peru for Caritas Germany. He shares his knowledge and experience with staff from Caritas Peru. It is especially important that people don't get presented with something ready-made but instead get actively engaged as a community in rebuilding their own village. “We help people in the villages to restore their infrastructure themselves, to rebuild their houses and to earn their own livelihoods with agriculture, small-scale trade or manual skills.” Emergency aid funding from Caritas Germany totals € 328,500. € 1.5 million has been budgeted for reconstruction until 2010.



In every village, people collectively agree on what is needed most. Then the inhabitants elect a construction committee. Caritas Peru staff train the inhabitants in community work – i.e. they teach them how to manage reconstruction as a communal activity and at the same time how to reflect the interests of all groups, especially the disadvantaged. Caritas staff can also plug the gaps in the locals' knowledge of house building.

lives again in the long term.

Healthcare centres, community halls, infant schools and kindergartens are set up in the villages as well. Building experts direct all the work undertaken by the villagers and make sure that it is done properly. But it isn't enough just to rebuild houses and schools. "Helping people to help themselves also means giving people the opportunity to earn money for themselves again," says Friedrich Kircher. Farmers receive seed stock, chickens and guinea pigs which they can rear to earn money. So even small animals help people to take control of their

© Claus Hemker



© Claus Hemker

**"Reconstruction in a spirit of solidarity turns a village into a community. People get to know each other better and support each other. Who can say with any certainty that he won't be the one to need help next time?"**

**Friedrich Kircher, reconstruction expert at Caritas Germany.**

# Armenia Aid for the Poorest



The Lori and Shirak regions of Northern Armenia are among the poorest in the country. The after-effects of the 1988 earthquake are still making themselves felt. At the time, the death toll was 25,000. In the town of Gyumri alone, 7,000 families are still living in temporary accommodation – 20 years after the earthquake. One in three is out of work. The slow economic upswing in Armenia has so far only been felt in the capital Erivan.

Anahit Tarasian patiently holds the bags of peas, pasta and lentils. Norik Garabedian checks them by touch and is satisfied. Aged 81, he has been blind for years and lives alone. “I don’t need the light on, so I save on electricity,” he laughs. “I can see with my hands.” In his freezing home, Norik Garabedian repairs electrical appliances to earn a bit of extra income. Even so, that and his monthly pension of 34 euros do not stretch to buying essentials. Anahit Tarasian, the nurse from Caritas Armenia, visits Norik Garabedian twice a week, brings him food, cooks, cleans and helps him to wash himself. He lives a lonely and reclusive life. This makes help from Caritas all the more important. “I have never experienced so much care and devotion,” says the old man.

Many old people in Armenia are in a similar situation to Norik Garabedian. One in four is so poor that they have to cut down on food. Winters in the highlands last six months, with temperatures plunging as low as 30°C below zero. Many old people are living in temporary accommodation or in derelict buildings. Most have no heating stoves or no money to buy any fuel for heating. A bundle of wood costs more than the average monthly pension. Instead, they burn plastic wrapping, cartons and other rubbish to keep their rooms warm for a few hours at least.



*In Armenia, about half the population lives in poverty and frequently in conditions not fit for human habitation. 92-year-old Flora Belian says that she no longer feels her pain. Caritas social workers visit her regularly.*

*Right: Chronic malnutrition hits old and sick people especially hard. Hunger and the severe cold of the long winters make everyday life almost unbearable for them. The Caritas Day Centre is where Armen Mikohian and Garen Sukiasian get their only warm meals of the day.*

© Fotos: Martin Sukiasian



# Escaping the Sadness for a Few Hours



*Samvel Saroian was a soldier in the Soviet Army. He likes to reminisce about those times. "I was young then and had work!" The military had a good life in Gyumri. Their pay was higher because the cost of living was higher. Today, the Caritas Day Centre is somewhere where Samvel can go to forget his material concerns.*

*Right-hand page: A Caritas nurse examining a patient. The nurses of the Caritas social service centres have developed a care-at-home service in the Gyumri region. They pay regular visits to people who are no longer capable of taking care of themselves, helping them to cope with day-to-day life.*



"Instead of running a soup kitchen, we want to create a space where old people living alone can feel at home, make contacts and escape their domestic sadness for a few hours."  
Lucewart Gevorgian, volunteer at the Caritas Armenia Day Centre.



The air is stale in the rooms of the Caritas Day Centre in a rundown residential area in Gyumri. The noise level is high. Armenian rhythms pulsate through the room. A dozen women and a few men are dancing. They are applauded and spurred on by those still sitting. “We dance every day,” calls an old lady. Sitting in the semi-darkness are around a hundred old men and women, waiting for their lunch. Employees and volunteers lay the tables.

A total of 200 old people regularly visit the Caritas Day Centre. In two groups of a hundred, they come on alternate days. The centre is the only public meeting point for old people and the only heated place in which they can spend some time – in a town with 120,000 inhabitants. Funding is provided by the worldwide Caritas Association. Maria Harutian comes as often as she can to the centre. “I live alone and have no children. I am grateful to Caritas Armenia for this wonderful place,” says the 81-year-old. Similar comments are made by others playing cards in adjacent rooms or spending a little time in front of the TV to escape the problems of their daily lives. Nurses also pay regular visits and explain how even people living in straitened circumstances can improve their hygiene and nutrition. The high point of the month is the communal culture programme.

Needy people who can no longer make it to the Caritas

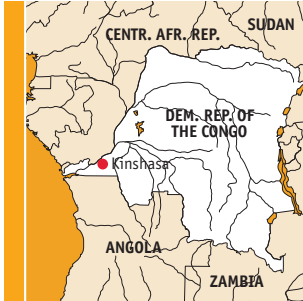
Centre are visited by Caritas care workers. 130 people in Gyumri and another 100 in the town of Vanadzor receive assistance with their housework and personal care and are looked after medically. Many also get extra staple foods because their pensions won't stretch that far. In 2007, Caritas Germany provided 89,000 euros for this project.

In every encounter with Armenians, it is clear that people in this country, even the old, want to take control of their lives and improve their situations. But after years of poverty and need, many are exhausted and have run out of patience and energy. Caritas Germany supports Caritas Armenia in the development and expansion of care at home so that even the elderly can live a life of dignity.

© Fotos: Martin Surkásian



# Congo Out of the Killing School



In just a few years, bloody battles have engulfed the Democratic Republic of the Congo in misery. Although the opposing factions in the civil war formally reached a peace agreement in 2003, the reality is that the fighting has not stopped. Countless marauding soldiers roam about, including many child soldiers who are urgently in need of help. Often the traumatised children are forced to serve as conscripts in the Ruandan and Congolese militias or to roam the land in one of the many gangs – for lack of any other options in life.

At the age of 13, Bahati has already learnt everything that the law should protect children from: stealing, torture, murder. To harden him up and rid him of any scruples, he had to witness unbelievable atrocities, massacres and rapes – not on television, not in the cinema, but in reality. Reading and writing however were not on the curriculum in his army ‘training’. His fate is shared by thousands of other child soldiers – that of being victim and culprit at one and the same time. In the Congo, the abduction and forced recruitment of children are among the darkest chapters in the cruel war which began in 1996 with the rebellion against the dictator Mobutu and his subsequent fall.

Quite apart from the unspeakable suffering caused by this war, there is the legacy of thousands of deeply traumatised boys and girls. The atrocities have robbed them of their childhood, education and a normal development. They have never learnt to lead a normal village life, caring for animals and tilling the fields. They now have to make up for these losses. In North Eastern Congo, Caritas Goma has set up four reception centres to smooth the transition for children like Bahati back into a normal life. It is a long process requiring a lot of patience and a good deal of empathy on the part of the care workers.



*Top: Ten-year-old Simon is being taught carpentry. In the Caritas centres, children learn various practical skills so that they can later earn a living.*

*Right: Many of the children are illiterate, especially those who were recruited early and have several years of military service behind them. To find their feet again in society and in the family, the former child soldiers are given support to help them get used to going to school and learning reading, writing and arithmetic. Most of them have to start learning from scratch.*



A World for Children





# Back to a Normal Life



In many cases, Caritas Goma itself was behind the release of the children. Staff are in contact with army and militia leaders and try to persuade them to release the child soldiers. Sometimes the troops are willing to discharge the child soldiers. But often it takes tough negotiations and intense persuasion to free the children. Working together with other international organisations, Caritas staff handle the necessary discharge paperwork. But the children first need their official papers to regain their identities; otherwise they run the risk of being shot as deserters.

Several hundred former child soldiers arrive each year in centres run by Caritas. There, staff treat their illnesses, especially their mental scars. In 2007, Caritas Germany provided 69,000 euros of funding for the centres.

“We care for children and enable them to get an education,” says Gahigiro Baptiste, one of the educators at

*Top: Games and sports are part of the psychological work. This is another way of helping children work through their horrifying experiences.*

*Right-hand page: Letting life prosper, rather than destroying it. Former child soldiers working in the fields in one of the four reception centres run by Caritas Goma.*

*Children only recently liberated. To make this possible, Caritas in the Congo needs to do a lot of persuading.*



Caritas Goma's reception centre in Matanda. "Wherever possible, we send the children – most of whom are illiterate – to school." Sports and games are just as much part of the programme as briefings on AIDS and practical knowledge of agriculture and animal rearing. The aim is to bring children back into the village communities.

---

**Most of the former child soldiers are very keen to learn. They want to have something that no one can take away from them. They want to bring home something valuable and help their families.**

---

The children want to feel welcome again in their hometowns and villages, even if they have killed while they were away.

Caritas staff were able to take more than half of the children back to their villages, where their families accepted them back again – a record to be proud of, given the difficulties involved in tracing the parents, which often takes a lot of travelling and intensive searches. And that's just the first step.

Many families have great misgivings about the return of their children. Child soldiers are stigmatised and feared. Very often, talking and education help to still people's fears. This is how Bahati was able to return to his parents and siblings.



**"You first need to gain the children's trust. Then they learn to tell what they have experienced. This is how we discover what moral, mental and physical injuries they have suffered. Bahigiro Baptiste, educator at Caritas Goma's reception centre in Matanda**

# Cambodia Support for All Children



Even today, Cambodians are still suffering from the after-effects of the reign of terror perpetrated by the Khmer Rouge in the seventies and the occupations and civil wars of the subsequent twenty years. Most of the population live below the poverty line. Malnutrition and diseases are the consequences. Cambodia is still heavily dependent on international development aid.

**T**he rule of the Khmer Rouge and the subsequent civil wars have had serious consequences for the people of Cambodia. “Every family became a victim during this period and the population is deeply traumatised,” explains Dr. Jegannathan Bhoomikumar, director of the ‘Child Mental Health Center’ run by Caritas Cambodia. “One of the worst after-effects is the absence of trust among the people. This crushes people and makes social life almost impossible.”

In addition, people are living in terrible poverty. Malnutrition and poor healthcare lead to a wide variety of illnesses, including psychiatric ones. People are often disabled as a result of meningitis, itself the result of inadequate hygiene. Conditions which can actually respond well to treatment, such as epilepsy, are regarded as mental disabilities. And Dr. Bhoomikumar often encounters children with mental disorders as a result of sexual abuse.

In the ‘Child Mental Health Center’, Dr. Bhoomikumar and his team work with mentally disabled, traumatised and underdeveloped children. Many of them have parents who survived the camps of the Khmer Rouge. They, too, need support - so that they can act as parents again, especially if their children are disabled in some way.



*Gardening is an important part of the project, which also helps to support it financially. The children help with the cultivation of organic fruit and vegetables. Girls in the Takmao children's day centre.*

*Right: In the villages, children can be educated, enjoy special activities such as sports and receive targeted assistance if they have learning difficulties. Mentally disabled children deserve as full a life as possible.*





# Increasing Acceptance at All Levels



*Large picture: Staff at the Caritas centre also train volunteers and provide workshops for teachers. In 24 villages, they also train parents in the care and proper handling of their disabled children. Many parents attend self-help groups.*

*Left: Following education in the village, disabled children can go on to secondary schools, which enables them to be integrated into society.*

*Below: Hygiene education with added fun. The whole village is present when relief workers play at 'washing' with the children.*

*Right-hand page: Caritas staff also provide information on preventive healthcare in the villages.*



"We think it is important, not only to treat the sick children themselves, but also to tackle the social problems present in the environment that the children come from. Their lives there are often affected by alcoholism, drug abuse, domestic violence and sexual abuse."

Dr. Jegannathan Bhoomikumar, director of the 'Child Mental Health Center' run by Caritas Cambodia

The 'Child Mental Health Center' is the only one of its kind in Cambodia. The staff work in three teams: in the centre itself, in the villages and in the schools. After diagnosis, the children at the centre receive individually designed treatment. The work in the villages and schools is mainly about allowing disabled children to lead a full life and about enhancing sensitivity to their condition in the general population. Other people need to accept disabled children as full members of the community. This is the only way, for instance, that they will be able to attend school.

In their visits to the villages, Dr. Bhoomikumar, his staff of 15 and many volunteers reach more than 3,000 children each year. There, they train parents in the care and proper handling of their disabled children. In each village, the staff of the 'Child Mental Health Center' also train volunteers to act as contacts. These contacts run self-help groups for parents of disabled children. The parents need to learn to accept and encourage their daughters and sons so that, in future, they can lead a life which is as independent as possible. "In our work, we often encounter mental disorders which are a direct or indirect result of the war," explains Dr. Bhoomikumar.

"During the reign of the Khmer Rouge, all children were separated from their parents. The children that grew up during this period are now parents themselves and do

not know what family life means, let alone how to bring up children in a loving way."

Many disabled children would be able to attend secondary schools. This is why teachers are also re-educated and trained

to be sensitive to their needs. Ultimately, Caritas staff would like to be successful in getting the villagers to support the development of disabled children. The fact that some Caritas services benefit the whole village helps here: for example, when staff teach villagers basic health facts.

"We never see the work with children in isolation," says Dr. Bhoomikumar. "We always try to develop our particular concept with the families and in the villages themselves." And by including everyone, the 'Child Mental Health Center' staff of Caritas Cambodia make lasting improvements to the situations of disabled children.

© Fotos: Andreas Schwaiger



# Prevention is Better than Reconstruction



Climate change alters the whole concept of humanitarian relief. The incidence of climate-related natural disasters has doubled. The greatest challenge that the future holds for relief organisations is disaster prevention. Caritas Germany has made this task its central pre-occupation. Caritas Germany's relief organisation has been working for years on disaster prevention and has a good record of success. In 2008, disaster prevention is at the heart of the work of Caritas Germany's international department.

Each euro invested in prevention represents seven euros saved on relief actions and reconstruction – for years, this simple calculation has been responsible for fundamental changes to the work of organisations providing disaster aid. When you realise that since 1950 to the present day natural disasters have wreaked damage to the value of around 500 thousand million euros and have taken at least 890,000 lives, it rapidly becomes clear that, on humanitarian and economic grounds, there will be no subject more important in the coming years than prevention for disaster relief organisations such as Caritas Germany. This is all the more true in times of climate change, which has brought about a dramatic rise in the incidence of weather-related disasters.

These may well still be seen in Europe and North America as vagaries of the weather, but for millions of people in Asia, Africa and Latin America they are life-threatening. Every year, 200 million people are affected in these regions by floods, droughts, forest fires and mudslides. On top of this there are the disasters over which humans have no influence, such as earthquakes and tsunamis. In 2007, the United Nations was called upon more than ever before to provide relief in the wake of natural disasters. And since climate change seems set to continue, prospects are gloomy: experts calculate that by 2050 there will be 250 million climate refugees.



Against this scenario, disaster prevention is Caritas Germany's highest priority. In many small steps and with pioneering projects, people need to be enabled to adapt their lives to climate change. Also, they need to be prepared for disasters to the extent that they can save their own lives and possessions; as in the example of a pilot project, which Caritas Germany launched in 2001 in Ethiopia with funding from the European Union. To better protect people in the Harar region from the effects of droughts and periods of low rainfall, meteorological data was gathered locally, the migration patterns of nomads were noted and then agricultural and animal rearing practices were adapted to climate changes. Seven years later, this pilot project became a fully fledged disaster prevention project, which the EU continues to support on the basis of the palpable improvements in people's lives.

As a worldwide association, Caritas is particularly well-equipped for this sort of relief work. Via its 162 national Caritas associations, Caritas Germany works directly with staff locally and can therefore include the affected people in its project planning.

The one drawback of disaster prevention is that it is hard to find funding for it – either from

public sources or donations. This is because the media report events, while disaster prevention prevents 'newsworthy' events from happening.

A good example is the situation in Bangladesh after the cyclone in 2007. There, the years of effort directed at disaster prevention paid off. Thanks to the early warning systems and cyclone shelters, thousands of human lives were saved. This ensured that the cyclone disappeared from the news after a few days. And yet Caritas Bangladesh alone needs around 9 million euros to build new cyclone shelters and reconstruct houses for 90,000 people.



# Transparency Creates Trust



Caritas Germany relies on the trust of its donors. The public debate on how to use donations has led to many donors raising questions. Professional help costs money, but expenses must be transparent, and they must be kept under control.

Caritas Germany works under the German Central Institute for Social Affairs [DZI] seal of approval for donations. In 2007, our administration and publicity costs amounted to 7.83 %. This is ranked as 'low' – the best DZI ranking. We do without expensive advertising for donations (e.g. donation galas or commissions for donation advertisers). In this way, Caritas Germany ensures that 92 cents in every euro is spent on the project. To be able to provide an effective and efficient service, we need effective administration. Caritas Germany staff are paid approximately the same as staff in public employment. Local experts of Caritas partners are paid at the normal local rates.

Transparent use of resources comes at a cost: we book donations according to the donor's wishes, issue donation receipt confirmations and regularly report on projects. Caritas Germany uses expert help to ensure the success of relief operations. An internal auditing service and random checks by external auditors monitor good financial practice. Local audits are also held for projects. The auditing company PwC certifies the correctness of the Caritas Germany's annual accounts (see page 38). The costs and earnings account is published annually. Please refer to pages 36 and 37 of this Annual Report.

# The Statutory Branches of the German Caritas Association

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





# How You Can Help



*Disaster aid is not only about saving lives but also about securing an independent future for people as soon as reconstruction begins. Disaster prevention reduces the risk of ever falling victim to the destruction a disaster can bring. Man with grandchild during reconstruction in Pakistan.*

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

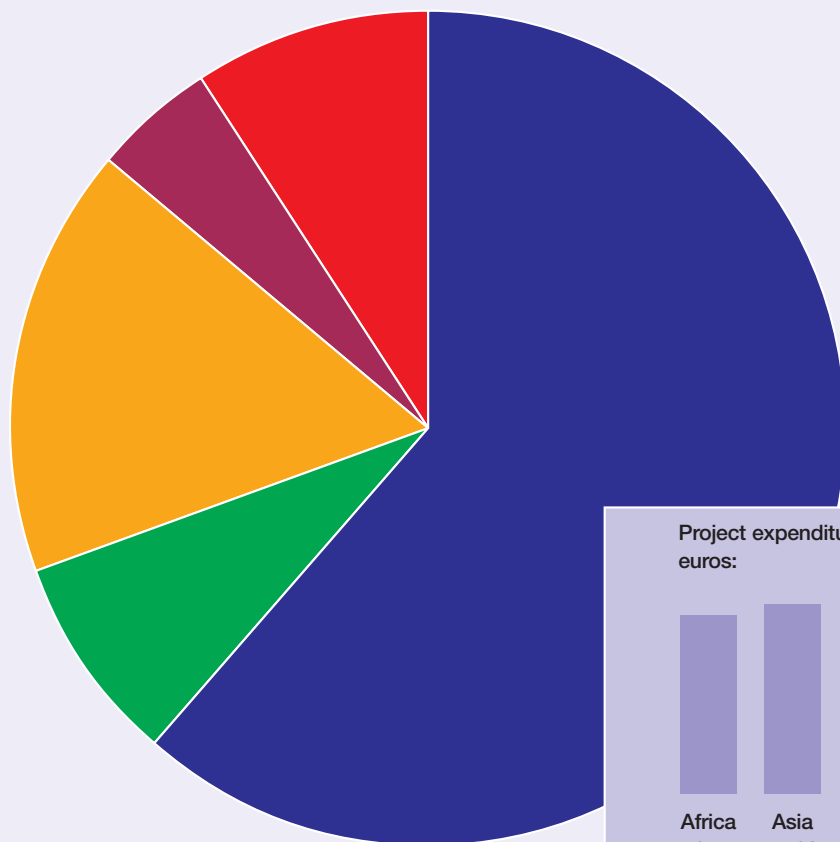
In order to provide lasting aid, Caritas Germany remains dependent on your donations in the future as well. When you donate, you can choose from a wide spectrum of aid projects and target your support to a project you deem important. We guarantee that your donation reaches the destination you have selected. Each and every step from the receipt of your donation to its practical application is documented. If you choose not to tag your donation we will employ your money where it is most needed. Thus, we are able to give disaster aid even when a disaster gets little public attention and to help people who might otherwise be forgotten.

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

# Project Expenditures by Target Group

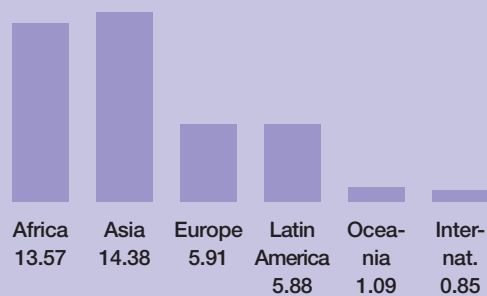
Finances

Total expenditures:  
41.68 million euros



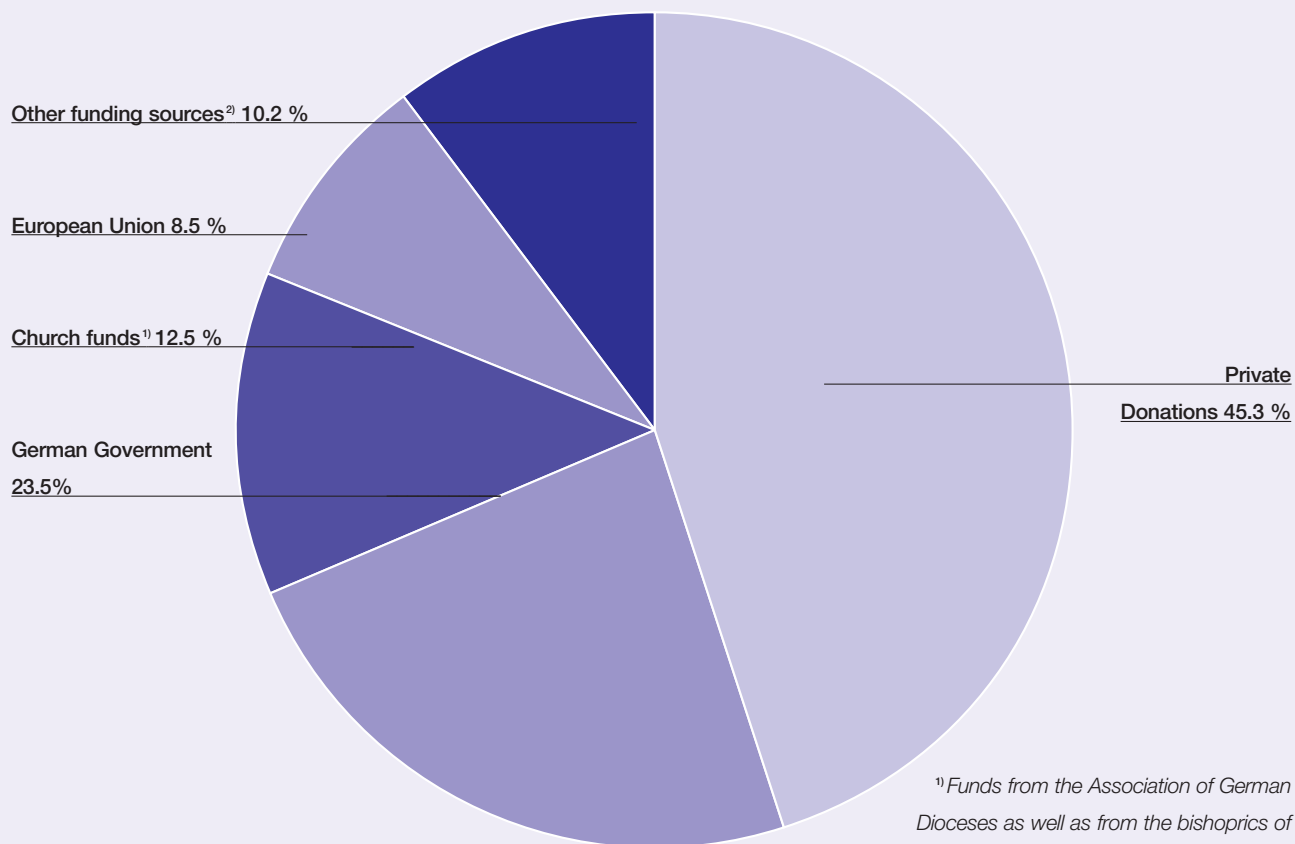
- Disaster aid and prevention, reconstruction 61.4 %
- A World for the Aging and the Ill 8.3 %
- A World for Children and Adolescents 16.4 %
- A World for Disabled People 4.9 %
- Other (Migration, establishment of Caritas organisations worldwide, etc.) 9 %

Project expenditures by continent in millions of euros:



## Project Expenditures by Funding Source

The diagram shows the funds allocated to projects in 2007. The amount of aid is not identical with the donation income and public grants of the year 2007. Some programs run for several years and are financed successively.





# Public Funding

Finances

## Caritas Germany International Project Expenditures

### German Government (total) 9,798,301.44 EUR


Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation	7,636,594.63 EUR
Foreign Ministry	2,161,706.81 EUR

### Church Funds (total) 5,225,257.73 EUR

Association of German Dioceses	4,543,532.04 EUR
Bishoprics of Cologne, Freiburg, Rottenburg-Stuttgart and Limburg	681,725.69 EUR

### European Union (total) 3,528,336.41 EUR

Humanitarian Aid for		
Burundi		1,653,692.92 EUR
India		454,900.79 EUR
Uganda		421,152.99 EUR
Afghanistan		280,158.24 EUR
Ecuador		88,235.00 EUR
Bangladesh		70,000.00 EUR
Guinea-Bissau		49,624.44 EUR
Ethiopia		39,159.54 EUR
Europe (general)		1,373.54 EUR

Social Projects for		
South Africa		211,717.96 EUR
Ukraine		102,523.29 EUR
Mali		95,860.78 EUR
Columbia		51,000.00 EUR
Senegal		7,032.50 EUR
Serbia		1,005.96 EUR
Benin		898.46 EUR

# Country Overview<sup>1)</sup>

## Africa

Africa (general)/12 Projects	98,106.34 EUR
Egypt/8 Projects	399,305.64 EUR
Angola/7 Projects	269,004.42 EUR
Ethiopia/10 Projects	239,208.96 EUR
Benin/3 Projects	161,237.07 EUR
Burundi/7 Projects	2,011,347.01 EUR
Guinea/2 Projects	34,500.00 EUR
Guinea-Bissau/2 Projects	54,081.03 EUR
Kenya/6 Projects	123,500.00 EUR
Dem. Rep. of Congo/37 Projects	3,839,371.01 EUR
Liberia/5 Projects	523,606.17 EUR
Mali/13 Projects	711,746.16 EUR
Mauretania/4 Projects	90,000.00 EUR
Mosambique/8 Projects	744,781.71 EUR
Niger/9 Projects	344,136.42 EUR
Rwanda/1 Project	91,265.05 EUR
Senegal/3 Projects	47,860.67 EUR
Sierra Leone/11 Projects	476,672.67 EUR
Zimbabwe/1 Project	39,000.00 EUR
Somalia/6 Projects	500,000.00 EUR
South Africa/7 Projects	636,321.83 EUR
Sudan/7 Projects	641,324.02 EUR
Tanzania/13 Projects	439,420.28 EUR
Togo/9 Projects	472,012.07 EUR
Uganda/5 Projects	581,022.90 EUR

## Asien

Asia (general) <sup>2)</sup> /8 Projects	6,425,856.64 EUR
Afghanistan/28 Projects	1,576,623.08 EUR
Bangladesh/7 Projects	809,154.19 EUR
China/4 Projects	110,080.00 EUR
India/47 Projects	1,286,190.55 EUR
Iraq/6 Projects	235,000.00 EUR
Israel and Palestine/13 Projects	668,727.03 EUR
Jordan/5 Projects	300,212.83 EUR
Cambodia/2 Projects	125,044.69 EUR
Korea (North Korea)/2 Projects	92,640.91 EUR
Lebanon/3 Projects	198,108.00 EUR
Nepal/6 Projects	201,000.00 EUR
Pakistan/13 Projects	1,241,623.79 EUR
Sri Lanka/2 Projects	55,000.00 EUR
Syria/1 Project	40,000.00 EUR
Tajikistan/9 Projects	278,963.03 EUR
Thailand/3 Projects	130,000.00 EUR
Vietnam/13 Projects	583,447.08 EUR

## Europe

Europe (general)/17 Projects	739,261.94 EUR
Albania/2 Projects	57,000.00 EUR
Armenia/6 Projects	299,809.38 EUR
Bosnia and Herzegovina/8 Projects	592,972.59 EUR
Bulgaria/13 Projects	529,254.10 EUR
Germany <sup>1</sup> /7 Projects	355,748.82 EUR
Georgia/7 Projects	175,324.50 EUR
Croatia/1 Project	42,852.31 EUR
Moldova/6 Projects	192,104.90 EUR
Poland/2 Projects	77,883.47 EUR
Romania/13 Projects	436,114.35 EUR
Russia/24 Projects	1,196,647.67 EUR
Serbia/Montenegro/9 Projects	384,402.63 EUR
Slovakia/2 Projects	30,905.16 EUR
Ukraine/9 Projects	764,909.81 EUR

## Latin America

Latin America (general)/25 Projects	964,353.77 EUR
Argentina/6 Projects	274,369.56 EUR
Bolivia/14 Projects	334,425.88 EUR
Brazil/27 Projects	1,123,331.47 EUR
Chile/4 Projects	100,041.75 EUR

Ecuador/3 Projects	217,936.63 EUR
El Salvador/2 Projects	155,844.46 EUR
Guatemala/2 Projects	174,887.50 EUR
Honduras/4 Projects	133,219.02 EUR
Colombia/24 Projects	1,228,284.02 EUR
Cuba/4 Projects	62,021.90 EUR
Mexico/6 Projects	290,717.79 EUR
Nicaragua/6 Projects	203,115.73 EUR
Peru/13 Projects	617,588.03 EUR

## Oceania

Indonesia/12 Projects	875,476.86 EUR
Philippines/4 Projects	215,000.00 EUR

## International

International/5 Projects	847,854.26 EUR
--------------------------	----------------

<sup>1</sup> Countries that have received EUR 25,000 or more.

<sup>2</sup> Most of the aid for India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka after the sea-quake of December 26, 2004 is totalled together here.

<sup>3</sup> Extended programmes following the flood relief of 2002.

# Statement of Account (January 1 to December 31, 2007)

## Notes:

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

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

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

In the case of proceeds from assets and interest income, corresponding expenditures (realised losses due to market fluctuations and depreciation of financial investments) have been balanced.

Income in euros	2007	2006
<b>Grants</b>		
German government	10,909,898.54	11,090,072.84
Church funds	5,090,418.35	4,734,641.03
European Union	4,298,611.38	3,726,204.67
Other grants	6,196,809.97	3,148,410.52
<b>Total grants</b>	<b>26,495,739.24</b>	<b>22,699,329.06</b>
<b>Donations, inheritances and other charitable contributions</b>		
Project donations	14,684,187.87	16,202,169.20
Proceeds from assets and interest income	2,649,089.94	2,816,036.17
Inheritances, Legacies	11,030.94	138,387.89
Other	79,406.50	28,939.00
<b>Total donations, inheritances and other charitable contributions</b>	<b>17,423,715.25</b>	<b>19,185,532.26</b>
<b>Total income</b>	<b>43,919,453.49</b>	<b>41,884,861.32</b>



## Finances

**Project Costs:** Expenditures comprise contributions to more than 650 aid projects.

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

**Result for the Division:** The reported result is put into the trust funds. On December 31, 2007, the funds amounted to EUR 99,768,503.17. The amount from the previous year was EUR 106,305,096.57 (see above note on interest income).

Expenditures and earnings from Kinderhilfe Bethlehem, part of the German Caritas Association, are not shown in this statement of account.

Costs in euros	2007	2006
<b>I. Project expenditures</b>	<b>41,680,178.65</b>	<b>47,959,739.33</b>
Emergency and disaster aid / Reconstruction / Social work for children and adolescents, the elderly, the ill and the disabled / Other projects		
<b>II. Personnel, materials, and amortization</b>		
<b>1. Personnel expenses:</b>		
wages and salaries, social benefits, retirement funds	3,762,297.13	3,387,697.58
(thereof directly allocable to projects)	(2,605,936.39)	(2,237,953.83)
<b>2. Cost of materials:</b>		
project work, educational and PR work, fundraising	4,087,297.60	2,637,515.37
(thereof directly allocable to projects)	(2,094,382.29)	(954,594.64)
<b>3. Levies</b>		
service charges etc.	705,977.30	746,093.59
<b>4. Depreciation/amortisation</b>	<b>33,182.23</b>	<b>27,422.18</b>
<b>Total costs</b>	<b>50,268,932.91</b>	<b>54,758,468.05</b>
<b>Result for the Division</b>	<b>-6.349,479.42</b>	<b>-12.873.606,73</b>

## Administrative and advertising costs

Administrative and advertising costs are all those expenses which, in view of their contents, cannot be directly allocated to the tax-relieved purposes stated in the Association Statutes. Pursuant to the DZI (German Central Institute for Social Affairs, Work Area Donation Seals of Quality), advertising and administrative expenses exceeding 35 % of total expenses are not tenable. As a guideline, the DZI applies the following grading: administrative and advertising costs of up to 35 % are deemed tenable. Less than 20 % is deemed reasonable. Less than 10 % is regarded as low. In 2007 the administrative and advertising costs of Caritas Germany, International Department were 7,83 %.

### Administrative costs calculation pursuant to DZI guidelines<sup>1)</sup>:

Project expenditures	44,681,107.94 EUR	83.22 %
Project promotion and assistance	4,270,780.17 EUR	7.96 %
Campaigns and educational work	531,983.26 EUR	0.99 %
<b>Total project expenditures</b>	<b>49,483,871.36 EUR</b>	<b>92.17 %</b>
Administration	1,961,737.10 EUR	3.66 %
Advertising and PR Work	2,240,991.03 EUR	4.17 %
<b>Total administrative and advertising expenditures</b>	<b>4,202,728.13 EUR</b>	<b>7.83 %</b>
<b>Total expenditures</b>	<b>53,686,599.49 EUR</b>	<b>100 %</b>

<sup>1)</sup> Figures include 3 million euros in expenditures by Kinderhilfe Bethlehem, part of the German Caritas Association

## Auditor's report on the division result

The division statement of results for the donation-relevant international division (Caritas Germany, International Department) is derived from the Caritas Germany's Annual Report 2006 audited by **PricewaterhouseCoopers AG Auditing Company**.

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

Moreover, the annual auditor was asked to check adherence to the "Voluntary Guidelines and Implementation Rules for Non-profit, National and Donation-Collecting Organizations" (DZI Guidelines) in the version from September 15, 2006.

The DZI guidelines require, among other things, an intended purpose and effective application of funds, commensurability of compensation, true, clear and accurate fundraising, as well as a proper financial statement.

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

## Publishing Details

Publisher: Caritas Germany  
International Department  
Communications  
Postfach 420  
D-79004 Freiburg  
Tel: ++49 (0)761 200-288  
Fax: ++49 (0)761 200-730

E-mail: [contact@caritas-international.de](mailto:contact@caritas-international.de)  
Internet: [www.caritas-international.de](http://www.caritas-international.de)  
Editor: Linda Tenbohlen  
Editorial Asst.: Dorothea Bergler, Monika Hoffmann, Ingrid Jehne, Achim Reinke, Peter Seidel, Stefan Teplan, Wolfgang Gehring

Responsible: Gertrud Rogg  
Lay-Out: Andrea Osterhage, Freiburg  
Litho: Wehrle Medienproduktion  
Print: Druckerei Stückle, Ettenheim  
Printed on 100% recycled paper (Recystar)

---

### Account for donations:

Bank für Sozialwirtschaft Karlsruhe

BLZ 660 205 00

or <http://spende.caritas-international.de>



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

**[www.caritas-international.de](http://www.caritas-international.de)**