

Our Work Worldwide











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A few words...

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

The year 2011 continued a trend that is saddening for us all, but a terrible reality for those directly affected: for years now, disasters have been striking ever more frequently worldwide. When we look back over the past twelve months – shown in photographs below – we are left in no doubt that the impact of natural disasters is worsened by human error and by undesirable trends in human society.

Cumulatively – even though it can't be proved case by case – the severe flood events in Asia and Central America and the droughts in East Africa are linked to global climate change. Civil wars, poverty and economic mismanagement then all contribute to turning a difficult situation into a disaster. The disaster that befell Japan on 11th March 2011 with the earthquake and subsequent tsunami cost the lives of 20,000 people. Then the nuclear 'maximum credible accident' caused by the tidal wave, and the contamination of entire regions, prolonged the disaster into the indefinite future. Here too the plight of the victims has been made worse by irresponsible human action.

### THE YEAR 2011 IN PICTURES

### Return to Southern Sudan:

Caritas is helping the people to get back to normal life after the war. Now that the new state has been created, many have returned there in hope of a fresh start amid peace.



### The triple disaster:

Earthquake, tsunami, nuclear nightmare scenario. Large numbers of people in north-east Japan face total destitution They need practical help and psychosocial support.



### Caught between the fronts:

Emigrants flee the fighting between the military and the prodemocracy movement in Arab states. Caritas Germany supports them in the refugee camps of neighbouring countries.



Japan has long experience of earthquakes and tsunamis; its disaster preparedness and warning systems are comprehensive; its post-disaster relief provision is regarded as exemplary. Moreover, Japan is an industrialised country. So why should Caritas international, the international department of Caritas Germany, give aid in such a wealthy country? It was you, our donors, who have given the answer: we give aid wherever aid is needed – and the people hit by the disasters in Japan did need our aid and do still need it. For as we know from our own experience, even in industrialised countries not everyone shares in the wealth of society. And it is precisely here that Caritas Germany steps in – helping the people who are worst hit by disasters, by crises, or simply by the injustices of everyday life. Strengthening the weakest members of society is a fundamental principle of our work.

And another question is put to us time and again. Why do you – as a Catholic aid organisation – make no distinction in your relief work between Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, Hindus? Why do you provide aid in places where there are hardly any Christians – in Japan, in the Arab world, Somalia, Afghanistan? The answer to that lies in what we believe, on the authority of the Bible and the Church, to be our role in the world;



### Staying put, after the military have pulled out:

In Afghanistan, international forces are preparing to withdraw. The international department of Caritas Germany will stay on.

### Fresh hope in Central Africa:

Peace has still not come to the Congo. But real progress can be seen, in the peace process, democratisation and economic development.



### Dialogue of the religions in Iraq:

Representatives of all religions have come together to discuss ways out of the spiral of violence. Among the invited guests: Caritas President Peter Neher and Archbishop Ludwig Schick, President of the Commission for International Church Affairs of the German Bishops' Conference. A few words...

it lies in the fundamentals of our Caritas activity. Caritas Germany brings help and protection regardless of ethnic affinity, religion, nationality or political opinion. For the human dignity conferred by God is conferred on every human being. Only one priority decides where we go to: we go where the need is greatest.

Caritas Germany works strictly on the partnership principle, even in places where the "obvious" partner, the local Caritas, is very small. Emergency relief, reconstruction, and long-term social work too are always conducted in cooperation with local and national organisations in the places concerned, whose staff know what conditions are like on the ground and can thus help quickly and effectively. This partnership principle pays off. In Somalia, for instance, Caritas Germany has cooperated for many years now with a local aid organisation. As a result, the international department of Caritas Germany was among the few organisations actually able to deliver emergency relief to this country that has been so ravaged by drought and civil conflict.

In Japan likewise, besides the Caritas of our Catholic Church, we have a partner with over 30 years' international experience in emergency and disaster aid and in disabled care. Its very similar aims and approach make this organisation an ideal partner for Caritas Germany.

### THE YEAR 2011 IN PICTURES



### Floods impede reconstruction:

Only a year after the once-in-a-century flood, huge areas of Pakistan are again under water. Caritas is building dams and canalisation systems so as to improve conditions long-term.



### Peacebuilding in Colombia:

The conflict between government and rebels is responsible for continuing violence.
Caritas Germany is working with local partners to find peaceful ways of resolving it.

### Severe drought in East Africa:

Somalia, Ethiopia, Kenya and other countries of the Horn of Africa are suffering under prolonged drought. Besides immediate help there is a need for sustainable projects to improve water management. International partnerships like this can only be kept alive on a clear common Christian understanding and a robust base in the home country; that is the foundation that you are all helping to build – our supporters and partners and donors. We owe it to your help and your commitment that we in turn are providing help to others, effectively and sustainably, and by so doing are helping to make God's love of mankind visible. We here offer you our heartfelt thanks.



Tet New

Prelate Dr. Peter Neher President of the German Caritas Association Din Kin

Dr. Oliver Müller Director International Department Caritas Germany

### Floods in South-East Asia: Caritas is providing emergency aid in Thai land, Vietnam and

emergency aid in Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia. Long-term projects aim at improving disaster preparedness.



### nhar

of climate change:
The climate conference
in South Africa seeks
political unity for the
struggle to combat climate change. Caritas
Germany contributes
projects for improving
disaster preparedness –
as seen here in Bolivia.

The consequences

### Winter aid following the earthquake:

People in eastern Turkey after suffering a violent earthquake now have to contend with the earlier-than-usual onset of winter. Caritas Germany and its local partners are providing blankets and stoves.



8

East Africa

### Water means life

Millions of people were hit by the catastrophic drought in the Horn of Africa. Targeted disaster preparedness measures in Kenya and Ethiopia succeeded in saving many lives. Caritas Germany contributed help.

Three years have passed here without rain. Fields and meadowland vanished long ago. The cattle move over rock-hard ground on which grass no longer grows. Yaa Odola lies in Kenya's totally parched north. The nearest place with water is 65 km away. Even the camels can no longer manage the journey.

Like many other families, Gumato Chachu's family has lost a large number of camels as a result – and now no longer has the camel milk crucial to its survival. "Our situation now is really bad," says the 27-year-old woman. But today – it is August 2011 – Gumato can smile for the first time for ages: her five

children are having a meal nearby. "When the water was brought, the very first thing I did was to cook something for the children. I actually still had beans and maize, but no way to cook them," she explains. Earlier, she sometimes had to make a mere 20 litres of water last for ten days – for her whole family. Thanks to support from Caritas, the seven members of the family now have 200 litres at their disposal. The water is shared with the animals. "Without camels we cannot survive," say the inhabitants of Yaa Odola at their village assembly. In only two days' time the water tank will be filled again. The local Ca-



Somalia

Southern Sudan

ritas partner organisation, "Pacida", is currently supplying water also to other villages under particular threat from the drought. "There are now three lorries on the road non-stop," says Pacida's Director, Wario Guyo Adhe, "delivering the water people need." During these particularly difficult months in summer 2011 it proved possible in this way to supply some 1,330 families – meaning about 8,000 people – regularly with clean drinking water. "But in the long run," Wario Guyo Adhe emphasises,

"We need more

wells, because

drought is be-

coming steadily

more frequent"

"more wells will have to be sunk, because drought is becoming steadily more frequent."

Scientists have confirmed this observation. The cause of the drought is thought to be La Niña. This macroscale climatic event occurring over the

Pacific repeatedly causes rainfall in the region to be reduced or cease altogether. Climate change is enhancing this natural event, which itself is caused by ocean currents. The statistics tell a clear story: since 1960, mean temperatures across the Horn of Africa have risen by an average of two degrees centigrade; the last eight years have been the hottest ever recorded; and in total rainfall has diminished by 25 percent. Drought periods used to occur at intervals of 25 to 30 years; now they are striking every four or five years.

Like in northern Kenya, this trend can also be observed in many other places across the Horn of Africa. Caritas Germany and its local partners are developing strategies appropriate to local conditions, for shortage of fodder has a number of different causes. For instance, livestock breeders often keep too many cattle, goats, sheep and camels, because they are seen as status symbols. But the animals denude the pastureland completely and destroy the soil structure. The plan is to achieve a long-term reduction in livestock population by the use of counselling and by making available alternative income sources such as arable farming.

The consequences of the drought were worst of all for people in Somalia – although what they fled from in the first place was the civil war that has been ravaging the country for many years. There has been no functioning government for many years, and so – when harvests were reduced or wiped out altogether by the drought – there was a

lack of transport to bring food to the needy, and a lack of security measures to protect the aid organisations. Sustained fighting and violence against civilians caused difficulty to many as they sought to escape safely to the refugee camps across the border.

Caritas Germany is one of the few aid organisations able to help in Somalia in spite of the difficult conditions. Helped by the local

aid organisation Daryeel Bulsho Guud (= aid for all), which has been supported by Caritas Germany and the 'Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe' disaster relief organisation since 1992, it has proved possible to support needy people both in

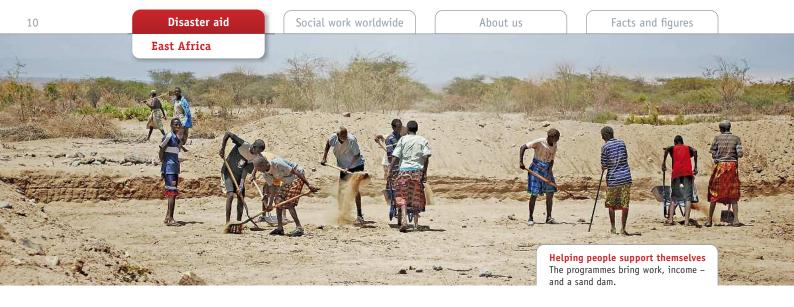
areas controlled by the state and in those controlled by the Al-Shabaab militias. Food and drinking water were distributed, deep wells sunk and water storage reservoirs constructed. However, disaster preparedness measures such as these are still the exception in Somalia rather than the rule.

Experience in neighbouring countries has shown that programmes like these can greatly reduce distress.

Ethiopia, for example, >>

### > CARITAS AID IN FIGURES

Drought and famine in East Africa have prompted many people in Germany to donate money. Through the relief organisation of the German Caritas Association alone, **fully 12.3 million euros** were contributed in 2011. Caritas Germany used about 2.2 million euros for emergency aid together with initial measures to enhance drought preparedness, improve water management and distribute drought-resistant seed. The high level of donations means that this sustainable aid effort can be kept up over the years to come. And the aid we are giving is not just effective, it's relatively cheap as well: **The equivalent of just two euros can ensure a person gets access to drinking water for a whole month.** 



has a more or less functional system of drought preparedness measures that has been built up over years by the state and aid organisations working together. In several regions the relief organisation of the German Caritas Association funds the construction of wells, sand dams and entire irrigation systems. The long-term goal is to build up a water supply network capable of functioning throughout long drought periods. It costs only about 8,000 euros to build a water reservoir capable of maintaining water supply to the surrounding population through drought spells for up to six months.

Another focus of aid rendered is the provision of drought-resistant seed so that germination of the corn will not fail even if the rain stays away. It takes only ten euros to provide a family in Ethiopia with all the seed it needs for a planting season.

Even so, several failed harvests resulted in late summer 2011 in fully ten million people becoming reliant on outside help, and Caritas had to provide aid in the form of drinking water and foodstuffs. But the preparedness measures had this time averted a serious famine with many thousands of deaths – something that had happened in Ethiopia several times before. This real success has encouraged us to persevere with the provision of long-term aid and disaster prevention even after a famine has ended, and to do likewise in other countries and regions as well: sustainably, using forethought, and taking the long view.

### ONE GOAL - MANY WAYS TO GET THERE

### Donation campaigns support Caritas international in East Africa

The distress of people in East Africa has prompted many members of the public to donate money or to launch campaigns aimed at collecting donations. During the drought disaster, Germany's **ZDF** television station appealed for donations to help the afflicted in East Africa, and set up a special aid hotline. Thousands of viewers called the hotline to support the charities that were co-operating in the **Aktions-bündnis Katastrophenhilfe'** (Alliance for Disaser Aid – besides Caritas Germany, the German Red Cross, Unicef Ger-

many and the 'Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe' disaster relief organisation. A total of 1,781,950 euros was collected for the aid programme, the largest amount ever brought in through a hotline for the Alliance. For the work of the four aid organisations in Japan, the money raised by the

ZDF aid hotline amounted to a further 1,181,483 euros. Sternstunden, the aid programme sponsored by the Bavarian broadcasting organisation, Bayerischer Rundfunk, organised a special campaign called "Hungerhilfe Ostafrika" (Famine Aid East Africa) which attracted donations totalling 15 million euros. Over 205,000 euros went to Caritas Germany for its work in the Horn of Africa. And there were many local communities, groups and businesses that devised imaginative programmes supporting the Caritas relief work. Children and young people were among the hardest workers. At a school in Brakel, to take one example, pupils discussed the situation in East Africa as part of their classwork, and followed up by collecting 1,000 euros. A Friedberg daycare centre sold home-made jam and apple-juice and donated the proceeds: 465 euros.



Social work worldwide

About us

Facts and figures

Japan

# It was like the end of the world

The threefold disaster on 11 March, with its sequence of earthquake – tsunami – reactor accident, destroyed entire cities in Japan, took 20,000 human lives and made over 100,000 more people dependent on help from outside. Reconstruction will take years. But the consequences of the nuclear disaster in Fukushima are of a different order altogether – people will have to live with them for generations to come.





This was not just the greatest and – with damage amounting to 245 billion euros – most expensive natural disaster in Japan's history: for what happened to Japan on 11 March 2011 was three disasters tied together, three disasters, blow by blow. Each triggered off the next. First came the earthquake. Then the tsunami. Then the nuclear meltdown. One eyewitness, 79-

"First, the water

came, then the

left but rubble

fire. Nothing

and ashes."

year-old Keiko Kikuchi from the northern Japanese city of Kesennuma, described it in these words: "First, the water came. Then came the fire. And then nothing was left but rubble and ashes, where once there had been a big city." Fire? Yes, in Kikuchi's home city of Kesennuma fire broke out too – starting in a

chemical plant invaded by the tsunami. Whatever the water had left behind was consumed by flames, and most of the city was completely destroyed. At other places along the coast, it was the overwhelming deluge of sea-water that wiped out whole cities. Like Minami-Sanriku, for instance, once a pleasant, quiet seaside town with 18,000 inhabitants, 70 kilometres south of Kesennuma.

It sounds like a sequence from the Apocalypse, the end of the world. And to many people in Japan it really

did feel as if they had come face to face with the Apocalypse. In addition to destroying a large number of towns, the threefold disaster of earthquake, tsunami and reactor accident claimed about 20,000 human lives and has made a further 100,000 people dependent on outside help for years to come. Aid for the victims of the disaster(s) has been provided by Caritas

Germany – in cooperation mit its partner organisations Caritas Japan and the Association for Aid and Relief (AAR) – ever since Hour 1 of the catastrophic events. In the initial emergency aid phase it supplied people with food, blankets, heaters, medical requisites and essential household goods. During reconstruction, Caritas gets involved wherev-

er a gap exists in state provision – and this does happen even in a wealthy country like Japan (see the interview with Caritas Director Daisuke Narui, p. 13). For example, new day-care centres for disabled people were established in both Kesennuma and Minami-Sanriku with support from Caritas Germany. Again, Caritas is funding new provision for old people and those who care for them, organises leisure activities for children in the affected areas, and has also set up drop-in centres for those whose lives have been changed,

### ONE GOAL - MANY WAYS TO GET THERE

# A total of over a million euros was amassed by the RTL fundraising campaign in support of the earthquake and tsunami victims. The money was used by the RTL – "We Help Children" Foundation in part to support Caritas Germany in the immediate emergency aid response, and is still being used to provide children affected by the events with sustainable help in coping with the long-term consequences. In the im-

mediate emergency aid phase, **emergency accommodation** was provided for about 27,000 people. They were given such necessities as drinking water, blankets, mats, sleeping bags, hygiene requisites, nappies and warm clothes.





centres of low-threshold social welfare work. One special focus of the aid programme is on psychosocial support for the victims. One of the most demoralising things they have to cope with is living in the makeshift emergency accommodation containers in which some 100,000 people will have to live at least until the year 2013, inside a space ranging – according to size of family – from 20 to at most 40 square metres.

Some of them will have to accept that they may never be able to return to their home district – those who were evacuated from the 20-kilometre no-go area surrounding the wrecked Daiichi nuclear power station outside Fukushima. Their situation is exceptionally depressing. Partly as a result of information policy fail-

ures, fear and unease about the true extent of radioactive contamination in the area are rife. Once radioactive food products (beef, vegetables, milk, tea) had
got into the retail trade, Japanese consumers shunned
products from the affected regions. In many places
children are no longer allowed to play in the open air
for fear of contamination with radioactive material.
Young women live in fear that they may never again
bring healthy children into the world. "The young
people of the Fukushima region are moving elsewhere
if it is in their power to do so, and seeking work elsewhere," says AAR worker Natsuho Shoji. The old are
left behind, on their own. It is no coincidence that
those living in emergency accommodation in the Fu-

### **CARITAS NETWORK**

### Caritas Japan – Disaster aid in one's own country

Daisuke Narui, who is Director of Caritas Japan, explains why humanitarian aid is needed even in a rich country, and the challenges that this involves.

In a wealthy country like Japan, why is aid from Caritas needed at all?

Daisuke Narui: Because state aid – even in this wealthy country – leaves some areas uncovered. For instance, the government by and large leaves psychosocial care work with the victims to the NGOs. So Caritas considers it has a duty to involve itself anywhere the government does nothing or not enough.

Can you give some examples of actual projects in which it works out like that?

Narui: Our projects fall into a number of distinct categories: material aid, help in improving living conditions, psychosocial care, aid for economic reconstruction, and aid in the various parts of the education sector. For that, there are many projects. In the immediate aftermath of the disaster, we started by establishing volunteer centres in a number of parishes in towns such as Kamaishi, Ishinomaki, Yonekawa and Shiogama, and succeeded in recruiting over 4,000 volunteers. These volunteers helped to clear rubble in the areas devastated by the tsunami, reunite the victims with lost personal possessions, such as



### Fukushima will be uninhabitable for decades



After the disaster, Caritas Germany received about **6.7 million euros in donations**. The international department of Caritas Germany used 2.5 million euros of this for emergency supplies to the population. 4.2 million euros – part spent already, the rest pre-allocated – are to be devoted to the re-establishment of nursery schools and of welfare centres for the old,

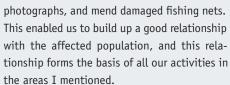
the sick, the homeless and the disabled.

In the disaster areas, Caritas Germany cooperates in particular with its two local partners, Caritas Japan and AAR (Association for Aid and Relief). Some 20,000 people had lost their lives in March 2011, and 100,000 are still homeless today. The total cost of the damage wrought by the triple disaster is estimated to be 245 billion euros. It is thus the costliest natural disaster in history.

kushima region are predominantly old men and old women. Most of them have the same attitude as 71-year-old Toshiko Shiyoa from Fukushima. She says: "I don't want to start again with a new life. At my age it doesn't bother me if I am going to get cancer in ten or 20 years' time."

For the aid organisations, Fukushima has introduced a completely new dimension. Hitherto, after major disasters, the reconstruction time could always be estimated. In Japan it is expected to take a further three or perhaps four years. "But Fukushima," Yukie Osa believes – she is President of Caritas partner AAR – "is likely to keep us busy for an entire generation."





For you, what has been the greatest challenge so far in the aid programme itself?

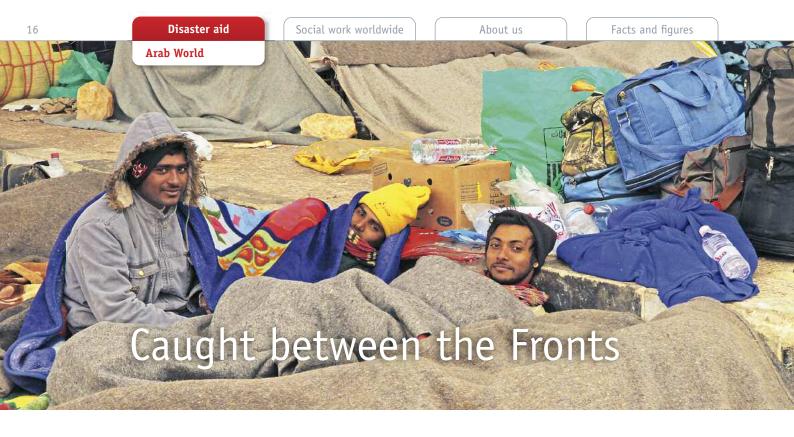
Narui: Caritas Japan is actually only a small organisation, and prior to this disaster on 11 March 2011 was not active in Japan at all, only in other countries. Suddenly having to turn round and deliver a major disaster aid programme in our own country was the greatest challenge we faced. We had to get our bearings first of all, and find

ways to implement what we wanted to do. But that was accomplished very quickly during the emergency aid phase, because we were and are able to build on our good cooperative relationship with the dioceses.

What is the greatest challenge for the future?

Narui: Retaining the thousands of volunteer helpers that we recruited through the parishes, and motivating them to work continuously and on a sustained basis to support, in particular, those people in Fukushima who have suffered ill effects from radiation.





The Arab Revolution is bringing new freedoms to many. At the same time, thousands – as in Libya and Syria – have had to flee from violence.

In Tunisia, as 2010 ended and 2011 began, thousands of people took to the streets in protest against their ruler, Zine el-Abidine Ben Ali, and his regime; but no-one foresaw that this protest would swell into a revolutionary movement affecting the entire Arab world. Early January 2011 saw the beginning of the disturbances in Algeria; on 25 January the first demonstrators in Egypt called for more freedom there. And during the months that followed, streets and squares in Yemen, Jordan, Libya, Bahrain and Syria were to fill at various times with opponents of the regimes concerned.

The consequences of these events for the respective local Caritas organisations and other partners of Caritas Germany differed widely from country to country. On the one hand, the uprisings generated a sense of awakening and new beginning that benefited the projects. Participation by disadvantaged people, Caritas' principal concern, was suddenly a hot topic throughout politics and society. But on the other hand the risings led – and are continuing to lead – to worrying uncertainties. Will the conflict be resolved by peaceful means or by violence? What aims will the new rulers pursue? What will happen to the relations between different religions? (see interview on p. 17).

Mass protests led relatively quickly to the Tunisian ruling family's leaving the country, and to the departure from office of President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt. The Yemeni president, Ali Abdullah Salih, who has ruled the country for more than 30 years, announced that he would not put himself forward for a further term of office. The revolution in Libya was accompanied by extreme violence. It took months of civil war, with the rebels receiving armed support from NATO, to topple head of state Muammar al-Gaddafi. The fighting forced many of the country's inhabitants, particularly foreign workers, to flee to neigbbouring countries. In many

### > CARITAS AID IN FIGURES

Caritas Germany has been supporting projects across the region for many years now, two examples being medical care for **refugees** in Egypt and support for Iraqi refugees in Jordan. Additionally, the international department of Caritas Germany has recently begun providing aid for Libyan refugees in Egypt (total for 2011: 70,000 euros) and for Syrian refugees in Lebanon (total for 2011: 50,000 euros) and Jordan (2011: 50,000 euros). These are continuing projects involving provision of medical help and food.



cases they would be indiscriminately labelled as Gaddafi supporters or even as mercenaries, thus becoming victims of defamation and persecution. Caritas Germany provided support for refugees from Libya living in camps set up in Egypt and Tunisia.

The protests did not succeed everywhere. President Abd al-Aziz Bouteflika of Algeria remained in office. In Bahrain, demonstrations in February 2011 were forcibly suppressed by the police, and any signs of resistance since then have been nipped in the bud. But the biggest toll of victims has arisen from the civil war in Syria, where UN announcements say that over 9,000 people have perished since the start of protests against the government of President Bashar al-Assad. Government action against the democracy movement is characterised by extreme brutality.

Many were forced to leave the country. By the end of 2011 there were 20,000 Syrians living in refugee camps in Turkey, about 10,000 in Jordan and 20,000 in Lebanon. Caritas Germany is supporting the needy by providing medical assistance, medicine, food, baby food and heaters. The international department of Caritas Germany has been cooperating for many years past with reliable partners. Apart from the national Caritas organisations, these include, in Lebanon, the "Caritas Lebanon Migrant Center", which supports large numbers of refugees from such places as Iraq.

Past experience is particularly important in work with refugees, because there is much more involved than the mere provision of material necessities. Many of these people had lost everything except the clothes they stood up in. Family members have been murdered, have disappeared or are in prison. Many refugees are traumatised and need intensive support as well as medical and psychosocial help.



### CARITAS NETWORK

"We are striving side by side for freedom and democracy"

The Arab Spring has fundamentally changed structures as well as everyday life. Naguib Khouzam, who as Director of the Egyptian Caritas partner organisation SETI has been setting widely admired standards for the past 25 years in his work with disabled people, here describes the changes brought by the revolution.

What is your assessment of the revolution and the current situation in Egypt?

Naguib Khouzam: The revolution itself was very important and made a big impact on us all. And it was a necessary revolution, because people were dissatisfied. All the important positions typically went to those close to the Presi-

dent, and for the majority not much was left. Now, after the fall of Mubarak, the situation remains uncertain and volatile. We don't know how things will develop. But this is only to be expected, because such a fundamental transformation of society takes time.

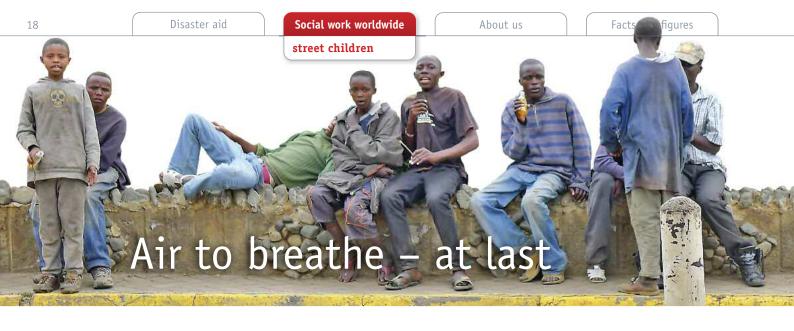
What is the situation like for Christians in particular?

Khouzam: Many Christians have left the country. They see the situation as too uncertain. Even the Muslim Brotherhood advocates an Islamist-influenced state with scarcely any role for Christians and other religious minorities. Other Islamist groups and parties are much more radical still. At the same time, there are also a large number of liberal Muslims who seek an open society. We should be supporting their efforts and working for the kind of changes in Egypt that will lead to freedom, tolerance and democracy.

Under present conditions, SETI's work must be decidedly tricky. What kind of approach are you using?

Khouzam: We work in close consultation with the Ministry of Social Affairs – which has had three changes of minister in quick succession. It shows how big an impact the political changes are having on our work. Our approach consists in strengthening disabled people and their families: it's about their rights and their solidarity one with another. And to that extent we are actually contributing through our day-to-day work to bringing about change in our country.

"It's about solidarity"
SETI's Director, Naguib Khouzam, considers the revolution in Egypt was needed, but sees dangers.



### Healthcare and education for street children in Kenya

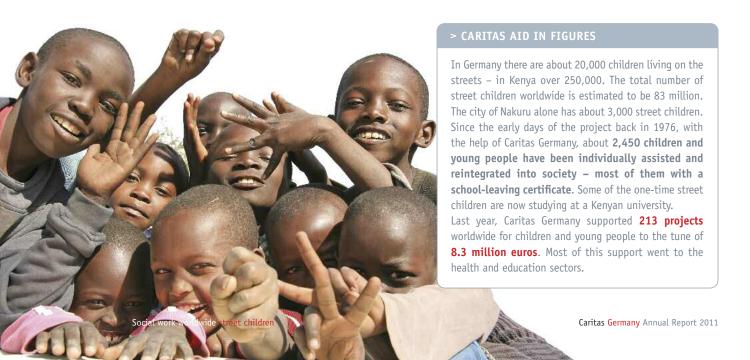
Soot, kitchen scraps, special waste – they delve in all this to find anything saleable. The street children find their subsistence on the rubbish dumps. In Nakuru, 3,000 children spend their days on the streets – many of them the nights too.

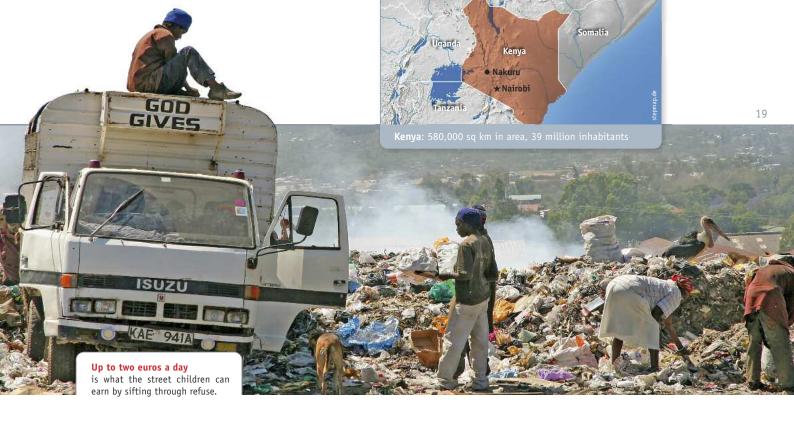
Nicolas, who is now 18, breathes deeply before telling his story. "We would often sniff glue. After that you weren't hungry, and you stopped feeling the cold." But it soon left his lungs barely able to suck in all the breath he needed to run away from the council security staff. The children come into the city's central areas to find their daily meal – in the rubbish sacks, through begging, or by filching anything edible – and the officials chase them out.

Many of the street children come, as Nicolas does, from socially disadvantaged families. The parents are divorced, have drink problems, or have jobs

far away. Some of the children are Aids orphans. Children in cities often have to take care of their own survival. The predicament of the street children is a reflection of Kenya's dire economic situation: social insecurity, rising food prices, youth unemployment of up to 60 percent.

Joseph and John from the Nakuru diocese are on their rounds by eight in the morning. First stop is the Gioto municipal rubbish tip. Here the two street social workers meet children and young people who have no home – and who have now become their clients. When the refuse vehicles dump their loads, they sort everything that might be reusable: metal, plastic, tyres, discarded electronic items, tin cans, battery acid. Anything edible is eaten at once. Geoffrey knows about the health risks: "It's very easy to injure yourself on hospital waste. All you need do is





"Once you leave

is no longer

a life option."

school, the street

step on a used injection needle", he says. But a day searching the tips can bring in up to two euros a day – enough for a helping of maize porridge.

Geoffrey, 18, is the contact man for Joseph and John when they come here to find street children. He himself is one of the 2,450 children "recruited" so far by the social workers. For two years he attended a street children's school supported by Caritas Germany. At present trained social workers at the Mwangaza and St. Francis day centres are preparing approximately 80 children for regular schooling. Here at the centres the children are treat-

schooling. Here at the centres the children are treated with respect and given personal attention and reassurance. Therapeutic activity programmes such as painting, craftwork, sport and games structure the routine. The individual assistance involved often includes some form of post-traumatic treatment. The aim is to reunite children with their families or place

them in a foster family. Education about HIV/Aids and drug-taking is part of the curriculum, mostly with involvement of the parents.

The syllabus also includes career preparation in the form of training and extended education. These

street children become car mechanics, fitters, web designers. Some make it into university. It is often an uphill struggle to exercise the street children's rights to education and healthcare. "This is an area in which the whole community must act responsibly and

give the children a chance," says Basil Munyao, coordinator of the diocese's welfare programme. Educating the public about the situation and about the children's rights is accordingly an important aspect of the work. This is tackled on the radio, in public discussion forums, on the "Day of the African Child", and at conferences on children's issues.

### > PORTRAI1

### Njoki's workplace is the rubbish tip, but her opportunity is the school

Sixteen-year-old Phyillis works at Gioto, Nakuru's municipal refuse tip, collecting metal scrap from the loads dumped by the lorry inscribed "God gives". Njoki lives with her mother and four siblings in a house built from tarpaulins – on top of the rubbish mountain. Four years ago she got to know John from the diocese, who listened to her and offered practical support. This encounter changed her life: suddenly there was a future beyond the rubbish tip. Njoki now attends the secondary

school. The social workers had contacted the school and discussed Njoki's case with the management, and now pay 80 percent of her school fees, as long as her family contributes the rest. On days when there is no school, Njoki collects scrap to the value of about 200 Kenyan shillings (two euros). Her mother supports this. And that in turn reassures Njoki that her mother is on her side and approves of her plans. All concerned regard this agreement and this division of responsibility as appropriate.

For coverage of the Nakuru street children project, visit www.caritas-international.de/85062.html



Indonesia: 1.9 million sq km in area, 238 million inhabitants

## "We live as a family"

Fuller entrenchment of disabled people's rights and greater inclusiveness in society are Caritas goals in Indonesia. The projects have contributed to a wholly new awareness.

Since early childhood, Sri Mulyo has suffered from the legacy of poliomyelitis. During his teenage years, the pain was not just physical, but mental as well. His disability had led other boys and girls to treat him as incapable of any kind of participation; as a result he lost all self-confidence and became acutely shy. And yet he clung to his two greatest dreams. He vowed to himself that one day he would become a skilled archer. And also – a committed protagonist of human rights. It may have been a result of his personal experience that he was to develop a finely tuned sensitivity for people who are not being treated with respect.

That he succeeded in turning both dreams into reality, and has moreover now developed into a confident young man, is thanks above all to the experience he gained from two aid organisations in Indonesia with which Caritas Germany cooperates: the disabilities rights organisation PPCI (its full name, Persatuan Penyandang Cacat Indonesia, means "Indonesian Association of People with Disabilities") and the Caritas group affiliated to the archdiocese of Semarang (Karina KAS).

"From my time with PPCI," Sri Mulyo relates, "in my home district of Indonesia, the administrative district of Klaten, I came to realise how very little society at large knew about disability and the issues related to disability – and how important it is to bring about a new climate of awareness."

Sri Mulyo has given himself heart and soul to this awareness-raising work since he first began supporting Caritas Indonesia's community work in the aftermath of the severe earthquake that struck the island of Java in 2006. The regional authorities provided a piece of land suitable for cultivating by disabled people. Sri Mulyo and the men and women working alongside him oversee the work carried on there by disabled and fully able-bodied people in organic farming and fish production. Obviously happy, Sri Mulyo says: "We have already made quite a big contribution in this way to getting disabled and non-disabled



people to live together as a community. The project has brought all these human beings together, and in fact has had the result that they now all live together as one big family."

And as for the second dream, success in archery, Sri Mulyo competed in the 2011 Asian Paralympic Games at Solo in Indonesia. He didn't win a medal, but still produced a convincing performance with impressive scores. His self-assessment after the Games leaves no doubt of his new-found self-confidence: "Next time," he predicts, "it will be gold."

### > CARITAS AID IN FIGURES

Indonesia is hit exceptionally often by earthquakes, seaquakes and volcanic eruptions. Their frequency is reflected in the large numbers of Caritas projects (2011: 41; total cost 1.21 million euros). Last year a sum of 400,000 euros was used in disability care, 130,000 of that coming from funding by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Worldwide, Caritas Germany supports 83 projects for and involving people with disabilities with an overall budget of 3.3 million euros.

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Elderly care work

## "30 degrees above and below zero"

The number of elderly people worldwide is growing. What does this mean for society in poorer countries? Caritas programmes for the elderly in Eastern Europe and Latin America follow different agendas.

The number of people over 60 is increasing worldwide; and official UN figures predict that by the year 2050 around 80 percent of the world's elderly people will be living in low-income countries. In southern countries too, this will have grave consequences for the social fabric and social institutions that often play a crucial role in the life of society. The elderly are increasingly taking on tasks that young people can no longer handle because their employment is in the cities. In many cases grandparents bring up children whose parents have died in wars or of

Aids or other diseases. But at the same time it is old people who are particularly hard hit by disasters. These complex developments influence the kind of work done by Caritas Germany among others. The international department of Caritas Germany operates programmes for the elderly in many countries and regions – and in 2011 invested nearly four million euros in a total of 85 projects. Andrea Hitzemann, Director of the Latin America and Europe Department, explains the different types of approach used in work with elderly people..

What exactly is the Latin American Gerontology Network?

Andrea Hitzemann: In this network we are linked up to our partners in Chile, Cuba, Mexico, Panama and Peru. The idea is to enable professionals in elderly care to exchange ideas in their specialist field across international boundaries – with the help of a shared website, continuing professional development and regular face-to-face meetings. We and our partners are not alone in recognising many advantages in this type of cooperation: some of the funding for the project comes from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Why is networking across international boundaries so important?

Hitzemann: There are the very effective professional exchanges to start with; and one of the main priorities is to increase awareness and understanding of these issues in government and society in the various countries. Political and lobbying activity like this works better if you act as a group. The basic situation we start from is much the same across all the countries involved: the proportion of the population older than 60 is rising steadily, and then there is the increasing urbanisation on top of that.

How does urbanisation come to be an issue in work with the elderly?

Hitzemann: Well, urbanisation is part and parcel of a general change that's coming over all aspects of life. Traditional structures such as you have in village life with its family and social bonding play less part in city life. On the other hand





older people use the infrastructure available in cities – everything from the Metro to the theatres. Elderly-friendly housing, participation for older people, but also violence directed against them: these are all issues that need to be discussed in contemporary society. That's why our network organises presentations in schools, for instance, seeking to develop more understanding among children for the situation of the elderly.

For years now, Caritas has supported work with the elderly in Cuba. Is there such a thing as a "socialist approach" in elderly care?

Hitzemann: The difference lies not so much in the respective social models as in the traditions. For example: elderly people's lives in Cuba are massively different from those of their counterparts in Ukraine, whereas across Latin America I see more parallels than differences. The Latin American countries have a long tradition of the generations living together, but in Eastern Europe that often has to be built up in the first place.

What form do these differences take?

Hitzemann: To put it in a nutshell, I'd say it's the difference between 30 degrees above and below zero. In Cuba, lots of elderly people share actively in social life, much of which is played out in the open air. There are any number of local festivals, public feasts and concerts. By contrast, in the Ukraine elderly people commonly live alone – the less fortunate ones in a cold apartment block. In Ukraine, Caritas often organises domiciliary nursing care. I am over-simplifying a bit with that contrast, but essentially that's how it is, and it shows up in one statistic: in our Cuban elderly care work we have 3,000 volunteer helpers, but in Ukraine we have a struggle to find volunteers at all.

How do you explain these contrasts?

Hitzemann: In the real-life socialist practice of Eastern Europe, nearly everything was institutionalised, and to this day spontaneous, shared voluntary activities are viewed with disfavour, and only rarely receive official support. In Latin America, on the other hand – including Cuba – community life has been a big thing since time immemorial. And also, almost too obvious to

spell out: the climate really does make a big difference.

"Learning from one another"
Andrea Hitzemann sees scope for
international exchanges in work
with the elderly

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Do you think exchanges might be possible, even so?

Hitzemann: Absolutely. Our colleagues in Cuba have told us they are interested in our concepts of domiciliary nursing care, which is practised in exemplary fashion in many Eastern European states. And conversely it would be of interest to Ukrainian elderly-care professionals to see how volunteer programmes can

### > CARITAS AID IN FIGURES

### Elderly care work in Ukraine

The main emphasis of Caritas Germany's work on behalf of the elderly in Ukraine is on care in the home. Caritas Ukraine's staff bring medical care to those who need it, and help generally in the business of coping with everyday life, e.g. by providing meals on wheels, cleaning, or car transport. Over the period from 2008 to 2013, the international department of Caritas Germany will have used more than a million euros for this purpose. The Home Care Working Group oversees a programme promoting exchanges in the field of Domiciliary Care between Caritas institutions throughout Eastern Europe.

### Elderly care work in Cuba and Latin America

Since the early 1990s, Cáritas Cubana has been offering a regular programme of training and support for relatives and volunteers from church congregations who have the task of caring for the older generations. Caritas Germany is subsidising this work. The aim of sharing expertise in elderly care work across the continent led in 1999 to the establishment of the Latin American Gerontology Network, which Caritas Germany has been supporting with funding from the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) amounting to 2.2 million euros so far.

Caritas worldwide

caritas Building the network: The great network of Caritas worldwide has further links woven in day by day whenever local and regional Caritas groups support the worldwide endeavour with their donations and action campaigns, whenever volunteers come together, joint conferences take place or Caritas organisations unite in petitions to outside agencies.



A voice to be heard: Caritas organisations around the world speak out loud and clear on the issue of worldwide climate change. "The entire world may be affected by climate change," said Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez Maradiaga, President of the umbrella organisation Caritas Internationalis, at the World Climate Conference, which met in Durban, South Africa, from 29 November to 5 December, "but the hardest hit will be the poorest countries."



**Distinctions** from several quarters testified to the quality of the international work being done by Caritas. In March 2011 Uli Gebhard, a Caritas Germany disaster response helper specialising in logistics, received the Radio Regenbogen "Der Held von nebenan" (The Hero From Next Door) award for his work in Haiti. Gebhard, a father of two, commented: "I feel it as a great privilege to be able, as part of my job, to put my best efforts into helping the world's unfortunate people."





Caritas de Macau

in their support for the international work. "Our Association," says Henric Peeters of the Moers-Xanten Caritas Association (the photo shows him with colleague





**Togetherness** is strength – the

strength – the
watchword proves itself even in professional
exchanges. Paediatric
psychiatrist Dr. Bhoomikumar came from Cambodia
last February to visit centres
for disabled people in Germany.
"Perhaps," he hopes, "the outcome will not simply be that we
Asians take home something of
Europe, but also that Europe gains
something from us. We have fewer
residential homes, but more intergenerational family togetherness."



Voluntary help by many hands helps to keep project work progressing all round the world. Students, pensioners, whole communities, committed individual supporters come together, as for example here in Haiti, to help after a disaster. Caritas' own professional staff have always emphasised that what volunteers contribute is even more than their practical help: their presence is motivating for everyone involved.



Kirsten Schwarz beside their newly fitted-out bus), "has long been confident of honouring its commitment to Caritas Germany, "because we know we can rely on the 'home supporters' who help the Caritas cause in so many different ways!"



Coordination of all the work of the international Caritas network is the responsibility of the Rome-based umbrella organisation Caritas Internationalis, which celebrated its 60th birthday in 2011. At its AGM, Caritas Internationalis re- elected Cardinal Oscar Rodriguez as its President, and elected Michel Roy as its new Secretary General.



"Südbaden hilft" has now been collecting donations for reconstruction in Haiti for two years.



Togetherness through Singing.
Children from South Baden at a benefit
concert sponsored by SWR; children from
Léogâne at the welcoming ceremony for
the "Südbaden hilft" delegation.

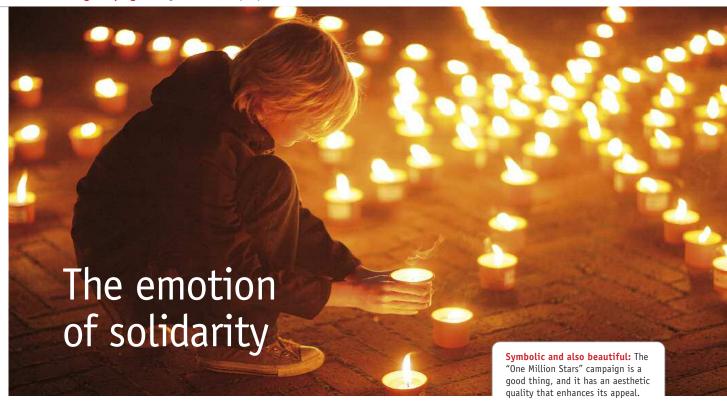


Tithin a few days of the devastating earthquake in Haiti in January 2010, the well-proven "Südbaden hilft" ("South Baden Aid") organisation sprang into action for the second time. Set up in response to the 2004 tsunami, "Südbaden hilft" allies Caritas Germany with the City of Freiburg, the Badische Zeitung newspaper and the Southwest German broadcasting organisation SWR Freiburg. Following the Haiti quake, hundreds of ordinary people from across the region worked enthusiastically for two years to assist in the rebuilding of the Saint Vincent de Paul care home for the disabled and the elderly, and attached school, in the town of Léogâne: South Baden school students organised charity runs, musicians gave benefit concerts, businesses reported every man and woman on their payroll donating during their canteen lunch-break. The organisers were overwhelmed by the offers of help from the South Baden population; the organisation's two media members, SWR and the Badische Zeitung, helped maintain the high level of commitment by their in-depth coverage of the process of reconstruction. Caritas Germany's role in the organisation included providing the vital link between supporters here in Germany and those helping in reconstruction in Haiti. Simultaneously, the international department of Caritas Germany was and still remains actively engaged through its own

personnel in the reconstruction of Haiti. "Südbaden hilft" has made a major contribution towards ensuring the continuance of this work for years to come. At the closing evening on 12 January 2012 it was clear beyond doubt that the support brought to needy people by a local organisation like "Südbaden hilft" is more than merely financial. When locals make common cause like this, the shared commitment and personal networking generate a public relations lobby on behalf of countries such as Haiti, which have to contend with a legacy of prejudice and stereotypes. And certainly, for the children of Gundelfingen in South Baden, who keep in touch with the school in Léogâne by letter, Haiti is no longer an unknown country.

### > TWO-YEAR AUDIT

On 12 January 2012, precisely two years on from the earthquake in Haiti, "Südbaden hilft" was able to announce that the donations total had reached the handsome figure of **525,000 euros** – and that in Haiti itself the rebuild of the school in Léogâne, with canteen, multi-purpose hall and ten classrooms, has been completed. Work on the old people's home continues.



"One Million Stars" up and down the country on 12 November 2011 symbolised togetherness.

Dachau, 12 November, 5 pm. Ofelia Bustillos and Enrique Castaños light the first of about 1000 candles placed on the town's Ernst Reuter Square. A few minutes more, and the whole surface of the square is a blaze of light. And at the same moment, in 70 other German cities too, "One Million Stars" are shining out in outlines of stars or rays, the Caritas lettering or the Flaming Cross. By staging these illuminations every year in late autumn, Caritas Germany and other German associations and institutions seek to bring out into the light those human beings who otherwise live in darkness: the poor, the old, the sick, people with disabilities. Each year, the focus is on one international project in

particular, which receives that year's donations. The good cause highlighted in 2011 is aid for disabled people in Bolivia, the project for which Bustillos and Castaños are working, seeking to garner sponsorship and promote inclusiveness. Before coming to Dachau, the Bolivian guests had visited a number of Caritas institutions and given their hosts vivid accounts of how people with disabilities in their country live without the support of a social network. "I feel moved by how much solidarity the people in Germany are showing for our clients," said Enrique Castaños in Dachau. "I came with the preconceived idea that people here are rather unemotional. But now I know the opposite to be true."

### > A CAMPAIGN THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY

"A Million Stars" shone out in 2011 in 71 towns and cities across the nation: Alsfeld, Bad Pyrmont, Biberach, Blieskastel-Lautzkirchen, Böblingen, Borken, Bruchsal, Dachau, Datteln, Dieburg, Dinslaken, Duisburg, Elisabethfehn, Erding, Freiburg, Friesoythe, Fulda, Gelnhausen, Greven, Haltern am See, Hamm, Heidesheim, Hürth, Ibbenbüren, Iserlohn-Lemathe, Koblenz, Köln, Konstanz, Lahnstein, Lauf a. d. Pegnitz, Lichtenfels, Lingen, Lörrach, Lorsch, Lübeck, Lüdinghausen, Mainz, Mannheim, Merzig, Miltenberg, München-Neuperlach, Münster, Neubrandenburg, Nürnberg, Oberhausen, Oberried, Offenbach, Paderborn, Papenburg, Passau, Pforzheim, Ravensburg, Recklinghausen, Regensburg, Reutlingen, Roding, Schöneiche bei Berlin, Schramberg, Singen, St. Blasien, Stadtlohn, Stuttgart, Weilburg/Lahn, Wesel, Winterberg, Witten, Worms, Wuppertal, Würselen, Xanten, Zühr.







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**Campaigns & Activities** 

## Worldwide entanglements



Symbiosis is a project that converts weapons from Burundi into artworks. The proceeds go to Caritas projects.

The ZKM, Karlsruhe's Centre for Art and Media Technology, is just the right place for this exhibition – because the museum building was at one time a munitions factory. For the "Symbiosis" project, Peter Zizka Waffen has made weapons from Burundi into artworks. The installations that this Frankfurt artist creates are a special form of communication, and operate at the interface of art and politics. He wants them to draw attention to the devastating consequences brought about by an armaments industry that destabilises entire regions, even entire countries, by selling weapons. Burundi, its civil war behind it, is one of the countries in which the distribution of so-called small arms is contributing to a continuing vicious spiral of violence. And the victims of the violence are primarily women and children.

The exhibition's aim is to draw attention to the interconnection of violence, the arms trade and the global economy. And to do something about it, in practical terms: the proceeds from selling the "weapons" will go into Caritas Germany projects – that in turn will feed the money back to Burundi. After its first showing at Karlsruhe, the exhibition "Symbiosis I 1.5 tonnes of global entanglements" will move on to other museums, the first of them being E-Werk in Freiburg, where it will run from 2 to 25 June.

For subsequent showings, visit www.symbiosisproject.de

## Aid organisations under scrutiny

Critics assert that NGOs compete with each other for donations. Caritas Germany faced up to the debate.

The Dutch journalist Linda Polman describes it as "the compassion industry" – what she sees as a boom "market of charitable giving" dominated by unrelenting rivalry for aid donations, a merciless competitive struggle to attract donors and media attention. Her criticism is that, as a result, aid loses out. She alleges that aid organisations turn a blind eye – for image reasons – to corruption, misuse of funds, and project failures. Often it would be better for the needy people concerned, the author claims, if the aid organisations would simply leave.

A controversial panel discussion took place in May 2011, which Caritas Germany persuaded not only Polman and the Deputy Director of Caritas Germany's international department, Jürgen Lieser, to attend, but also the former Minister of State in the Foreign Office, Gernot Erler, the politologist and peace researcher Jochen Hippler, and



Spiegel magazine's Africa correspondent, Horand Knaup. During the discussion, which was chaired by the journalist Ute Welty, the panel agreed that the marketing of aid was indeed often harmful; however, they were unanimous in their criticism of Polman for a failure to discriminate, for tarring all NGOs with the same brush. Caritas Germany, it was pointed out, like many other large organisations, had issued anti-corruption guidelines, had dispensed aid absolutely impartially from the very beginning, and had also for years past collaborated actively with other aid organisations in dispensing emergency and disaster aid. Claims of excessive competition were thus groundless.

## A trailerload of climate protection



### A customised 4 x 4 for climate protection has been made by Daimler-Benz's car-

has been made by Daimler-Benz's carbuilders and donated to Caritas Bolivia.

It is designed to be in its element both on the dirt roads high in the Andes and when crossing the swampy terrain of the lowlands; robust in coping with bad surfaces, yet at the same time capable of sensitive, precise measurement. The specifications for this vehicle were demanding. The car-builders at Daimler-Benz set out to adapt the vehicle to be a perfect match for the needs of the Bolivian Caritas organisation.

By the time the G-Class vehicle was handed over to Caritas Germany in December 2011 for delivery to the local partners, over 250 staff members had lavished just under six months' work on the modifications, testing and perfecting the vehicle and its trailer in every detail. The result is a vehicle ideally suited for field research. It will help scientists attain a better understanding of climate change and its consequences. It is equipped to measure all relevant data on climate. The trailer contains a complete field survey station, together with drilling equipment for subsoil bores. One aim is to predict impending slope failures and thus avert human disasters. Both the vehicle itself and the labour hours of the employees who built it are gifts from Daimler AG to Caritas Bolivia.

## Care and migration in Europe

East European care workers are finding work further west in Europe – while the countries they come from are short of care personnel.

More and more women from Eastern Europe are commuting between their home countries and their work-places in West European households. Their work in looking after those who need care certainly boosts their family income. But a less welcome consequence of their absence is that their countries of origin are finding it increasingly difficult to provide care for children and the elderly.

Last June Caritas Germany convened a symposium on "Care and Migration" which was held at the headquarters of the German Caritas Association in Freiburg and attracted professionals from all over Europe. The papers

and discussions left no doubt that the problems would be difficult to resolve, given the scarcely reconcilable differences in the interests and goals of the various actors. Even so, the organisers counted it a success that the symposium had at least brought care migration and its implications squarely into the arena of political and media discussion.

The papers presented at the symposium, amounting collectively to a cross-disciplinary and transnational study of the issue of care migration, have now been published in book form, in a volume rounded off by an account of model projects for more justice in care migration. More than virtually any other publication

one can think of, this book links disparate fields of Caritas work: on the one hand, care work and work with the elderly and disabled; on the other, labour and working conditions, migration, and – not least – international cooperation. It does not shrink from posing and debating uncomfortable questions. What are the consequences of the women's absence for the care of their children and of the older members of their families? And for the quality of the care institutions in their East European countries of origin?

■ Andrea Hitzemann, Anna Waldhausen, Nausikaa Schirilla (Eds): Pflege und Migration in Europa / Care and Migration in Europe (bilingual). Lambertus-Verlag, Freiburg 2012.



Caritas Germany Annual Report 2011



## Social design values in architecture

Reconstruction following earthquake or tempest is a task for specialists. Claus Hemker, a Caritas architect, answers questions about the role of architecture in emergency aid and disaster aid.



Architecture in emergency aid and disaster aid – what are the priorities?

Claus Hemker: You have to begin by seeing and assessing the situation on the ground: the people are traumatised, they have lost all their possessions; there is a lot of destruction; the infrastructure is damaged. Helping people to help themselves – in circumstances like this it is often just pie in the sky, because the people simply aren't able to help themselves. So the first stage is about understanding, so that in stage two you can start rebuilding. The principle is always: it has to be better than it was before the disaster. Because any building that has been destroyed was either built in the wrong place, or built in the wrong way, or was defective in other respects. The building planning has to bear that in mind.

In Haiti, after the severe earthquake in January 2010, there was almost nothing left but ruins. Where does one begin? Hemker: In Haiti, about 300,000 individual buildings had been destroyed. That is a mammoth task, especially as the government agencies are not very effective. Road-building, house building, infrastructural development – it all proceeds very slowly. We started rebuilding wherever the ownership position was not going to be legally challenged, and where the need was greatest. The first things we put in place again were schools, nurseries and old people's homes.

And now you are starting to rebuild private homes?

Hemker: Yes: working together with people currently in emergency accommodation, we went ahead with a pilot project in Miragoâne. The programme is not in fact being directed by architects or structural engineers – but by an ethnologist and sociologist. The first thing you look at is the broader context. What is the structural character of the area? Where do the people work, where do the children go to school? It's only after that that you set about planning the house. It's a reciprocal learning process, every bit as much about solidarity and neighbourly help as it is about actual construction processes.

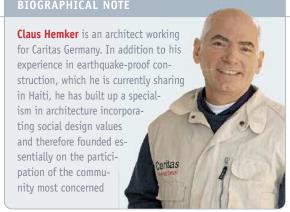
Participation, involvement – it all sounds logical. But does it not cost a lot of precious time?

Hemker: Participation does take time – that is true. But it matters to us to get the people themselves involved in these projects. In fact, time spent at the beginning you often find you save at the end of the process. Elsewhere you may often get disputes flaring up in the construction phase and sometimes even later still, but we here often get a lot of issues dealt with before we start. As a rule, people will summon up the necessary patience, because they want to have a role in the overall process. And given the Haitian background of disputes over land rights and power and influence, this process we go through is so worthwhile, its value simply can't be overstated.

What is the experience from such processes hitherto? Hemker: In Indonesia, to take one example, after the earthquake in 2007 it was a matter of rebuilding the social infrastructure – things in communal use, like educational facilities. On Java, which is the principal island in Indonesia, we managed to rebuild 21 nursery schools in just on two years.

Participation under pressure of time, then?

Hemker: The buildings had been reduced to rubble, a lot of jobs had been lost, school education as we know it



was non-existent. In a situation like that, speed is vital, and the aid workers have to achieve results that the population could not possibly manage so quickly from its own resources. Similar nursery-school building projects in Tanzania take a lot longer – there we might put up two or three buildings a year. The people there are able to practise self-help, and they want to do it, and play their part in the preparation and in the construction.

How does the process go in practice?

Hemker: Irene Berger, who is a sociologist, and I as the architect come together with the people on the ground to work up the projects and ensure that they incorporate the appropriate social design values. No engineer sets foot on a site before a social worker has done the rounds. Only when it has been clearly established what local people want, and hope to achieve, only then do we move on to the structural engineering side of things, ensuring that the buildings are quake-proof, storm-proof and at no risk of flooding.



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Making a Start

## Many hands make light work!

Solidarity can be expressed in all sorts of different ways. 2011 was yet another year rich in creative initiatives contributed by school classes, individual supporters, parishes, businesses, Caritas institutions, trusts or media partners. The activities supporting Caritas Germany – we list just four examples below – ranged from sporting and cultural events to bazaars and tombolas, from traditional collecting to unconven-

tional campaigns involving artworks. Altogether over 34 million euros were collected in this way for the international department of Caritas Germany and so for people in need in Japan, in East Africa, and also in countries currently unvisited by television cameras. To all our supporters, on behalf of people in every country that receives aid from Caritas Germany, we would here like to express our heartfelt thanks!

A long Bavarian techno night to help the victims of tsunami and nuclear meltdown



Great show, horsepower galore, and a donation for Japan



Jiving for Japan – twelve hours of techno and electronic music for a good cause. In Burgrain, between Munich and Garmisch-Partenkirchen, on 28 June, they danced the night through. The entire proceeds and all additional donations went straight to Caritas Germany and from there to those affected by the nuclear and tsunami disaster in Japan.

The **Bikefest in Göppingen** is much more than just a bikers' rally. A motorbike fair with 80 exhibitors, plus stunt displays and other attractions, pulls in lots of visitors with and without bikes of their own. Caritas Germany's Japan Aid was one of the causes for which the rockers were collecting at this event, held in May 2011. It raised 2,600 euros for the victims of the disaster in the Far East.



CHILDREN
TO FIND A WAY
OUT OF POVERTY!

By becoming a "Wegbegleiter" (Friend) you can help children worldwide who are living in the direst poverty. Your donation of 240 euros annually will bring them the chance of a better future – with regular meals, medical care, and access to education and training. You can find further information online at: www.caritas-international.de

-> Wegbegleiter

Musical Aid from Lake Constance for East Africa



Ironman keeps running for good – 225 kilometres and 5,100 euros

In ordinary life, Jörg Panter is a social worker with the Caritas Association in Neunkirchen. But when off duty he becomes an Ironman, first swimming nearly four kilometres, then cycling 180 km and finally running 42 km, all in the Hawaiian heat. The campaign "Laufend Gutes tun" (Running for Good) raised 5,100 euros for East Africa!

The Lake Constance Shantymen put on a benefit concert in Überlingen on 2 September for those affected by the famine in East Africa. The musicians donated their fee and sent the entire takings to Caritas Germany. In all, the musical fundraising event on the shore of Lake Constance raised 3,100 euros in donations.

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The Association

## The statutory branches of the German Caritas Association

### STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF THE RESPONSIBLE BODIES



### **President** (Prelate Dr. Peter Neher)

Secretary General Prof. Dr. Georg Cremer Head of Finance and HR Niko Roth

The above three together constitute the Board

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

President and Secretary General by virtue of office

12 chairpersons and directors from the DiCV

7 representatives from the specialist organisations and societies

2 representatives from religious orders

5 local level representatives

the chairperson of the Finance Commission

as many as

additional

seven

elects the General Secretary, the Head of Finance and HR 7 members of the Finance Commission and 7 members of the Staff Committee

### The Assembly of Delegates sovereign (max. 199)

and Vice Presidents (3) **Members** 

The Board (3)

by virtue of office

Chairper-2 represensons and tatives directors from the 27 DiCV plus LCV

Oldenburg

each from the specialist organisations

1 representative from each organisation

Members are sent

6 representatives each from the religious orders

(through the DOK) 3 representatives each from the local level of

members each DiCV

Elected in the Elected by the DV bishoprics

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

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

### COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE OF THE INTERNATIONA L DEPARTAMENT

### The International Department of Caritas Germany

Caritas Germany's international department is the relief organisation of the German Caritas Association (Deutscher Caritasverband e. V. – DCV) and is integrated into the Association's organisational structure. As a department in the DCV headquarters, at its registered address in Freiburg, it reports to the President's full-time Board. Caritas Germany's international department is made up of six Departments.

### Caritas Germany's international department. Director: Dr. Oliver Müller

<b>Department</b> Africa and Middle East <i>Director:</i> Christoph Klitsch-Ott	Department Asia  Director: Dr. Reinhard Würkner	Department Europe and Latin America Director: Andrea Hitzemann	Department Standards and concepts Director: Volker Gerdesmeier	Department Disaster aid coordination Director: Dr. Oliver Müller	Department Public Relations Director: Michael Brücker
local partners pl jects in the area	ally defined Depart an, organise and in s of disaster aid an ritas Germany deliv 30 countries.	mplement pro- nd social work.	Develops funda- mental principles of sustainable aid and evaluates them critically	Organises im- mediate-respon- se disaster aid and develops methodology	Creates awareness, motivates aid-giv- ing, publishes pos- itive and negative material impartially

### **Members of the Caritas Council**

Prelate Dr. Peter Neher, President of the DCV e. V., Chairman; Brother Peter Berg, General Director and Chairman of the Board of the Brothers of Mercy, Trier; Dr. Matthias Berger, Chairman of the Finance Commission; **Prof. Dr. Georg Cremer**, Secretary General of the DCV e. V.; Egon Engler, Chairman of the CV Freiburg Stadt e.V.; Franz-Heinrich Fischler, Director, DiCV Berlin e.V. (retd.); Hartmut Fritz, Direktor of the CV Frankfurt e. V.; Gaby Hagmans, National Secretary, SkF e.V.; Bruno Heller, Director, DiCV Erfurt e.V.; Dr. Frank Johannes Hensel, Director, DiCV Köln e. V.; Heinz-Josef Kessmann, Director of the DiCV Münster e. V.; Dr. Elisabeth Kludas, former Chair of the CBP e.V.; Dr. Birgit Kugel, Director of the DiCV Trier e. V.; Hans-Georg Liegener, Secretary of the CV Krefeld e. V.; Prelate Hans Lindenberger, Director of the DiCV München und Freising e. V.; Rolf Lodde, Secretary General of the SKM e.V.; Maria

Loers, National Chair of the CKD e.V.; Franz Loth, Director, DiCV Osnabrück e. V.; Sister Edith-Maria Magar, Vice-President, DCV e. V.; Dr. Hejo Manderscheid, Director of the DiCV Limburg e.V.; Martin Pfriem, Director of the DiCV Würzburg e. V.; Mgr. Canon Bernhard Piendl, Director of the DiCV Regensburg e.V.; Andreas Rölle, Secretary of the CV Zwickau e.V.; Father Clemens Schliermann SDB, Deputy Chairman of the BVKE e. V.; Burkard Schröders, Director of the DiCV Aachen e. V.; Irme Stetter-Karp, Vice-President of the DCV e. V.; Mgr. Wolfgang Tripp, Director of the DiCV Rottenburg-Stuttgart e. V.; Thomas Vortkamp, Secretary of the KKVD e.V.

Consultant members: Mario Junglas, Head of the Berlin office of the DCV e.V.; Niko Roth, Head of Finance and Human Resouces at the DCV e.V.

Facts and figures

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## We say Thank You!

You, our many donors and benefactors, placed your trust in Caritas Germany once again over this last year. Your support enabled the international department of Caritas Germany to deliver aid, on a sustainable basis, following not only the disasters in Japan and East Africa, but also what have been called "forgotten" disasters. Long-term social projects are improving the living conditions of disadvantaged children and of the sick, the elderly and those with disabilities. From our hearts we thank you for your solidarity with the poor and disadvantaged, whether you acted as an individual or a class at school, as a group, as parishes, as a Caritas association, an institution, a company, a trust fund or as one of our media partners.

### Making your commitment: individual advice

More and more people are setting up a trust fund. They choose it as a way of handing down their own values – even after death. The funds raised are invested long-term and may only ever be used for the stated purpose of the trust endowment. The Caritas-Stiftung Deutschland (Caritas Foundation Germany) enables the dream of a personally designated trust fund to be realised – by a private individual or by a company. You state the purposes of your trust in writing and give it a name. Your trust will be allocated its own tax reference number. You can set up a

trust under the auspices of the Caritas Foundation Germany for a donation of only 25,000 euros and upwards. It is also possible to increase the trust capital over a five-year period. Please help to bring relief to the world's needy people on a long-term basis! Set up your own trust!

We will gladly advise you as needed.

TRUST FUNDS AND COMPANIES

Contact Ingmar Neumann Tel. +49 (0)761/200-388

### TRUST FUNDS

"Through our trust fund we are providing aid worldwide to people with disabilities"



To see great need and move to help - that is what Waltraud and Gerd Buhrow have taken to heart. They founded the Gerwald Buhrow Trust as a very effective way of furthering the work of Caritas Germany: "Through our Trust Fund we are helping to ensure that people with disabilities will have better prospects even if they live in developing countries." Mr and Mrs Buhrow chose a name for their trust fund, defined its purpose - and placed all the formalities and subsequent management of the fund in the hands of the Caritas Foundation Germany. And with that they have ensured that their trust capital will be devoted to Caritas' international aid work. The interest earned by the Gerwald Buhrow Trust fund will be used by Caritas Germany solely for projects benefiting disabled people. And there are many. In the past year, the international department of Caritas Germany supported 83 projects all over the world run by and with people with disabilities. Overall, the money spent for this purpose amounted to 3.3 million euros. In spite of the huge overall total, trust funds still retain their distinctively personal character. The donors share in the decisions about how the money should be spent. This lifts their support out of the anonymity of donation.

In our prayers we remember all those now deceased who have endowed trust funds, made donations from their income or provided for Caritas Germany in their will.

## Project Expenditure Total expenditures: 52,137,875 euros

### BY TARGET GROUP

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



<sup>1)</sup> e.g. Migration, establishment of Caritas organisations worldwide, etc.

### BY FUNDING SOURCE

The diagram shows the funds allocated to projects in 2011. The amount of aid is not identical to the year's donation income and public grants, because many of the programmes run over several years and are financed successively.

46,71% Private donations	
29,41% German government	
10,35 % Other funding sources <sup>1)</sup>	
4,72 % European Union	
8,81 % Church funds <sup>2)</sup>	

<sup>1)</sup> Funds from Misereor, other Caritas associations etc.; 2) Funds from the Association of German Dioceses as well as from the bishoprics of Freiburg, Cologne and Rottenburg-Stuttgart.

### PUBLIC FUNDING

German government (total)	15,331,603 euros
of which: Federal Ministry for Economic	
Cooperation and Development	13,539,875 euros
of which: Foreign Office	1,791,728 euros
Church funds (total)	
Church funds (total)	4,592,526 euros
of which: Association	4,592,526 euros
of which: Association	<b>4,198,026 euros</b>
of which: Association of German Dioceses	<u> </u>

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

European Union (total)*	2,461,857 euros
Emergency aid Afghanistan	319,629 euros
Emergency aid Burundi	106,287 euros
Emergency aid Colombia	300,468 euros
Emergency aid Ethiopia	847,945 euros
Emergency aid India	179,646 euros
Emergency aid America collectively	y 106,997 euros
Emergency aid Tajikistan	20,084 euros
Emergency aid Europe collectively	4,765 euros
Social projects Afghanistan	141,612 euros
Social projects Brazil	212,617 euros
	EUROPEAID 17,496 euros
Social projects Tajikistan	65,750 euros
Social projects South Africa	138,561 euros

**Project Expenditure** 

## Worldwide Aid

Caritas Germany's commitment in the year 2011 embraced 935 projects in 84 countries. Universal result: the aid reached those in need of it.

15,151,830 euros

### AFRICA

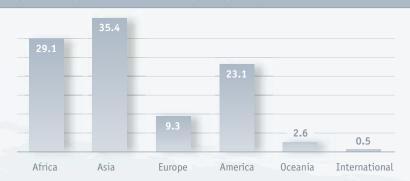
Africa (general) / 6 projects	36,401	euros
Morocco / 2 projects	53,000	euros
Niger / 12 projects	273,944	euros
Mali / 5 projects	433,741	euros
Senegal / 1 project	159,545	euros
Ivory Coast / 1 project	50,000	euros
Togo / 5 projects	52,452	euros
Benin / 3 projects s	137,553	euros
Guinea Bissau / 5 projects	668,283	euros
Sierra Leone / 11 projects	755,288	euros
Liberia / 4 projects	458,513	euros
Libya / 1 project	70,000	euros
Egypt / 12 projects	533,903	euros
Sudan / 11 projects	453,189	euros
Ethiopia / 18 projects	1,829,512	euros
Somalia / 2 projects	590,000	euros
Ruanda / 4 projects	126,151	euros
Uganda / 8 projects	109,000	euros
Kenya / 14 projects	679,634	euros
Tanzania / 17 projects	391,366	euros
Zimbabwe / 3 projects	49,743	euros
Angola / 3 projects	81,840	euros
Mozambique / 5 projects	383,024	euros
Dem. Rep. of Congo / 56 projects	5,118,354	euros
Burundi / 8 projects	802,158	euros
South Africa / 14 projects	855,236	euros

### ASTA

Asia (general) / 10 projects	191,130 euros
Azerbaijan / 1 project	10,120 euros
Bangladesh / 11 projects	807,146 euros
Afghanistan / 23 projects	1,668,741 euros
Iraq / 23 projects	893,355 euros
Israel / 23 projects	1,131,977 euros
Lebanon / 6 projects	198,412 euros
Syria / 4 projects	129,500 euros
Jordan / 7 projects	165,000 euros
Iran / 1 project	5,000 euros
Pakistan / 49 projects	6,370,277 euros
India / 46 projects	2,256,700 euros
Sri Lanka / 23 projects	676,142 euros
Nepal / 5 projects	156,588 euros
Myanmar / 3 projects	209,219 euros
Vietnam / 14 projects	399,641 euros
Cambodia / 14 projects	314,322 euros
Thailand / 5 projects	303,200 euros
Japan / 6 projects	846,913 euros
Korea / 6 projects	685,661 euros
China / 13 projects	714,691 euros
Mongolia/ 1 project	15,000 euros
Tajikistan / 16 projects	314,762 euros
Asia (total) / 310 projects	18,463,497 euros

Africa (total) / 231 projects

### OVERVIEW OF RELATIVE AID WEIGHTING PERCENT



### EUROPE

Europe (total) / 23 projects	118,863 euro
Germany / 6 projects	496,740 euro
Italy / 1 project	163,335 euro
Greece / 1 project	12,500 euro
Poland / 2 projects	75,000 euro
Albania / 5 projects	129,590 euro
Romania / 4 projects	99,733 euro
Bulgaria / 3 projects	33,426 euro
Ukraine / 9 projects	549,989 euro
Russia / 24 projects	1,197,764 euro
Moldavia / 5 projects	36,045 euro
Serbia / 3 projects	226,412 euro:
Montenegro / 5 projects	213,955 euro
Bosnia-Herzegovina / 9 projects	432,614 euro
Czech Republic/ 2 projects	12,540 euro:
Kosovo / 4 projects	150,435 euro
Armenia / 9 projects	398,880 euro
Georgia / 8 projects	285,861 euro
Turkey / 10 projects	209,492 euro

,		
INTERNA	TIONAL	
Internatio	nal / 8 projects	264,947 euros

4,843,174 euros

Europe (total) / 133 projects

#### LATIN AMERICA

Argentina / 4 projects	296,216 euro: 21,800 euro:
	296,216 euro
Chile / 5 projects	
Bolivia / 19 projects	632,707 euro
Brazil / 42 projects	1,187,637 euro
Peru / 10 projects	230,535 euro
Ecuador / 3 projects	20,000 euro
Colombia / 39 projects	2,395,408 euro
Haiti / 21 projects	4,718,299 euro
Cuba / 3 projects	45,988 euro
Panama / 3 projects	94,039 euro
Nicaragua / 7 projects	89,346 euro
El Salvador / 10 projects	431,457 euro
Honduras / 6 projects	66,344 euro
Guatemala / 8 projects	1,010,431 euro
Mexico / 6 projects	266,364 euro
America (general) / 21 projects	553,154 euro

145,000 euros
1,209,706 euros
1,354,706 euros

### Note

The figures in this overview do not tally with the donation receipts and grants total for the year 2011. Reconstruction in Japan following the triple disaster, and similarly aid in East Africa following the **severe drought** will continue for years to come. Funds at Caritas Germany's disposal will accordingly be expended over the long term, with a view to the future. This approach is essential, as responsibly managed disaster aid will necessarily extend to rebuilding social structures and taking steps to improve disaster preparedness.

**Finances** 

## Statement of Account

The aid programmes of Caritas Germany's international department are funded by church and state grants and private and institutional donations.

INCOME	2011	2010
Public and church grants		
German government	16,416,921.95 euros	15,637,026.42 euros
Church funds	5,260,563.52 euros	5,386,618.05 euros
European Union	2,157,373.97 euros	5,213,594.65 euros
Other public and church grants	5,020,794.80 euros	6,517,525.84 euros
Total	28,855,654.24 euros	32,754,764.96 euros
Donations and other charitable contributions		
Project donations	29,488,652.22 euros	46,902,612.53 euros
Trust fund monies and corporate cooperations	2,464,602.94 euros	2,771,935.95 euros
Total	31,953,255.16 euros	49,674,548.48 euros
Legacies and other income		
Proceeds from assets and interest income	2,031,777.22 euros	3,387,992.65 euros
Inheritances, legacies	92,000.22 euros	828,594.44 euros
Other	73,996.33 euros	44,357.55 euros
Total	2,197,773.77 euros	4,260,944.64 euros
Box (1997)		
	63,006,683.17 euros	86,690,258.08 euros

### Notes

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

Other public and church grants: Funds from Misereor, other national Caritas associations etc.; Caritas Germany cooperates closely with the episcopal aid organisation Misereor. The two aid organisations exchange professional expertise, cooperate in programme support and pursue part of their public relations activities on a shared basis. The cooperation also embraces the forwarding of over two million euros annually to Caritas Germany by Misereor. With regard to the programmes that will continue after the disaster aid, both organisations are focusing on the overall situation of people on the ground and thus paving the way for disaster aid to evolve into long-term development.

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

Trust fund monies: Includes grants from media trusts such as the BR "Sternstunden" fund (205,758.09 euros), RTL's "Wir helfen Kindern" (507,922.55 euros) or "Bild hilft – Ein Herz für Kinder" (Bild AID – Have a Heart for Children) (105,000 euros)

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

COSTS	2011	2010
Project expenditures		
Emergency and disaster aid/reconstruction,		
social work for children and adolescents, the elderly,		
the ill and the disabled, other projects		
Project expenditures (total)  Personnel, materials and amortisation	52,137,875.08 euros	47,846,102.28 euros
1. Personnel expenses:		
wages and salaries, social benefits, retirement funds	4,627,225.54 euros	4,460,256.20 euros
(thereof directly allocable to projects)	(3,258,620.18 euros)	(2,941,917.41 euros)
2. Cost of materials:		
project work, educational and PR work, fundraising	3,981,612.66 euros	4,001,045.01 euros
(thereof directly allocable to projects)	(2,188,529.76 euros)	(1,962,720.94 euros)
3. Levies:		
service charges (e.g. data processing)	852,331.80 euros	715,285.51 euros
4. Depreciation/amortisation	174,442.06 euros	156,077.49 euros
Total costs	61,773,487.14 euros	57,178,766.49 euros
RESULT FOR THE DIVISION	1,233,196.03 euros	29,511,491.59 euros

### Notes

**Project expenditures:** Expenditures comprises contributions to more than 940 aid projects.

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

**Result for the Division:** The result shown is withdrawn from the trust funds or paid into them as the case may be. As of 31.12.2011 the funds amounted to 116,808,740.54 euros, against 115,575,544.51 euros in the previous year (see above note on interest income).

## Administration and Advertising Costs

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

diture are not tenable. The DZI deems administrative and advertising costs of below 20% to be reasonable. Administrative and advertising costs of below 10% are regarded as low.

In 2011, the share of advertising and administrative expenditure for Caritas Germany was 6.8%.

	1,100,10110	2.0 %
Total administrative and advertising expenditure	4,188,462.13 euros	6.8%
(of which personnel costs)	(447,087.44 euros)	
Advertising and PR work	2,069,047.66 euros	3.4%
(of which personnel costs)	(921,517.93 euros)	
Administration	2,119,414.47 euros	3.4%
Total project expenditures	57,585,025.02 euros	93.2%
(of which personnel costs)	(144,829.24 euros)	
Statute-compliant campaigns, educational and awareness-raising work	455,785.09 euros	0.7%
(of which personnel costs)	(2,753,177.08 euros)	
Project assistance	3,243,045.62 euros	5.3%
(of which personnel costs)	(360,613.86 euros)	
Project promotion <sup>1)</sup>	53,886,194.31 euros	87.2%

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

### Auditor's Report on the Division Result

Caritas Germany's international department is the relief organisation of the German Caritas Association (DCV). The division statement of results for the donation-relevant international division (Caritas Germany, International Department) is derived from Caritas Germany's Annual Report 2011 audited by PricewaterhouseCoopers AG Auditing Company.<sup>2)</sup>

As an extension of the annual audit we requested our auditors to control the divisional results relevant to donations. The results of the international division were audited as derived from the bookkeeping upon which the annual financial statement is based. Moreover, the annual auditor was asked to check adherence to the "Voluntary Guidelines and Implementation Rules for Non-profit, National and Donation-Collecting Organisations" set up by the DZI (DZI Guidelines) in the version from 15 September 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.

<sup>2)</sup> The 2011 annual and business reports for Caritas Germany are published under www.caritas.de

### PURLISHING DETAILS

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

www.caritas-international.de