



Annual Report 2016

# Our Work Worldwide

Caritas Germany  
International Department





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

Natural disasters are increasing worldwide – not least due to the climate change. As a result of this, Caritas Germany's challenges are increasing as well, for instance during the long drought in East Africa (see page 10) and after the hurricane in Haiti (see page 14). But at the same time the number of wars and civil wars has risen in the last the years. In the course of these conflicts violence has, in countries like Syria, Iraq, Somalia, South Sudan or Yemen (page 6 et seq.), escalated not only between the hostile groups, but more and more against civilians and independent aid workers.

Against the backdrop of this alarming development there is an increasing need to provide humanitarian support quickly, sustainably and effectively. However, the calls for better resources, financially and in terms of staff, for emergency and disaster relief, for the support of refugees and internally displaced persons or for medical support in war stricken zones, have not always been met with an adequate response so far. Quite frequently, the aid funds promised in donor conferences or state visits are paid only partially or not even at all. Thus, again and again there is a lack of money to provide adequate care to the needy in Yemen, in Nigeria, South Sudan and in Syria. The independent study "The Challenge of Humanitarian Aid: Political importance and critical reflection in Germany", published by Caritas Germany and the organizations of "Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe" (Christian Charity Disaster Aid) and "Aerzte ohne Grenzen" (Doctors without Borders) last year, clearly pointed out these and other shortcomings of humanitarian aid.



It is only thanks to our local partners that the International Department of Caritas Germany, the relief organization of the German Caritas Association, is able to help in the crisis regions of our world at all. The staff of our partners' national and regional Caritas organizations is performing extraordinary work especially in the crisis regions of Iraq, Syria, East Africa or the Ukraine. Amid the wars they remain at the side of those who are in utmost emergency. Church organizations and other institutions provide space for refugees and internally displaced people; aid workers organize medical and psychological support as well as food and collect clothes for those who suffer hardship – and they do so without regard to religion or ethnicity. Especially when and where violence is dominating life, the rendering of aid like this, as an expression of Christian charity and God's concern about suffering mankind, is also a signal to the warring parties: Look, living together in peace is possible!

Let us continue supporting these signals of peace and of active help in crisis regions. For your help and support in this, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Prelate Dr Peter Neher  
President of the German Caritas Association

Dr Oliver Müller  
Director of the International Department of Caritas Germany





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# January

**No End of the War in Ukraine:**

1.5 million people are on the run within the country. Caritas Ukraine, supported by Caritas Germany, provides them with relief items and subsidies for accommodation to help them cope with the harsh winter.

**Commitment against the Use of Child soldiers:**

Caritas Germany's involvement has garnered success. For example, 28-year-old Jules, who, as a former forcibly recruited child-soldier, had to commit atrocities, now is the director of a Caritas centre for child soldiers in Congo.

# February



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**"Keys of Hope" – Keys as a Symbol of Hope**

Caritas Germany's new campaign starts at the fifth memorial day of the start of the civil war in Syria, and it does so with great symbolic power: The door-keys represent the desire for a safe home and for a return.

# March



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# July

**Together against Forgotten Disasters:**

This year, the civil-war-stricken countries Somalia and South Sudan are in the focus of the common campaign of Caritas Germany and the organization "Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe"

**Colombia says „Basta“ and hopes for peace:**

After 50 years of civil war finally a peace agreement has been reached. Caritas Germany and the organization of "Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe" accompany the process – with local projects and, in Germany, with the campaign "Basta ya!"

# September



# August

**Again Severe Earthquakes in Italy:**

In August and once more in October Central Italy is struck by severe earthquakes. Caritas Germany supports Caritas Italy on site and appeals for donations.



© Caritas Germany

## April

### Ecuador Shaken by Major Earthquake:

The most severe earthquake since 1979 claims more than 600 lives. Caritas Germany provides food, drinking water and emergency shelter.



## June

### Drought Worsens the Crisis:

Conflicts in Somalia and South Sudan force thousands of people to flee. A severe drought turns the refugee crisis into a hunger crisis which affects also Ethiopia and Kenya and will last for many months.



## May

### Refugees in front of Closed Borders:

With more and more borders being closed, people seeking protection get stuck in Southern Europe and at the Syrian borders. Caritas Germany renders support along the "Balkan route"



## November

### "One Million Stars" - An Anniversary:

For the tenth time Caritas organizes the solidarity-event "One Million Stars" in Germany – this time for the benefit of minor refugees in Morocco.



## October

### Hurricane Rages over Haiti:

One of the poorest countries in the world is struck, after the earthquake of 2010, one more time. Hurricane "Matthew" claims the lives of more than 1.000 people. Caritas Germany provides relief and is involved in reconstruction.



## December

### Support for Traumatized Refugees in Iraq:

A military alliance frees some cities and villages two years after they were conquered by the terror organization "Islamic State". Caritas is active in relief and trauma work for the affected ones.



## Aid up to its Limits

War, violence, destruction and displacement – with the civil war now lasting for already six years, it becomes more and more harder to believe in an end of the conflict. The staff of Caritas Syria and other partners of Caritas Germany reach their limits. But in spite of traumatic experiences and life in permanent fear most of them continue their commitment.

"I will never forget the cries of a little boy," says Claudia Kergi. "His cry was even louder than the whole noise of war around." The boy was shot in the neck while he and his fleeing family were sleeping in a park. At that time all hospitals were overcrowded and it was very difficult to get treatment for the boy, as the Caritas aid-worker from Hasakah in Northeastern Syria reports. She and her team succeeded in organizing an emergency surgery for him. "I am proud that we saved his life," she says.

Experiences with a happy-end like this give hope and strength to the aid workers in Syria. Everyday life,

however, is marked by destruction, distress and, quite often, death. According to the United Nations 250.000 people were killed and about 11.6 Syrians have been on the run since the war started in 2011.

With the experiences of war and violence, the staff of Caritas is taken to its limits. In addition to the permanent danger in the war zones and the distress all around, the feeling of increasing isolation is weighing heavily on them. For there are victims of war in nearly every family and circle of friends; many relatives and friends are on the run.

When Oliver Mueller, head of the International De-



**Destroyed city:**  
Entire quarters are uninhabitable. Thousands of people had to escape the city

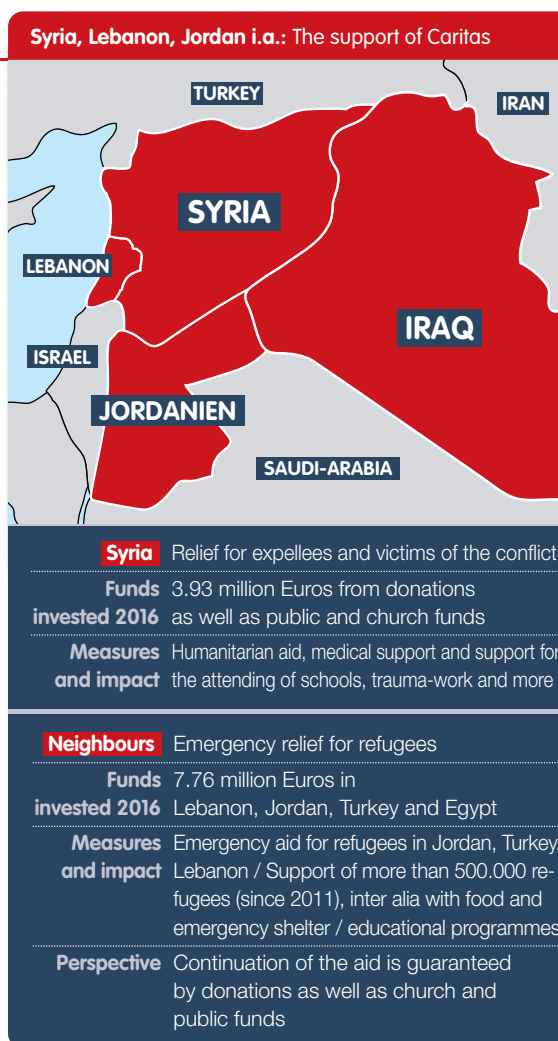
partment of Caritas Germany, gains an impression of Caritas' work in Syria in early 2016, he is impressed by the commitment and stamina of the Syrian partners: "This is admirable and nearly beyond my imagination. The working conditions of the staff members are extremely hard. And yet the aid of Caritas Syria still reaches many thousands of people. The experiences of my trip demonstrated that the Caritas organization on site is well positioned, so we can increase our support. And this is just what the circumstances require."

It is not least due to the donors and to the support especially of the Federal Foreign Office of Germany that this aid could be extended, and that 18 aid projects with a total volume of nearly four million Euros could be carried out. Thus, Caritas Germany was able to provide emergency relief and medical support in different parts of the country and to support internally displaced persons as well as educational projects.

Aid operations in embattled areas, such as the territory in and around the city of Aleppo or the Northern parts of Syria, are the biggest challenge for Caritas Syria's staff. Air strikes alternate with shell bursts, exchanges of fire have become the order of the day. In spite of this tense situation Caritas is, for instance, able to support, in the province of Idlib, close to the Turkish border, 5.000 evacuated people from Eastern Aleppo. Families get access to drinking water, hygiene kits, sanitary facilities and material to improve their accommodation, either the present one or a new one. In addition to these measures, food vouchers are distributed and opportunities of transport and communication are created, so the beneficiaries can keep in touch with their relatives.

Whereas the work in Syria cannot go beyond much more than emergency relief, the partners in the host countries are more and more seeking for perspectives for the Syrian refugees. For they cannot and do not want to wait till the war in their home country comes to an end, and they will be finally able to return. They want to develop a future for their children at least – either in Syria or in exile. Therefore, it's important that their children can go to school.

In addition to actual school education – which, in the case of Syrian children and adolescents, can be interrupted for months and sometimes even years of war and flight –, going to school has some other positive effects, last but not least for their mental stability. They can develop self-confidence and integrate



much better into the society of their host country – a fact that can also contribute to break down prejudices against the refugees.

In Lebanon, Caritas Germany closely cooperates with the local Caritas' department for migrant and refugees. The focus is on social work. The staff is also visiting refugees in their homes – most of them are accommodated in private homes or are sub-tenants – and thus are able to address their specific problems.





Syria / Iraq



**Assistance:** Caritas supplies thousands of people – not only with a warm meal

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They intervene in cases of sexual violence, abuse, exploitation and child labor. They especially consider the needs of disabled persons or of people dependent on care. They make sure that basic supply is guaranteed and that children go to school.

Caritas Jordan's refugee assistance also aims at creating perspectives by education – in addition to emergency relief still needed. Even infants are given the opportunity of pre-school education in six kindergartens. Things like a snack, learning how to read and calculate, paint or make crafts bring back some kind of normality into a life running off the rails in other respects. Furthermore, there are awareness raising courses for women and mothers in issues of health, hygiene, sexual

ity, the risks of early marriage and other issues. The courses help them to develop self-confidence which they have lost in war and flight. Thus, they are enabled again to support their children.

### Peace is possible

Considering all the possibilities of humanitarian aid to relieve the distress of people living in and refugees coming from Syria: Peace can only be achieved by political means. Therefore, Caritas is active in various ways to help putting an end to war. For example, Caritas Internationalis, Caritas' worldwide umbrella organization based in Rome, initiated a campaign called "Peace is possible" in 2016. In a video message on July 5th, Pope Francis supported this campaign and called for finding a political solution for the conflict which "cannot be solved by military means".

It was already back in the International Syria Donors Conference in London in March 2016 that Caritas Germany, along with 100 civil society organizations from different countries, in a position paper called all social forces to action, in order to stop the suffering in Syria. And Caritas Germany is addressing the general public with a special appeal for peace: the campaign "Keys of Hope" (see also page 27) uses the keys of refugees' homes as a symbol of their hope to return into their homes someday.

**Alone in the war:** Aid-workers from Caritas found these four children, their father is missing and the mother is in prison



Disaster Aid Escape and Expulsion

© Caritas Germany



# Back into Mined Nothingness

With the reconquest of the Iraqi cities of Mosul, Fallujah and Ramadi thousands of people were freed from the violence of the “Islamic State”. Caritas Iraq supports the refugees traumatized by the fights, expulsion and experiences of violence

**M**ore and more places and cities, which were occupied by the terror militia of the so called “Islamic State” (IS) for more than two years, were reconquered by the military offensive of the Iraqi army, Kurdish groups and foreign air forces. However, this entailed intense fighting. Many people suffered multiple traumas – from the fights, the flight and from torture and IS-terror.

After an assistance intervention, Caritas Iraq’s director Nabil Nissan expressed his dismay about the humanitarian situation: “People are marked by the war. Their faces are lifeless, children fearfully cling to their parents. The desperation is tangible. Each sort of aid, each sign of solidarity is received with great gratitude.” In addition to primary care Caritas Iraq also renders psychosocial care – especially for women and children. Educational and recreational activities, awareness raising in issues such as hygiene, nourishment, health and how to deal with violence shall help people to cope much better with what they experienced and with their current situation.

Still it is too early to consider a new start. “To return to Fallujah means to return into some mined nothingness,” says Angela Gaertner, Caritas Germany’s desk officer in charge of Iraq. “The IS has lar-

gely destroyed the infrastructure and the dwellings.”

After the end of war there will be a lot of work ahead to make sure that people in Fallujah, Mosul and in other liberated cities can live again: the clearance of minefields, reconstruction and – probably the most difficult task – the restoring of trust between the different population groups: Shiites, Sunnites, Christians, Yazidis, Kurds and many other minorities, and the strengthening of their common identity as Iraqis. Caritas Iraq will make an important contribution and lead the way with its long-term experience in inter-faith social work and humanitarian aid.

**Iraq** Protection of internally displaced persons

**Funds invested 2016** 2.26 million Euros, from donations and funds of the German Federal Foreign Office

**Measures and impact** Emergency relief, psychosocial care and other measures reached about 45.500 affected people

**Perspective** Continuation of aid for displaced people and returnees with funds from the German Federal Foreign Office as well as donations and church funds

**Hope of a return:**  
Caritas Iraq’s educational projects bring some normality and perspectives into the lives of children



## “Ensuring Survival, Improving Structures”



**Waiting for water:** The shepherds and their cattle sometimes have long marches to walk to the few wells and detention basins

Extraordinarily long periods of droughts and civil wars in South Sudan and Somalia are the reasons for hunger and distress in the Horn of Africa.

**M**illions of people suffer from a famine triggered by the drought in large parts of East Africa. Already back in January 2016, Caritas Germany warned of the consequences of sustained drought and could avoid the worst by comprehensive disaster prevention.

It is mid-November 2016. In North Kenya it is hot and dry. Many camels and cattle gather round the well at El Besso. There are also some donkeys, loaded with yellow water containers. And, of course, the men and women to whom they belong. Iya Qoto walked 40 kilometres just to reach the waterhole. She does so twice a week, along with her two donkeys, to get water for herself, her family and cattle. She has seven kids, aged from two months to 18 years. The family owns 60 goats and sheep, five cows and three ca-

mels. Yet their livestock is in danger – they already lost 15 goats due to the drought.

“The pastures are far away from the water and not much grass is left there,” Iya Qoto explains. “The animals don’t get enough to eat and drink, the weakest ones cannot survive.” But people are also directly affected by the lack of water: The school their children attend had to close because there is no more water. “The shallow wells in our area have nearly run dry,” she says. “That’s why I have to walk all this long way to the water.”

In the course of the year the situation at the Horn of Africa escalated. A sustaining drought made millions of people dependent on food aid till spring 2016. Caritas Germany, the relief organization of the German Caritas Association, also provided food and water to people in need. In some areas the raining



## East Africa: Aid in areas of drought and civil wars



season was totally missing in early summer, or there was but little rainfall. In other areas, especially in parts of Ethiopia, there was such heavy rainfall that 200.000 people lost their homes due to floods caused. The dry soil could not absorb the huge volumes of water; in many places the soil remained just as dry as it was before the rain. Moreover, there were a lot of farmers who could not till their fields because they had used up all their savings for food during last year's drought, and now had no more money to buy seeds. And, what's more, in South Sudan and Somalia the ongoing civil wars forced many people to flee. Two million refugees from Somalia and three million refugees and internally displaced people from South Sudan are in urgent need of support. Since there are many farmers among the refugees, their fields remain uncultivated, exacerbating the food shortage. At the turn of the year 2016/2017 the situation grew so dramatically that the United Nations warned of a threatening hunger crisis.

In northern Kenya, in Ethiopia, in South Sudan and Somalia Caritas Germany has been doing emergency relief work for months: The staff on site is distributing water and food and is also providing medical aid. Volker Gerdesmeier, Caritas Germany's desk officer in charge of Africa, describes the situation: "It is the goal of all our aid projects in the famine areas to safeguard lives by emergency relief on a short-term basis and, at the same time, by minimizing such hunger crises by structural adjustments – for instance by creating access to enhanced seeds and generating new sources of income, or by running water management more efficiently."

The latter case has been the focus of the work of Caritas Germany and its partners for years. For example, in the village of Illadhu in the region of Marsabit in northern Kenya, Caritas' partner-organization PACIDA (Pasoralist Community Initiative & Development Assistance) is building a dam in order to store about 23.000 cubic metres of water. During the raining season, surface water is being collected in the water retention basin. The water reserves gathered this way can supply 3.000 people and about 11.000 cows during a dry season of three months. Considering the extent of the drought in East Africa this seems to be only a drop in the ocean. But it is vital for those who are specifically affected. ■

### East Africa: Emergency Relief, Transitional Aid

**Funds invested 2016** Ethiopia: 1.59 million Euro  
Eritrea: 173.000 Euro  
Kenya: 1.64 million Euro  
Somalia 350.000 Euro  
South Sudan: 1.29 million Euro

**Measures and Impact** Ethiopia: Emergency relief and disaster prevention; 449.000 people were reached till June 2017; Eritrea: Projects for drinking water and disaster prevention; Kenya: Emergency relief by provision of water and food; disaster prevention projects; 185.000 people were reached till June 2017; Somalia: Improvement of access to water; emergency relief, construction of water basins; 72.000 people were reached till June 2017; South Sudan: Refugee aid and emergency relief for victims of droughts; programmes for food safety; agricultural support by provision of seeds and construction of irrigation systems; psychosocial care for victims of war

**Perspective** Continuation of support is possible by donations of well over 5.2 million Euros (as of June 2017) as well as by church funds and public funds



**Support in the refugee camp Juba in South Sudan:** The sisters of the congregation "Daughters of Mary" (DMI) distribute, supported by Caritas, food and hygiene items to the needy, carry out education programmes and offer medical consultations

## “Combining Proven Concepts with Innovation”

Whether refugees who escaped from the wars in Syria, South Sudan or the Ukraine or people who are affected by droughts, floods or other effects of climate change – the number of people in need of help has significantly risen during the last years. Gernot Ritthaler, coordinator of Caritas Germany’s disaster relief, explains in this interview what kind of new challenges humanitarian aid is facing and how to handle them.

*The study “The challenge of humanitarian aid” identified that humanitarian aid is of increasing societal importance. What does this mean for aid organizations like Caritas Germany?*

**Gernot Ritthaler:** First of all it is important that there is awareness and acceptance of the growing demand for humanitarian aid. We have taken notice of this development for some years, e.g. in a clear strategy of the German Federal Foreign Office to make more financial means available for humanitarian aid. The aid organizations – and ultimately the needy – benefit from these funds.

*Why do politicians and the society attach greater importance on humanitarian aid than they did some years ago?*

**Ritthaler:** Well, the distress of people in Syria or in other crisis regions is obvious. Furthermore, more and more refugees made their way to Europe. Whoever has to deal with the affected people directly, perceives the situation in their home countries with much more empathy. Our citizens expect Germany to develop more commitment in crisis regions – however, not in military but in humanitarian terms.



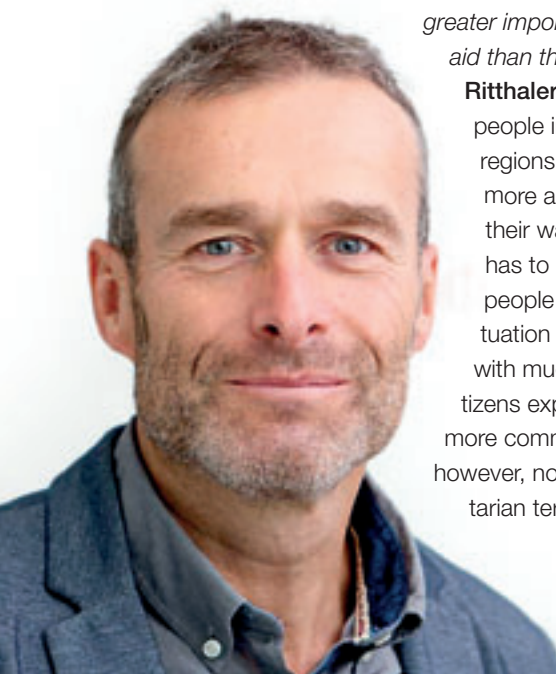
**Humanitarian Aid** – as provided here in the refugee camp in South Sudan – aims at ensuring survival, relieve suffering and empowering the affected people to take control of their own lives again. At best, the phase of sustainable reconstruction or rehabilitation merges with projects of development cooperation pursuing long-term goals.

*More and more this commitment is being discussed quite controversially – just think of Afghanistan. At the same time, the study mentioned before recognises that “critical reflection of humanitarian aid” is poorly developed in Germany. A contradiction?*

**Ritthaler:** Only partly. When there is a debate about a foreign mission of the Bundeswehr (the German armed forces – translator’s note) this does not mean that humanitarian aid is in question. However, difficulties arise when humanitarian aid accompanying foreign deployments of the German Armed Forces is being alienated as an instrument of politics. This is jeopardizing the neutrality of aid. Issues like that should be reflected more critically, and this is also what the study claims.

*Is there a more distinct discussion about humanitarian aid in other countries?*

**Ritthaler:** In Germany the discussions are mainly focussed on concrete ways to help in acute cases of emergency. Accordingly, most German aid organizations are quite good in realizing projects. In Great Britain background topics of humanitarian aid are more widely discussed in society, not only when pictures of disasters or crises are visible on TV. For instance, the







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newspaper “The Guardian” publishes a regular column on issues of humanitarian aid.

*In May 2016, the first World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) was held in the city of Istanbul. Is this also an expression of the growing importance of humanitarian aid?*

**Ritthaler:** Sure. It is an expression of the fact that the demand has increased and that the framework conditions have become more difficult and complex. Although the total aid rendered by the global community has increased for years, it is not sufficient to meet the demands. The number of crises caused by civil wars and military conflicts has risen to an extreme extent. Aid can only be supplied where there is safe access. This, however, is the business of politics. The humanitarian principles of impartiality, independence and neutrality can only be applied when politicians create the adequate framework conditions.

*As a result of climate change there is an increase of weather extremes. What does this mean with regard to humanitarian aid?*

**Ritthaler:** Already now, projects dealing with adjustments to climate change are playing an important role for Caritas Germany. Sophisticated water management can mitigate the consequences of droughts and floods.

We have also, compared to the situation some years ago, made progress in the development of early warning- and evacuation plans and we, together with our partners, want to reach even more. But it is crucial that the means needed are sufficiently available, and that climate protection is being pushed in order to limit the number and extent of climate-related disasters. This, again, is the business of politicians.

*What kind of new developments and requirements do you see in the field of humanitarian aid?*

**Ritthaler:** Disaster prevention should increase in significance, and it will. In the wake of disasters and during acute crises it's all about applying new technical possibilities, making aid better and more efficient. Cash-transfer, for instance, can be such a tool, provided that the local markets work. The issue of localization steps more and more into the focus of the debate on humanitarian issues. What matters is the key role of local organizations and of the affected people themselves in coping with disasters. In this field, Caritas with its worldwide network has a pioneering role for humanitarian aid in general.

*What changes should Caritas Germany make?*

**Ritthaler:** Basically, these developments are a confirmation of our working methods. We are well under way, having accompanied our project work with high quality standards for years. Evaluations help us to continually improve our work. The point is to learn from mistakes. In this way we continuously refine our working method – hence combining proven concepts with innovation and retaining sound judgement for the feasible. ■

## Humanitarian Aid Put to the Test - A Study Raises Questions

The study “The Challenge of Humanitarian Aid” by author Martin Quack was published by Caritas Germany, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and Doctors Without Borders. It addresses the political significance, the principles and the requirements of humanitarian aid and raises critical questions on its independence and neutrality in crises and conflicts.





# Rescued thanks to Preparedness

The most severe hurricane since 50 years hit, of all places, Haiti, which still is suffering from the impact of the earthquake, the most.

**O**n October 4th 2016, hurricane “Matthew” caused heavy damage in the south-west regions of Haiti. More than 1.000 people died; about 2.1 million were directly affected. “Matthew” hit a country which up to now has not recovered from the major earthquake 2010.

When hurricane “Matthew” swept across the south-western parts of Haiti, Mireille Lima and her daughter Chloé remained in one of the cyclone-resistant shelters which the local Caritas Nippes had built, with the support of Caritas Germany, after the earthquake of 2010. The quake-proof shelters resisted also the hurricane. Together with 700 other persons from the area, who were seeking shelter from the storm, mother and daughter Lima survived the disaster which, according to official in-

formation, claimed the lives of more than 1.000 people.

The building is designed to accommodate a large number of people and consists of a big hall, a storage room for food as well as sanitary facilities. “There would have been many more victims without this shelter”, says Jean Renel, Caritas Nippes’ project coordinator. That’s proof for him, and for Caritas in general, that they had applied the right approach to improve disaster prevention in Haiti. According to the Climate Risk Index (CRI) which is annually published by the organization Germanwatch, the Caribbean state is, next to Honduras and Myanmar, the country most affected by extreme weather conditions such as hurricanes and torrential rain. And Haiti is located at the faults of two tectonic plates – that makes it an area highly vulnerable to earthquakes.

Even weeks after the hurricane still 150



#### Trails of destruction:

The hurricane “Matthew” killed more than 1.000 people. It destroyed houses, streets and fields. Reconstruction will last for years.

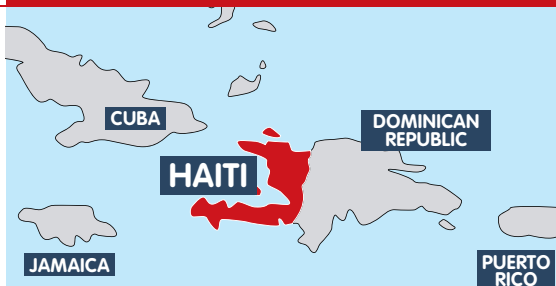


people live in the shelter; one of them is Claudine Filoxain, 31, who temporarily found accommodation here together with her seven-year-old son. "I came here already on the first day when the hurricane struck. After the storm we went back to our house. But there was nothing left, it was simply gone, completely, even the soil, the whole estate – everything just had been swept into the sea," she says, and just manages to keep her countenance.

The fate of Claudine Filoxain makes one thing clear: After having rescued lives, it's all about safeguarding survival. More than 57.000 families, according to Haiti's disaster control authorities, are affected by storm damages in the département of Nippes. Here alone 22.6000 houses were destroyed completely, many more aren't habitable any longer. The damages to agriculture are also severe. In some areas 80 percent of the harvest were destroyed. So the people here suffer food insecurity.

Therefore, first of all, food, drinking water, hygiene kits, tools and material to reconstruct houses are provided. Caritas Germany supported more than 18.000 persons after the disaster in the especially affected départements of Nippes, Grand-Anse, Sud, Sud Est, Ouest and North-Ouest; partly with seeds, partly with construction material. Once the clean-up work is accomplished, the relief teams, along with the affected people, start with the reconstruction. It is of utmost significance that there has been a close cooperation with Caritas Nippes since 2010. Thus, cash-for-work-programmes could be realized quickly, whereby people were involved in the humanitarian work and received a salary in return, and this enabled them to buy the essentials for themselves and their families.

### Haiti: After the hurricane "Matthew"



**Haiti** Emergency aid, transitional aid

**Funds invested 2016** About 730.000 Euros from church budgetary funds and donations

**Partners** Caritas Nippes, Caritas Haiti; Fondation Bethesda/Jacmel

**Measures and impact** 200 families in the district of Les Orangers/Jacmel were provided with food and seeds and could repair their houses. In the département of Nippes, 3.000 families got access to drinking water, 84 houses were repaired. In the area of Nippes, about 80 agricultural fields were restored.

**Perspective** Church funds and donations make the continuation of aid efforts possible.

In order to ensure self-supply for the affected people, Caritas staff distributes seeds for fast growing vegetables and gives skilled assistance for their cultivation. Water pipes are repaired; water purification tablets are distributed and hygiene courses are held to curb epidemics and diseases. Reconstruction is accompanied by disaster prevention, because disasters in Haiti can also be expected in the future. That's why Caritas Germany continues the construction of stable shelters and dwellings which can resist earthquakes and storms. For there is one thing that the experiences gained with "Matthew" proved: Disaster prevention can save many lives. ■

#### The house that rescued lives:

Hundreds of people found refuge in shelters which were built by Caritas after the earthquake of 2010





Entire streets of houses were destroyed by the earthquake. Caritas Ecuador wants a more quake-proof reconstruction

## The quake surprised people in their sleep

An earthquake in Ecuador claimed hundreds of victims and caused severe damage. Caritas Ecuador, in conjunction with the international Caritas network, provided emergency relief and helps with reconstruction

**T**he quake that hit Ecuador in the late evening of April 16th and which registered 7.8 on the Richter scale, led to damages even in the capital of Quito, 170 kilometres away from the epicentre. It was the most severe earthquake since 1979 and claimed, according to government sources, the lives of 670 people.

Late in the evening the walls began to shake, and whoever was able to react in time fled onto the street. But numerous collapsing houses buried the inhabitants beneath them. "The earthquake hit people in Ecuador totally unprepared. Most of them were at home at that time," Caritas Ecuador's president Walter Heras reports right after the quake. More than 670 people lost their lives with the quake and nearly 6300 were injured. Numerous aftershocks scared the affected ones for weeks, the damage to the infrastructure was enormous. The two provinces of Esmeralda and Manabi were most severely affected. Shortly after the quake Caritas Ecuador took action and asked for the support of the international Caritas network. Caritas' staff distributed food and drinking

water and provided emergency shelter. Solidarity was huge within the country. For example, the diocese of Guayaquil quickly sent 40 tons of food to the earthquake area; parishes in Quito, Riobamba, Azogues and Mendez collected donations of money and in kind.

Caritas Germany supports, on a medium-term basis, psychosocial care, food security, quake-proof reconstruction of dwellings as well as livelihood security, especially for families with infants, pregnant women and elderly and disabled people. Disaster prevention is further expanded with evacuation plans in schools and in communities, for the area is regarded as highly earthquake-prone. ■

**Ecuador:** Relief and reconstruction

**Funds invested:** 106.000 Euros, thereof 50.000 from own resources and 50.000 from the Episcopal Ordinariate of Cologne

**Mesures and Impact:** Relief, psychosocial care and disaster prevention. Number of beneficiaries: 3.365



**Especially** in the months during winter there is big distress in Ukraine. In 2016, Caritas again rendered winter aid

## The Long Wait for Peace

In spite of long negotiations and repeated ceasefire agreements the fights in eastern Ukraine are still going on. Caritas renders support in the east and in the west of the militarized zone.

**F**or three years eastern Ukraine has remained embattled. Nearly 10.000 people lost their lives since the war started. The civilian population lives in permanent danger.

Refugees, internally displaced persons and many inhabitants in eastern Ukraine depend on support to make a living. According to a study by Caritas Ukraine from early 2016, their expenses for vital goods are four times higher than their income. "The longer the conflict lasts, food, clothes and even school attendance of their children are becoming more and more unaffordable for the victims of the war. They are in existential distress. And this even in the middle of Europe," says Oliver Mueller, head of the International Department of Caritas Germany. As a result of the fights between pro-Russian separatists and the Ukrainian army, 2.7 million people already were forced to leave their homes.

The focus of Caritas Germany is on support for both groups: on the one hand for internally displaced people and refugees, who found refuge within and outside of the Ukraine, and on the other hand for the inhabitants of the buffer zone, bordering the combat zone, which is

affected by the fightings again and again. The measures of assistance range from financial support to school projects, medical and psychosocial help, in wintertime also clothes and heating material. Since the fights started in 2014, Caritas Ukraine has provided relief items, money and counselling to more than 380.000 people.

On Russian territory Caritas Germany cooperates with the diocesan Caritas of Saratov which, then again, exchanges information about its work with Caritas Ukraine. Refugees in Russia receive financial support for food, shoes and medicaments as well as psychosocial care and legal advice. ■

**Ukraine:** Relief and refugee aid

**Funds invested:** Ukraine: about 1,5 million Euros from the Federal Foreign Office, 550.000 Euros from the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), 440.000 Euros from donations.  
Russia: 150.000 Euros

**Measures and Impact:** Aid by cash card system; aid for families; psychosocial care and more

# An Affair of the Heart

A visit to a Caritas centre in Athens proves how, way beyond xenophobia and partitioning, co-existence between refugees and hosts can grow.

**S**ince the Balkan route closed its borders, thousands of refugees got stuck in the Europe's south-eastern countries. Many of them live in poor conditions in refugee camps. Yet there is some welcoming culture: a Caritas centre in Athens opens the gate to the "new world".

When Elena Sofia Fanciulli and Elias Abood tell their story, this sounds like a romance novel: "It is as if we had come from two different worlds to meet in the middle." The middle of this true story is the Caritas centre Neos Kosmos ("New World") in a district in Athens of the same name. 50 refugees from Syria, Afghanistan and other countries have found refuge there. Each family has a small apartment, there is a big shared kitchen and a garden, and school education is also offered there. Elena Sofia Fanciulli, aged 24, from Italy joined Caritas Greece as a volunteer. Elias Abood from Syria, one year older than Elena, fled to Greece via Turkey in a dinghy. "Before the war started I studied and worked in the city of Damascus. But I don't want to kill neither do I want to die," he says. He applied for asylum in Athens and was accommodated in Neos Kosmos. There he made use of his English language skills and began to translate for his compatriots.

Meanwhile the two of them are employed by Caritas. "I live in peace and I have a job. I am aware that I am luckier than thousands of other refugees or even Greeks." So it's an affair of the heart for Elias to give something back. Elena also says: "This is not a job for me, it is my way of life." She is in charge of selecting and coordinating the volun-



**Overcoming obstacles:** In the Caritas centre Neos Kosmos refugees are taught more than just a language.

teers who are working in Neos Kosmos. Moreover, she organizes everyday life of the residents and teaches the children. Elias supports the people as interpreter and cultural mediator: "I try to help them to overcome language barriers. But it's also about translating emotions and explaining cultural differences, for instance when dealing with Muslim women. I also translate for pupils during their lessons."

Elias and Elena exemplify the special way of co-existence and this is transferred to all residents in the refugee home. So there is a positive mood, in spite of the many cases of terrible personal fates the refugees experienced. Recently a baby was born in Neos Kosmos. It's a girl and for her mother there was only one particular name that came into question: Elena. ■



**Welcoming culture of a peculiar way:** Solidarity and inter-cultural dialogue is being practised in the Caritas centre "Neos Kosmos". Elena Fanciulli and Elias Abood even found the love of their lives there

**Greece:** Refugee Aid

**Funds invested:** 1.87 million Euros, inter alia from funds of the German Federal Foreign Office

**Measures and Impact:** Support of social centres; psychological care; soup kitchens; medical aid



# Peace – More than a Treaty

After the signing of the peace treaty between the government and rebels now it's all about its realization. Caritas Colombia accompanies and supports the peace process.

**I**n order to create and keep sustainable peace, the reasons for violence and injustice have to be targeted. That's why Caritas Colombia puts great emphasis, in addition to humanitarian aid, on peace building in the communities, and on legal support for the internally displaced people to enable land restitution and compensation.

Colombia is a rich country: gold and nickel, crude oil and natural gas are extracted, palm oil, sugar cane, fruits, flowers and vegetables are planted and exported. But it's mainly international companies and big landowners who benefit from the richness of resources, whereas small-scale farmers and indigenous minorities are lacking land for their self-supply.

True, the conflict about land use is not the only reason for the civil war, in which various guerilla groups were fighting against the army and paramilitary forces for well over 50 years, and in which drug gangs and other criminal parties were – and partly still are – involved. However, all parties involved agree that there will be no sustainable peace in Colombia if there is no solution in the conflict about land. For many other problems are closely related to the land issue: the problems of drug cultivation, of illegal mining and, last but not least, of expulsion. 6.9. million people had to leave their homes during the long years of war; only in Syria the number of internally displaced persons is even higher.

Though the peace contract between the biggest guerilla group of the country, the FARC (Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia), and the government of Colombia, signed in September 2016, as well as the start of negotiations with the second rebel group FLN is giving hope to the



**A way full of obstacles:**  
The peace process has to tackle the poorest ones

displaced people – hope of returning home and of getting their land back -, the conflicts are not settled with the contract. “The path to peace passes through the Comunidades, the communities affected by the armed conflict,” says Héctor Fabio Henao Gaviria, director of Caritas Colombia and member of the National Peace Council. It's all about “strengthening the capacity of entering into a dialogue with groups who were regarded as enemies up to now.”

Therefore, Caritas Colombia is in favour of community work and education in peace policy and it mediates between the conflict parties. It provides, for instance, psycho-social care for victims of landmines. And it supports expelled people and other victims of the conflict with the construction of latrines, water filters and the cultivation of community gardens. For the best basis of peace and justice is the strengthening of those who were affected. ■

**Colombia:** Aid for displaced people and peace work

**Funds invested:** 3.5 million Euro, inter alia from funds by the German Federal Foreign Office, the Federal Ministry for Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO)

**Measures and Impact:** Relief and reconstruction support; peace work

**“He who wants peace has to enter into a dialogue also with his previous enemies”**

Monseñor Héctor Fabio Henao Gaviria, director of Caritas Colombia and member of the National Peace Council, regards the peace contract as a milestone. Now the actual peace process should start.



# Tapping Sources of Life

In 2016, Caritas Germany conducted 622 projects in 78 countries overall. The concerns for sufficient water supply is worrying many project partners all over the world.

Caritas Germany's working focus of water issues is intended, inter alia, to exchange experience across national borders and to continually improve expertise in this field of work. Therefore, partners in three continents are conducting studies on the subject of water, with the results being planned for publication in autumn 2017. Climate change, the overuse of water supplies by industrialized agriculture and the pollution of waters are contributing to

a dangerous scarcity of global water supplies. These developments are life-threatening for the people affected. There is a lack of drinking water as well as a lack of water for agriculture, livestock farming and for basic requirements for hygiene and health. The projects described in the studies are exemplary demonstrations of sustainable handling of water as practised by Caritas Germany and its partners.



Sierra Leone

© Hannes Stegemann

## Helping to Prevent Ebola by Better Hygiene

More than 11.000 people died of Ebola in West Africa in 2014 and 2015. In order to prevent new outbreaks of Ebola and to improve the living conditions of the affected population, Caritas Germany conducted aid projects in several countries. For example, in the area of Koidu in Sierra Leone 450 community representatives were trained to communicate issues related to hygiene and water consumption at schools and in community centres. Furthermore, 1000 affected farmers received seeds and tools for a new start.

In 2015 and 2016, the Ordinariate of Cologne provided **250.000 Euro** in total for this project.



Pakistan

© Eoghán Rice/Trocaire

## Precautions against Droughts and Floods

Pakistan is a country of extreme weather conditions: While the people in the Tharparkar district in Sindh often suffer from long droughts, large areas of fertile soil in Baluchistan have been destroyed by floods. In a multi-annual project, Caritas Germany and its local partners are developing water management systems in both areas in order to achieve lasting improvement of the situation – by building wells and water retention basins, by planting trees and by comprehensive education and school programs.

The German Federal Foreign Office is funding **1.35 million Euros** till 2019, another **135.000 Euros** are funded by donations.



## Philippines

### Solid Houses against Storms and Floods

In 2014, the place Balangiga in the southeast of the island of Samar was hit by Haiyan particularly hard: All houses and buildings in the village, as well as all fishing boats, were destroyed by the typhoon and the ensuing flood. Caritas Germany built 147 solid and stormproof houses; the construction work was partly carried out by the beneficiaries themselves. The project, during which a completely new place emerged, was successfully concluded on the third anniversary on November 8th 2016.

Funded by Caritas Germany with some **950.000 Euros**, thereof **150.000 Euros** by Caritas Poland



© Daniel Apolinarski

## Peru

### Protection of Soil and Water

Gold mining in the Peruvian region of Madre de Dios led to the destruction of rainforest and – by use of mercury – to the poisoning of water and soil. Thus, small-scale farmers and indigenous families lose their livelihood and are increasingly affected by floods. A project in cooperation with Caritas Madre de Dios is aimed at countering this development and using 225 hectares of land for agroforestry, i.e. farming protected by trees. More than 1.400 people in 14 settlements are involved.

In 2016, the project in Madre de Dios was funded with **84.000 Euros** by funds from the episcopal welfare relief organization of Misereor.



© Caritas Germany



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## Mali

### Damming, Redirecting and Irrigating

Four micro dams for irrigation control, twelve reservoirs and one bulk storage for agricultural products, water lines and pumps: In the diocese of San in West-African Mali, a water management system to adapt to climate change is being developed in “cash-for-work”-projects. The measures are complemented by reforestation and the cultivation of vegetable gardens which are supposed to contribute to people’s food security. Expertise in agriculture and environmental protection is shared by trainings and the establishment of committees.

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is funding the project from 2016 till 2021 with **1.5 million Euros**.

## Assistance in a Life Far Away from Home

More and more people leave their homes – as refugees or searching for better living conditions. Many Caritas projects assist them in their lives in a foreign place.

People who had to leave their homes due to war, suppression or economic hardship, receive support and protection from Caritas Germany and its partners. Whereas their legal classification is unambiguous and has severe consequences on their residential status -asylum, tolerance or refoulement -, reality is much more complex. For there are several reasons why people leave hearth and home, friends and relatives: poverty, a lack of perspectives, war and conflicts, but also the prospects of finding work, education opportunities and new perspectives to live in a foreign country. Caritas Germany's project work meets the different needs of this various issues. In acute emergency relief the focus, first of all, is on providing food and emergency shelter for war fugitives and -expellees. After the end of wars, support for the returnees and psychosocial care are at the core of aid measures. But what is crucial in all projects is to take sides with the people affected.



Congo

© Caritas Germany

### Support for Expellees, Returnees and Hosts

In the eastern parts of the Democratic Republic of Congo different rebel groups have been leading a bloody civil war about resources and power; hundreds of thousands fled from the embattled areas. Caritas Germany supports internally displaced people, returnees and host families in the Territoire de Masisi in North Kivu. Its local partner, Caritas Goma, assists them in establishing agricultural self supply and in the building of schools, a health centre, bridges and roads.

The German Federal Foreign Office is supporting the project from 2016 till 2018 with **3 Millionen Euros** in total.



Sri Lanka

© Caritas Germany

### The Emotional Scars of War

True, civil war in Sri Lanka was put to an end in 2009 and many war expellees returned to their homes. But still reconstruction stagnates and new violence, especially domestic violence, is widespread because social structures are destroyed, trauma are not overcome and emotional scars, distrust and fear are deeply rooted. Therefore, the congregation of the Oblates established a centre for psychosocial care which reaches more than 3.3000 children and adolescents with their families as well as schools and children homes every year.

In 2015/16, psychosocial care was supported by Caritas Germany with **40.000 Euros** by funds from the Episcopal Ordinariate of Rottenburg-Stuttgart



© Philipp Spatek



Serbia

## Help and Advice behind Closed Borders

Since the borders of the so called “Balkan route” are closed, the number of refugees reaching Europe has reduced. Yet many people are stuck – alone in Serbia at least 7.000 refugees and migrants. They can neither legally pursue their way farther into Europe nor can they go back to their home countries where civil war is raging. The staff of Caritas Serbia is giving them advice and support; every day volunteers visit the camps, organize volleyball- and football-tournaments or give children the opportunities to play. Since many refugees do not receive any support by the state of Serbia, Caritas is providing food and psychosocial care for them.

In 2016, **1.36 million Euros** were available for project work in Serbia.



Morocco

© Hannes Stegemann

## Life in Transit – Sometimes For Good

Actually Morocco is regarded only as transit country for African migrants and refugees on their way to Europe. But since it has become increasingly difficult to cross the borders, more and more of them stay for good. The Caritas aid-centres for migrants in Rabat, Tangier, Casablanca and Meknés have become important points of contact for them. The staff defends the rights of migrants, is providing legal advice as well as medical and psychological care. And it helps those who want to stay to find a flat and a job.

In 2016, Caritas Germany supported the aid projects in Morocco with **460.000 Euros**.

Mali

## Return and Reconciliation

They had to remain in refugee camps for months or found some private refuge: Internally displaced persons and refugees who managed to escape from violence in Mali in 2012, and fled crossing the borders of Algeria, Burkina Faso or Mauritania. The aid organization of ENDA – a long standing partner of Caritas Germany for years – is doing reconciliation work between the former warring parties, supports children who became victims of war, and helps returning families resuming their work in agriculture or crafts.

From 2014-17, the programme is being supported by the German Federal Foreign Office and Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development with **2.0 million Euros**.

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# Partners who Know their Way Around

In its project work, Caritas Germany consequently rests on the competence of its local partners. This makes it a pioneer in the matter of “localization”

It is stipulated in the guidelines of the International Department of Caritas Germany that the relief organization of the German Caritas Association respects and supports self-reliance and competence of local partners. The local partners, first of all, are the staff of the respective Caritas organization, either on diocesan, regional or national level, but also of other church-based and non-denominational institutions. What has always been standard as a partner prin-

ciple within Caritas, is now being discovered by other humanitarian organizations as an innovation under the name of “localization.” Just as a few examples we are going to introduce here some partners doing excellent work: In Georgia and other Eastern European countries Caritas became pioneer in home care. In young societies in Africa and the Middle East some Caritas organizations focussed on – partly inclusive – educational work.



Kenya

© Bente Stachowski

## A Congregation Shows Ways out of Poverty

Anyone who grows up in the poorest districts of Nairobi, e.g. in the slum of Kibera, normally hardly has any job perspective. Most of the adolescents muddle through as street vendors or casual workers. The Watoto-Wa-Lwanga-School, run by the congregation of the “Brothers of St. Charles Lwanga”, is going to change that: It teaches primary school children and trains adolescents to become electricians, car mechanics, tailors, waiters or cooks. In addition to their school lessons and trainings, the children and adolescents receive support from social workers.

From 2015 till 2018, Caritas Germany is supporting the pre-school and primary school project with **145.000 Euros**.



Georgia

© Amelie Tautor

## Caritas – Pioneer in Home Care

Whether old people, acutely or chronically ill persons or disabled ones – , whoever is dependent on care in Georgia, can hardly hope of support from the state. Caritas Georgia tries to fill this gap and is also fighting for social responsibility of the state on a political level. Caritas’ staff look after some 700 people who depend on care, 300 relatives doing home care are being trained, and 1.200 pupils attending vocational school are taught methods of home care.

Supported by the German Federal Foreign Office and Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with **225.000 Euros**.



## Egypt

## Regional Caritas Expertise

The innovative Caritas-Institute of SETI (Support Education Training for Inclusion) which has built up a reputation far beyond its project locations in Cairo, Alexandria, Fayoum and Upper Egypt, is dealing with all issues relating to the field of mental disability. In addition to direct support for children with disabilities and their families, SETI has also developed special concepts for inclusion which are being applied in whole Egypt and in neighbouring countries.

From 2016 till 2018, the pilot project "Inclusive Egypt" is being supported with **1.110.000 Euros** by the German Federal Foreign Office and Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).

© Ayman Tawadros



## Indonesia

## Medical Help and Social Acceptance

"To be accepted within the community is a fundamental factor for the well-being of those affected by HIV/Aids," says Ligik Triyogo (on the left in the photo), director of the Indonesian partner of Caritas Germany. Therefore, the staff is involved not only in providing medical care and advice to the affected. It is also mediating between the affected and the communities in order to overcome prejudices and enable social co-existence. 3.200 co-supporters from the communities are involved in the project.

In 2016, the German Federal Foreign Office and Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) supported the project with **238.000 Euros**.



© Holger Vieth



## Tanzania

© Caritas Germany

## New Standards in Educational Work

By means of early support even small children can develop their own abilities. However, especially in the case of poor families, the busy parents hardly find the time required. Without kindergartens supporting the linguistic and motor skills of the children, their potential would remain unused in many cases. Caritas Germany, along with the dioceses of Arusha and Same, is giving vocational and advanced training to educators; furthermore many kindergartens were built and renovated. Since 1998 more than 47.000 children were supported in kindergartens.

From 2016 till 2018, Caritas Germany is supporting the pre-school programme with **615.000 Euro** from its own resources.



© Caritas Germany

## Refugee Aid in the Working Focus of the Universal Church

The diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart supports numerous international Caritas projects. Canon Staeps visited one of them in North Iraq.

Since 2014 the diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart has supported the refugee aid of Caritas Germany and its Iraqi partners. Heinz Detlef Staeps, Canon in charge of the Universal Church's collaboration, gained an insight into the work on site during a trip to North Iraq. "Many international aid organizations are active in Iraq and make sure that people in need feel that they are not forgotten, that they can survive and live in dignity," writes Staeps, "but hardly anywhere else this works as well as it does in Erbil, where Christianity still is strong, taking its uncompromising focus towards the neighbour in need really serious." The focus of the Universal Church's collaboration of the diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart is on refugee aid. In 2016, it supported 13 of Caritas Germany's projects with a total volume of 2.34 million Euros. In addition to the aid for refugees from Syria and Iraq the diocese supported, inter alia, Caritas projects in East Congo where Caritas Goma supports the re-integration of former child soldiers, in Mali and South Sudan where it supports internally displaced people and reconciliation processes, or in the Ukraine where the conflict forced hundreds of thousands to flee. Since the Diocesan Council provided more financial resources, the diocese will, according to Canon Staeps, continue its commitment. ■

## Conversations Started at the Catholics Day

Sigmar Gabriel visited Caritas Germany's Colombia-exhibition "Basta Ya!"

When Heiner Koch, former bishop of Dresden-Meissen, brought the 100th Catholics day to the city of Leipzig – an Eastern German diaspora where Catholics are a minority of three or four percent – , he did so in order to "start conversations with the people." The anniversary meeting of German Catholics, which took place from May 25th till 2h 2016 under the motto "Behold, the man", inspired conversations on stages and podiums.

Being the relief organization of the German Caritas Association, the International Department of Caritas Germany presented itself on the One-World-Stage



© Caritas Germany

and, in addition to this, held the touring exhibition "Basta Ya!", a co-production with the organization of "Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe", supported by the German Federal Foreign Office which draws attention to the consequences of 50 years of civil war in Colombia. During his visit to the exhibition at the Catholics Day also Sigmar Gabriel, then State Economic Minister, got into a conversation – here with the head of the International Department of Caritas Germany, Oliver Mueller, and the head of its Department for Public Relations, Michael Bruecker. Content-related, this was some taste of his later assignment: Meanwhile Gabriel is Foreign Minister. ■





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## The Key as a Symbol of Hope

With its campaign “**Keys of Hope**” Caritas Germany draws attention to the war in Syria and the fates of refugees.

**M**any millions of people from Syria leave everything behind – their families, their friends, their homes. As they travel, they are accompanied by fear and insecurity, but also by dreams and hopes. Hope, for example, of being able to return to Syria someday. But there is one thing that is always with them during their flight: their own door key – maybe out of habit, maybe as a memory of a time gone and of some property left behind, maybe also out of desire to open the door to their own homes one day again. The British reportage-photographer Bradley Secker captured this mute companions in a series of photographs called “Syrian Nakbar” and documented them as the refugees’ symbols of hope. Caritas Germany, the relief organization of the German Caritas Association, took up this issue with its campaign “Keys of Hope”. In interviews – conducted in a refugee shelter in Hamburg and a transit centre in Sid at the Serbian-Croatian border – Syrian refugees tell their stories. These interviews can be seen as video-clips on [keys-of-hope.org](http://keys-of-hope.org). Meanwhile the online-campaign is complemented by an exhibition showing portraits of people with their keys, their personal stories and background on the war in Syria.

## “Keeping People in Ukraine in Mind”

The President of the German Caritas Association, **Peter Neher**, visited aid projects in Ukraine – and recognized more humanitarian needs

**W**hen Caritas-President Peter Neher travelled to Ukraine in late August 2016, he gained an impression of desolation and hopelessness: “The whole situation is depressing and for many people marked by a great lack of perspectives. We visited a social centre in Dnipro in which Caritas Ukraine is doing trauma work, especially for children, adolescents and families because the traumatic experiences of people are soul-shaking.”

The five-day trip took him, accompanied by Andrij Waskowycz, President of Caritas Ukraine (in picture,



© Roman Maliko

left) and Claudio Moser, head of the Caritas Germany’s Europe Department (in picture, right), among other places to a refugee camp and into the country’s buffer zone.

As the internally displaced persons of the Ukraine are still hoping for a future in their own country, in spite of the dreary general situation, humanitarian aid in the conflict area as well as aid for the internally displaced is of great importance, says Peter Neher. “To me it is important,” Neher said, “to raise awareness to keep Ukraine in mind. We urgently need further help for the people affected, but also progress in a political solution of the conflict.”



© Caritas Germany

## “We Feel Obligated to Help”

The **Archdiocese of Freiburg** and Caritas Germany are having an intensive exchange and cooperation -not only in the field of refugee aid

On the occasion of the 30th anniversary “30 years of partnership of the Archdiocese of Freiburg and the Peruvian Church”, Archbishop Pedro Barreto, accompanied by a delegation, was guest in the city of Freiburg – and, along with Archbishop Stephan Burger (in picture, right) also paid a visit to the German Caritas Association with its International Department. 41 parishes within the Archdiocese of Freiburg are having 140 partnerships with various Peruvian dioceses. In 2016, Caritas Germany carried out nine projects in Peru with a volume of more than half a million Euros. Correspondingly big was the interest in a content-related exchange with Archbishop Pedro Barreto as well as the exchange among one another.

Exchange and cooperation between the Archdiocese of Freiburg and Caritas Germany are quite as intensive as far as aid for Syria is concerned: A 2.8 million Euro donation by the Archdiocese enabled Caritas Germany to carry out several emergency projects. “More than six million Syrians are on the run in their own country. We feel obliged to help those people – even when their destinies, after five years of bloody conflicts, are no longer a topic of the daily news,” explains Archbishop Stephan Burger. In total, the Archdiocese of Freiburg provided the funding of four million Euros for Caritas Germany’s refugee aid in Syria, Iraq and Jordan since the start of the conflict.

## A Gainful Encounter

Exchange of expertise between Caritas staff from **Morocco and Germany** on working with minors

Actually they work in Caritas Morocco’s migrant centre in Rabat: Jorge Dominguez, Fairouz Idbihi, Fanny Curet and Monica Pedraza Sanchez, who is head of the institution. 30 fully employed and voluntarily working staff take care of 3.500 migrants there, among them approximately 200 unaccompanied minors. After a professional visit of German colleagues in May, the four Moroccan social workers paid a return visit to institutions in Germany.



© Caritas Germany

“Every day I have to deal with severely traumatized adolescents, but I am the only psychologist in our team,” says Fairouz Idbihi. “In an institution of Muenster I have learned that every single social worker is being trained for dealing with the trauma of adolescents. Now I want to try the same in Rabat.” The visitors also took some ideas of language training and educational work back home. And the certainty that Caritas as a worldwide movement for people in need is confronted with similar challenges, irrespective of borders – and that an exchanging of expertise is fruitful for all parties involved.





© Caritas Germany

## War, Violence and Distress – and yet Hope

The head of the International Department of Caritas Germany visited partners in **Syria** and was impressed by their devoted commitment

The year of 2016 began for Oliver Mueller, head of the International Department of Caritas Germany, and Christoph Klitsch-Ott, his deputy and head of the Department for Middle East, with a trip to Syria that was depressing and impressing alike. “The day we left for Beirut,” Mueller reported after his return, “I heard some press commentaries on a German radio station and someone said: If there’s a name for hell on earth, then it is Syria.” This sentence touched me in a way, for it demonizes the country incredibly. I think it’s wrong to put it that way because there is no more hope where there is hell. And this, despite everything, is not the case in Syria. A huge number of people are still struggling for a peaceful end of the conflict.”

In spite of everyday violence, great dangers to life and limb and the nearly desperate situation in the midst of war, having brought death and destruction for six years, Caritas Syria and other partners are rendering comprehensive humanitarian aid in many parts of the country. Thanks to their commitment Caritas Germany is able to realize aid projects in Damascus, Hama, Homs, Deur ez-Zor, Tartous, Latakia, Idlib and in the province of al-Jaziré. For the visitors as well as for all of Caritas Germany’s staff this is a big motivation to intensify their help efforts. ■

## Countering Oblivion of the Crises in East Africa

In a joint campaign Caritas Germany and the organization of “Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe” put the focus on **South Sudan** and **Somalia**.

For years Caritas Germany and the organization of “Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe” have brought crises and disasters, which otherwise are hardly noticed, to the fore of public debate with their joint campaign “Oblivion is the biggest disaster”. On the occasion of South Sudan’s fifth independence day on July 8th 2016, the two church-based aid organizations warned that we should not forget the critical situation of people in that country and in Somalia. “In view of the plight in both countries it is a shame how little international aid is made available for these crises,” they an-



© Christof Krackhardt

nounced in a common statement. The campaign demonstrated the distress in both countries with posters, advertisements, events and other measures. According to the UN, 4.8. million of people are threatened by hunger, in Somalia 4.7 million depend on humanitarian aid. The help of the two church-based aid organizations and their partners reaches some 670.000 people in South Sudan and Somalia. The fact that this help today is more needed than ever is evidence for the ongoing hunger crisis in both of these countries. ■

# Choosing Life!

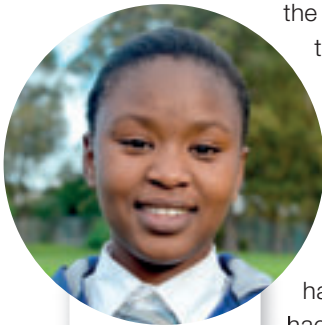
Anyone who grows up in the townships of Cape Town hardly has any perspective at all. Poverty and unemployment are widespread above average. Exceedingly few succeed in obtaining a good school-leaving qualification. The chances of escaping from this vicious circle are small.

**M**argarete van den Veen knew exactly about the living conditions in the townships of Cape Town. And she wanted to change something about it: She considered Caritas Germany in her will and stipulated that her heritage should be spent for the benefit of children and adolescents of the townships of Cape Town.

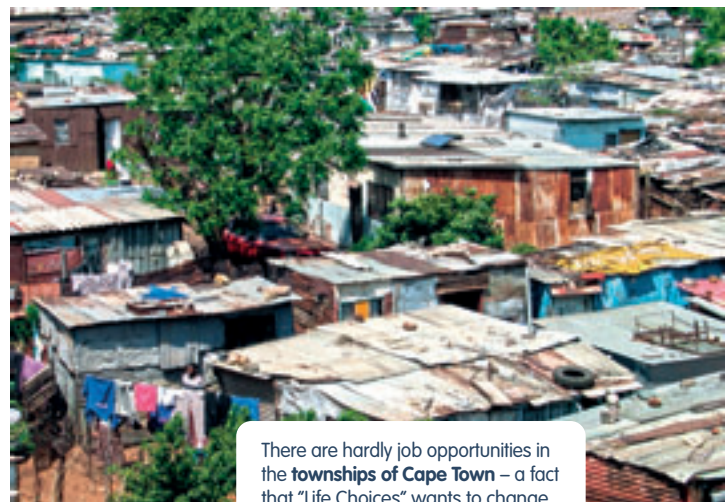
This last will was a turning point in the life of Siphosible Xaki. "I used to be quite shy and had difficulties at school. There was no place left for me to learn without being disturbed. My father was very ill and my mother had to work to make us survive. I often had to take care of my father and could not go to school," confesses 17-year-old Siphosible Xaki. But the young woman knew: Only a good school-leaving qualification would be the only chance to create a better future for herself and her family.

When the young mentors of "Life Choices" from her school talked about their promotion programme, Siphosible knew: This is my chance. She made an application and was allowed to join the promotion programme which is financed from Margarete van den Veen's heritage. Recently Siphosible Xaki won the second prize, awarded by a jury, in a competition with her presentation on ground water and thus it was made sure that she received a scholarship for studies in water management.

The thing that helped her at this turning point in her life, was "Life Choices", one of our partners in South Africa striving for the goal that young people in the slums should learn to make a difference in their lives. The aid organization supports the parents in shaping their family life and education well. On Saturdays, teachers revise with the children and adolescents what they have learned during the week – and, first and foremost, convey self-confidence.



Thanks to a supporting programme of Caritas **Siphosible Xaki** is able to finish school



There are hardly job opportunities in the townships of Cape Town – a fact that "Life Choices" wants to change

In collaboration with companies, permanent employments for the young people are arranged. And, most of all, "Life Choices" is training, in a multilevel course programme, young people in leadership. For South Africa is in need of confident adolescents who fight for a better life and are willing to take responsibility – for their own lives as well as for other people.

Siphosible Xaki's development is best proof that a testament or legacy has an effect beyond death and creates a better life for people who need our support.

## Maybe you also think about

leaving part of your legacy for a good purpose. In our brochure "Bewahren, was wichtig ist" ("Preserve what is important") we assembled the most important information concerning the issue of testament. We will gladly send you the brochure for free.

*Birgit Winterhalter*  
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Phone: **+49-(0)761/200-319**  
E-mail [birgit.winterhalter@caritas.de](mailto:birgit.winterhalter@caritas.de)





# Why we send you letters

Again and again donors use to ask us why they keep getting mail from Caritas Germany several times a year. Some do so out of curiosity, some because they are critical of the dispatching of letters for reasons of ecology or costs. That is why we explain the sense and use of our letters.

**H**ow can donors remain in touch with their organization? Maybe this question comes as a bit of a surprise, since after all letters and magazines periodically reach their home addresses. Taken out of the mailbox, directly opened and giving insight into our work, now the letter lies on the table. Why did we send just this very letter? What did it cost? Are the paper and the shipping environmentally friendly? Are donations expected? Couldn't we do without letters? Couldn't we handle all this by email? We are repeatedly confronted with questions like this. We would like to answer them here for all of our readers.



## A place of meeting

The table, where the opened letter lies, is a place of meeting and a place of decision, for without this letter there would have been no reason to think about Caritas Germany's projects. It's a place of decision because without this letter there wouldn't be sufficient donations to help people. Five times a year we use to send letters, four times a year a magazine, in order to help hundreds of thousands of people. We receive nearly half of our available donations as a response to our communication sent by post.

## A sheet of paper ensures survival

Whether child soldiers in Congo, the desperate situation of people in Syria or the drought in East Africa – all over the world we are at the sides of the weakest ones and provide humanitarian aid. A letter is nothing else but the attempt of communicating the situation on site as realistic and precise as possible. It's only a few sheets of paper. Yet, if it succeeds in raising awareness of the concerns described, it can ensure survival of many people in need. By the way, the type of paper has been selected responsibly: For years we have put faith in recycled paper with the Blue Angel certificate, the paper of the highest ecological standard. And a letter costs less than expected. Sixty cents will do to keep in touch.

## Anyone wanting to help is invited

In case we would try to save these sixty cents, our work wouldn't be very promising. We would have to close several of our projects due to a lack of funding. As a matter of fact we don't expect donors to respond to every letter with donations. It is an offer of either bigger or smaller relevance to each individual donor. Whoever wants to help is cordially invited. Whoever doesn't, can help some other time. There are others who prefer digital communication and we gladly comply with this request. The number of donors whose email-addresses are available to us is quite modest. Some others donate, irrespective of calls for donations, at certain times during the year or on special occasions. And then there are the regular supporters who gave us a direct debit authorization for regular donations. With all the variety of requests and ways of donating, the good old letter is a communication tool indispensable for the time being. We keep in touch: until the next time in your mailbox!

Jörg Schaper,  
Desk Officer  
Fundraising



# Creative for the Benefit of the **Needy!**

Whether by music, cocktails, the selling of Christmas trees or clothes or by many other activities which cannot be mentioned here due to lack of space: Also in the past year communities, clubs, institutions and initiatives found various ways to promote the work of Caritas Germany and collect donations. In the name of those who benefit from that support we would like to say thanks!



## Christmas Trees for Haiti Aid

The St. Joseph-House in the city of Dieburg is a youth welfare institution supporting adolescents – including young refugees – in their school education, with language courses or by helping them to find vocational training opportunities. The institution's department of gardening and landscaping sells Christmas trees from the region every year for social purposes. This year, 2.000 Euros could be raised for Caritas Germany's Haiti aid.

## Cocktails in the Canteen

During the European Soccer Championship students of the community of the Catholic University Freiburg organized, together with the canteen of the German Caritas Association, a zippy fundraising event: Every Tuesday during playing time they sold cocktails and organized a raffle. Thus, they raised 858.79 Euros for the benefit of Caritas Germany's project work in Colombia.



## Christmas Celebration in Syria

On December 19th, Caritas Germany called for donations for a Christmas celebration for Syrian children. After a few hours the fundraising goal of 10.000 Euros was reached. By means of these donations and the commitment of local aid workers 550 children were able not only to watch the stage play "The Birth of Peace", but also received parcels with food, clothes and little Christmas surprises.





## Classical Accompaniment for "One Million Stars"

Under the motto "Making the world sound better" the SAP symphony orchestra performed selected works like the Serenata notturna or the Oboe Concerto by Mozart on November 12th in St.-Bonifatius-Church in Heidelberg. In collaboration with the Philipp Neri community and the city-district-club of West-Heidelberg e.V., the Caritas association of Heidelberg invited to the listening experience. The concert was part of Caritas Germany's nationwide solidarity event "One Million Stars" and took up the subject of this year's Caritas campaign with its focus on more commitment to justice between and inside of the generations.

The organizers appealed for support of the work of Caritas Germany and its partner organization Caritas Morocco, which is supporting and counselling unaccompanied minors and migrants in Morocco. The concert-goers donated 605.09 Euros in total, which the organizers transferred to Caritas Germany.



In case you would like to announce a fundraising event or get some information about a special project or about formal things like, for instance, donation receipts, the members of our donor relations team will always be there for you and find answers to your questions. Don't hesitate to give them a ring or get in touch with them by email.

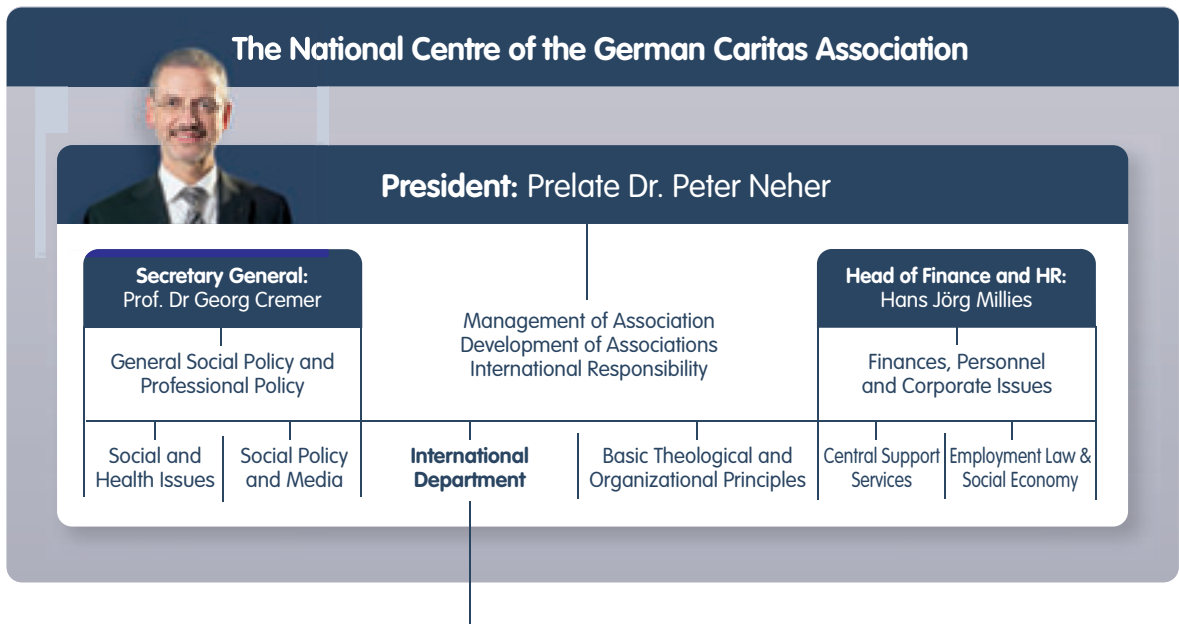
*Karin Anderer, Katrin Zeh, Cosima Reichert,  
Martina Stephan and Nicole Leistler-Neuhof*  
Phone: +49-(0)761-200-288  
E-mail: [spenderbetreuung@caritas.de](mailto:spenderbetreuung@caritas.de)

## Double Aid from a Refugee Initiative

The clothing-store "St. Martins Mantel" ("St. Martin's Coat") in Nassau collects clothes, dishes, toys, bed linens and household goods for the benefit of families in need – not only asylum applicants. The store is part of the ecumenical refugee initiative of the city of Nassau which supports refugees with language courses, counselling on asylum and accompaniment in their dealing with authorities. Since the initiative is working voluntarily and its infrastructure is being co-financed by the Guenter-Leifheit-Foundation and the city of Nassau, the initiative transferred a four-digit-amount from donations collected to Caritas Germany's aid for Syria.



## The German Caritas Association with its relief organization, The International Department of Caritas Germany



### Composition and structure of Caritas Germany

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

### Director of the International Department: Dr Oliver Müller

<b>Department Middle East and North Africa</b> Director: Christoph Klitsch-Ott	<b>Department Africa</b> Director: Volker Gerdemesmeier	<b>Department Europe and Latin America</b> Director: Claudio Moser	<b>Department Asia</b> Director: Julia Gietmann	<b>Department Quality Management &amp; Auditing</b> Director: Philippe Artner	<b>Department Disaster Aid Coordination</b> Director: Dr Oliver Müller	<b>Department Public Relations</b> Director: Michael Brücker
The four regionally defined departments and the local partners plan, organise and implement projects in the areas of disaster aid and social work. During 2016, Caritas Germany delivered a total of 622 projects in 78 countries.				Develops fundamental principles of sustainable aid and evaluates them critically.	Organizes immediate-response disaster aid and develops methodology.	Raises awareness, motivates aid-giving, publicises the concerns of the poorest

The information given on pages 34 und 35 refers to the reporting period of 2016



## The Supervisory Bodies of the German Caritas Association

### 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 organizations and societies	2 representatives from religious orders	5 local level representatives	1 chairperson of the Finance Commission
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elects the **Secretary General, the Head of Finance and HR, 7 members of the Finance Commission and 7 members of the Staff Committee**

### Members of the Caritas Council

Prelate **Dr Peter Neher**, President of the DCV, Chairman; Brother **Peter Berg**, General Director and CEO, Barmherzige Brüder Trier; **Dr Matthias Berger**, Finance Commission Chairman; **Stephan Buttgereit**, Secretary General of SKM – Catholic Association for Social Services in Germany – Federal Association e.V.; **Prof. Dr Georg Cremer**, Secretary General, DCV; **Heinz Dargel**, Managing Director, CV Dekanat Bremen-Nord e.V.; **Gaby Hagmans**, Vice President of the DCV e.V.; **Dr Hanno Heil**, Chairman, VKAD e.V.; **Dr Frank Johannes Hensel**, Director, DiCV Cologne e.V.; **Regina Hertlein**, CEO CV Mannheim e.V.; **Renate Jachmann-Willmer**, National Managing Director SKF e.V.; **Heinz-Josef Janßen**, National Director Kreuzbund e.V.; **Heinz-Josef Kessmann**, Vice-President of the DCV; **Prof. Dr Ulrike Kostka**, Director DiCV Berlin e.V.; **Dr Wolfgang Kues**, Director, DiCV Passau e.V.; **Dr Birgit Kugel**, Director DiCV Trier e.V.; **Stefan Leister**, Member of

Board of Directors, BVKe; **Hans-Georg Liegener**, Managing Director, CV Krefeld e.V.; Prelate **Hans Lindenberg**, Director, DiCV Munich and Freising e.V.; **Franz Loth**, Director, DiCV Osnabrück e.V.; **Johannes Magin**, Chairman CBP e.V.; **Dr Hejo Manderscheid**, Director, DiCV Limburg e.V.; Sister **M. Hildegard Mels**, General Economist Congregation of Franciscan Sisters; **Oliver Merkelbach**, Director, DiCV Rottenburg-Stuttgart; **Matthias Mitzscherlich**, Director, DiCV Dresden-Meißen e.V.; **Gerhard Öhlein**, Director, DiCV Bamberg e.V.; **Andreas Rölle**, Managing Director, CV Zwickau e.V.; **Burkard Schröders**, Director, DiCV Aachen e.V.; **Dr Irme Stetter-Karp**, Vice President, DCV e.V.;

Consultant Members: **Katrin Gerdsmeyer**, Head of the Berlin Office, DCV e.V.; **Hans Jörg Millies**, Head of Finance and HR, DCV e.V.; Prelate **Bernhard Piendl**, Director of Main Representation of the DCV e.V. in Munich

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

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

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

DiCV: Diocesan Caritas Association; LCV: Federal State Caritas Association; DV: Assembly of Delegates; DOK: German Conference of Superiors of Religious Orders

# Worldwide Aid

Caritas Germany's commitment in the year 2016 embraced 622 projects in 78 countries. Universal result: **the aid reached those in need of it.**

## AFRICA

Africa (general) / 3 projects	19.313,99 Euros
Egypt / 8 projects	611.694,75 Euros
Ethiopia / 20 projects	1.781.254,52 Euros
Benin / 2 projects	224.245,62 Euros
Burundi / 2 projects	268.602,11 Euros
Eritrea / 2 projects	173.000,00 Euros
Guinea-Bissau / 3 projects	338.726,41 Euros
Kenya / 21 projects	1.846.484,50 Euros
Dem. Rep. Congo / 21 projects	5.317.165,28 Euros
Liberia / 4 projects	352.192,98 Euros
Mali / 6 projects	1.159.480,15 Euros
Morocco / 3 projects	495.925,00 Euros
Mozambique / 6 projects	352.846,45 Euros
Niger / 1 projects	135.756,68 Euros
Senegal / 3 projects	702.143,29 Euros
Sierra Leone / 9 projects	452.633,32 Euros
Somalia / 2 projects	350.000,00 Euros
Sudan / 2 projects	1.399.672,50 Euros
South Africa / 5 projects	450.947,38 Euros
South Sudan / 14 projects	1.285.782,07 Euros
Tanzania / 12 projects	513.536,85 Euros
Togo / 1 projects	30.000,00 Euros
Uganda / 4 projects	600.163,86 Euros

**Africa total / 154 Projects 18.861.567,55 Euros**

## ASIA AND OCEANIA

Asia (general) / 6 projects	62.486,38 Euros
Afghanistan / 12 projects	2.518.741,64 Euros
Bangladesh / 7 projects	506.557,16 Euros
China / 6 projects	238.303,42 Euros
India / 35 projects	1.480.733,36 Euros
Indonesia / 17 projects	748.821,56 Euros
Japan / 2 projects	128.665,81 Euros
Cambodia / 8 projects	463.812,96 Euros
Kyrgyzstan / 1 project	18.120,00 Euros
Mongolia / 1 projects	31.500,00 Euros
Myanmar / 1 project	100.000,00 Euros
Nepal / 21 projects	938.533,23 Euros
North Korea / 4 projects	598.260,57 Euros
Pakistan / 15 projects	745.346,45 Euros
Philippines / 18 projects	2.038.616,73 Euros
Sri Lanka / 5 projects	165.739,55 Euros
Tajikistan / 9 projects	233.954,73 Euros
Thailand / 3 projects	102.070,00 Euros
Vietnam / 10 projects	401.619,33 Euros

**Asia and Oceania total  
181 projects 11.521.882,88 Euros**

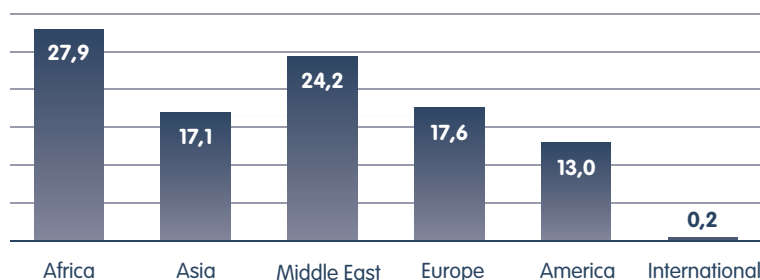
## NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST

Iraq / 18 Irak / 18 projects	4.137.567,26 Euros
Israel and Palestine / 15 projects	1.453.404,76 Euros
Jordan / 14 projects	4.572.399,92 Euros
Lebanon / 13 projects	2.274.154,07 Euros
Syria / 19 projects	3.930.954,32 Euros

**Near and Middle East total  
79 Projects 16.368.480,33 Euros**



## RELATIVE AID WEIGHTING IN PERCENT



## EUROPE

EEuropa (general) / 7 projects	267.767,29 Euros
Albania / 5	339.574,98 Euros
Armenia / 5 projects	360.341,85 Euros
Bosnia-Herzegovina / 1 projects	6.359,16 Euros
Germany / 14 projects	2.081.782,51 Euros
Georgia / 6 projects	331.333,31 Euros
Greece / 7 projects	1.875.572,41 Euros
Italy / 2 projects	27.654,00 Euros
Kosovo / 1 projects	62.822,08 Euros
Croatia / 3 projects	48.429,87 Euros
Macedonia / 1 projects	30.000,00 Euros
Montenegro / 3 projects	25.000,00 Euros
Poland / 1 projects	28.000,00 Euros
Russia / 11 projects	720.097,21 Euros
Serbia / 1 projects	1.360.676,87 Euros
Slovenia / 1 projects	18.550,00 Euros
Turkey / 3 projects	301.000,00 Euros
Ukraine / 16 projects	3.984.868,82 Euros

**Europe total / 88 Projects 11.869.830,36 Euros**

## LATIN AMERICA

America (general) / 9 projects	218.754,91 Euros
Argentina / 1 projects	25.000,00 Euros
Bolivia / 8 projects	1.179.507,82 Euros
Brazil / 23 projects	1.195.929,07 Euros
Chile / 6 projects	177.788,01 Euros
Ecuador / 4 projects	170.000,00 Euros
El Salvador / 7 projects	440.123,32 Euros
Guatemala / 5 projects	342.637,57 Euros
Haiti / 9 projects	730.371,65 Euros
Honduras / 1 projects	20.000,00 Euros
Colombia / 21 projects	3.509.589,25 Euros
Cuba / 3 projects	105.924,00 Euros
Mexico / 2 projects	68.000,00 Euros
Nicaragua / 1 projects	7.327,16 Euros
Paraguay / 1 projects	25.000,00 Euros
Peru / 9 projects	507.358,60 Euros
Venezuela / 1 projects	21.100,00 Euros

**America total / 111 Projects 8.744.411,36 Euros**

## INTERNATIONAL

**International / 9 Projects 127.549,71 Euros**

## Note

1. The figures in this overview do not tally completely with the donation receipts and grants total for the year 2016. For there are many projects with a time-frame over several years which are being financed gradually. Reconstruction following disasters, such as the one after the earthquake in Nepal 2015, will often continue for years to come. Funds at Caritas Germany's disposal will accordingly be expended over the long term, with a view to the future. This approach is essential, as responsibly managed disaster aid will necessarily extend to rebuilding social structures and taking steps to improve disaster preparedness.

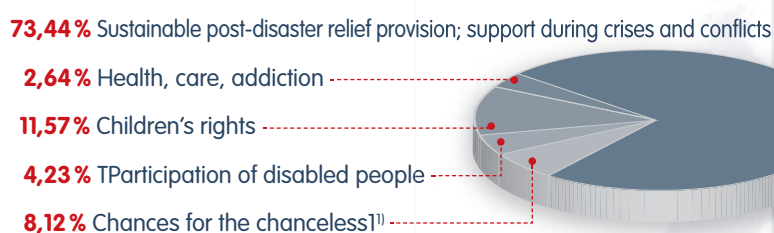
2. The projects listed in the category "International" comprise especially projects of the international Caritas network (Caritas Internationalis) as well as member fees for this worldwide Caritas-network and for Caritas Europe. Cross-border projects within one continent are being summarized in the respective categories as "general" ("Africa general", "Asia general" etc.)

# Project Expenditure

Total expenditure: **67.493.722,19 Euros**

## BY TARGET GROUP S

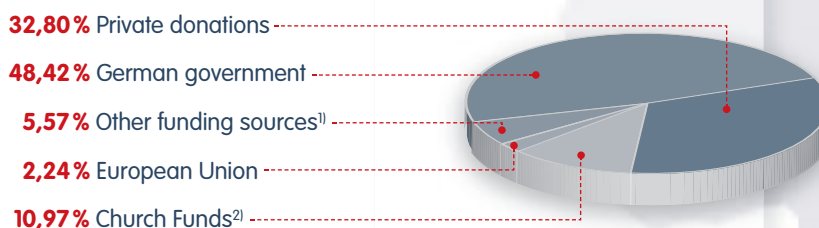
The categorisation in this overview is intended for general guidance only. Many social projects are designed with more than one target group in mind, for instance where aid is intended for disabled children or for victims of an earthquake.



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

## BY FUNDING SOURCE

The diagram shows the funds allocated to projects in 2016. The amount of aid is not identical with the year's donation income and public grants, because many of the programmes run over several years and are financed successively.



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

## PUBLIC FUNDING

<b>German government total</b>	<b>32.677.295 Euros</b>
thereof: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	13.382.684 Euros
thereof: Federal Foreign Office	19.294.611 Euros

<b>Church Funds total</b>	<b>7.403.610 Euros</b>
thereof: Association of German Dioceses	3.012.193 Euros
of which: Dioceses of Freiburg, Cologne, Rottenburg-Stuttgart	4.391.417 Euros

<b>European Union total*</b>	<b>1.512.521 Euros</b>
Emergency aid Afghanistan	631 Euros
Emergency aid Colombia	435.165 Euros
Emergency aid Ethiopia	453.028 Euros

Social projects Afghanistan	621.490 Euros
Social projects Tajikistan	2.207 Euros

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



# Administrative and Advertising Costs

Administrative and advertising costs are all those expenses which, in view of their content, cannot be directly allocated to the tax-deductible purposes stated in the Association Statutes. According to the DZI (German Central Institute for Social Affairs), administrative and advertising costs exceeding 30% of total expendi-

ture 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 2016, the share of administrative and advertising costs for Caritas Germany was 7.96 percent.**

## ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS CALCULATION PURSUANT TO DZI GUIDELINES

Project promotion <sup>1)</sup>	68.775.370,59 Euros	86,26 %
(thereof personnel costs)	(340.752,78 Euros)	
Project assistance	3.966.871,12 Euros	4,98 %
(of which personnel costs)	(3.467.461,68 Euros)	
Statute-compliant campaigns, educational and awareness-raising work	638.496,96 Euros	0,8 %
(of which personnel costs)	(296.096,18 Euros)	
<b>Total project expenditure</b>	<b>73.380.738,67 Euros</b>	<b>92,04 %</b>
Administration	2.256.155,56 Euros	2,83 %
(thereof personnel costs)	(1.108.678,50 Euros)	
Advertising and PR work	4.087.841,20 Euros	5,13 %
(of which personnel costs)	(809.078,31 Euros)	
<b>Total administrative and advertising</b>	<b>6.343.996,76 Euros</b>	<b>7,96 %</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>	<b>79.724.735,43 Euros</b>	<b>100 %</b>

<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

The International Department of Caritas Germany is the relief organization 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 2016. The annual accounts and situation report were audited by Ebner & Stolz GmbH & Co. KG auditing company based in Stuttgart.<sup>2)</sup>

The auditing company has given an unrestricted audit certificate and established that after its examination no objections need to be raised, that the situation report conveys a true picture of the status of the association and that potential opportunities and risks are accurately assessed. On the basis of the tasks of the German Caritas Association e.V., proper preparation of the annual accounts and of the situation report in accordance with the provisions of the German Commercial Code (HGB) were examined. Moreover, the audit guidelines of the Association of German Dioceses (VDD) were taken into account within the framework of auditing of the annual accounts. These guidelines demand an additional management review and an in-depth presentation of the financial situation of the association. Within the association, the annual accounts and the situation report are assessed by a financial committee.

As an extension of the annual audit, we requested our auditors to examine the divisional results relevant to donations. The results of the international division were audited as derived from the bookkeeping upon which the annual financial statement is based. The annual auditor reported to the board that the audit did not lead to any objections. Moreover, the annual auditor was asked to check adherence to the Voluntary Guidelines and Implementation Rules for Non-profit, National and Donation-Collecting Organisations set up by the DZI (DZI Guidelines) in the version dated 17 September 2010. The DZI guidelines require, among other things, an intended purpose and effective application of funds, commensurability of compensation, true, clear and accurate fundraising, as well as a proper financial statement.<sup>3)</sup>

<sup>2)</sup> The 2016 annual and business reports for Caritas Germany are published at [www.caritas.de](http://www.caritas.de).

<sup>3)</sup> Additional information about the DZI Guidelines 2010/a document on transparency are also available at [www.caritas.de/glossare/transparenz](http://www.caritas.de/glossare/transparenz).

# Statement of Account

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

INCOME	2015	2016
<b>Public and Church grants</b>		
German government	29.611.808,88 Euros	33.566.357,72 Euros
Church funds	8.162.368,27 Euros	7.298.411,48 Euros
European Union	1.631.956,47 Euros	1.749.222,94 Euros
Other public and Church grants:	4.818.807,29 Euros	4.818.219,53 Euros
<b>Total</b>	<b>44.224.940,91 Euros</b>	<b>47.432.211,67 Euros</b>
<b>Donations and other charitable contributions</b>		
Project donations	35.147.692,86 Euros	23.269.315,47 Euros
Trust fund monies and corporate cooperations	3.303.745,94 Euros	3.509.727,00 Euros
<b>Total</b>	<b>38.451.438,80 Euros</b>	<b>26.779.042,47 Euros</b>
<b>Legacies and other income</b>		
Proceeds from assets and interest income	2.092.766,60 Euros	2.289.977,03 Euros
Inheritances, legacies	280.949,84 Euros	947.639,18 Euros
Other	192.649,74 Euros	120.600,77 Euros
<b>Total</b>	<b>2.566.366,18 Euros</b>	<b>3.358.216,98 Euros</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>85.242.745,89 Euros</b>	<b>77.569.471,12 Euros</b>

## Notes

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

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

**Project donations:** Donations from private individuals, congregations etc. and Church collections.

**Trust fund monies:** Includes grants from media trusts such as the BR "Sternstunden" fund (230.862 Euros), and "RTL-Foundation" (337.500 Euro) as well as the Unicef/Dr. Rau-Foundation (727.757,64 Euro).

**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	2015	2016
<b>Project expenditure</b>		
Sustainable disaster aid; aid in crises and conflicts; health, care, aid for addicts; children's rights; participation for people with disabilities; chances for those without a chance		
<b>Project expenditure total</b>	<b>68.132.342,37 Euros</b>	<b>67.493.722,19 Euros</b>
<b>Personnel, materials and amortisation</b>		
1. Personnel expenses:		
wages and salaries, social benefits, retirement funds (thereof directly allocable to projects)	5.623.552,64 Euros (3.789.333,53 Euros)	6.022.067,45 Euros (4.104.310,64 Euros)
2. Cost of materials:		
project work, educational and PR work, fundraising (thereof directly allocable to projects)	5.494.005,72 Euros (1.964.962,97 Euros)	5.393.697,43 Euros (1.782.705,84 Euros)
3. Levies:		
service charges (e.g. data processing)	840.023,20 Euros	791.583,83 Euros
4. Depreciation/Amortisation	138.933,16 Euros	23.664,53 Euros
<b>TOTAL COSTS</b>	<b>80.228.857,09 Euros</b>	<b>79.724.735,43 Euros</b>
<b>RESULT FOR THE DIVISION</b>	<b>5.013.888,80 Euros</b>	<b>-2.155.264,31 Euros</b>

## Notes

**Project expenditure:** Expenditure comprises contributions to 622 ongoing aid projects

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

**Result for the division:** The result shown is withdrawn from the trust funds or paid into them as the case may be. As of December 31st 2016, the funds amounted to 119.950.062,59 Euros, against 122.105.326,90 Euros in the previous year (see above note on interest income).

# Growing Aid for Increasing Need

Caritas Germany's strategy for the period from 2016 till 2020 covers a range of goals for the long-term expansion and improvement of aid.

**C**aritas Germany's strategy for the years 2016 till 2020 aims at expanding the extent as well as the quality of aid rendered, in order to respond to the increasing crises and humanitarian emergencies. In the last years, military conflicts have increased in number and intensity alike, and so did the frequency of climate-related extreme weather conditions and natural disasters. In order to meet the needs of the growing demand for humanitarian support it is necessary to generate additional funds, to define new priorities in the field of project work, introduce innovative tools, continue investing in partner relations and increase internal resources.

## Moderate Growth of Revenues

An important, if not even the most important, requirement of success for this ambitious goal, are revenues. Public funds and church funds give Caritas Germany a vital opportunity to respond to emergencies and disasters or crises and the capacity to act at a high level. In addition to subsidies from public or church-based sources, donations are the most important basis of project work. They ensure independence and are the foundation of building up partner relations on a long-term basis. Moreover, they are required for the realization of innovative project approaches and to secure the own contribution of big publicly subsidized projects. Caritas Germany strives for a further increase of public funds as well as donations. Therefore, the communication and fundraising efforts from 2017 till 2020 will be intensified on the basis of detailed planning of measures and resources.

## Internal Resources

The growing need for aid entails an adjustment of human as well as financial resources. This includes especially measures for flexible recruiting of staff as well as measures to avoid excessive stress in cases of sudden onset disasters. Other aims are the continuous content-related development of staff as well as internal opportunities to develop, e.g. by temporary assignments abroad.

## Strengthening Partners

Acute crises urge Caritas to set new regional priorities and to become active in countries where, up to now, local partners don't have developed structures. In this field there shall be an increasing focus on sustainable support and strengthening of potential partners.

## Innovation in the Field of Humanitarian Aid

Aid requires creativity and flexibility. Therefore, Caritas Germany actively deals with innovative instruments of humanitarian aid, such as, for instance, cash transfer programmes. Staff is visiting special events and shares their newly gained knowledge.

## Linking National and International Aid

Dialogue trips and trips of directors of different departments – as well as visits of partner groups for the purpose of imparting various social approaches – shall result in the deepening of mutual learning processes between German and foreign Caritas organizations.

## Systematic Evaluation

Within the framework of the undertaking to regularly and systematically evaluate the disaster aid rendered, an evaluation of the recent major disasters will be executed in which the decisions, processes and measures taken are put under scrutiny. ■

 Detailed information about the principles and guidelines of Caritas Germany, the principles of humanitarian aid, the principle of partnership as well as composition and structure of the aid organization can be found at: [www.caritas-international.de/ueberuns](http://www.caritas-international.de/ueberuns)



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The International Department of Caritas Germany, the relief organization 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 more than 160 national Caritas organisations around the world.  
**[www.caritas-international.de](http://www.caritas-international.de)**