



Annual Report 2014

Our Work Worldwide

Caritas Germany
International Department





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

there are well above 50 million refugees worldwide. They fled from wars and armed conflicts in their home-countries which – as in countries like Afghanistan, Syria or Colombia - have been going on for many years. Or from violence expelling them – as in the case of Ukraine – virtually overnight from their homeland. In recent years the conflicts in Iraq, Southern Sudan, Yemen, Nigeria, in the Central African Republic and numerous other regions around the world escalated to bloody wars and civil wars. In total, the Working Group for Research on the Causes of War (AKUF) in Hamburg recorded 31 wars and armed conflicts around the world in the year 2014.

70 years have passed since the end of World War II and the liberation from National Socialist terror. Most of us know war, expulsion and suppression only from stories and reports of the last survivors and contemporary witnesses, some only from history books. In Central Europe we have been fortunately spared from the experience of war over several generations. Howe-

THE YEAR 2014 IN PICTURES

Humanitarian Aid in Central Africa:

More than one million people fled from escalating violence in the Central African Republic. The international Caritas network provided the absolute necessities to 70.000 people looking for help.



Help for refugees and expelled people in Southern Sudan:

With more and more people having to flee from violence in Southern Sudan, the fields can no longer be cultivated – and still more people leave their homeland. Caritas helps refugees and returnees to break this vicious circle.

January

March

February



Adolescent victims of war:

On February 12th, the International Day against the Use of Child Soldiers, proclaimed by the UN, Caritas is raising awareness for their cruel fate. In countries such as Congo Caritas helps boys and girls, who were abused as soldiers, to return to civilian life.



ver, he who tries to get in touch with refugees from Syria or other crisis areas will experience what it means to lose relatives and friends, one's home and livelihood and to look for something giving new hold in unfamiliar surroundings.

The campaign "Global Neighbours", last year conducted by the German Caritas Association, expressed the possibility of a direct experience and empathetic encounter in a nutshell with the slogan "Far away is closer than you think". This campaign invited us to look at worldwide implications and to avoid losing sight of globalization and its consequences. It demonstrated that seamstresses in Bangladesh and Pakistan have to work in inhumane conditions just to produce our clothes, and that the scarce raw material embedded in our cell-phones triggers armed conflicts, for instance in Congo. This campaign is a challenge to a more conscientious use of raw materials and creation, a challenge to fair trade and fairer labour conditions and to a refugee policy of more solidarity and humaneness. Last but not least it encourages us to >>



April

Fight against poverty in Afghanistan:

Extreme poverty in Afghanistan leads to rural exodus, social dislocations and conflicts. Caritas Germany is committed in the fight against poverty and in reconstruction even after the end of the international military intervention.

The Pope visits Syrian refugees:

Peter Neher, President of Caritas Germany, appreciates the Pope's visit to Syria and Iraq on May 24th as a "big sign of solidarity" and as an "appeal to all of us to reconsider our stance towards refugees and migrants".

May



June

Appeal for help:

On the occasion of World Refugee Day on June 20th the Catholic and the Protestant Church in Germany with their respective relief organizations – the international department of Caritas Germany and "Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe" – make an appeal not to forget the suffering of the people in the Middle East.



join in and to let ourselves be touched by what only seems to be far away: poverty and the need of people all over the world. For those who are affected by injustice and violence are those who represent the flip side of the coin, the downside of a globalized world. Refugees –whether they, in their misery, may try to reach Europe on their perilous way across the Mediterranean Sea or whether they, while based in refugee camps, hope for the civil wars in their home countries to end – need our support. As Caritas, it is our explicit mandate to spread solidarity and social justice in the world. Our Christian conviction and tradition as well as the Church's social teaching are the root of this motivation. Therefore, Caritas in Germany and in Europe strives for a more human policy and many of our staff and volunteers support the refugees arriving here. Caritas Germany, the relief organization of Caritas Germany, is helping the expelled people and refugees in Syria, Iraq and other civil war stricken countries as well as in Jordan, Lebanon and many other host countries (see especially the contributions page 8 et seq. in this respect). This work is only possible due to our partners in many parts of the world - the staff that, quite often under the most difficult conditions and dangers, helps to alleviate the need of the af-

THE YEAR 2014 IN PICTURES



July

Caritas expands its aid-efforts in the Ukraine: More and more people have to flee from the conflict zones in Eastern Ukraine. Caritas Germany intensifies its aid operations. Its partner Caritas Ukraine provides people with food, mattresses, blankets and hygiene items.

August



Severe floods in India and Pakistan:

"Complete villages were washed away, dams were broken" reports Amjad Gulzar, director of Caritas Pakistan which is rendering help in the Indian-Pakistani border area.



September

Caritas-Sunday with the Lampedusa Crucifix: A crucifix made of wooden planks from a refugee boat that ran aground in Lampedusa was the central symbol of the mass in Munich which was celebrated by Cardinal Reinhard Marx and Caritas-President Peter Neher.

affected ones – and many local communities which are involved in the Caritas's aid-projects.

And last but not least it is you, dear donors, who are making this help possible! For it is due to your generous donating, in addition to public funds and Church funds, that we are allowed to help – independently and sustainably.



For your help and support in this, we thank you from the bottom of our hearts!

Peter Neher

Prelate Dr Peter Neher
President of the German
Caritas Association

Oliver Müller

Dr Oliver Müller
Director of the International
Department of Caritas Germany

Aid organizations call for more aid for people from Syria:

On the occasion of a Syria-Conference the Association of German NGOs (VENRO) calls for a doubling of funds for Syrian refugees, inter alia in order to support host countries like Jordan or Lebanon.



Commemoration of the tsunami victims of 2004:

On December 3rd in Colombo (Sri Lanka) the worldwide Caritas network commemorated the 230.000 victims of the tsunami. President Peter Neher represented the German Caritas Association.

October

December

November

Minister Mueller visits Caritas-projects:

Germany's Federal Minister of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Gerd Mueller, visits – accompanied by Oliver Mueller, director of the International Department of Caritas Germany – Caritas-projects in Colombia and Peru.



Aid in a war without borders

Since 2011 civil war has been raging in Syria, in 2014 the terror of the “Islamic State” (IS) militia started in Iraq. In spite of all the difficulties Caritas Germany and its local partners are providing emergency relief – for the more than twelve million Syrian and more than 2.5 million Iraqi refugees in the neighbouring countries as well as for those who persevere, under extremely harsh conditions, in the civil war stricken countries.

Abu Elias lived in the small village of Shiria Khan when he and his family were struck by the horrors of war. “IS militia encircled our village and captured 40 people” he tells. “Then the Islamist shot them down and called us to collect the dead.” Relatives who were Sunnites were allowed to take the bodies with them; Shiites, however, were captured and abducted. Abu Elias had to bury four people before he and his family left their home-country and reached, via detours, the Caritas centre in the small Iraqi town of Alquosh, some 50 kilometres away from Mossul.

Fosa Hamoud also had to leave house and home overnight. She also succeeded in saving herself and her family from war, but she had to leave everything behind in her home-country. And she, a goat-farmer and mother of seven children, is also marked by violence and her escape to Lebanon. “We are glad that we survived!” she says. And she accepts that she has been living under inhumane conditions for months: in an old greenhouse in the Lebanese mountains, 30 kilometres away from Beirut. There is no running water, no toilet, not even a floor. The Hamoud family received

They had to flee with nothing left but the clothes they wear – Iraqi families which could escape from the IS.



mattresses from Caritas and is provided with the most essential items needed to survive. Now she hopes to find a job in agriculture. And to be able to return back home one day.

Whether in Iraq or in Syria –most victims of the conflicts are civilians. Especially Christians, Yazidis and Shiites are affected by the terror of IS militia in Iraq; he who does not manage to escape in time, is being abused, imprisoned, tortured or immediately killed. But even moderate Sunnites flee from IS-violence, quite often because they want to avoid forceful recruitment of their children. The situation of civilians in the civil war in Syria is just as bad. People of every origin and religion are affected by violence and terror. Meanwhile there are many deserted places, since their former inhabitants fled from the conflict that has been going on for years.

The crises in Iraq and Syria led to the biggest refugee tragedy since World War II. Since the civil war in Syria started in 2011, more than twelve million people fled from their home-country, about four million out of them were seeking refuge abroad, in most cases in the neighbouring countries of Lebanon, Jordan, Turkey and Iraq. When Islamic State (IS) militia occupied parts of Northern Iraq and spread terror and violence there, the Syrian refugees living there had to leave also this exile, and at the same time more than 2.5 million Iraqi men and women were expelled from that area.

War and expulsion do not stop at national borders. It is not only the Sunnite IS militia which is meanwhile operating in the area. The initial social protests for more democracy and against the suppression of the Assad-regime have long since turned into a war on many fronts effecting all of Syria's neighbouring countries. Islamists and mercenaries from many countries, Al-Qaeda and IS, the Lebanese Hizbollah and Shiite militia from Iraq are fighting with brute force in Syria and Iraq for or against the respective governments, against each other and, most of all, against the civilian population. Is help under these circumstances possible and does it make sense? Caritas Germany as a humanitarian charity organization is committed to help. And with Caritas Iraq, Caritas Syria and other local partners on the ground, there's a lot that can be done – even in the war stricken zones. True, the work of Caritas is being hampered again and again in spite of its ap-

» Half of the people of Syria have been either expelled or have been fleeing«

Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Iraq: The support of Caritas



Syria conflict Relief for refugees and expelled people

Funds 7.8. million Euro, thereof

invested 2014 5.8 million Euro from the Foreign Office

Measures Humanitarian aid, medical support

& impact and support for attending of schools, trauma-work and more

Perspective Continuation of the measures, inter alia from 3.1 million Euro donations of 2014

Northern Iraq Relief for expelled people

Funds 2,1 Mio. Euro, thereof 850.000 Euro

invested 2014 from the Foreign Office

Measures Relief for about 47.000 expelled people,

& impact provision of food, mattresses, emergency shelter as well as winter relief

Perspective 7.82 million Euro of donations from 2014 secure an extension of the relief

proach to be neutral in its aid efforts and to support refugees regardless of their religious or national affiliation. Several social centres of Caritas had to be closed down temporarily because IS-units entered the cities and threatened to kill all people of another religion or of a different mind-set. However, the humanitarian workers who had to flee themselves continued their work in the areas where the refugees found shelter: in the regions bordering Turkey and Syria, in the interior of the country and in the capital of Baghdad. Thanks to good Caritas-structures in Iraq and to international help refugee aid could be continued quickly and effectively.

Especially in Northern and North-Eastern Syria aid assistance is equally difficult and dangerous as in Iraq's embattled areas. Staff members of various NGOs were hi-jacked or killed, aid convoys are being attacked time and again. There are also members of Caritas who were shot and wounded, kidnapped, lost their lives during an explosion, some of them went into exile. In the light of these difficult conditions the >>



Caritas support for the refugees
Medical treatment and the distribution of food (picture in the middle)

commitment of partners for the numerous civilian victims of the conflict deserves highest appreciation. What is impeding the work of Caritas and its local partners is, in addition to the constant danger, the increasing lack of perspectives of the refugees and the expelled people. "Half of the population of Syria are either internally displaced persons or refugees. 80 percent of the manpower have been lost. The rich people have gone, the middle class became poor and the poor ones are destitute by now. Everything that happened is just saddening" the President of

Caritas Syria, Bishop Antoine Audo from Aleppo, sums up the situation. And yet he has hope for a better future: "We Bishops are making every effort to make sure that Christian communities have a future in this area. We would like to remain. We would like to make a contribution to a peaceful co-existence of different religions."

International solidarity is, more than ever, the pivotal point which ensures material survival for those affected by the conflict and which gives them a bit of hope. First of all they experience help and support in the neighbouring countries into which they fled. Way above one million Syrians have been hosted in Lebanon, a country of not more than four million inhabitants. Considering the instable situation in the country itself, the tense economic situation and the related unemployment, the accommodation



INTERVIEW

»War deprives people of the future«

Caritas Germany is providing humanitarian aid in Syria and Iraq. The more the conflicts intertwine, the more intensive this aid has to cross borders. Until the beginning of 2014 Caritas was able to help many Syrian refugees in Iraq. In the meantime the civil war in Syria and the

domestic conflicts in Iraq have turned into a war with regional consequences. With severe consequences for the refugees – and thus for the work of Caritas. Angela Gaertner (see picture on the right) is coordinating Caritas' aid in Iraq, Vera Jeschke (in picture, left) is in charge of Syria. The two of them explain the difficult conditions in the conflict areas in an interview.



Disaster Aid Syria / Iraq

How does the violence transcending national borders affect the work of Caritas Germany?

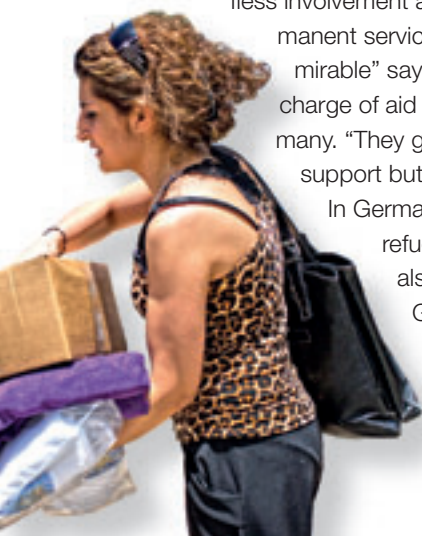
Angela Gärtner: Since January 2014 more than 2.5 million people of Iraq have been internally displaced persons who had to flee from the fighting of the IS militia. Caritas Germany could make use of the collaboration with its long-standing partner organizations Caritas Iraq and CAPNI – both of them have local structures in Northern Iraq – in order to provide fast and comprehensive emergency relief. In spite of the interior crisis in Iraq Caritas Germany keeps on supporting Syrian refugees who found shelter in Northern Iraq.

Vera Jeschke: The situation for the people in the Northeast of Syria has dramatically exacerbated. Even before the military offensive of the IS many civilians found themselves stuck between the fronts. Now they find that also the escape route into Iraq is blocked.

The help of Caritas' partner organizations is done at great risks.

and care for so many refugees of civil war is a big achievement for this small country and its inhabitants. The other countries of that region - whether Jordan, Turkey or Egypt – have also hosted hundreds of thousands of people from Syria and Iraq and support them as best as they can. Caritas' staff members and partners, as well as many volunteers, commit themselves to the support of war refugees. "Their selfless involvement and the intensive and permanent service of the aid-workers is admirable" says Vera Jeschke, who is in charge of aid for Syria at Caritas Germany. "They give not only comfort and support but also a bit of hope."

In Germany the willingness to help refugees from Syria and Iraq is also great: In 2014 Caritas Germany received more than eleven million Euro donations and church collections for this kind of aid.



See the need and listen
Caritas-worker Thomas Hoerz talking with expelled people from Iraq.

In October the German Bishop's Conference called for a special collection for the benefit of refugee aid. And the dioceses showed great commitment: The Archdiocese of Freiburg alone donated one million Euro for the aid in Iraq, Syria and Lebanon – the biggest individual donation for victims of the conflict in the Middle East that Caritas Germany ever received. With the help of the versatile support by donations and public funds Caritas Germany was able to help nearly half a million people in Iraq and Syria since the start of the conflicts. ■

How does Caritas Germany respond to that?

Gärtner: Humanitarian aid is impossible within the areas controlled by IS militia. Caritas Iraq had to close down two of its health- and social centres. We focused our efforts on the safe areas especially in Northern Iraq where most of the refugees live.

Jeschke: Also in Syria we take precautions in order to avoid that aid-workers run into danger, but some risk remains. As a neutral humanitarian organization we provide medical help and emergency relief – and stay in the background.

What can be done to avoid that the conflicts in the civil war stricken countries also spread to the host countries?

Jeschke: The spark of violence again and again spreads especially to unstable Lebanon. Therefore, we consider it as crucial to involve the local people into our aid-programmes. Quite naturally needy people from Lebanon or Jordan participate from our projects. These are only small gestures, and yet they help to increase acceptance in the host countries.

Gärtner: For sure the international community has a responsibility in that field. We cannot leave the host countries alone

with this Herculean task. It is shocking that many countries do not live up to the aid commitments they made. This leads to shortages already now.

What perspectives do the people have?

Jeschke: It's a dilemma. There is no way to return back home due to the war. And most people can't imagine a life in exile or they just don't want to. We offer psychosocial support to them in their difficult situation.

Gärtner: Many refugees from Iraq did not only lose future perspectives but also trust in their co-citizens in Iraq. When the IS conquered new territory, people who once were good neighbours publicly marked houses of Christians and thus made them a target. I am worried that, in spite of all support – including the psychosocial one – a "lost generation" is growing up in Iraq. The war deprives them of their future. ■



Ebola/Floods in the Balkans



Raise awareness, give advice, and protect: Ebola can no longer spread if certain rules are obeyed.

Ebola – incurable but avoidable

More than 10.000 people in Sierra Leone, Guinea, Liberia and other countries have died from the Ebola virus. Still there is no chance to defeat the incurable disease by medical means alone. Caritas Germany opts for prevention.

Ebola is a fatal disease against which there is no effective medication. In 2014 thousands of people in West Africa have died of the very fast spreading epidemic. Due to an approach pursued also by Caritas Germany, the number of new infections could be sharply reduced towards the end of the year.

Simple but very helpful: The spreading of the Ebola virus can be prevented by applying hygiene measures regularly

“Ebola is a disease which most severely affects countries with an ailing health care system” says Christoph Klitsch-Ott, head of Caritas Germany’s Africa department. Thus, the lethal virus spread in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea very fast. In Liberia, where Caritas Germany is involved in a preventive care project, the health system is, after years of war, in an extremely bad condition. The equipment in the public health-care centres and hospitals often defies any description: there is a lack of water, electricity and especially medical

equipment. “We made a bottom-up approach in order to prevent any further spreading of the virus”, Klitsch-Ott emphasizes. Right from the start the local Caritas staff has been deeply trusted by the population which cannot necessarily be taken for granted in the case of aid-workers from abroad. They went to church communities and public squares and raised awareness of how people can protect themselves from an infection. Hygiene-kits with soap and disinfectants were distributed and rules of conduct were rehearsed. And now, with the epidemic being stopped, the aim is to improve the complete health system – to make sure that a terrible catastrophe like this will never happen again. ■

Western Africa Relief Ebola epidemic

Funds invested 2014 About one million Euro, thereof 844.000 Euro from the Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development

Measures & impact Awareness raising in Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal

Perspective Donations of 657.000 Euro from 2014 allow the carrying out of health projects



Help by hook or by crook:
The flood came so fast that there was no chance to be prepared.

Networking against floods

In May 2014 staff members of Caritas could contribute a lot of experience in flood-aid in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Serbia. Five rivers were overflowing their banks there and turned entire stretches of land into a seascape.

The water came at five in the morning. Literally overnight the rivers had risen and burst their banks. Many people realized it not until their flats were flooded.

“We have lost everything but at least we could save our lives. The water came so fast, nobody expected a thing like that” says Andjelka Jovic from Kopanice in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Her quarter turned into a seascape, for some time the only visible thing about her house was the roof. Yet, she did not rail against her fate but was lending a hand as volunteer of the local Caritas. About 2.5 million people in Eastern and

South-eastern Europe were affected by the floods triggered by low-pressure cyclone Yvette; at least 59 people lost their lives. After the receding of the floodwaters the people stood before piles of bulky rubbish and silty access roads.

In Serbia emergency relief was expanded to agriculture. Many fields were devastated, the farmers were on the brink of ruin. That's why Caritas also distributed livestock feed. It was a medium-term step to help the people in the area to become self-sufficient quickly. Caritas staff-members who were involved in flood-aid in Germany and Czech just one year ago could apply their expertise – and brought clearing machinery and dehumidifiers. Now teams of Caritas' flood-aid workers are being trained in order to be better prepared for disasters in the medium term. ■

Passing on experience in flood-aid:
Being affected themselves the previous year, Caritas-members from Eastern Germany could contribute their experience in Bosnia.



The Balkans Relief after the floods.

Funds invested 2014 684.000 Euro from donations and funds by foundations

Measures & impact Relief and support for agriculture. In total 60.000 people affected by the flood were supported

Perspective Funds from donations amounting to 825.000 Euro (2014) allow the education of Caritas' flood-aid-teams and other measures

»People in the East are starving«

The war in Ukraine drags on – more and more refugees and expelled people are in need of support. Caritas-staff members are operating throughout the country.



Still embattled:

Eastern Ukraine is a war zone, the civil population has fled.

Nearly two million people fled from the fighting in Eastern Ukraine – across the border to Russia, to the Baltic States, to Western Europe, most of them, however, within the country. Caritas Germany as well as the Caritas organizations in Russia and the Ukraine support them: Besides providing the expelled people with food and granting them rent allowances psychosocial care is becoming more and more important.

Lilya Komashko and her family fled in a mad rush out of the area occupied by separatists when the battles started. With a heavy heart the Komashkos had to leave their big house and garden in Makijiwka, a neighbouring town of Donetsk, behind. Standing in a spartanly furnished kitchen, her one-year-old daughter Maria in her arms, Lilya tells her story. The narrow room is part of a prefab flat in Kramatorsk where the family found shelter – about 50 kilometres away from the frontline. No, she's not keen on talking about politics.

But she wants the world to know about the fates of people in Eastern Ukraine. "We asked our neighbours to take care of our house" Lilya says. "Yet we are worried that everything inside might be stolen once we will be back." Many expelled people have the same worries these days.

Her family has never been rich, but they had their feet firmly on the ground. Now she is left with nothing. Without Caritas Ukraine's financial support of the family their situation would be still worse. In everyday life the money is enough to make ends meet, to get some water, milk, food and some medicine for Grandma. Moreover, thanks to the commitment of social workers, the older children have the opportunity to go to school. Although downgraded one class they are glad to have a structured daily life and new perspectives. The prices for convenience goods are high in Kramatorsk. But in the separatist-controlled areas they are nearly unaffordable. "Everything is very very expensive, and it's very difficult to get water" Lilya talks about

War in Europe: See where Caritas helps

everyday life in the world behind checkpoints of the Ukrainian army and separatists. "It's nearly impossible to get meat there, a sausage factory closed down its production. People are starving" she says.

The Komashkos are by no means an exception in the area in which, according to UN statistics, about 1.2 million people are considered as internally displaced persons and 800.000 have fled into other countries. What is bothering the President of Caritas Ukraine, Andrij Waskowycz, are the fates that hide behind these figures. There's great distress in the country, but Caritas can help to ease the need. Lately the organization received, via Caritas Germany, two million Euro from the Foreign Office of the Federal Republic of Germany to run projects for displaced people. Up to now the aid of Caritas Ukraine – mainly financial support, provision of water and distribution of clothes and medicine – reached about 50.000 people. Caritas is operating in Kiev, Odessa, Dnepropetrovsk, Saporishshja and Kharkiv, whereas its field of activities before the crisis was confined to Western Ukraine and the city of Donetsk.

"Nobody was prepared for a disaster of that extent", says Waskowycz. When considering potential exceptional situations the scenarios were restricted to a possible flood. No one ever expected an armed conflict. And at present you cannot count on the Ukrainian government to solve humanitarian problems. "The focus



Ukraine/Russia (Rostov) Relief for refugees and expelled people from both sides

Funds invested 2014 645.500 Euro, thereof 430.800 Euro from the Foreign Office

Measures & impact 10.000 internally displaced persons were supported with food and rent allowances, 150 injured people were treated

Perspective Extension of support is possible thanks to donations of 133.000 Euro (2014) as well as 2.000.000 Euro by the Foreign Office

of the Ukrainian government is on the costly defence of the country", Waskowycz says. Caritas Ukraine quickly adapted to the new circumstances, searched for new partners for the aid operations in the East and hired new staff. Recently it was honoured with the "Charitable Ukraine-Award", the most important charity prize of the country, for its commitment in handling the crisis. The prize honours the staff's going to their limits just to help people in need. But probably it is also a symbol of appreciation of what an independent NGO is able to perform in a conflict like this.



They fled in a mad rush: Two million people from the Ukraine left their homes just like the Komashkos

worldwide



Build more safely, prevent disasters

One year after the tropical storm Hayan, which devastated entire stretches of land and deprived more than four million people of their homes in November 2013, misery and destruction was brought across the Philippine islands by typhoon Hagupit. This time, however, the early warning systems worked, the majority of

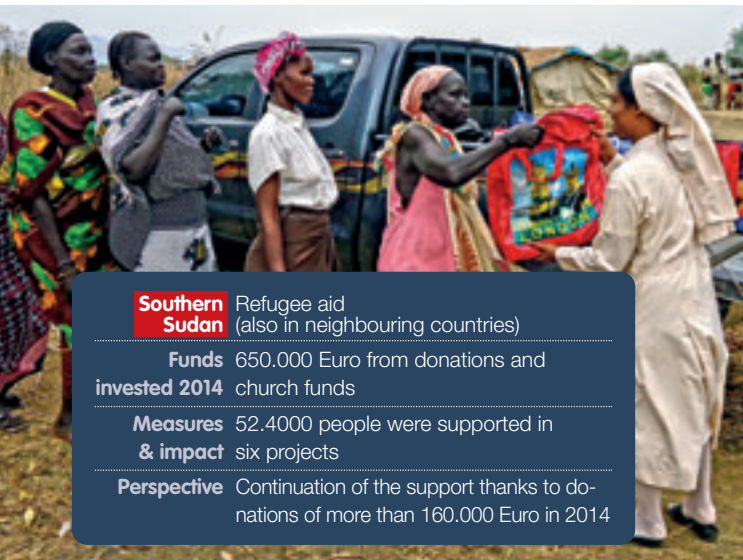
the people could reach safety. On the one hand it was a happy coincidence that there were relatively few casualties because the storm weakened before making landfall. On the other hand the measures taken the previous year paid off. This includes, in addition to improvements in disaster protection, the construction of safe and storm-proof houses. Caritas Germany is not only committed to reconstruction by building fishing boats, hospitals and community centres, but also to disaster prevention.

The Philippines Reconstruction after the typhoon

Funds invested 2014 2.53 million Euro, thereof 1,75 million Euro from donations

Measures & impact Reconstruction of houses, building of a hospital

Perspective Long-term reconstruction and disaster prevention from funds of totally 14 million Euro since 2013



Southern Sudan Refugee aid (also in neighbouring countries)

Funds invested 2014 650.000 Euro from donations and church funds

Measures & impact 52.4000 people were supported in six projects

Perspective Continuation of the support thanks to donations of more than 160.000 Euro in 2014

When there's no harvest

The world's youngest state still remains in a state of unrest. Civil war and violence force hundreds of thousands to flee. The disastrous consequences: Without cultivating the fields there will be no harvest and the people are not self-sufficient. In 2014 a famine could be averted, but the supply situation for millions of people remains to be unstable. Caritas Germany is providing the people with food and drinking water, in the country itself as well as in the neighbouring countries Ethiopia and Uganda and Western Equatoria State where many internally displaced persons found shelter.



Extreme weather events increase, also in Bolivia

In 2014 persistent rainfall, lasting for several weeks, in Bolivia resulted in the flooding of entire stretches of land, especially in the north of the country. About 200.000 people were affected by the inundation. Caritas Germany is supporting its partner Caritas Bolivia in three of the worst affected provinces: Beni, Cochabamba and La Paz. Caritas assistants distribute food, drinking water and blankets. Since extreme weather events increase in the course of climate change, Caritas Germany supports sustainable disaster prevention projects.

Bolivia Flood aid in three provinces

Funds invested 2014 350.000 Euro, thereof 40.000 Euro funds by the diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart

Measures & impact Emergency relief with follow-up aid by deliverance of seeds etc.

Perspective Commitment in disaster prevention



Expelled in their own country

In spite of the peace negotiations between the government and the rebel group FARC there are still armed conflicts in parts of Colombia time and again. Still people are being expelled or they flee from violence. The humanitarian situation of these internally displaced persons is still precarious. Caritas Colombia has been supporting them for years. They carry out emergency relief – with food, household and hygiene items – as well as long-term support such as construction of houses, legal advice or medical and psychosocial support.

Colombia Protection of internally displaced persons

Funds invested 2014 1.14 million Euro, thereof 583.000 Euro from the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO)

Measures & impact Relief, psychosocial and legal support of particularly affected

Perspektive Extension of peace building work in 2015

Forgotten disasters

Last year Caritas Germany and the NGO “Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe” drew attention to refugees from Syria and Iraq with their campaign “The biggest disaster is to forget”. True, the war in Syria hits the headlines again and again because of its unimaginable brutality. However, the millions of refugees who found shelter in the neighbouring countries are hardly more than a mention in the news. The common summer-campaign of Germany’s Catholic and the Protestant relief-organizations focuses disasters which don’t attract much media attention between World Refugee’s Day on June 20th and World Humanitarian Day on August 19th – with a variety of events and activities.





Is food supply ensured?
The evaluation of a project in Afghanistan demonstrated that help can be effective even in spite of a crisis.

»To evaluate means to learn together

Caritas Germany is intensively accompanying all projects, more than ten percent of the bigger projects are being evaluated. Thus, **the effectiveness of aid** can be checked and improved.

What are the effects of the services of Caritas Germany? Is some project really improving the living conditions of people – and, if so, on a sustainable basis? In order to be able to answer questions like these seriously, all projects are professionally accompanied by Caritas Germany. In addition to this, some of them are being evaluated. Volker Gerdemesier, head of the department Quality Management and Controlling, explains in an interview how such an evaluation is concretely being carried out.

When Caritas Germany is evaluating its projects, it is all about the effectiveness of aid. How can aid be evaluated and measured?

Basically aid can be measured just like any other service: Each project has clearly defined goals and there are results that can be checked. The evaluation helps us to verify if the drafted goals were reached or not and if there are possibilities of improvement.

This is plausible in the case of a school-project. The construction of a building, the training of teaching staff, assistance for children from poor families – everything measurable. But how does that work in disaster relief?

In fact, the prerequisites in disaster relief are different. Quite often we cannot compare the before and after in disaster relief as this can be done in the case of a controlled start of a project. But also in disaster relief we first gather the number of victims, the damage and the need before we start with our relief efforts. And in the phase of reconstruction we define together with our partners and the affected what there is to do, how we are going to help and what priorities we will set. Then we can, by means of the evaluation, examine if we have reached the targeted goals.

How many projects are being evaluated?

In our evaluation concept we fixed a quota of ten percent of projects with a budget in excess of

100.000 Euro each year. Fortunately, we even exceeded this quota in the last years: In 2014 we approved 131 projects of more than 100.000 Euro and carried out 18 evaluations.

How are these evaluations like?

Let us take for instance the evaluation "Impact Survey" in Afghanistan which, in my opinion, is brilliant. In this example we examined the food situation of beneficiaries of a project financed by the EU. Before the project started there was a specific and systematic analysis of how the situation in the project area was like. This enables us to draw good and verifiable conclusions during and after the implementing of a project. The result of the study is that the beneficiaries' situation could not be improved significantly. However, the project could avoid a deterioration which could be expected in respect of the drought and the consequent poor harvest.

Over which periods of time are the accomplished projects being evaluated?

This depends a lot on the specific context. The results of projects with particular single measures – for instance the distribution of food during a crisis – can be gathered in a short term. Then again there is a study by Caritas India which is examining periods between ten and 15 years after different disasters, that is, in other words, it explores the long-term effects of humanitarian aid.

What can be said about the effects of aid after such a long time?

In the study "Weaving Hopes after Disasters", which is the title of that evaluation, there are interviews with beneficiaries and disadvantaged people of relief- and reconstruction programmes after four disasters in five different areas. The main issues being examined are aid after a cyclone in Orissa, after an earthquake in Gujarat/Kutch, after the tsunami in 2004 in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu and after the floods in Bihar. The long periods permit a special and clear overview of the effects of the programmes. Among other things the results of the study are: Orientation of aid on the specific need proved a success, the majority of beneficiaries was extremely poor. The vast majority of the people interviewed was glad and grateful for the relief assistance received even after a long time after the disaster. There were, however, quite different

evaluations of disaster prevention in the respective areas, in the quake area of Gujarat it was regarded as superfluous, in the Bihar area, which is affected by floods nearly every year, it proved to be the most important element of disaster prevention.

What conclusions can be drawn out of such evaluations with sometimes critical content?

It's always about learning. Methods and ways of proceeding can be compared only by a systematic collection of data – by interviews, observation and analysis – and that allows conclusions within a project as well as regarding other projects. Positive experiences can be quite as helpful as mistakes. When fishermen tell us that they had received equipment but are too poor to fix material damage, then we have to consider things like these next time. For instance by simultaneously running income generation programmes or helping to construct a repair workshop in the village.

» Even mistakes can be useful if we only draw the right conclusions.«

With all willingness to learn: An evaluation is always a test as well. Do the staff and partners sometimes feel they are being controlled by an evaluation?

Sure. But quality control is an essential part of our work. We owe this to our funders – public ones and private donors alike – , but most of all to the people we support. But if we demonstrate to our staff and partners that we also put ourselves and our work critically under the microscope, evaluation will become less of a test and more of a common learning experience. ■

"Results of humanitarian aid are measurable": Volker Gerdesmeier, head of the department Quality Management and Controlling.



The long-term impact of humanitarian aid: The study "Weaving Hopes after disasters" can be found at www.caritas-international.de/weaving-hopes



More on quality management:
www.caritas-international.de/transparenz

Effective help for self-help

In 2014 Caritas Germany's commitment comprised 659 projects in 73 countries. Immediate emergency relief after disasters and conflicts and crises as well as refugee aid is described on the first pages of this annual report (pages 8 to 17). In addition to that Caritas Germany is committed worldwide in social development projects in favour of the particularly needy ones: poor and sick people, people with disabilities and children. The following overview demonstrates the variety of the projects.



Afghanistan

New wells to survive in the highlands

Since 2012 several hundred wells have been drilled and springs protected by Caritas Germany in the province of Daikundi. Moreover, Caritas workers installed 60 biosand water filters for water treatment, producing drinking water by self-made mineral filters. Thus the continuation of subsistence farming is ensured which has severely suffered from the long years of drought in the highland of Hazarajat. Before the start of the project geologists have examined the ground to make sure that the groundwater table will not sink due to the wells. These projects are part of an infrastructure strengthening programme in rural areas.

Funding of the project: **300.000 Euro**, thereof **230.000 Euro** from funds of the Foreign Office.

Russia

Children as motors of integration

"Unstrange" kids is a pilot project to integrate children of migrants, a joint project of Caritas and the municipal Psychological Centre of Novosibirsk. Children from Tadjhikistan, Kirgizstan, Uzbekistan and other former Soviet republics whose parents work here learn not only the Russian language but also how to cope in everyday life. Meanwhile the project serves as a model for the city and the district of Novosibirsk because integration works quite well in a small group which becomes a second family for the children and has stabilising effects on their whole environment.

Caritas Germany supported the work for children and adolescents in Russia with **291.000 Euro** in 2014.



Senegal and Guinea-Bissau

Adapting to more frequent droughts and floods

This project of adapting to climate change is about the improvement of regional agriculture – for instance by building water retention basins, setting up tree nurseries, reforestation or by building grains silos. In parallel to these steps the project aims at health education and protection against malaria, cholera and other diseases occurring in the wake of more frequently occurring floods.

Supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with **3 million Euro**, with **400.000 Euro** used in 2014.



Ethiopia

Small-scale farmers produce alternative income

“The bees”, says a father of a family from the Ethiopian province of Hararghe, “made it possible for me to send my children to school.” The first honey harvest of 14 kilos raised 80 Euro for him. Caritas Germany supports nearly 50.000 people here to develop alternatives in agriculture – apart from beekeeping for instance with chicken breeding and dairy farming or by applying drought resistant seeds.

The projects are, besides other sources, funded by: www.caritas-international.de/aethiopienspendenaktion.

Mali

Immediate help with long-term effects

Caritas Germany is running “Cash for Work”-programmes with people from the areas marked by weather extremes – long droughts and heavy rainfalls – as well as with returnees from the civil war stricken areas. Together with the affected and local partners it is building water retention basins, dykes and irrigation systems in order to improve agricultural productivity. At the same time the mostly impoverished farmers are able to buy urgently needed food with the money earned.

In 2014 six cash-for-work-programmes were carried out with a budget of **2.2 million Euro** in total, funded by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).



Ethiopia

Perspectives for the poorest in Mekelle

The Abba-Gebremichael-Childcentre of the Vincentian Congregation offers regular food, a place to sleep and more to needy boys and girls, many of them street-children: "The children shall learn to master their life", says Sr. Madeleine. Nearly 300 boys and girls come to the centre every day to discover their talents there. They make music, paint and experiment, play soccer or acquire computer skills.

In 2014 Caritas Germany supported the project with **75.000 Euro** from foundation funds.



North Korea

Successful vaccination for children

In order to protect children from the widespread hepatitis B infection as well as Japanese encephalitis B infection as well as Japanese encephalitis Caritas Germany has been carrying out comprehensive vaccination programmes at schools. In 2013/14 3.1 million children aged between one and 16 received vaccination against encephalitis, a virus disease spread by insect bites which can cause a life-threatening inflammation of the brain.

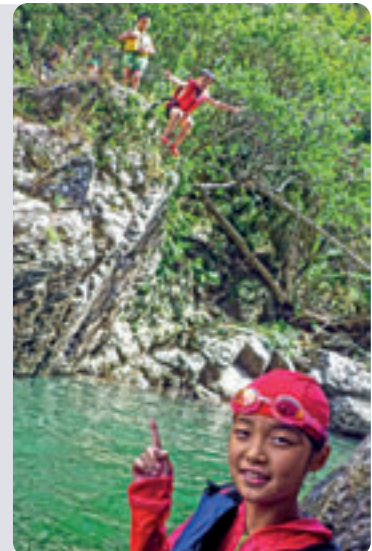
In 2013/14 the encephalitis vaccinations were supported with the amount of **1.013 million Euro** in total, thereof **927.000 Euro** from UN funds.

Japan

Strengthen playfully

"It's been a long time ago since I could have my children play so blithely and free", tells Hiromi Kobayashi. She and her children are participating in a summer camp for families affected by the nuclear disaster of Fukushima in 2011. The activities of the "Okinawa Youth Hostel Association", founded by Caritas Germany and its local partner organizations, have the purpose of giving the children who were exposed to high radiation the chance to revitalize by playing outdoors and thus be able to strengthen their immune system.

In 2014, the programmes were supported with **166.4000 Euro** from donations.





Latin America

For the rights of elderly people

Caritas organizations in entire Latin America want to strengthen elderly people by a cross-border exchange of experience. It starts with improvements in everyday life – from common lunch and breakfast till setting up small workshops and laundrettes – and extends to the level of political claims for the rights of elderly people. In a nationwide Latin-American senior programme, institutions and players exchange experiences.

Since 2008 the Latin American programme has been supported with more than **600.000 Euro** in total, especially by funds of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).



East and South-Eastern Europe

Home care – a concept with foresight

Home care – a concept meeting the requests of many elderly people to remain within their family even in old age and at the same time considering the insufficient governmental care. Adapted to specific situations, homecare concepts were developed and implemented in Ukraine, Russia, Armenia, Kosovo and Bosnia.

During the last years the home-care programmes were supported for instance in Kosovo (**165.000 Euro** from donations) and in Armenia (**90.500 Euro** from donation and church funds).



Iraq

Centres for disabled people as family meeting points

The programme of Caritas Iraq offers individual support for children with disabilities and their families. Another purpose is to strengthen the rights of the disabled within the Iraqi society. About 160 families with physically and/or mentally disabled children up to 15 years of age are being supported. The staff workers visit the families, at the same time the parents come to the centre and exchange experience of how they can support their children in everyday life.

In 2014, Caritas Germany supported the work for people with disabilities with **140.000 Euro** out of church funds.

Egypt

A transnational concept

The long-standing Caritas partner SETI (Support Education Training for Inclusion) designed a concept of a family-based approach in help for disabled and implemented it in concrete projects. Since state structures are missing the question is to improve the situation of disabled children and adolescents directly with their families. SETI conveys the concept also to partners in other Arabic countries – also in Iraq.

In 2014, the work for people with disabilities of Caritas Germany's partner SETI was supported with **340.000 Euro** by funds of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ).



Bolivia



Allowing an independent life

Since 2006 Caritas has carried out pilot projects for the support, assistance and inclusion of people with disabilities in the dioceses of La Paz, El Alto, Coroico and Achacachi. Since then, for many of these people and their families the living conditions have improved sustainably: Specialists visit the families, the disabled participate in rehabilitation programmes, and self-help-groups were founded. The goal is to lead a life as independent as possible. For this purpose Caritas focuses on four sectors: rehabilitation, integration, public relations work as well as networking and lobbying.

Supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) from 2012 till 2014 with **827.587 Euro**.

Peru

Small-scale farmers use the rain forest and protect it

In order to mitigate climate change and simultaneously protect the livelihood of small-scale farmers, Caritas Germany takes a stance against the deforestation of rain forests in Peru and other states of Latin America. In Peru alone, small-scale farmers and Amazon communities, within the framework of Caritas projects and sustainable agro-forestry production, make use of 3.000 hectares of rain forest and protect another 16.500 hectares of uncultivated forests. By this farming method the small-scale farmers from 14 communities in Madre de Dios secure their livelihood and at the same time contribute significantly to climate protection. Caritas supports the cooperatives also in the marketing of their products – especially of cocoa and cupuacu.

In 2014, Caritas Germany spent **118.000 Euro** out of church funds for its commitment to protect the rainforest in Peru.



Indonesia

Rehabilitation and advice for addicts

To first establish personal contact with addicts is crucial in drug help. Caritas Medan in the diocese bearing the same name is running a drop-in centre where they can get sterile needles and psychosocial advice. Once the drug addicts have established trust in the Caritas workers, they often participate in self-help-groups or seek legal advice which helps them to get access to governmental aid programmes and medical services. The offered services of Caritas encouraged (and still does so) about 2.500 prisoners, more than 660 street-children and 200 adolescents to take a chance and shake off addiction. Furthermore, Caritas Medan is running a rehabilitation centre for addicted people since 2011. 15 patients can get stationary care there. Caritas Germany also supports the professional qualification of the healthcare workers and training workshops.

In 2014, the programmes were supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) with **84.000 Euro**.



Brazilian mood in German weather

Caritas Germany was part of the **99th German "Katholikentag" (Catholic's Day)** in Regensburg with a lot of exciting events.

The sky darkened when Caritas Germany's two guest from Brazil, CidicleitonLuitz da Silva and Neto Joao, offered their dancing-workshop "Bodies in Motion". But there was no need to worry that the audience would not join in. "There were so many people coming and dancing passionately with us – even in the pouring rain", "Cidi" Luiz da Silva happily reports. Strange enough, the expectations of the Brazilian guests were met by the weather but not by the audience. "Before we went on our trip to Germany we had the cliché in mind that Germans are a bit standoffish and cold", says Neto who lives, just like Cidi, in the Brazilian city of Recife. And it was not only the dancing-workshop that was much better received by the audience than expected. The two Brazilians presented their photo exhibition – which originated from a Caritas-media-workshop for adolescents in Recife – in front of more than 150 people who ventured a "glimpse behind the facades of the Soccer World Cup". Events related to Caritas' annual campaign "Far away is closer than you think" and Caritas Germany's information counter were very well attended. Success which encourages the Caritas-team to hit the ground running and start preparations for the Anniversary Catholic's Day – 2016 in Leipzig. ■

A glimpse behind the facades of the World Cup

Youth in Brazil – a photo exhibition with pictures shot by **adolescents from Recife** was presented in an exhibition in 20 places in Germany.

The Soccer World Cup drew the world's attention to Brazil. Caritas Germany took advantage of that to go on a tour through Germany with an extraordinary photo exhibition. The exhibition presented photographs created in the course of a youth-media-project in Recife. Recife was one of twelve venues; close to the slums a new and bombastic stadium had been built. The photographs of the exhibition express everyday life of the people li-



ving in the favela. Drugs, violence and the lack of perspectives shape everyday life of the youth. The project aims at sharpening awareness and reflecting one's own situation via the medium of photography. In a second step the adolescents want to draw attention on their situation by exhibitions and photo reportages in their own quarters of the town. In the educational institution of the convent in Reute (see picture), one of 20 venues in Germany, the participants of a girl's camp dealt intensively with the pictures from Recife – and experienced, just like many other visitors to the exhibition, Brazil's reality behind the World Cup. ■



Weapons to artwork – art for education

17 Caritas associations all over Germany presented the **Symbiosis-Exhibition** and generated 30.000 Euro of proceeds.

From January till December an exhibit of the exhibition “Symbiosis / 1.5 tons of global entanglement” was on tour through Germany. “Symbiosis” is an art-project which wants to draw attention to the fatal consequences of small arms exports and the risks of violence involved. The artists Peter Zizka and Matthias Rettner turned 300 former weapons used in civil war to exhibits. The proceeds from the sales of these exhibits go to Caritas Germany’s work in Burundi, the country where the weapons come from. 17 local German Caritas associations could be convinced to act as partners for the project in the course of Caritas’ annual campaign “Far away is closer than you think”. They displayed one exemplary Symbiosis-exhibit and created an event in collaboration with Caritas Germany. The range of events like panel discussions, masses and lectures dealing with the global effects of increasing small arms exports was overwhelming. 30.000 Euro were raised by donations and the sales of the exhibits – the proceeds will benefit 1.700 children living in the slums of Burundi’s capital Bujumbura. “To give these children the opportunity to go to school”, says Fr. Benno Baumeister who is in charge of the programme in Burundi, “will decide on their entire life.” ■

The worldwide Caritas against hunger

All of the 164 Caritas-organizations participated in the campaign **“One Human Family – Food for all”**. It was supported even by Pope Francis.

Sustainable small-scale-farming is the key to fight against hunger especially in the poorest countries of the world. At least this is a finding of the “food security study” worked out by the worldwide Caritas-network and based on a survey of 98 involved Caritas-organizations. The study identified lacking access to land, seeds and markets, low agricultural



productivity and the effects of climate change as the main reasons for hunger. The study also demonstrates successes of Caritas’ work: According to the study 106 million people benefitted from Caritas’ food- and agriculture-projects in 2013. Apart from conducting studies political influence is an important part of the campaign: Caritas, for instance, made an appeal to the EU to be more active in the fight against hunger and presented the report “Food for all – The EU’s role to end hunger by 2025” in the European parliament. All of the 164 national Caritas-organizations participated in the campaign “One human family – Food for all”, among other things in a promotion week in October which had been encouraged also by Pope Francis. ■



One Million Stars for children in Congo

This time, the benefits of the Caritas-campaign were donated to a project for the rehabilitation of **former child soldiers**.

For more than ten years Caritas Goma has been committed to former child soldiers in the north-east of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The staff workers have accompanied around 7.000 child soldiers on their way to social rehabilitation. Yet, in spite of all efforts thousands of child soldiers are being abused. Caritas Goma wrote in May 2014: "The murdering or mutilation of child soldiers, attacks on schools and hospitals, refusal of humanitarian aid for children, recruitment and mobilization of child soldiers, sexual abuse of children, and the abduction of children – these six infringements of children's rights are listed in resolution 1612 of the UN Security Council. For two decades these crimes are commonplace in the Democratic Republic of Congo."

Caritas Germany addressed this issue last year with the campaign "One Million Stars" and collected more than 35.000 Euro for former child soldiers in north-eastern Congo. On November 15th, already for the eight time "One Million Stars" were glowing. Following the slogan of the annual campaign of the German Caritas Association, Caritas-associations, institutions and parishes in 81 places of Germany made a shining mark for a more equitable world in which we all are neighbours. ■

Caritas-delegates on a visit in Georgia

Exchange of expertise on social **youth- and senior citizen welfare** under hard conditions.

Inited by the international department of Caritas Germany, a delegation of six members of German Caritas associations travelled to Georgia to get an idea of the work of their colleagues and to exchange expertise. In day-centres for children, assisted living groups and in the "House of Caritas" in Tbilisi social workers, psychologists, teachers and many volunteers take care of several hundred children and adolescents from poor families, social orphans, street-children and children with disabilities. As for elder care, Caritas Georgia's approach is based on



home care and giving trainings to nursing relatives. Meanwhile, Caritas' home care courses are part of the curriculum of the state education of nurses (picture: celebration after the completion of the course and handing out of certificates at Caritas). The German specialists coming from the fields of social welfare and welfare services for children, elderly and disabled were impressed about the great personal commitment of their colleagues in Georgia. And impressed about the fact that it's possible to establish an extensive network of social services in spite of difficult framework conditions. ■



Exchanging views with Germany's Foreign Minister

Representatives of humanitarian organizations exchanged views about current hot spots with **Frank-Walter Steinmeier**.

On February 26th 2014, representatives of humanitarian organizations, among them Dr. Oliver Mueller, director of the international department of Caritas Germany, accepted an invitation by the Secretary of State, Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier, to the Foreign Office of the German Government to exchange views. The current hot spots Syria, Afghanistan and Ukraine were in the centre of the discussions. The Federal Minister emphasized the good cooperation with the relief organizations and the important role of humanitarian aid. For the first time humanitarian aid was mentioned in the coalition agreement. Thus, it will receive more attention in the committee "Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid" in the future. To take this into account, the representatives of the humanitarian organizations advocated an increased funding in the government's budget. Other topics discussed were the acceptance of independency of humanitarian organizations as well as neutrality in the case of conflicts. Caritas Germany receives, in addition to private donations, funds by the Federal Government for a great number of its projects. Thanks to this collaboration Caritas Germany is able to guarantee continuous humanitarian aid and often, in cases of disaster, to react quickly and help effectively. ■

Tsunami ten years on: Remembering the victims

In the countries bordering the Indian Ocean **230.000 dead** were commemorated. Caritas was taking stock of the long-term effects of its aid.

Ten years after the tsunami in the Indian Ocean Caritas-organizations of the affected countries Indonesia, India, Thailand and Sri Lanka commemorated the victims along with Caritas-representatives from all over the world as well as representatives of the different religions of the victims at a central commemoration ceremony in Sri Lanka. The President of the German Caritas Association, Prelate Dr. Peter Neher, also travelled to Sri Lanka's capital Colombo as well as to the



areas which were most affected by the disaster. 163 aid projects were initiated by Caritas Germany and its local partners after the tsunami which are all still fully effective. Neher attributes this to Caritas' principle of partnership. "The tsunami response demonstrated that only he can help effectively who is familiar with the local region and circumstances. Successful aid projects build on the expertise of local partner organizations and make use of the self-help-capacities of the affected." Similar results are expressed in a long-term study on the effects of aid after major disasters which was conducted by Caritas India (see page 19). ■

To make aid **feasible**

Strategic fund-raising at Caritas Germany.

There are two specific major disasters to which Caritas Germany was looking back during the recent months and which are deep-rooted in collective awareness till today: December marked the tenth anniversary of the tsunami in Southeast-Asia. One week later we remembered the victims of the earthquake in Haiti which destroyed large parts of the country's infrastructure in January 2010. Caritas Germany combined the commemorations with a critical look back: on its own work and on the perspectives in the countries affected. Taking stock proved positive last but not least because emergency relief and reconstruction in both of the respective disaster areas could be accompanied and supported for a long time. This was made possible by the big willingness to donate which these disasters triggered in our supporters.

Compared to "mega disasters" like these the world's attention in cases of other humanitarian crises is rather low or only short-lived. Furthermore, Caritas Germany strives for rendering support beyond immediate emergency relief, it wants to capacitate the population to initiate development on its own. Donations are needed also for this kind of long-term support and for the "forgotten disasters" that don't make it to the headlines. True, Caritas Germany can rely on numerous loyal supporters. Yet it remains a permanent challenge to generate stable donations irrespective of current influences and thus be able to guarantee sustainable charity-projects on which the beneficiaries can rely on.

Right here a broad-based strategy for a long-term increase of revenues comes into play. Thanks to this strategy new and sustainable donor-relations could be established which will be still strengthened over

the next few years. There are three elements which mark the focuses of this strategy: 1) Accountability and communication with donors; 2) Extension of online-communication and 3) Closer relations to major donors, companies and foundations.

Donor relations

The development of close relations to our donors and, as a result of this, the ability to respond to their needs much better has been and still is the prioritized aim of the strategy. We created special offers to donate permanently for certain donation purposes,

for instance for sustainable disaster relief. To keep our supporters

continuously informed about successes and progress of our project work, we created an online-newsletter and a donor-magazine. In addition to this we try to take up creative ideas from our donors for instance in the course of project-weeks at school, club celebrations or birthday parties. In order

to accomplish this and to competently assist donors in any question or request, we have extended our

service for donors.

Online-communication

Online-communication has been also extended in the last years. Thus, we set up a new website already in the first year of the implementation of the strategy. It offers, next to a contemporary appearance, comprehensive insight into our project- and delivers transparency, for instance in the handling of donations. The time factor is crucial especially in the case of acute disasters. Real-time communication with our donors and giving information on current developments is especially vital for us as a relief organization involved in emergency relief and disaster aid. Online-Newslet-



Donor-magazine, online-newsletter and events – there are multiple ways of communicating with donors



Caritas Germany's team in charge of donor-communication. Left, back row: **Christine Decker** (internal communication within the Caritas Association), **Birgit Winterhalter** (major donor relations), **Gregor Wolf** (data base administrator), **Ingmar Neumann** (foundation and company relations); middle row: **Ingo Steidl** (online-marketing), **Karin Anderer** (donor relations), **Martina Stephan** (donor relations); front row: **Katrin Zeh** (donor relations), **Anna Wilkens** (donor relations), **Jörg Schaper** (direct marketing).

ter, social networks and weblogs are the tools we mainly use for this purpose. Online donations in cases of major disasters have increased as well. Moreover, social networks are excellent communication platforms to discuss pressing global issues, launch charity events or to organize public protest against unjust structures and decisions.

Major donor relations

Extending relations to foundations, companies and major donors comes up to meet their social corporate responsibility for the poorest worldwide. By giving intensive personal and competent professional advice, Caritas Germany succeeded in increasing the willingness of major donors to render support on a mid-term basis in the case of social projects and on a short-term basis in the case of disasters.

The interim results of the strategy are positive. Especially donations confided to Caritas Germany regardless of big disasters have risen continuously. Nonetheless we have to make every effort also in the future to

keep our donors well and honestly informed, to give competent advice to them and at the same time show them absolute concretely what there could be accomplished due to their support.

For there is nothing else more motivating than to certainly know that one's own commitment saved lives and helped to turn the fates of people for the better. With all this in mind we have to keep an eye on costs. Caritas succeeded also last year in keeping the percentage of promotion and administrative costs within the project expenses below ten percent. They amounted to 8.75 percent in 2014 (see page 39).

Michael Brücker



Michael Brücker is head of Caritas Germany's public relations department and thus also of donor relations.

Committed to people in need

The Ebola epidemic in Western Africa, the Ukraine crisis and especially the suffering of refugees from Syria and Iraq triggered a big willingness to donate among the people in Germany last year. Again many youth groups, clubs, parishes, companies, schools, kindergartens and individual persons demonstrated commitment. On behalf of them all we introduce some activities and events of supporters

who did not only contribute in raising funds for people in need, but also helped to give information and raise awareness.

In the name of those who benefit from that support we would like to say “Big thanks!” to all the committed ones who tried hard to support Caritas Germany and the people in need by culinary events, music or sports, handicraft or many other ways.

A vegan grilled sausage, please!

The sausage stand at the “Heinerfest” (a local fair) in the city of Darmstadt received special attention. For the sausage stand of Caritas Darmstadt, the city and the “Vegetarierbund Deutschland e.V.” (Vegetarian Union) did not use any animal products. “By our meatless food-stall we want to raise awareness that vegetarian and vegan food can be an important contribution to more sustainability in worldwide food production”, said Lord Mayor Jochen Partsch. The organizers donated the four-digit proceeds to one of Caritas Germany’s humanitarian projects in Syria.



Christmas trees against Ebola

How can Christmas trees alleviate the need in the areas where Ebola has spread? Quite simply, by some special commitment of adolescents of the House St. Joseph in Klein-Zimmern/Hesse: They organized sales of Christmas trees from plantation of their home for children and youth and donated the proceeds of 8.011,36 Euro to Caritas’ Ebola relief projects. It was important for the adolescents to support children who lost one of their parents by Ebola. “Next year we are going to have some other event to alleviate need in the world”, said one of the participating adolescents.





Crib figures as fundraisers

The “nativity-scene at the river” in the Jesuit Church of Heidelberg is a very special one. Every year at Christmas it “gives shelter” to contemporary persons and thus builds a bridge to some current issue. Thus, in 2014 the crib figures of Nelson Mandela and the Pope were there as guests and asking for support. In total, 8.000 Euro for Ebola-relief in Western Africa were raised.



The Caritas canteen in World Cup fever

Students of the Catholic University of Freiburg demonstrated, in cooperation with the canteen of the German Caritas Association, how Brazil's local population can benefit from the World Cup. By organizing goal-shooting contests and betting games in the canteen next to the selling of cocktails and special international dishes they raised 818,23 Euro which are meant to support a Caritas youth project in Brazil.

DISCUSSIONS WITH DONORS

Muenster, Cologne, Hamburg, Berlin, Freiburg, Regensburg and Augsburg: These are the cities in which Caritas Germany invited donors in order to give information about the support for people in need. Support for Syrian refugees was one of the topics just as projects in the host country of the soccer world cup in Brazil. More than 400 supporters came to the discussions with the Caritas experts.



Becoming “Schauinsland-koenig” once

Also in 2014 a Caritas team started at the mountain time trial at Freiburg’s local mountain, the Schauinsland. Their goal: to raise funds for former child soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Thanks to the “cycled” donation of nearly 2.000 Euro numerous child soldiers could be reintegrated into a civil life. Alexander Lang, the organizer of the Schauinsland-race, funded half of the starting fee. The rest was covered by external donations. Next year the motivated cyclers will try to reach the donation goal of 3.000 Euro. The mountain calls...



The statutory branches of the German Caritas Association

STRUCTURE AND COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEES



President Prelate Dr Peter Neher

Secretary General Prof Dr Georg Cremer
Head of Finance and HR Hans Jörg Millies

The above three together constitute the **Board**

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

President and Secretary General by virtue of office	12 chairpersons and directors from the DiCV	7 representatives from the specialist organisations and societies	2 representatives from religious orders	5 local level representatives	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

The Assembly of Delegates (max. 199 members)

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

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

COMPOSITION AND STRUCTURE OF CARITAS GERMANY

The International Department of Caritas Germany

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



International Director: Dr Oliver Müller



Department	Department	Department	Department	Department	Department
Africa and Middle East Director: Christoph Klitsch-Ott	Asia Director: Dr Reinhard Würkner	Europe and Latin America Director: Claudio Moser	Quality Management & Auditing Director: Volker Gerdemeier	Disaster Aid Coordination Director: Dr Oliver Müller	Public Relations Director: Michael Brücker
The three regionally defined departments and the local partners plan, organise and implement projects in the areas of disaster aid and social work. During 2014, Caritas Germany delivered a total of 659 projects in 73 countries.			Develops fundamental principles of sustainable aid and evaluates them critically.	Organises immediate response disaster aid and develops methodology.	Creates awareness, motivates aid-giving, publicises the concerns of the poorest.

Members of the Caritas Council

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Consultant Members: **Katrin Gerdemeier**, Head of the Berlin Office, DCV e.V.; **Hans Joerg Millies**, Head of Finance and HR, DCV e.V.; Prelate **Bernhard Piendl**, Director, DiCV Regensburg e.V.

Worldwide aid

Caritas Germany's commitment in the year 2014 embraced 659 projects in 73 countries. Universal result: **the aid reached those in need of it.**

AFRICA

Africa (general) / 6 projects	52.666,63 Euro
Egypt / 8 projects	837.027,93 Euro
Ethiopia / 16 projects	1.177.329,72 Euro
Algeria / 1 project	20.000,00 Euro
Benin/ 2 projects	206.841,36 Euro
Burundi / 3 projects	295.894,74 Euro
Eritrea / 2 projects	152.000,00 Euro
Guinea-Bissau / 7 projects	402.942,58 Euro
Kenya / 23 projects	1.454.519,61 Euro
Dem. Rep. Congo / 27 projects	2.285.078,08 Euro
Liberia / 4 projects	614.489,23 Euro
Mali / 6 projects	2.645.459,94 Euro
Morocco / 3 projects	40.000,00 Euro
Mauritania / 1 project	25.000,00 Euro
Mozambique / 3 projects	138.000,00 Euro
Niger/ 6 projects	255.399,51 Euro
Rwanda / 3 projects	22.276,00 Euro
Senegal / 5 projects	611.860,04 Euro
Sierra Leone / 11 projects	707.098,62 Euro
South Africa / 7 projects	429.579,22 Euro
Southern Sudan / 8 projects	468.078,78 Euro
Tanzania / 7 projects	536.151,52 Euro
Togo / 2 projects	55.510,63 Euro
Uganda / 4 projects	397.000,00 Euro
Central African Republic / 1 project	50.000,00 Euro

Africa total / 167 projects 13.880.204,14 Euro

ASIA

Asia (general) / 5 projects	21.185,28 Euro
Afghanistan / 17 projects	2.273.342,77 Euro
Bangladesh / 11 projects	797.613,40 Euro
China / 13 projects	232.478,15 Euro
India / 27 projects	1.367.326,22 Euro
Indonesia / 21 projects	655.869,26 Euro
Japan / 4 projects	578.646,77 Euro
Cambodia / 6 projects	585.692,97 Euro
Mongolia / 1 project	20.000,00 Euro
Nepal / 6 projects	202.106,76 Euro
North Korea / 6 projects	692.341,48 Euro
Pakistan / 27 projects	1.398.526,77 Euro
Philippines / 21 projects	2.664.088,02 Euro
Sri Lanka / 7 projects	154.500,00 Euro
Tadjikistan / 11 projects	361.353,03 Euro
Thailand / 4 projects	94.080,00 Euro
Vietnam / 8 projects	415.649,82 Euro

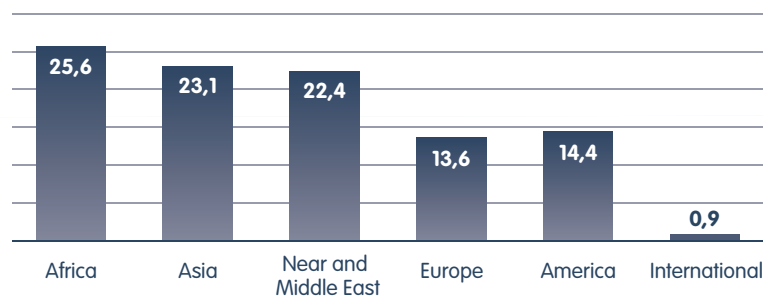
Asia total / 195 projects 12.514.800,70 Euro

NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST

Iraq / 18 projects	2.001.847,64 Euro
Israel und Palestine / 19 projects	1.635.133,35 Euro
Jordan / 15 projects	4.233.790,72 Euro
Lebanon / 16 projects	2.401.521,72 Euro
Syria / 11 projects	1.880.050,00 Euro

Near and Middle East total / 79 projects 12.152.343,43 Euro

RELATIVE AID WEIGHTING IN PERCENT



EUROPE

Europe general / 10 projects	200.726,52 Euro
Albania / 5 projects	316.162,43 Euro
Armenia / 5 projects	388.353,89 Euro
Bosnia-Herzegovina / 4 projects	330.068,72 Euro
Germany / 8 projects	3.226.345,62 Euro
Georgia / 6 projects	448.253,29 Euro
Kosovo / 4 projects	104.369,42 Euro
Poland / 1 project	28.000,00 Euro
Russia / 14 projects	611.956,53 Euro
Serbia / 3 projects	349.495,41 Euro
Czech. Republic / 2 projects	174.505,45 Euro
Turkey / 1 project	23.200,00 Euro
Ukraine / 12 projects	1.179.465,53 Euro

Europe total / 75 projects 7.380.902,81 Euro

LATIN AMERICA

Amerika general / 11 projects	157.499,58 Euro
Argentina / 3 projects	165.000,00 Euro
Bolivia / 12 projects	631.725,59 Euro
Brazil / 16 projects	831.134,90 Euro
Chile / 5 projects	255.025,26 Euro
Ecuador / 3 projects	153.500,00 Euro
El Salvador / 7 projects	211.465,81 Euro
Guatemala / 9 projects	118.067,50 Euro
Haiti / 20 projects	2.026.661,75 Euro
Honduras / 4 projects	82.541,71 Euro
Colombia / 25 projects	2.321.825,09 Euro
Cuba / 2 projects	53.849,69 Euro
Mexico / 1 project	27.000,00 Euro
Nicaragua / 3 projects	76.514,66 Euro
Panama / 2 projects	15.101,76 Euro
Paraguay / 1 project	35.000,00 Euro
Peru / 9 projects	630.584,87 Euro

Amerika total / 133 projects 7.792.488,17 Euro

INTERNATIONAL

International / 10 projects 522.807,95 Euro

Note

1. The figures in this overview do not tally completely with the donation receipts and grants total for the year 2014. 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 typhoon 2013 on the Philippines or after recurring floods in Pakistan, 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.

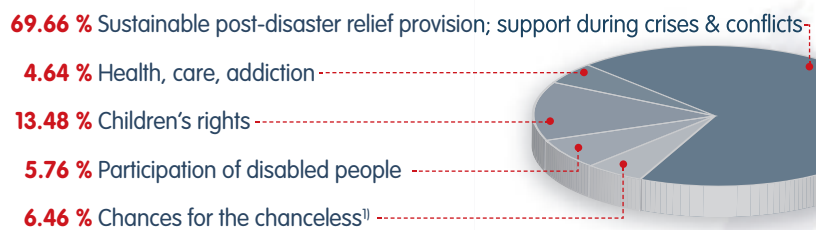
2. The projects listed in the category "International" comprise especially projects of the international Caritas network (Caritas Internationalis). Cross-border projects within one continent are being summarized in the respective categories as "general" ("Africa general", "Asia general" etc.).

Project expenditure

Total expenditure: **54.243.547 Euro**

BY TARGET GROUPS

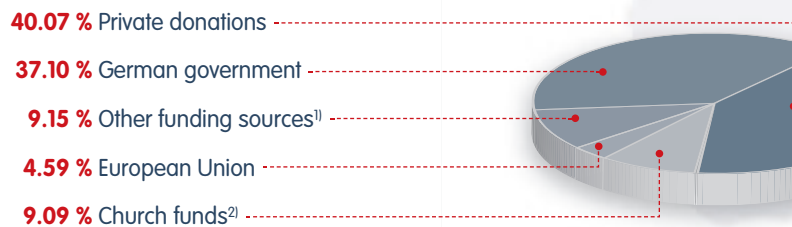
The categorisation in this overview is intended for general guidance only. Many social projects are designed with more than one target group in mind, for instance where aid is intended for disabled children or for victims of an earthquake.



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

BY FUNDING SOURCE

The diagram shows the funds allocated to projects in 2014. 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

German government total	20.123.804 Euro
thereof: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development	9.650.994 Euro
thereof: Federal Foreign Office	10.472.810 Euro

Church Funds total	4.930.010 Euro
thereof: Association of German Dioceses	4.032.840 Euro
of which: Dioceses of Freiburg, Cologne, Rottenburg-Stuttgart	897.170 Euro

European Union total*	2.491.505 Euro
Emergency aid Afghanistan	433.349 Euro
Emergency aid Colombia	567.835 Euro
Emergency aid Ethiopia	318.184 Euro

Social projects Afghanistan	818.078 Euro
Social projects Bangladesh	207.405 Euro
Social projects Colombia	8.346 Euro
Social projects Tajikistan	144.476 Euro

* 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 2014, the share of administrative and advertising costs for Caritas Germany was 8.75 percent.**

ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS CALCULATION PURSUANT TO DZI GUIDELINES

Project promotion ¹⁾	55.663.576,71 Euro	85,20 %
(thereof personnel costs)	(425.733,99 Euro)	
Project assistance	3.451.883,24 Euro	5,28 %
(of which personnel costs)	(2.983.411,47 Euro)	
Statute-compliant campaigns, educational and awareness-raising work	500.784,93 Euro	0,77 %
(of which personnel costs)	(237.305,94 Euro)	
Total project expenditure	59.616.244,88 Euro	91,25 %
Administration	2.196.658,11 Euro	3,36 %
(thereof personnel costs)	(1.025.605,68 Euro)	
Advertising and PR work	3.519.781,91 Euro	5,39 %
(of which personnel costs)	(728.249,44 Euro)	
Total administrative and advertising	5.716.440,02 Euro	8,75 %
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	65.332.684,90 Euro	100,0 %

1) 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 2014 audited by Ebner & Stolz auditing company.²⁾ 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. 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.³⁾ The annual auditor reported to the board that their findings led to no objections.

²⁾ The 2014 annual and business reports for Caritas Germany are published at www.caritas.de.

³⁾ Additional information about the DZI Guidelines 2010/a document on transparency are also available at 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	2013	2014
Public and Church grants		
German government	24.009.385,41 Euro	21.149.712,81 Euro
Church funds	4.567.171,79 Euro	6.152.527,50 Euro
European Union	2.492.186,83 Euro	2.941.085,08 Euro
Other public and Church grants	4.551.475,17 Euro	4.383.822,50 Euro
Total	35.620.219,20 Euro	34.627.147,89 Euro
Donations and other charitable contributions		
Project donations	38.932.583,73 Euro	26.889.626,63 Euro
Trust fund monies and corporate cooperations	3.943.037,79 Euro	3.579.538,71 Euro
Summe	42.875.621,52 Euro	30.469.165,34 Euro
Legacies and other income		
Proceeds from assets and interest income	3.363.319,72 Euro	3.437.058,77 Euro
Inheritances, legacies	679.737,34 Euro	295.956,33 Euro
Other	93.418,79 Euro	45.591,39 Euro
Total	4.136.475,85 Euro	3.778.606,49 Euro
TOTAL INCOME	82.632.316,57 Euro	68.874.919,72 Euro

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.

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 (190.041,69 Euro), and the RTL Foundation (399.226 Euro) and the Unicef-Foundation/Dr. Rau-Foundation (362.806,43 Euros).

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

COSTS	2013	2014
Project expenditure		
Sustainable disaster aid; aid in crises and conflicts; health, care, aid for addicts; children's rights; participation for people with disabilities; chances for the chanceless		
Project expenditure total	61.224.901,58 Euro	54.243.547,20 Euro
Personnel, materials and amortisation		
1. Personnel expenses:		
wages and salaries, social benefits, retirement funds (thereof directly allocable to projects)	5.286.961,18 Euro (3.571.998,12 Euro)	5.400.306,52 Euro (3.646.451,40 Euro)
2. Cost of materials:		
project work, educational and PR work, fundraising (thereof directly allocable to projects)	4.936.623,77 Euro (1.968.599,00 Euro)	4.784.421,57 Euro (1.726.246,28 Euro)
3. Levies:		
service charges (e.g. data processing)	940.381,22 Euro	838.506,13 Euro
4. Depreciation/Amortisation	28.553,93 Euro	65.903,46 Euro
TOTAL COSTS	72.417.421,68 Euro	65.332.684,88 Euro
RESULT FOR THE DIVISION	10.214.894,89 Euro	3.542.234,84 Euro

Notes

Project expenditure: Expenditure comprises contributions to 659 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 2014, the funds amounted to 117.091.438,10 Euros, against 113.555.586,84 Euros in the previous year (see above note on interest income).

Goals and Strategies

As a disaster relief organization Caritas Germany has to react fast. There's a lot that cannot be planned. However, to be prepared well, effective structures and strategic goals are required.

During the production of this annual report a major earthquake hit Nepal, causing more than 8.000 deaths and injuring nearly 20.000 people. In spite of some signs the disaster could not be predicted. It is owed to its local partners, good organization and structures built up over years that Caritas Germany could respond fast and effectively. The Nepal disaster response demonstrates: Humanitarian aid can be planned – at least partly. Excerpts of the strategy, formulated by Caritas Germany for the years 2013 till 2015, explain how this works.

Improvement of projects

Concerning the improvement of project work the strategy paper stipulates: "Special attention is drawn to the support of local and national Caritas-organizations in other countries which strengthen the international network and directly participate in everyday life of the people affected. Thereby, it is crucial to support sustainable structures for countering national and global inequality." In many countries Caritas Germany supports the establishment of efficient Caritas-structures as well as disaster-preventing trainings and measures. In Nepal, too, relief workers had been trained in collaboration with the national Caritas, emergency plans were developed and structures improved. Although these measures did not originally aim at the case of a potential earthquake but prevention of frequently occurring floods, it is owed to the improvements in structures and organization that Caritas was able to help the earthquake victims fast and effectively.

Monitoring of support

Furthermore, the strategy is about constant monitoring of our own work: "Caritas Germany is monitoring and documenting the observance of commitments undertaken and its own quality standards (for instance sustainability in emergency relief) by studies, evaluations, systematic interviews with beneficiaries. This implies a critical self-reflection as well as an honest dialogue, based on partnership, with national and international partners."

The systematic evaluation of projects will be continued in the following years. Caritas Germany developed an evaluation concept according to which ten percent of projects with a budget exceeding 100.000 Euro will be evaluated every year (as for this, see also page 18).

Project focuses 2015

Another focus of the strategy paper says: "Projects will be supported preferably on a long-term basis and give utmost autonomy to the partner in the respective countries." Comprehensive programmes will be implemented in disaster prevention and refugee aid. Project focuses for 2015 are:

- › Emergency relief and refugee aid in Syria and its neighbouring countries: Regarding the ongoing conflict in Syria returning of the refugees at present is not possible. Caritas Germany supports the people to gain a foothold in exile, find work, send their children to school and be able to participate in social and cultural life.
- › Emergency relief and support for internally displaced persons in Northern Iraq: Returning of the expelled people into the territories which are occupied by the terror-organization "Islamic State" (IS) is not possible. With the help of local partners Caritas Germany supports the people to find prospects in life in other areas of Iraq.
- › Aid programmes in Eastern Africa: In Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Eritrea the project focuses of adaption to climate change and improvement of agriculture will be continued in order to be better prepared for future droughts.
- › Emergency relief Nepal: After the severe earthquake Caritas Germany is involved in emergency relief and reconstruction. ■

 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

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

www.caritas-international.de