



Annual Report 2018

# Our Work worldwide

Caritas Germany  
International Department



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This report refers to the worldwide work of the German Caritas Association (DCV). The statutory annual report of the DCV board (Insights) can be found at: [www.caritas.de/geschaeftsbericht](http://www.caritas.de/geschaeftsbericht)

This annual report of Caritas Germany, the relief organization of the German Caritas Association, complemented by further reports, interviews, overviews and videos can also be found at: [www.caritas-international.de/jahresbericht](http://www.caritas-international.de/jahresbericht)



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

There are news which give rise to hope for the future and which are an acknowledgement for the work achieved by so many people: According to the World Poverty Data Report, the number of people living in absolute poverty has decreased from 1.89 billion in 1990 to less than 600 million worldwide. The reasons for this gratifying development are, for example, the more economic recovery or a more productive agriculture. And: medical care has been noticeably improved in many places and has, thus, significantly reduced child mortality. According to United Nations (UN) estimates, 5.4 million children died before their fifth birthday in 2017, compared to 12.6 million in 1990.



On the other hand, there have never been so many people on the run as today – 70.8 million (see pages 12 et seq.). And, according to UN figures, 134 million people worldwide are in need of humanitarian aid - a rather depressing “record”. This need is constantly increasing. There are also clear reasons for these negative developments: The number of conflicts has increased, as has the number of “forgotten” crises. Many people in countries such as Southern Sudan and Yemen, Bangladesh and Myanmar are left decoupled from the economic and cultural progress.

The positive developments are confirmation that the fight against global poverty can be successful; the negative ones are equally a mandate not to let up in it. Because, as Pope Francis put it: “In a world apart by wars, hatred, nationalism and division, prayer and commitment to more justice cannot be postponed. Justice for all must be requested and sought by all together.”

Caritas Germany, the international relief organization of the German Caritas Association, is committed to this mission. The challenges remain great: In civil-war-riven countries such as Yemen or Syria, the people affected will long remain being dependent on humanitarian aid (see page 12). Climate change will increasingly lead to droughts, floods or storms and require comprehensive disaster preparedness (see pages 8 et seq.). In order to be able to meet the high demands of humanitarian aid, we too must constantly put our actions to the test and develop new approaches to aid. A first interim assessment of our strategy formulated three years ago (see page 42) shows that our path of partnership and sustainable disaster relief is the right one. Therefore, we intend to pursue it further and expand it.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts for your accompaniment,  
your help and your support!

Prelate Dr Peter Neher  
President of the German Caritas Association

Dr. Oliver Müller  
International Director, Caritas Germany



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**Pope visits Caritas project in Peru**  
Pope Francis visits a project on disasters preparedness in the Peruvian Amazon region. With the help of Caritas Germany, the indigenous communities are adjusting their agriculture to effectively deal with the consequences of climate change.

**Successes against the use of children as soldiers**  
On 12 February, the international day of action against the abuse of children as soldiers, Caritas Germany points out their fate and can announce a positive result: 10,000 former child soldiers have been liberated from Caritas in Congo since 2004.

**Journey and call against oblivion**  
On their trip to Syria, Archbishop Stephan Burger (centre) and Caritas-President Peter Neher (left) gather information in Aleppo and Homs about the help of Caritas. The Bishop of Freiburg appeals not to forget the people of Syria.

# March

# February



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# January



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# July

**Dangerous aid in the Central African Republic**  
The civil war is ruthless even against aid workers. In July, a local Caritas director is murdered. Caritas and its partners are engaged in educational, medical and agricultural projects.

**Great distress after earthquake and tsunami in Sulawesi**  
Two severe earthquakes and a subsequent tsunami destroy entire regions on the Indonesian island of Sulawesi. Thanks to its local presence, Caritas is able to provide emergency aid quickly.

# September



© Maria Josephine Wijasudi

# August

**1.4 million homeless after heavy floods in Asia**  
Year after year the monsoon rains in South Asia lead to floods and landslides. South India is particularly affected in the summer of 2018, when more than 500 people are killed.



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## April

### Humanitarian emergency in Yemen

Millions of people are starving in Yemen as a result of the war. Caritas and its partners help needy children and fight against the spread of cholera.



## June

### Caritas campaign for the Soccer World Cup

On the occasion of the World Cup, Caritas Germany points out the project work in Russia: In Woljski, children who fled to Russia in order to escape the fighting in Eastern Ukraine find help.



## May

### Aid for refugees in Bangladesh

With the campaign "The greatest calamity is to forget", Caritas Germany and Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe draw attention to the brutally persecuted Rohingya minority in Myanmar.



## November

### Fight for peace in Colombia

Despite the resurgence of violence, Caritas in Colombia is committed to the realization of the peace treaty signed two years ago and supports, in numerous projects, people affected by the civil war.



## October

### Caritas Germany for new approaches to aid

On the occasion of the Day of Disaster Reduction on 12th of October, Caritas Germany calls for a reorientation in disaster relief: It must strengthen the resilience of local people affected and focus more on prevention.



## December

### Help for victims of the war in Afghanistan

The charity campaign of Caritas Germany in favour of the orthopaedic centre in Maimana, Afghanistan, is a complete success. Thanks to the great willingness to donate, hundreds of physically handicapped patients can be helped with prostheses and support devices.

## A new life from their own strength

The people on the many Indonesian islands live with constant danger, as they live directly on the “Pacific Ring of Fire”, one of the most active tectonic zones in the world. Volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and tsunamis occur again and again. Last year, three regions were hit. The fact that Caritas was able to provide emergency aid quickly is due to good disaster preparedness and a proven infrastructure.

**N**eng Nursiah has lived on the coast all her life. Until 23 December 2018, when a tsunami destroyed their home in the strait between the Indonesian islands of Java and Sumatra. “We were sleeping when the big waves came. We woke up from the roar and could rescue ourselves in time. There were a total of three waves approaching us. The second one was the biggest one,” recalls the mother of eight children a few weeks after the disaster.

She says she cannot imagine going back to the coast. The shock of the tsunami, triggered by a landslide on a volcano, which hit the region completely unexpectedly and without warning, is too deep. “The sea has taken everything from me. I prefer to live here in this mass shelter,” says the 52-year-old. Anything’s better than going back to the coast. So she and her family take it upon themselves to sleep, one mat next to the other, in a small, stuffy room every night. “My children



**Destroyed places:**  
The tsunami on the strait between Java and Sumatra caused devastating damage

dragged me away when we realized there was a tsunami coming. Then we drove in the car of neighbours to the next elevation. At three in the morning I came back to the coast and saw that our house had been destroyed,” Nursiah says. Unlike her family members, some of her neighbours did not survive that day.

It is due to the local Caritas experts that she is able to speak so frankly and open about these events. They were rendering psychosocial support and helped the affected people to deal with their traumas, just like they did after the severe earthquake at the island of Sulawesi and the subsequent tsunami in September the very same year. One of these specialists is Mina Asmara, who takes, in individual and group sessions, care of the mental health of the people affected. “It is sometimes difficult to persuade the traumatised to talk about this night,” says the 34-year-old. “We have a special healing therapy, for example using instrumental music, to relax them. But above all, it takes time and patience for them to open.”

### Help for self-help in reconstruction

Indonesia, which lies in the tectonically most active region of the world, is repeatedly shaken by catastrophes. In 2018, thanks to its local partners, Caritas Germany rendered aid after three disasters: after the earthquake in August 2018 in Lombok, after the earthquake and the subsequent tsunami in September in Sulawesi and after the tsunami in the strait between Java and Sumatra in December. This help was only possible due to a high willingness to donate.

While the focus of aid in the period after the immediate disaster was on psychosocial aid, but also on medical aid and the distribution of food and hygiene items, the local Caritas partners have been concentrating on reconstruction for some time now. Since then, numerous affected people have been able to build new shelters with support from Germany. The approach is not to build a complete house for those in need, but rather to support them with repairs or new construction – be it with expertise or building materials. Neng Nursiah is happy that she and her loved ones are not left alone in their situation. “I’m very grateful for the help we’ve received. I realized how many people are there for you. People who help us, who love our family”.

 [www.caritas-international.de/indonesien2018](http://www.caritas-international.de/indonesien2018)



### Indonesia: Three disasters in just one year



#### Indonesia Disaster Aid

**Funds invested 2018** 588.000 Euro from donations and from the Federal Foreign Office.

**Measures and Effect** Teams of physicians, nurses and midwives provided emergency aid; further teams distributed cooking utensils and Food. On Lombok were shelters built for 1,500 people.

**Perspective** From donations and the means of the The Federal Foreign Office has a budget for 2019 of about EUR 1.2 million for further emergency aid, for psychosocial help as well as the reconstruction work.



**Emergency care by Caritas helpers:**  
Neng Nursiah lost everything in the tsunami and is in need of support.

# Protection against climate change

How Caritas Germany and its partners are preparing for the increase in **droughts, floods and storms**.

The years of drought in East Africa, the severe hurricanes and typhoons in the Caribbean and Southeast Asia, or the devastating floods in India and Bangladesh – no one can clearly prove which of these catastrophes is clearly due to climate change. However, the significant increase in global temperatures, the resulting rise of the sea level and an increase in the number of extreme weather events can be measured. For Caritas Germany and its partners, as climate change progresses, the proven three-step approach of emergency aid, reconstruction and preparedness is changing. The aid-workers often provide emergency relief – mostly with the help of those affected – and always have to think already about the next catastrophe in the phase of reconstruction. More than ever, disaster preparedness is about making those affected more resilient to the next quake, drought or flood. The projects presented here show the possibilities and limitations of this precaution. In Haiti, for example, since the 2010 earthquake, protective shelters have been built and evacuation plans have been drawn up to save lives even in tropical storms. True, in Mozambique, disaster preparedness was unable to prevent the severe damage caused by two cyclones in spring 2019. But it was possible to train partners beforehand, so that they were able to reliably and quickly care for the needy in distress. Similarly, Caritas in Sierra Leone gained a great deal of trust among the population when it effectively provided emergency aid after the severe floods of 2017. It is now working closely with those affected in disaster preparedness. ■



[www.caritas-international.de/klimawandel2018](http://www.caritas-international.de/klimawandel2018)



## Cleaning and disposal, protection and precautions

After the flood of 2017, Caritas Freetown is focusing on **sustainable help for self-help** and thus also promotes social cohesion.

After violent storms, catastrophic floods and a landslide occurred in the capital of Sierra Leone in August 2017. Whole districts of Freetown have been razed to the ground. More than 1,100 people lost their lives, around 6,000 more lost their homes and belongings. Caritas Freetown provided emergency relief, cleaned houses and supplied people with food, clothing, hygiene and household items. In Culvert, the flash flood was also contaminated with garbage, mud and animal carcasses, as the slum is located directly next to a rubbish dump. After the clean-up, it is, as part of disaster preparedness, likewise a matter of preventing similar effects of heavy rainfall in the future as well as improving people's living conditions. Both the construction of sewers and the rehabilitation of latrines as well as the comprehensive education of the population contribute to this. 180 volunteers were equipped with protective clothing and tools and are now passing on their knowledge of environmental hazards and risk prevention to schools and workshops. ■

The prevention project was supported in 2018 with 40,000 euros from the Archdiocese of Cologne and with 20,000 euros each from donations and funds from Misereor.



## Defying climate change sustainably

In Mozambique, Caritas Germany wants to counteract more frequent extreme weather conditions with good **water management**.

When the project to “Improve resilience to the effects of climate change” was launched in early 2018, no one could have suspected that a year later Cyclone Idai would hit Mozambique and claim more victims than any storm before it. The bad experience shows that prevention projects cannot prevent disasters, but they can enable people to help themselves and others. In any case, thanks to its improved infrastructure, the local Caritas was able to effectively support international emergency aid. As a result of significant temperature increases, the threat of even more frequent droughts, heavy rains and storms in one of the poorest countries in the world is growing. The construction of wells and cisterns will improve the water supply in several districts; new seeds and a sprinkler system will make the harvests more productive. In addition, improved stoves help to save firewood and thus protect the tree population. And thanks to training courses and events, neighbouring locations can also benefit from the project. ■

The precautionary project on adaptation to climate change is made possible by donations of approx. 34,000 euros as well as Misereor's funds of over 70,000 euros.

## Protection against earthquakes and floods

Disaster preparedness in **Haiti** means preparing for many different scenarios. But this also offers opportunities.

Haiti lies in the middle of a seismically active zone and is therefore highly earthquake-prone. Moreover, almost every year severe hurricanes leave behind a series of hurricane aisles in the island state. As a result, heavy rain with floods and landslides are frequent. Because Haiti is also the poorest country in the western world, people are particularly vulnerable to the consequences of disasters, as they often have little financial means to protect themselves and live in simple houses that can easily collapse. A difficult starting position for disaster prevention – but also an opportunity. The shelters that Caritas Germany has built after the devastating earthquake of 2010 in Nippes department, saved lives in hurricanes. Now the relief organization of the German Caritas Association has extended the disaster preparedness project with the local Caritas. In addition to the construction of another protective shelter, this includes training in disaster control, early warning systems and emergency plans. Almost 1,500 people receive an income through cash for work programmes for protection against erosion. ■

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is supporting the project over a period of three years with a total amount of one million euros.



© Caritas Germany

**Waiting for an end to the rain:** thousands of people had to wait in emergency shelters

## Houses destroyed, lives saved

Heavy flooding in August destroyed crops, roads and houses in India. Many lives were saved thanks to many years of disaster preparedness.

**A**nother “flood of the century” in South Asia: 23 million people are affected by the floods triggered by an extremely strong monsoon in August 2018. Only last year, millions of people in India were hit by floods. And climate change threatens to increase the number of weather extremes. The successes of disaster preparedness projects, which Caritas Germany has been supporting for years, give rise to hope.

When, after weeks of heavy rainfall, the dams in the highlands of the state of Kerala had to be opened in August 2018 in order to prevent them from breaking, the lowlands were flooded within a very short time. The overflowing rivers swept away the simple mud huts of the poor farmers, destroyed harvests and flooded entire villages. Torrential continuous rain had made the rivers of the region overflow their banks. On

steep mountain slopes there were landslides, which took numerous houses with them. Over 500 people lost their lives in the disaster, more than 10,000 houses were completely destroyed, 220,000 people were homeless and over 60,000 hectares of arable land were flooded. A total of 23 million people were affected. Together with Caritas India, the relief organization of the German Caritas Association, provided people in Kerala with food, medicines, hygiene kits, household articles and mosquito nets. By water filters contaminated water could be consumed again, sanitary facilities were repaired, experts informed about correct hygiene practices. Equipped with tools and material, affected families were able to repair their huts and houses themselves on their own initiative. The serious destruction of agriculture caused concern, as the yields from the small fields are often the only source of food and income for the farming families.

**India: Cyclone and heavy rain hazard**



Caritas helps to rebuild agriculture and distributes seeds and working materials so that the fields can be replanted. Minorities, Muslims and people in remote mountain regions, who are often not included in government programmes, benefit most from the measures. Caritas disaster preparedness programmes are now having a very positive impact: the number of people who lose their lives in disasters has fallen significantly in the last decade (see article below). Immediately after the floods, countless voluntary disaster relief workers were deployed. Many fishermen, who were affected by the tsunami in 2004 and have since organized themselves in disaster prevention and corresponding teams, rescued people from the flooded regions with their boats. However, the material damage remains high. Of particular concern is the increasing scale and frequency of disasters. Only in 2017, more than 45 million people in South Asia were affected by floods; many lost their homes and livelihoods. High time for further measures – both in climate protection and in disaster prevention.

**India** Emergency aid and disaster preparedness

**Funds invested** Donations for a total of 1,17 million euros for emergency aid and reconstruction (2018 and 2019)

**Measures and effect** In Kerala, a total of 20,000 people were supported with food, hygiene kits, medicines, household articles, etc. Reconstruction measures especially in the areas of house construction and agriculture.

**Perspective** Donations, among others, from the diocese of Regensburg over 500,000 Euro, from nine further (Arch-) dioceses and many individual donors ensure the continuation of the support and disaster preparedness.

**The Silent Work of Disaster Reduction**

*India and other countries in South Asia are severely affected by weather-related disasters. When the monsoon rains fall particularly heavily - as in August 2018 - severe flooding is the result. And when - as in spring 2019 - strong cyclones hit the country, they often leave a trail of devastation behind. More than 500 people died during the monsoon in the southwest of India, more than 40 by the cyclone in Odisha. And yet: The number of fatalities has decreased in the last decades. As late as 1999, more than 10,000 people had died in a severe cyclone in the same region of Odisha. However, the rescue of many people is not the result of individual heroic deeds. Rather, it is based on the work of many, mostly nameless, actors who, through constant, often completely unspectacular educational and networking work over the past decades, have persistently moved things for the better: They have consistently and successfully invested in prevention. This was a silent heroic deed of many participants. These also include German donors and taxpayers who have co-financed disaster prevention projects. Early warnings and evacuations work better and better. What began 20 years ago as*

*pioneering work in grassroots projects has gradually been recognized by government actors in India as a necessity: to protect the population against natural disasters as best as possible. This ranges from precise weather forecasts and early warning systems to regional risk plans, awareness-raising and the mobilization of volunteers in emergency aid teams to the construction and maintenance of shelters. Casteless people, Muslims or members of indigenous minorities are often forgotten or disadvantaged by state aid programmes. Therefore, it is still an important challenge for relief agencies such as Caritas to push for the protection and the support of disadvantaged groups and to provide them with access to necessary assistance. But much more needs to be done. The number of natural catastrophes worldwide has doubled in the past twenty years to around 350 a year. In many cases, these are weather-related disasters such as hurricanes and floods as a result of climate change.*



**Peter Seidel,**  
Desk-officer for South-Asia



**Life in destroyed cities:**  
In the midst of ruins, most people are only concerned with bare survival for the time being

## Life in Ruins, Hope for Peace

While war is still raging in Idlib, bombs are no longer falling in other parts of Syria. But where the Assad regime has regained control, it is usually brutally harsh on opponents. The return of the refugees and reconstruction are unthinkable. Unlike neighbouring northern Iraq,

**E**ven where the immediate danger of bombs and other weapons is averted for the time being, the situation remains devastating for most people in Syria: A large part of the houses and infrastructure has been destroyed or damaged, many people hardly have anything to eat, they have no work and no access to clean water. Almost every inhabitant has lost close relatives or friends. 13 million people are dependent on humanitarian aid. And: after their return, people critical of the regime are threatened with arrest; their belongings were partly confiscated, partly expropriated. Thus, people who were critical of the regime were deliberately expelled and those who remained loyal to the regime were settled in the formerly embattled districts.

### Emergency aid for those particularly in need of protection

When Caritas President Peter Neher, Archbishop Stephan Burger of Freiburg and Oliver Müller, International Director of Caritas Germany, visited the war-torn country in spring 2018, there could be no mention of reconstruction. Nor of a return of the 5.6 million people who had to flee Syria. "He who has seen reality in Syria with his own eyes cannot comprehend the debate conducted in Germany about the return to Syria. This debate is inhuman and without any knowledge of reality," Peter Neher stressed after his trip. Caritas Germany and its local partners continue to provide emergency aid:

#### Focus »Flight and Expulsion«

## Signals for the protection of refugees

*The number of people fleeing war, conflict and persecution has never been as large as it is today. Anke Wiedemann, desk-officer in charge of the issues of flight and expulsion, explains the reasons why and how Caritas Germany helps.*

*According to UNHCR, at the end of 2018 70.8 million people worldwide were fleeing, compared to 37.5 million ten years ago. What are the main reasons for this immense increase?*

**Anke Wiedemann:** True, the number of classic wars fought out between two states, has decreased in the past years. But it is a fact that the number of domestic violent conflicts and civil wars has increased. Such intra-state conflicts are often hardly or never reported in the media. They are therefore also called forgotten crises. These include, for example, the conflict in the Central African Republic, which has led to the fact that one out of every five inhabitants of the country is fleeing. In

## Syria: The aid services of Caritas

More than 80,000 people receive food and hygiene items in the Caritas projects, and at least another 10,000 receive medical care. In addition to this emergency relief, Caritas aid aims at those who are least able to help themselves and yet embody the hope for a better future - at children. In Homs, children from the "Ephraimites Sisters", a Caritas partner organization, receive extra tuition to get back into school. Also in Homs, the projects of two religious communities especially support children and young people with a mental or physical disability. And in Aleppo, Caritas Syria has set up so-called "Child Friendly Spaces", sheltered spaces in which children can play free from fear and stress and learn to trust others again. All of them are projects that go further than emergency aid can. To make a real fresh start, however, Syria needs not only lasting peace but also socio-political and democratic renewal.

### A return with obstacles

The conditions are clearly better in neighbouring Iraq. True, even after the expulsion of the "Islamic State", many people still live in fear of a return of terror and war and sometimes in bitter poverty. Nevertheless, more and more people from the refugee camps are returning to their villages and dare to start afresh. Caritas is now increasingly supporting returnees as well as displaced persons. Like the Kareem family, who had to flee the terror of the "Islamic State" and lived for four years in a refugee camp near the Turkish border. Their small house in the Yezidi settlement, where the six-member family now lives again, was severely damaged when they returned. With the help of Caritas it was repaired, made winterproof and a shower installed. In addition to such reconstruction aid, Caritas



|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>Syria, Northern Iraq</b> | Emergency and psychosocial aid in Syria, Return assistance and reconstruction in Iraq   |
| <b>Funds invested 2018</b>  | Syria 4.8 million Euro, Iraq 5.7 million Euro   |
| <b>Measures and Effect</b>  | In Syria emergency aid, medical aid and educational projects. Food and hygiene products were distributed to more than 80,000 people. In Iraq, 8,500 returnee families were supported. |
| <b>Perspective</b>          | Further funds from donations and church budget funds are available to continue the aid in northern Iraq and Syria. The refugee aid will continue to be supported with public funds.   |

Germany and its partners are also involved in psychosocial aid and educational programmes. And Caritas offers special courses for children and young people to raise awareness of human rights, laws and civic participation. A form of help that is sustainable in the best sense of the word. ■

2018 there were more than 200 violent conflicts worldwide, in some countries several at the same time. The civilian population is also frequently attacked. More than half of the more than 20 million refugees under the United Nations mandate came from only three countries: 6.7 million from Syria, 2.7 million from Afghanistan and 2.3 million from Southern Sudan.

*In the countries mentioned, but also, for example, in the Ukraine many people flee across borders, but a large part also to other parts of the country. How does the situation of IDPs differ from that of fugitives?*

**Wiedemann:** Expellees and refugees experience terror, violence and extreme hardship. People are uprooted and forced to leave their homes. However, only those who have crossed their country's borders have the status of refugee under the Geneva Convention. In the case of larger numbers of refugees, refugee camps are often set up in which people are provided with what they need. Access to displaced persons in their own country is often more difficult. Worldwide, over 60 percent of all internally displaced persons live outside of official camps. >>





Psychologist Katia Polychroni in conversation with an Afghan patient. Individual sessions can help to cope with what one has experienced.

© Bente Stachowiska

## Aid on the edge of Europe

In 2018, around 32,500 refugees and migrants reached the Aegean Islands by boat. On the island of Lesbos, Caritas helped particularly vulnerable people in the “Kara Tepe” camp.

If you visit the refugee camp “Kara Tepe”, you can’t get past Stavros Mirogiannis. The 45-year-old Greek has been running the camp since 2015, and he says sentences that have become rare these days. “As Europeans, we must be able to accommodate people with dignity. Kara Tepe does that.” That this is no mere lip service is already apparent by the construction of the camp, which Mirogiannis affectionately calls “the village”. There’s a

soccer field, a kitchenette, there are shady communal areas, barbecue areas and accommodation containers painted blue and white. They provide temporary homes for around 1,300 people who are considered particularly vulnerable, including victims of torture, pregnant women and the chronically ill. Eleven organizations work hand in hand in Kara Tepe, including Caritas Greece, which provided mainly psychological support there in 2018, with

### Focus »Flight and Expulsion«

*What does this mean for the work of Caritas Germany?*

**Wiedemann:** We also reach many of these people outside the camps and promote decentralised accommodation. This is where the great advantage of the partner principle pays off, according to which Caritas Germany basically helps. Because the partners - local or national Caritas organizations or other non-governmental organizations - are already in the country. They know the circumstances and can help quickly and unbureaucratically. In this way we can provide humanitarian aid to displaced people in Syria and Yemen, even if the regions are hard to access for international structures. However, the aid workers on the ground are reaching their limits.

If the Syrian military deliberately attacks hospitals or if terrorists in northern Iraq take civilians as hostages, then humanitarian aid is no longer possible or only possible to a very limited extent. That is why we are committed to ensuring that humanitarian standards are observed and that aid workers and civilians are protected.

*With the newly created working focus „Flight and Displacement“ at Caritas Germany, aid for refugees and displaced persons should become even more effective. What is it all about specifically?*

funds from the German Federal Government and Caritas Germany. The psychologist Katia Polychroni knows how important individual sessions and group therapies are for the refugees. "The people here have experienced terrible things – in their homeland, on the run and in the Greek camps. In addition, there is uncertainty about what the future holds for them and their families. All this adds up. We observe anxiety disorders, depression, self-inflicted injuries, post-traumatic stress reactions and much more – the full range of mental ailments." Public funds for aid in Greece, but also in other Balkan countries, have recently been massively reduced for aid organizations. Yet Caritas Greece, supported by Caritas Germany, continues to offer legal advice, language and integration courses in Athens, Lesbos and Chios. It helps people to find work and housing, provides psychosocial support and provides access to the health system for refugees.

### Integration in the cooperative

Turkey, Greece's neighbour, currently has more than 3.5 million refugees, most of whom come from Syria. Although the integration of refugees is not officially promoted, many of them are prepared to stay in Turkey for a long time. Because an end to the war in Syria is not in sight and it is becoming increasingly difficult to travel on to Central Europe, 90 percent of refugees struggle outside of camps, many migrate to the big cities in search of work or stay with family members who have been living in the country for some time. In the city and in the province of Mardin, the proportion of refugees is particularly high. With the help of Caritas Germany, the organization „Support to Life“ helps refugees to gain a foothold in Turkey and especially in the local labour mar-



ket. About 500 fugitives take part in a language course in order to learn Turkish. In addition, refugees and local women are trained together in carpet weaving and gastronomy so that they can earn their own income. In cooperation with the governorate of Yesilli, a small restaurant will be set up which will be run by the beneficiaries and which offers a lunch table. In addition to earning their own income, the women involved are also able to develop common perspectives for fugitives and locals. And by founding a cooperative, solidarity and social co-existence are further strengthened.

In view of the large number of refugees, the project reaches only a comparatively small number of beneficiaries, but has a high symbolic value as it promotes integration in an exemplary manner. ■

**Wiedemann:** Aid for refugees and displaced persons has long been a focus of our work. Now it is a matter of pooling experience, learning and thus helping those affected in the best possible way. In the refugee camp Cox's Bazar in Bangladesh, where hundreds of thousands of Rohingya from Myanmar live, Caritas built a model settlement with over 180 accommodations, wells and toilets. The people in charge from the United Nations were so convinced that Caritas was commissioned to build more than 4,000 huts for about 20,000 people. Such projects are not transferable one-to-one to other crisis regions,

but partners in other refugee camps can certainly benefit from the experience.

*So it's about partners and employees learning from each other locally?*

**Wiedemann:** Yes, at best this leads to a steady improvement in humanitarian aid. Learning from each other also leads to improvements in the type of support, i.e. ultimately in those who are planning help. In the past, everything from the distribution of food to the distribution of clothes was organized centrally in >>

## Difficult fight against hunger

The civil war in Yemen has been going on for more than three years. Aid in the isolated and insecure country is only possible thanks to the local partners. It mainly reaches children.



**Help for children:** Caritas provides them with medical care and food.

© Islamic Relief

For a short time there was hope for peace for the people of Yemen when a ceasefire was negotiated for the besieged port city of Hodeidah in December 2018. But the ceasefire is repeatedly interrupted, peace is not yet in sight. And the humanitarian situation remains disastrous: according to UN figures, 80 percent of the 28 million Yemenis are dependent on aid. Children suffer particularly from the crisis, more than seven million suffer from hunger, hundreds of thousands are in immediate life-threatening danger due to malnutrition, lack of medical care and spreading epidemics. Caritas Germany supports a project to care for malnourished children in the districts of Abyan and Aden. The

project is carried out by a local partner organization, which has to work undercover and may not be mentioned publicly. In medical centres, severely malnourished children receive “therapeutic ready-made food”, a ready-to-use food, calorie-rich food with important additives such as vitamins and minerals. Medical staff is trained to combat malnutrition and, if necessary, treats children medically. The lack of food and drinking water and poor hygienic conditions favour the spread of epidemics such as cholera, which is why the Ministry of Health in Yemen has already declared a state of emergency. Caritas Germany is therefore engaged in a second project against the spread of cholera and to improve the health of those affected. People in acute illness cases receive emergency medical care. Health facilities are provided with medicines against cholera, mosquito nets and other relief items. ■

### Yemen Relief and medical support

**Funds Invested 2018** 424.000 euros from donations

**Measures and Effect** Hygiene kits and drinking water for 28,000 people; 1,000 people received medical care.

**Perspective** Extension of the aid possible, among other things, through donations over 2.2 million euros

### Focus »Flight and Expulsion«

refugee camps. As Caritas, we usually help outside the large camps, seeking decentralised ways of support. This facilitates integration and makes people more independent. This approach corresponds to a humanitarian aid instrument that is being used increasingly: the distribution of cash aid or vouchers for relief goods to those in need. If the local markets work, then the people in their precarious situation regain a piece of self-determination. Instruments and methods of humanitarian aid are discussed among the relief organizations, but also with government agencies.

*What role does the exchange of experience play?*

**Wiedemann:** The German Caritas Association with its relief organization has always cooperated closely with other relief organizations, such as the disaster relief action group “Aktionsbündnis Katastrophenhilfe”. And we are part of a large network of more than 160 Caritas organizations worldwide. Nationally and internationally professional exchange plays an important role. Again and again, our experience is also in demand at the political level. For example, last September Caritas Germany was involved in the organization of the civil society dialogue of the Lake Chad Conference in Berlin,

## Forgotten crisis at Lake Chad

An entire region suffers from civil war, terror and poverty. Caritas Germany provides cross-border assistance and is also active at the political level.

A crisis long forgotten by the public has been threatening people in the region around Lake Chad for almost ten years. The Islamist Terrorist group Boko Haram is terrorizing the population. More than 2.5 million people are on the run, over ten million people are dependent on humanitarian aid, according to the Federal Foreign Office in the run-up to the Lake Chad Conference, which took place in Berlin in September 2018 and in which staff of Caritas Germany and Caritas partners from Chad, Cameroon and Nigeria also took part (bottom picture).

After all, the conference highlighted the urgency of coordinated international aid. Caritas Germany has been active for years in the Lake Chad region, which includes the neighbouring countries Nigeria, Niger, Chad and Cameroon. In addition to emergency food and medical aid – for refugees as well as for the needy of the host population – Caritas also distributes seeds and tools and installs water pumps. Especially women and internally displaced persons receive a small starting capital in order to earn an income. In addition, ten new schools were built in Cameroon alone to teach the large number of refugees. Moreover, Caritas Germany is paying school fees to around 6,000 children to prevent their parents from taking them out of school due to economic problems. ■



**Help for self-help:**  
New perspectives  
for displaced  
persons.

### Chad, Nigeria Cameroon

Emergency aid for refugees, displaced persons and war victims

#### Funds invested 2018

A total of 3.67 million euros from donations and funds from the Federal Foreign Office.

#### Measures and Effect

Food aid reached about 85,000 people, seeds and agricultural equipment 1,800 households.

#### Perspective

The projects can be expanded thanks to donations and funds from the Federal Foreign Office of about 3 million euros (2019-2020) and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development of about 2.5 million euros (2019-2022).

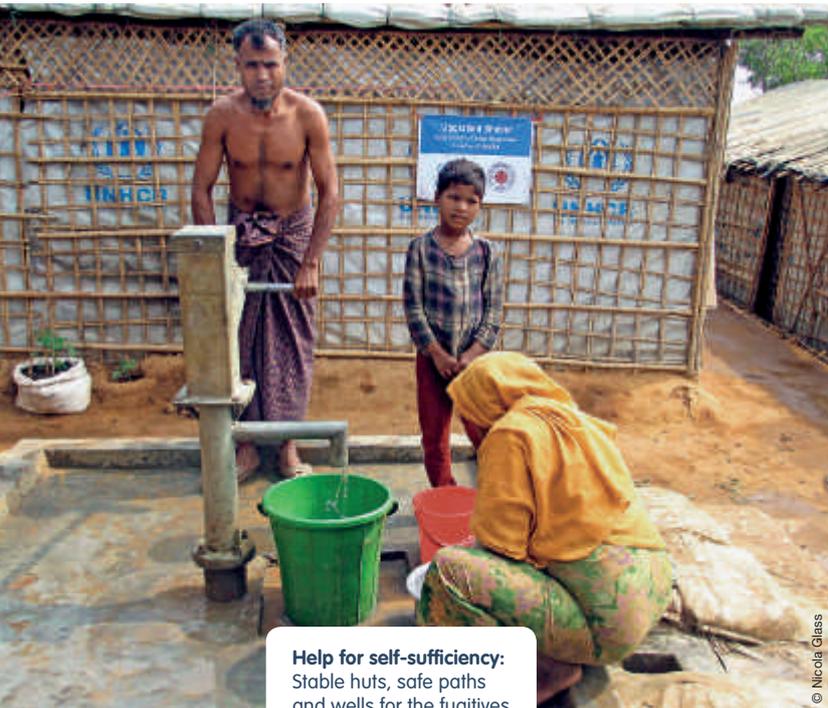
which was also attended by representatives of the countries bordering Lake Chad. This was also a political signal that the fight against terror and war and for the protection of the civilian population can only be successful if we work together. ■

**Anke Wiedemann** (in the picture on the right at the Lake Chad Conference in Berlin with the head of the Africa Department at Caritas Germany, Volker Gerdesmeier, 2nd from left) is desk-officer for the issues of flight and expulsion at Caritas Germany.



# Model village for people in need

Since their expulsion from Myanmar in August 2017, some 700,000 Rohingya have been living in refugee camps in neighbouring Bangladesh. Caritas is doing exemplary work there.



**Help for self-sufficiency:**  
Stable huts, safe paths  
and wells for the fugitives.

© Nicole Glaas

**T**hey cannot return to Myanmar, nor shall they stay in Bangladesh: hundreds of thousands of Rohingya refugees live in the world's largest refugee camp, Camp Kutupalong near Cox's Bazar. The lack of prospects also complicates the work of Caritas. Nevertheless, it is quite successful: its shelters are a model for the United Nations.

A Caritas model village within the refugee camp with 182 bamboo huts, wells, toilets and rooms for children had convinced decision-makers at the United Nations so much that they assigned to Caritas the construction of another 4,000 huts for around 20,000 people. In the meantime, around 1,700 workers are employed daily with the construction work. Most of them are refugees themselves and can earn a small income through cash for work. With the support of the Federal Foreign Office (AA), Caritas Germany is implementing a sub-project for 16,000 particularly vulnerable households in which single mothers, people with disabilities or older people are living. Solar lamps on paths and in the sanitary facilities provide more safety, extra rooms ensure more privacy, ramps and handrails facilitate access for physically disabled people. Together with the refugees, concepts and disaster prevention measures are also developed. Caritas aid workers provide people with basic foodstuffs such as rice, pulses, salt, sugar and cooking oil, cooking utensils and crockery as well as gas cookers, blankets and mattresses,

hygiene articles and baby articles. Vegetable and fruit plants are also distributed so that people can create their own home gardens.

The construction of water supply pipes and sanitary facilities and the distribution of disinfectant tablets have improved the hygienic conditions. Adults and especially children who are severely traumatised by their experiences, the loss of relatives and the flight receive psychological care. ■



|                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| <b>Bangladesh</b>          | Aid for refugees   |
| <b>Funds invested 2018</b> | 1.07 million euros from the (arch) dioceses of Munich, Rottenburg-Stuttgart and Freiburg among others, as well as from donations       |
| <b>Partners</b>            | Caritas Bangladesh   |
| <b>Measures and Effect</b> | Emergency aid for 400,000 people<br>Construction of 4,000 shelters for 20,000 refugees; aid for 16,000 particularly vulnerable people. |

# Survival in the buffer zone

The war in Ukraine enters its sixth year. The public in Western Europe hardly notices it anymore. But even in their own country, the people affected in the East have moved out of view.

**F**ive years after the beginning of the war in eastern Ukraine, there is no apparent evidence in the capital city of Kiev that more than five million people, every eighth inhabitant, are affected by the consequences. Most of the victims live in the east of the country, but those who have fled to the west also have many difficulties to overcome.

Jevdoka Bogdanova is one of the last inhabitants of the village of Luhanske in the buffer zone where Ukrainian and separatist troops face each other. Her daughters moved away shortly after the outbreak of war, life here is too uncertain. The 78-year-old, however, feels it is her duty to stay so that the house does not deteriorate or will be completely destroyed. She has not been entirely successful with it. The shutters were subjected to shots, the windows were broken, the walls were damaged by explosions. Her cow and chickens were killed in July 2017. Now she doesn't have any animals. The war is not over, even if the world no longer perceives it.

Caritas Ukraine provides emergency aid in the buffer zone for the remaining population, mostly the elderly and the sick, who cannot afford a new start. People receive the necessities for survival: Food packages, money cards, briquettes to heat in the wintertime, medical aid and psychosocial support. Some 600,000 people live in unsafe settlements such as Luhanske, where they are exposed to daily shelling and landmines.

But Caritas is also active in the West for the war affected people. 1.5 million people have moved from the war zones to other parts of Ukraine. For them, Caritas offers help in social centres, from soup kitchens, day nurseries and medical help to legal and psychological counselling. It is always a concern to involve the needy local population in order to avoid imbalances. Everyone should have the opportunity to lead a dignified life in the difficult economic situation.

However, the people in the buffer zone will still be dependent on emergency aid. There are no more food markets in Luhanske. "Sometimes I ask my neighbour



to bring me food when he rides his bike to the next bigger town," says Jevdoka Bogdanova. But most of the time she only relies on the help of Caritas. Despite the difficult situation, moving out of the abandoned area is not an option for her. "I'm willing to die here. But I hope the war will be over before then." ■



# Participation with disabilities

The United Nations' Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities aims to enable people with disabilities to participate in society. But how, for example, can inclusive schools or barrier-free access become standard in poorer countries?

Together with its partner organizations, Caritas Germany promotes the inclusion of people with disabilities worldwide through community-based rehabilitation (CBR). In this process, people with disabilities themselves, their families and communities become actors in the rehabilitation process and fight for access to education or to the labour market. We have summarised examples of successful CBR work in a brochure which will be available for download from August onwards at [www.caritas-international.de/Inklusion](http://www.caritas-international.de/Inklusion)



El Salvador

© Augusto Vasquez

## Vietnam

### Inclusion at all levels

With a multi-year programme, Caritas Germany and several local partners want to improve the situation for millions of people with disabilities in Vietnam. One sub-project, in cooperation with the Ministry of Social Affairs, embeds inclusion in state structures and accompanies the process scientifically, while another implements the necessary steps at the administrative level, and a third demonstrates in the municipalities how inclusion can become concrete.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is financing the entire programme with approx. 930,000 euros.



© Oliver Müller

### "We're each other's support."

"We need to make it much clearer again and again that people with disabilities have the same rights as everyone else," says Julia de Martinez, a member of the seven-strong Los Angelitos board. In the wheelchair next to her sits her six-year-old daughter Tatiana, who has been suffering from brittle bone disease since her birth. The self-help organization does political work in El Salvador to enforce the rights of its children, to improve education and employment opportunities and to make society more sensitive to the concerns of disabled people. On the other hand, de Martinez stresses, "we parents are supporting each other, we do not leave each other alone, we lift each other up". The people affected receive therapeutic support through "Los Angelitos", school support, handicraft courses in their own workshops and aids such as wheelchairs or walking aids.

Caritas Germany will support the project with a total of 189,000 euros from donations over the period from 2018 to 2020.

## Tanzania

### Decentralised aid and rehabilitation in the centre

The mobile Caritas teams of social workers and physiotherapists, together with trained village health officers, look after families with disabled children in more than 60 villages in the project area, the archdiocese of Arusha. If necessary, disabled people - mostly children – can be cared for in the “John Paul II” rehabilitation centre. The centre arranges operations and supports patients therapeutically and with prostheses made by the patients themselves.

From 2015 to 2018, the programme was supported with 460,000 euros by the Peter Osypka Foundation and 10,000 euros by employees of the Düsseldorf Caritas Association.



© Lea Janzelovský

## Cambodia

### Mobile Consultation Hour

The “Center for Child and Adolescent Mental Health” near Phnom Penh was founded 25 years ago under the umbrella of Caritas. As here in the village of Kos Ras Leu, the employees also closely involve the parents in their mobile consultation hours for children. The spectrum of impairments ranges from developmental delays, autism and epilepsy to cerebral palsy.

Caritas Germany is supporting the project work of the centre from 2018 to 2020 with a total of 545,000 euros.



Russia

© Philipp Spalek

### Being different together autonomously

In Russia, people with disabilities receive little support and often live isolated from the rest of society. The Day Care Centre of Caritas St. Petersburg supports children and young adults with disabilities through a variety of handicraft and artistic activities. This relieves the burden on families and at the same time promotes the independence of visitors to the centre. After all, the programme not only includes training in the craft and creative field, such as, for instance, in the sewing workshop, but also cooking courses or the independent finding your way with public means of transport. Self-determined participation in social life is taking place as the primary goal throughout the entire project.

From 2016 to 2018, a total of 180,000 euros were available for the project from donations and church budget funds.



© Bente Stachowska

# Good partners not only in emergencies

The partner principle enables Caritas Germany to remain active on the ground far beyond a disaster or crisis. Thus, the medium- and long-term effects of aid can be better managed. This requires good structures on the part of the local partners.



Kenya

© Beate Starckovske

## Prevention needs stamina and good partners

The terrible drought disaster of 2016/2017 has been overcome; last year it rained again in northern Kenya. But the next drought crisis will follow. Caritas Germany and its long-standing partners PACIDA and various local Caritas associations are implementing projects for water extraction, water storage and animal husbandry so that people will be better armed to cope with the crisis. They build dams and water retention basins, wells, rainwater cisterns, springs and sanitary facilities. Water and pump mechanics are trained to maintain and repair the systems.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is financing a project from 2016 to 2019 with a total of 1.5 million euros, BILD hilft e.V. "Ein Herz für Kinder" with over 360,000 euros. Caritas Austria is helping with 100,000 euros. In 2018, donations were used to finance five projects at several locations with a total of over 500,000 euros.

Guatemala

## Emergency aid and care after volcanic eruption

Following the eruption of the El Fuego volcano in Guatemala on the 3rd of June, the Departments of Escuintla, Sacatepéquez and Chimaltenango suffered a humanitarian emergency, several hundred people lost their lives and thousands had to be evacuated. Employees of Caritas Guatemala and the Archdiocese of Guatemala - both long-standing partners of Caritas Germany in emergency aid, disaster prevention and social work - were on site and were able to help quickly and unbureaucratically. They organized emergency shelters and sanitary facilities for 1,500 people and provided them with medical care and food. Appropriate psychological and medical care was provided for 500 children, infants and adolescents.

The emergency aid measures were supported by the Ordinariat Rottenburg-Stuttgart with 50,000 euros, from church budget funds with 30,000 euros and from donations of about 30,000 euros.



© Nora Hubrich

## Morocco

## Help for migrants and refugees

Morocco is a country of entry and transit for migrants and refugees from sub-Saharan Africa, but also from Syria and Iraq. Their life situation is often dramatic and precarious. The Caritas Assistance Centre for Migrants in Rabat (CAM) – founded in 2005 – supports particularly vulnerable groups such as people travelling alone, some of them minors, single women with and without children and families with children by providing legal advice, psychological and medical help, educational opportunities and shelter for emergencies.

The project will be financed from 2017 to 2021 with 2.5 million euros from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and from the (Arch-) Dioceses of Rottenburg-Stuttgart (350,000 euros) and Cologne (150,000 euros).



© Guido Geiss

## Mali

## Water reservoirs and vegetable gardens

In Mali, the rise in temperature is 1.5 times higher than the global average. Climate change is leading to an increase in periods of drought, heavy rainfall and flooding. This unpredictability of the climate threatens people's food security. Caritas Germany, together with the experienced partners of Caritas San, is implementing a multi-year programme in which, among other things, micro-dams and water reservoirs are being built, vegetable gardens are being planted and forests are being reforested. The aim is to improve yields and income in 48 villages.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) is financing the project from 2016 to 2021 with a total of 1.5 million euros.



© Hannes Stuegenmann



Venezuela

## Many years of experience in refugee aid

As a result of the internal conflict, thousands of people fled Venezuela to Colombia, particularly to the border region of Norte de Santander. Working with displaced people who had to leave their homes because of the Colombian civil war, the Jesuit Refugee Service has a long history of experience in the care of fugitives in the project region and is well networked with other actors. In addition to emergency aid, psychological and pastoral help as well as legal advice were organized for the people affected.

The aid was provided in 2018 with 300,000 euros by the Caritas Association of the Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart and has been financed since the end of 2018 with 1.66 million euros by the Federal Foreign Office and with 99,000 euros from church funds.

# Strengthening children's rights

A central goal of Caritas Germany's international children's and youth work is to enable young people to create better prospects for themselves by their own efforts. Often – as in the projects presented here – the aim is to improve the framework conditions.



Mali

© Nicolas Reméne

## Better education also for children from poor families

Children from the very poor families in Mali often do not attend the regular schools, but Koran schools, which often only teach religious rules instead of education. In order to finance the school, the Koran teachers often send them out into the streets to beg. The Caritas partner organization ENDA Mali works to improve educational standards and supports children and their families. Dr. Maria Flachsbarth (centre), State Secretary at the BMZ, visited the Enda Mali Koran school project in Bamako, which is supported by Caritas Germany.

The project to improve education in Mali is financed with a total of 303,000 euros from donations and Misereor funds.

Bangladesh

## From a garbage collector to a good schoolgirl

Rubina was a garbage collector when she joined Caritas Bangladesh's Life project in 2015. She is now eleven years old and lives with her mother and a little brother (8) in Rajshahi, a town of 50,000 inhabitants in the northwest of Bangladesh. We want them to get out of the cycle of bitter poverty and poor schooling," explains Ruth Hasda, who heads the project, which is financed by Caritas Germany. 300 street children or children who work on the streets are supported here and receive a warm meal. And they get qualified lessons so that they can later go to regular schools. Rubina has already made this leap and wants to do an apprenticeship as a tailor after finishing school.

In 2018, Caritas Germany supported the street children projects of Caritas Bangladesh with donations of 324,000 euros.



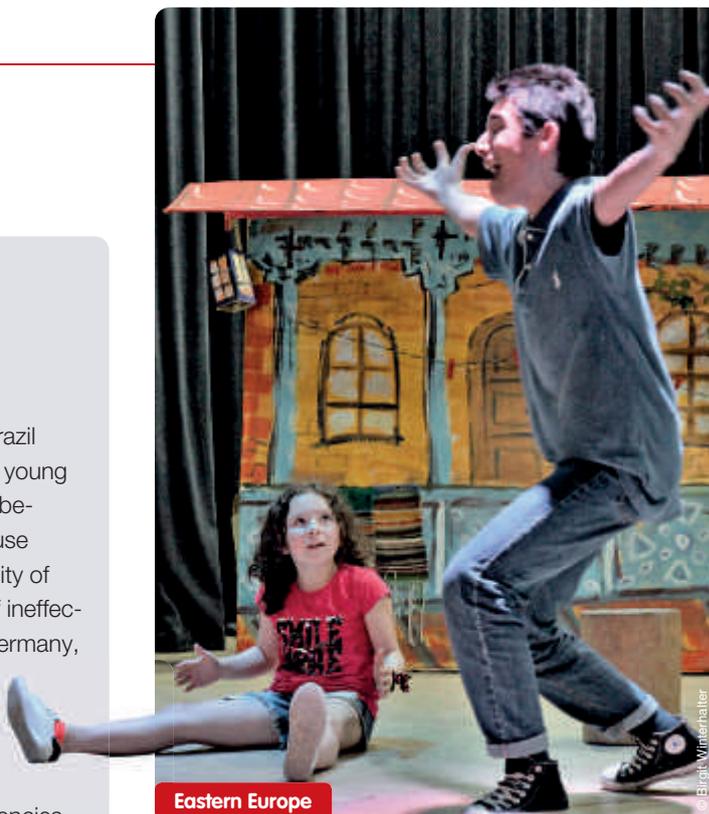
© Philipp Spalek

## Brazil

## Networking against sexual exploitation

Particularly in particularly poor areas of Brazil such as the Amazon region, children and young people are exposed to a constant risk of becoming victims of sexual exploitation, abuse or human trafficking. The social vulnerability of children and young people is the result of ineffective child and youth protection. Caritas Germany, in cooperation with the local Caritas, wants to improve the situation for those affected in a wide-ranging project. For this purpose, a network of non-governmental organizations and government agencies is being set up in 19 municipalities, involving 18 public schools and 860 teachers as well as families, in order to educate children about their rights, care for those affected and provide them with legal assistance. In addition, public relations work shall raise awareness for this issue; perpetrators shall be named and reported.

The Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development is financing the project from 2017 to 2019 with approximately 709,000 euros.



## Eastern Europe

## Volunteers – absolutely invaluable

In many Eastern European countries there is often a lack of supporters who support the respective programme or the entire institution, especially in the fields of youth welfare – as shown in the photo in a Caritas Georgia project – or in counselling, senior citizens' aid or the assistance of fugitives. While in Central Europe social projects and initiatives can usually be assured of the support of volunteers, in the countries of the former Eastern Bloc social work is often still regarded as a mere government task. A new project, involving Caritas organizations from Russia, Armenia, Ukraine and Georgia, aims to establish or improve volunteer structures in the participating countries. For this purpose, twelve Caritas employees and partners visited Germany as multipliers in order to get to know the structures of voluntary work and to subsequently transfer them. The long-term aim is to strengthen civil society structures in the participating countries.

In 2018, the Federal Foreign Office supported the transnational programme to strengthen civil society with 76,500 euros.





## German Catholic Congress in search of peace

Caritas Germany was represented with a well-attended information stand, events and an exhibition on **Syria** in the city of Münster.

The civil war in Syria and the people who have to flee from it were the topics of Caritas Germany's activities during the 101st Catholic Day, which took place from 9 to 13 May 2018 in Münster under the motto "Search for Peace". Numerous visitors came to the exhibition "Keys of Hope" which was initiated by Caritas Germany and which draws attention to the plight of Syrian refugees. But the exhibition also shows the hope expressed in the door keys they carry with them, although it is unclear when they will ever be able to return. The Caritas stage was dedicated, among other things, to the Caritas services in Lebanon and Syria. Sandra Awad (Caritas Syria) and Dayane Daou (Caritas Lebanon) gave a very personal insight into their activities, reporting on their work in their home country and answering questions from the audience. Caritas Germany's booth was all about water – about water shortages in many regions of the world, about water pollution and about the work of Caritas, which, for example, helps to improve water supply in projects in East Africa. Numerous visitors informed themselves about these approaches – including Development Minister Gerd Müller (right on the photo) in conversation with Oliver Müller, International Director of Caritas Germany. ■

## The greatest calamity is to forget

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and Caritas Germany drew attention to the suffering of the **Rohingya** refugees.

To bring forgotten crises and disasters back into the public eye is the aim of the annual joint summer campaign of Caritas Germany and Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe. With posters, online newsletters and events, the two Christian aid organizations last year drew attention to the hopeless situation of the Rohingya, who had fled from Myanmar to the south of neighbouring Bangladesh a year earlier. In order to be able to provide assistance to victims of crises, wars and natural disasters, they must also be perceived by a broad



public. The Rohingya, however, in view of their geographically remote location and outside the politically more explosive regions, are threatened by the public and the media losing sight of their fate and forgetting their misery. "But that," according to the campaign call of the Christian aid organizations, "would be the greatest calamity. We of Caritas Germany and Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe wish to prevent this in our joint campaign and send a strong signal against it: We want to remember and help". ■



## Depressing plight, impressive help

The Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart supports Caritas aid in **Southern Sudan**. Canon Stäps visited a refugee camp there.

In the UN refugee camp «Protection of civilians» in Juba, the capital of Southern Sudan, more than 50,000 men, women and children have been living in very confined spaces for up to four years. Heinz Detlef Stäps, Canon of the Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart, and Oliver Müller, International Director of Caritas Germany, experience the atmosphere in the camp as very depressing during their visit in January 2018. The fact that there is hope despite the difficult situation is mainly due to the Daughters of Mary Immaculate. As a partner of Caritas Germany, the Indian sisters' congregation provides people with food, blankets, hygiene articles and medicines. With the help of the Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart, the sisters built a school in the camp where children from pre-school age to 8th grade are getting lessons by teachers from the camp. In Southern Sudan, the Diocese of Rottenburg-Stuttgart is continuing its exemplary commitment, to which it gave a firm structure in 2014 with the establishment of the special fund "Weltkirchliche Flüchtlingshilfe" (World Church Refugee Aid). From 2014 to 2018, it provided a total of almost 13.8 million euros alone for Caritas Germany aid worldwide – for example, for refugees and needy people from Syria and northern Iraq as well as from Congo, Sudan, Sierra Leone, Mali or Guatemala. ■

## For a climate of justice

Caritas Germany is actively working for more **climate protection** – at the Vatican Conference Laudato Si' and the World Climate Conference.

More than 450 participants at the Vatican Conference Laudato Si' in Rome in the summer of 2018 addressed the question of how social and ecological change can be shaped fairly. Claudio Moser, who represented Caritas Germany in Rome, sees the need for much more comprehensive climate protection than before. But he also gained hopeful impulses from the conference: "The conference has strengthened all of us in our vision of a climate-friendly society". In view of the forthcoming World Climate Conference in Poland, Pope Francis had sent a message



to the participants: "Don't let up in your efforts!" An international Caritas delegation took this suggestion with them to the World Climate Conference, COP24. During the negotiations in Katowice, Caritas, together with Cidse, the international umbrella organization of Catholic development organizations, urged for more distributive justice. For it is not only the distribution of global wealth that is unfair, but also the fact that the poorest countries suffer most from the consequences of climate change, even though they are least responsible for it. ■



## Journey to a land in ruins

The Archbishop of Freiburg, Stephan Burger, and Caritas-President Peter Neher visited projects of Caritas Germany in **Syria**.

In March 2018, representatives of the Archdiocese of Freiburg and the German Caritas Association travelled to a destroyed country: Stephan Burger, Chairman of the Commission for Charitable Issues of the German Bishops' Conference and Archbishop of Freiburg, Peter Birkhofer, Auxiliary Bishop of Freiburg, Caritas-President Peter Neher and Oliver Müller, International Director of Caritas Germany. "All the Syrians I met told me of their urgent desire for peace and the desire to rebuild the country together," said Bishop Burger after the trip in an interview with Spiegel Online. "So this hope is there, but the circumstances are very difficult. It is important that we do not let the Syrians, no matter which religious community they belong to, be trapped in their misery now."

Caritas Germany works together with Caritas Syria and other local partners in projects of emergency aid, medical and psychosocial aid as well as in education projects in different locations of the civil war stricken country: in Damascus and surroundings, in Aleppo, Homs, Tartous, Latakia, Idlib and in north-eastern Syria in the province al Jziré. The Archdiocese of Freiburg has supported Caritas aid in Syria and neighbouring countries with around four million euros in recent years. ■

## Candles shine for the right to a home

The solidarity action "**One million stars**" highlights the continuing difficult situation in Ukraine, a country in civil war.

On November 17th, Caritas organized the 12th solidarity action "One Million Stars" in Germany. Nationwide, about 80 Caritas associations, institutions and parishes set luminous signs for a fairer world. The campaign took up the motto of this year's Caritas campaign "Everyone needs a home". The donations from the nationwide solidarity campaign benefited local aid projects as well as Caritas Ukraine's child and youth welfare projects. Due to the social, political and economic crisis, many families live on the margins of society, often under inhu-



mane conditions and in great poverty. Caritas supports these families on their difficult path. It offers targeted help such as homework support, medical care and psychosocial support so that adolescents can make the leap into a self-determined life.

Again, the Advent event was much more than just a fundraising campaign: the situation in the Ukraine was impressively evoked with virtually countless lights. ■



## Pope meets Caritas-beneficiaries

During his **trip to Peru** Pope Francis sharply criticized the exploitation of indigenous people and their habitats.

**W**ith the Pope's sixth trip to Latin America, the International Department of Caritas Germany, the relief organization of the German Caritas Association, saw its efforts in climate adaptation and disaster prevention in the Peruvian Amazon region appreciated. Pope Francis met indigenous communities supported by Caritas projects in Puerto Maldonado on the 19th of January. Prelate Peter Neher, President of the German Caritas Association, said: "Disaster prevention is playing an increasingly important role in our work, especially in view of natural disasters which are more frequent and more extreme due to climate change. The cumulative force of the destruction caused by hurricanes and floods – also in Peru – has been proof of this drastically in the past year."

During his visit Pope Francis sharply criticized the grievances in the country and in the entire Amazon region. He condemned the exploitation of nature, violence against indigenous peoples and women and corruption. "Probably the indigenous peoples of Amazonia were never as threatened in their territories as they are today," said the head of the Catholic Church at his meeting with indigenous communities. He also denounced the overexploitation of nature, which is fuelled by greed for oil, gas, wood and gold. ■

## Behind the scenes with Caritas World Cup stars

A Caritas campaign on the **Soccer World Cup in Russia** focuses on people who otherwise live on the margins of society.

**A**t the Soccer World Cup in Russia Modrić, Mbappé and Ronaldo were cheered. But away from the stadiums many children, old and sick people master a life with special challenges – even after the football circus has moved on. For us these are real stars. High time to get to know some of them. With this introduction to the Caritas campaign on the occasion of the Soccer World Cup in Russia, the organizers showed that they wished to take a look behind the scenery. And thus normal, but less privileged children appeared on the collection cards – as "Caritas World Cup stars" – and told



people from the Caritas projects about their everyday worries and needs. The real match schedule did not only lead to the stadiums, but also to the project world of Caritas Germany. And in addition to numerous products from the Caritas shop, the main prize of the World Cup competition was a football with original signatures – signed by the Caritas World Cup stars. The campaign was continued on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram, as in the "classic" media, with exciting insights behind the scenes of the World Cup. ■

# Strong allies in humanitarian aid

Caritas Germany in the Action Alliance Disaster Relief



The images of critically malnourished children, of bombed cities and fleeing people, as they can be seen on television again and again since the beginning of the civil wars in Syria and Yemen, trigger many viewers' desire to help people affected. But to whom can one entrust one's donation? Especially in conflicts in which the parties involved proceed with extreme brutality and with little consideration for the civilian population? And where aid organizations which still have little experience in humanitarian aid or work without local partners would be hopelessly overstrained?

Years ago, the people in charge at the German Television Channel ZDF, decided that they wanted to draw the attention of their donating audience to strong partners who stand for independence and competence in emergency and disaster relief. Since 2001, ZDF has been, in cases of major catastrophes, calling for donations for Caritas Germany, the German Red Cross, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and UNICEF Germany – the "Aktionsbündnis Katastrophenhilfe". The Alliance is thus sending out a public signal that the people in the disaster area urgently need help. In the event of a disaster, all organizations involved focus on supporting the affected women,

children and men with everything they need to survive. From the very start, however, the Alliance members have also had reconstruction and medium-term development in mind. And: All four relief agencies work closely with local partners in disaster relief. Thus, the people affected can be provided with fast and competent care. The local partners are best placed to assess where the need is greatest and what help is most urgently needed. This also applies to reconstruction, for example when new houses have to be built after earthquakes or hurricanes, and local specifics have to be taken into account. The humanitarian mandate to which Caritas Germany, the German Red Cross, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and UNICEF Germany have committed themselves is the guideline for their actions. They are politically neutral and help people without distinction of origin, gender, religion or ethnicity. The organizations have extensive experience and expertise in humanitarian aid, reconstruction and rehabilitation. Before, during and after crises, they are active in the countries themselves or through their networks, thus linking effective emergency aid with sustainable development.

On ZDF, the four relief organizations call for donations as an alliance for disaster relief, and the joint donation account is displayed on television, on the ZDF homepage and in ZDF videotext. The donations are then distributed in equal parts to the relief organizations so that they can finance their aid. The donors have trustworthy partners in the renowned relief organizations and ZDF, guaranteeing that the aid will reach where it is needed: the people most in need during crises and disasters. ■

In 2018, a total of 1,563,000 euros was donated to Caritas Germany's emergency aid through the Disaster Relief Action Alliance, among which 1,563,000 euros for the relief of the following disaster victims:

Emergency aid to Yemen: 578,000 euros

Emergency relief Tsunami Indonesia: 811,000 euros

# Be informed about the support

Caritas Germany communicates via various media about its interventions in crises and catastrophes and about long-term aid: for example via the donor magazine, a newsletter and social media.

No long editorial loops and direct communication with the users. Twitter, Facebook and other social media have decisive advantages over print media: they reach their addressees within seconds and allow interaction. For Caritas Germany this is an opportunity to approach its donors without great effort in the case of a disaster, to inform them and exchange information with them. Short videos, photos and audio contributions provide an authentic insight into the reality of the project, show the everyday life of our partner organizations up close and allow the affected persons to speak directly. The relief organization of the German Caritas Association also uses social media to listen to and respond to the opinions and wishes of its followers and supporters by means of comments.

[https://twitter.com/caritas\\_ci](https://twitter.com/caritas_ci)

<https://www.facebook.com/caritas.international>

[https://www.instagram.com/caritas\\_international/](https://www.instagram.com/caritas_international/)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/Caritasinter>

Even more detailed is the e-mail newsletter that the online editorial staff of Caritas Germany compiles and formulates. The newsletter informs about the use of donations for people in need worldwide, provides subscribers with up-to-date information on Caritas Germany's projects, interesting reports as well as photos, videos and infographics. It is also a quick-and-easy way for donors to support those affected by acute humanitarian disasters in a simple and uncomplicated manner. In addition, the newsletter presents ideas on how you can do good and it highlights actions and events where Caritas Germany can be experienced "up close". In general, e-mails are sent seven to eight times a year. And if you don't want to wait so long, you can find the



**caritas-international.de** presents itself in a new design. The website is now also optimized for smartphones or tablets. It also offers new payment options for online donations.

latest news from the world of international Caritas on the homepage.

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

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

The donor magazine "Überleben" (*German for: Surviving, Annotation by the translator*) is published three times a year. It provides a look behind the scenes of humanitarian aid and delivers background information on Caritas projects worldwide. Each issue focuses on a different topic, complemented by news from the Caritas world and reports from fundraising campaigns. The donor magazine can also be found on the homepage:

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

# Active for people in need

Sports, cultural and music events once again provided good opportunities last year to draw the attention of their visitors to the aid provided by Caritas Germany all over the world. Caritas associations, communities, organizations and initiatives not only provided information, they also contributed to the financing of the projects. We would also like to thank all active donors on behalf of those who benefit from the aid!



## 10,000 kilometers to Tajikistan

20 teams started for the Tajik Rallye 2018 in Munich to take part in the adventure of their lives. Depending on the route, the journey covered 6,000 to 10,000 kilometres and lasted up to 25 days. In the end, 27,000 euros in donations were raised. Caritas Germany and the rally organiser "The Adventure Manufactory" once again organized the Germany-Tajikistan Rally in Tajikistan for the benefit of Caritas projects.

## Spirited parish festival

A parish festival also brings the community members together even beyond the mass and offers opportunities for conversations that go beyond everyday life. The organizers of the parish festival of the Holy Spirit congregation in Bielefeld have taken this opportunity to make the devastating floods in India an issue. This obviously convinced many visitors to open their wallets. After the festival, 1,000 euros could be transferred by Caritas Germany for the flood relief project.



## Theatre for clean water

The 26 children of class 4b of the Mönchengladbach community primary school Heyden learned in a series of lessons on the subject of "water" that children die primarily from the consequences of water shortage. And it struck them. The children studied a play with their class teacher Monika Müller, made costumes and props and performed the play in front of their families. The entrance fees were donated to Caritas Germany. A total of 167.50 euros could be raised.





## Quick help for Indonesia

“It is particularly important for us to work together with trustworthy project partners,” said Margaretha Fischer, Chairwoman of “Leben teilen e.V.” from the Bavarian town of Bodenmais, when she presented Caritas Germany with a donation of 25,000 euros for the people of Sulawesi who were affected by a tsunami.



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

Katrin Zeh, Cosima Reichert, Nicole Leistler-Neuhof, Tim Dünkel and Karin Anderer

Phone: +49-(0)761-200-288

Email: [spenderbetreuung@caritas.de](mailto:spenderbetreuung@caritas.de)



## A flea market stall for street children

The two girlfriends Antonia Berberich and Thurid Brümmel were very keen to help street children in Bangladesh and asked friends, families and colleagues for old valuables from their flats, attics and basements. The selling at a flea market in Freiburg raised 800 Euros, which the two women donated to the centres for street children in Bangladesh, which are supported by Caritas Germany (see also page 24).



## Prostheses for children thanks to Caritas charity initiative

14 years ago, Viktor Thiessen, a master orthopaedic technician, established an orthopaedic centre in Maimana, Afghanistan, which is now financed by Caritas Germany. With the aim of providing 150 children with prostheses and other orthopaedic aids, he launched a charity campaign together with the Caritas team before Christmas. And it was with great success: 33,782.50 euros were raised by the fundraiser, which will help even more children than had been hoped for.

# The German Caritas Association



## The Supervisory Bodies of the German Caritas Association

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

|   |   |   |   |                               |   |
|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------|---|
| President and Secretary General by virtue of office | 12 chairpersons and directors from the DiCV | 7 representatives from the specialist organizations and societies | 2 representatives from religious orders | 5 local level representatives | 1 chairperson of the Finance Commission |
|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------|---|

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

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

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

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

### Composition and structure of the International Department of Caritas Germany

Caritas Germany is structurally a department at the headquarters of the German Caritas Association e.V. At its seat in Freiburg, this department is assigned to the President within the Executive Board. The International Department of Caritas Germany is made up of six departments.



#### International Director: Dr. Oliver Müller



**Department Middle East and North Africa**  
Director: Christoph Klitsch-Ott

**Department Africa**  
Director: Volker Gerdemesmeier

**Department Europe and Latin America**  
Director: Claudio Moser

**Department Asia**  
Director: Julia Gietmann

**Department Quality Management & Auditing**  
Director: Philippe Artner

**Department Disaster Aid Coordination**  
Director: Dr. Oliver Müller

**Department Public Relations**  
Director: Michael Brücker

The four regionally defined departments and the local partners plan, organise and implement projects in the areas of disaster aid and social work. During 2018, Caritas Germany delivered a total of 715 projects in 78 countries.

Develops fundamental principles of sustainable aid and evaluates them critically.

Organizes immediate-response disaster aid and develops methodology.

Publicises the concerns of the poorest, is in charge of the acquisition of donations

### Cooperation partners and Alliances of The International Department

#### The worldwide Caritas network

The German Caritas Association with its international department and relief organization is part of the worldwide Caritas confederation, based in Rome. More than 160 national Caritas organizations are active in this international network which are committed to disaster aid, development cooperation and social projects in nearly 200 countries and regions. More: [caritas.org](http://caritas.org)

#### Cooperation with other aid organizations of the Church

The International Department of the German Caritas Association closely cooperates, within the framework of the consortium MARMICK, with the Catholic aid organizations Adveniat, Misereor, Missio Munich and Missio Aachen, Renovabis and the childrens' missionary organization "Die Sternsinger e.V.", with Misereor, in addition to this, also in the fields of support of programmes and partners. The partnership with the aid organization of Germany's Protestant churches, "Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe", comprises project- and media work.

#### Association for Development Policy and Humanitarian Aid

As an interest group of 140 development policy organizations and Humanitarian Aid, VENRO is committed to "fighting poverty, realising human rights and preserving the natural basis of life". For Caritas Germany, VENRO is also a forum for professional exchange and positioning. More information can be found at: [www.venro.org](http://www.venro.org)

# Worldwide Aid

Caritas Germany's commitment in the year 2018 embraced 715 projects in 78 countries. Universal result: **the aid reached those who are in need of it.**

## AFRICA

|                                  |                    |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|
| Africa (general) / 4 projects    | 651.154,77 Euros   |
| Egypt / 11 projects              | 1.007.241,67 Euros |
| Ethiopia / 19 projects           | 1.130.312,59 Euros |
| Benin / 4 projects               | 251.332,86 Euros   |
| Burundi / 4 projects             | 254.965,00 Euros   |
| Eritrea / 3 projects             | 281.000,00 Euros   |
| Guinea-Bissau / 5 projects       | 357.438,02 Euros   |
| Cameroon / 4 projects            | 1.035.924,17 Euros |
| Kenya / 21 projects              | 1.450.458,26 Euros |
| Dem. Rep. Congo / 19 projects    | 2.922.317,87 Euros |
| Liberia / 5 projects             | 433.099,56 Euros   |
| Mali / 8 projects                | 1.802.015,97 Euros |
| Morocco / 6 projects             | 993.424,82 Euros   |
| Mozambique / 6 projects          | 425.716,90 Euros   |
| Nigeria / 3 projects             | 1.159.601,06 Euros |
| Ruanda / 1 projekt               | 50.000,00 Euros    |
| Senegal / 3 projects             | 566.864,99 Euros   |
| Sierra Leone / 9 projects        | 438.119,53 Euros   |
| Somalia / 4 projects             | 338.706,84 Euros   |
| Sudan / 4 projects               | 793.441,41 Euros   |
| South Africa / 8 projects        | 393.799,27 Euros   |
| South Sudan / 19 projects        | 2.667.917,59 Euros |
| Tanzania / 9 projects            | 616.185,79 Euros   |
| Togo / 1 project                 | 50.000,00 Euros    |
| Chad / 11 projects               | 1.473.383,65 Euros |
| Uganda / 8 projects              | 910.934,29 Euros   |
| Centr. African Rep. / 2 projects | 122.719,82 Euros   |

**Africa total / 201 Projects 22.578.076,70 Euros**

## EUROPE

|                               |                    |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|
| Europe (general) / 8 projects | 289.465,98 Euros   |
| Albania / 5 projects          | 317.259,54 Euros   |
| Armenia / 6 projects          | 468.237,16 Euros   |
| Germany / 8 projects          | 555.226,80 Euros   |
| Georgia / 7 projects          | 407.311,79 Euros   |
| Greece / 7 projects           | 1.446.229,59 Euros |
| Kosovo / 1 project            | 63.228,90 Euros    |
| Croatia / 1 project           | 14.000,00 Euros    |
| Montenegro / 1 project        | 9.421,00 Euros     |
| Poland / 2 projects           | 14.198,68 Euros    |
| Russia / 8 projects           | 403.184,00 Euros   |
| Serbia / 6 projects           | 467.486,59 Euros   |
| Turkey / 5 projects           | 196.461,30 Euros   |
| Ukraine / 16 projects         | 4.611.009,15 Euros |

**Europe total / 81 projects 9.262.720,48 Euros**

## NEAR AND MIDDLE EAST

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| Near/Middle East (general) / 5 projects | 196.076,27 Euros   |
| Iran / 2 projects                       | 55.200,00 Euros    |
| Iraq / 22 projects                      | 5.718.395,44 Euros |
| Israel und Palestine / 18 projects      | 2.204.043,44 Euros |
| Yemen / 3 projects                      | 424.000,00 Euros   |
| Jordan / 17 projects                    | 5.384.500,56 Euros |
| Lebanon / 17 projects                   | 4.363.432,77 Euros |
| Syria / 22 projects                     | 4.778.249,66 Euros |

**Near and Middle East total  
106 projects 23.123.898,14 Euros**

## RELATIVE AID WEIGHTING IN PERCENT



## ASIA AND OCEANIA

|                             |                    |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|
| Asia (general) / 8 projects | 77.713,21 Euros    |
| Afghanistan / 15 projects   | 3.754.602,17 Euros |
| Bangladesh / 17 projects    | 2.439.363,21 Euros |
| China / 1 project           | 25.000,00 Euros    |
| India / 37 projects         | 1.891.776,21 Euros |
| Indonesia / 26 projects     | 975.162,49 Euros   |
| Japan / 1 project           | 35.975,00 Euros    |
| Cambodia / 6 projects       | 642.276,92 Euros   |
| Kirgisien / 1 project       | 40.900,00 Euros    |
| Mongolia / 4 projects       | 89.100,00 Euros    |
| Myanmar / 5 projects        | 512.640,61 Euros   |
| Nepal / 16 projects         | 1.850.005,46 Euros |
| North Korea / 4 projects    | 587.115,39 Euros   |
| Pakistan / 11 projects      | 834.195,36 Euros   |
| Philippines / 17 projects   | 849.051,92 Euros   |
| Sri Lanka / 3 projects      | 75.000,00 Euros    |
| Tajikistan / 7 projects     | 703.751,08 Euros   |
| Thailand / 4 projects       | 244.507,00 Euros   |
| Vietnam / 10 projects       | 257.398,44 Euros   |

**Asia and Oceania total**  
193 projects

**15.885.534,47 Euros**

## LATIN AMERICA

|                                |                    |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|
| America (general) / 6 projects | 543.512,85 Euros   |
| Argentina / 1 project          | 70.000,00 Euros    |
| Bolivia / 6 projects           | 488.259,32 Euros   |
| Brazil / 19 projects           | 1.064.008,30 Euros |
| Chile / 4 projects             | 125.846,41 Euros   |
| Ecuador / 3 projects           | 268.116,05 Euros   |
| El Salvador / 6 projects       | 383.638,54 Euros   |
| Guatemala / 13 projects        | 589.745,37 Euros   |
| Haiti / 8 projects             | 624.398,53 Euros   |
| Honduras / 1 project           | 15.000,00 Euros    |
| Colombia / 25 projects         | 4.525.118,37 Euros |
| Cuba / 5 projects              | 329.619,35 Euros   |
| Mexico / 5 projects            | 224.542,26 Euros   |
| Peru / 17 projects             | 669.434,13 Euros   |
| Venezuela / 2 projects         | 46.100,00 Euros    |

**America total / 121 projects** **9.967.339,48 Euros**

## INTERNATIONAL

**International / 13 projects** **265.276,32 Euros**

## Note

1. The project expenditures in this overview are not completely identical with the donation receipts and grants total for the year 2018. For there are many projects with a time-frame over several years which are being financed gradually. Reconstruction following disasters, such as the one after the earthquake in Nepal 2015, will often continue for years to come. Funds at Caritas Germany's disposal will accordingly be expended over the long term, with a view to the future. This approach is essential, as responsibly managed disaster aid will necessarily extend to rebuilding social structures and taking steps to improve disaster preparedness.

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

# Project Expenditure

Total expenditure: **81.082.845,59 Euros**

## BY TARGET GROUP S

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

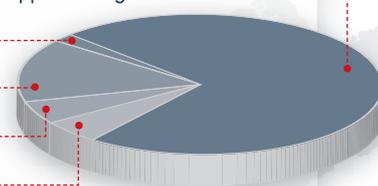
**77,96%** Sustainable post-disaster relief provision; support during crises and conflicts

**1,99%** Health, care, addiction

**10,52%** Children's rights

**5,52%** Participation of disabled people

**4,01%** Chances for the chanceless<sup>1)</sup>



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

## BY FUNDING SOURCE

The diagram shows the funds allocated to projects in 2018. 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.

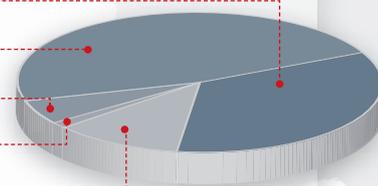
**37,29%** Private donations

**45,37%** German government

**4,51%** Other funding sources<sup>1)</sup>

**3,48%** European Union

**9,35%** Church Funds<sup>2)</sup>



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** **36.786.828 Euros**

thereof: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development 17.061.232 Euros  
thereof: Federal Foreign Office 19.725.596 Euros

**Church Funds total** **7.585.072 Euros**

thereof: Association of German Dioceses 3.836.095 Euros  
of which: Dioceses of Freiburg, Cologne, Rottenburg-Stuttgart 3.748.977 Euros

**European Union total\*** **2.820.006 Euros**

Emergency Aid Ethiopia 179.577 Euros  
Emergency Aid Colombia 245.000 Euros

Social projects Colombia 1.582.317 Euros  
Social projects Ethiopia 373.613 Euros  
Social projects Tajikistan 439.500 Euros

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

# Administrative and Advertising Costs

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

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

**In 2018, the share of administrative and advertising costs for Caritas Germany was 8.5 percent.**

## ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS CALCULATION PURSUANT TO DZI GUIDELINES

|   |                            |               |
|---|----------------------------|---------------|
| Project promotion <sup>1)</sup>                                     | 82.345.191,28 Euros        | 86,0 %        |
| (thereof personnel costs)   | (407.103,90 Euros)         |               |
| Project assistance  | 4.363.364,93 Euros         | 4,6 %         |
| (of which personnel costs)  | (3.835.280,13 Euros)       |               |
| Statute-compliant campaigns, educational and awareness-raising work | 900.880,81 Euros           | 0,9 %         |
| (of which personnel costs)  | (424.902,18 Euros)         |               |
| <b>Total project expenditure</b>                                    | <b>87.609.437,02 Euros</b> | <b>91,5 %</b> |
| Administration  | 2.536.853,07 Euros         | 2,6 %         |
| (thereof personnel costs)   | (1.319.631,29 Euros)       |               |
| Advertising and PR work   | 5.633.005,99 Euros         | 5,9 %         |
| (of which personnel costs)  | (1.155.730,16 Euros)       |               |
| <b>Total administrative and advertising</b>                         | <b>8.169.859,06 Euros</b>  | <b>8,5 %</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>  | <b>95.779.296,08 Euros</b> | <b>100 %</b>  |

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

As the international department of the German Caritas Association, the relief organization of Caritas Germany is integrated into the organizational structures 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 2018. The annual accounts and situation report were audited by Ebner & Stolz GmbH & Co. KG auditing company based in Stuttgart.<sup>2)</sup> The auditing company has given an unrestricted audit certificate and established that after its examination no objections need to be raised, that the situation report conveys a true picture of the status of the association and that potential opportunities and risks are accurately assessed. On the basis of the tasks of the German Caritas Association e.V., proper preparation of the annual accounts and of the situation report in accordance with the provisions of §317 of the German Commercial Code (HGB) were examined in compliance with the generally accepted German standards for the audit of financial statements promulgated by the Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer (IDW). Moreover, the audit guidelines of the Association of German Dioceses (VDD) were taken into account within the framework of auditing of the annual accounts. These guidelines demand an additional management review and an in-depth presentation of the financial situation of the association. Within the association, the annual accounts and the situation report are assessed by a financial committee.

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

2) The 2018 annual and business reports for Caritas Germany are published at [www.caritas.de](http://www.caritas.de).

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

# Statement of Account

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

| INCOME  | 2018                       | 2017                       |
|---|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Public and Church grants</b>                     |                            |                            |
| German government                                   | 36.621.073,17 Euros        | 40.218.119,00 Euros        |
| Church funds  | 8.210.830,00 Euros         | 10.509.795,69 Euros        |
| European Union                                      | 4.001.418,31 Euros         | 1.682.263,08 Euros         |
| Other public and Church grants:                     | 4.296.660,82 Euros         | 4.654.226,15 Euros         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>53.129.982,30 Euros</b> | <b>57.064.403,92 Euros</b> |
| <b>Donations and other charitable contributions</b> |                            |                            |
| Project donations                                   | 28.064.599,89 Euros        | 30.396.761,65 Euros        |
| Trust fund monies and corporate cooperations        | 3.572.908,69 Euros         | 3.574.207,56 Euros         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>31.637.508,58 Euros</b> | <b>33.972.969,21 Euros</b> |
| <b>Legacies and other income</b>                    |                            |                            |
| Proceeds from assets and interest income            | 1.809.951,35 Euros         | 2.097.505,67 Euros         |
| Inheritances, legacies                              | 1.883.550,54 Euros         | 2.969.702,07 Euros         |
| Other   | 125.261,15 Euros           | 138.449,96 Euros           |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>3.818.763,04 Euros</b>  | <b>5.205.657,70 Euros</b>  |
| <b>TOTAL INCOME</b>                                 | <b>88.586.253,92 Euros</b> | <b>96.241.030,83 Euros</b> |

## Notes

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

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

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

**Trust fund monies:** Includes grants from media trusts such as the BR "Sternstunden" fund (347.972,29 euros), Bild hilft e.V. "Ein Herz für Kinder" (794.391,24 euros) and "RTL-Foundation" (52.000 Euro) as well as the Dr. Rau-Foundation/UNICEF-Foundation (247.997 euros), the Redel-Foundation (400.000 euros), the Peter-Osyпка-Foundation (164.000 euros) and the PHINEO gAG (640.933 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   | 2018                                       | 2017                                       |
|---|--|--|
| <b>Project expenditure</b>  |  |  |
| Sustainable disaster aid; aid in crises and conflicts;<br>health, care, aid for addicts; children's rights;<br>participation for people with disabilities; chances for those without a chance |  |  |
| <b>Project expenditure total</b>  | <b>81.082.845,59 Euros</b>                 | <b>79.499.882,71 Euros</b>                 |
| <b>Personnel, materials and amortisation</b>  |  |  |
| 1. Personnel expenses:  |  |  |
| wages and salaries, social benefits, retirement funds<br>(thereof directly allocable to projects)   | 7.142.647,66 Euros<br>(4.667.286,21 Euros) | 6.609.242,55 Euros<br>(4.446.988,50 Euros) |
| 2. Cost of materials:   |  |  |
| project work, educational and PR work, fundraising<br>(thereof directly allocable to projects)  | 6.630.818,64 Euros<br>(1.859.305,22 Euros) | 6.281.669,25 Euros<br>(1.623.316,79 Euros) |
| 3. Levies:  |  |  |
| service charges (e.g. data processing)  | 887.133,29 Euros                           | 840.548,75 Euros                           |
| 4. Depreciation/Amortisation  | 35.850,90 Euros                            | 48.289,18 Euros                            |
| <b>TOTAL COSTS</b>  | <b>95.779.296,08 Euros</b>                 | <b>93.279.632,44 Euros</b>                 |
| <b>RESULT FOR THE DIVISION</b>  | <b>-7.193.042,16 Euros</b>                 | <b>2.961.398,39 Euros</b>                  |

## Notes

**Project expenditure:** Expenditure comprises contributions to 715 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 2018, the funds amounted to 112.757.020,43 Euros, against 122.911.460,98 Euros in the previous year (see above note on interest income).

# Helping more and helping better

Many of the measures formulated in Caritas Germany's strategy are already having an impact, making humanitarian aid more effective and easier to plan. A stocktaking with an outlook.

**T**he strategy developed by Caritas Germany and adopted by the Board of Directors of the German Caritas Association in 2016 is entitled "Helping more and helping better". The concept formulated therein describes measures to further develop the project work quantitatively and qualitatively on the one hand and to generate the necessary resources for it on the other hand. After all, the need for humanitarian aid due to armed conflicts and natural disasters (including those caused by climate change) has increased and is likely to increase further.

## More aid through more resources

The significant increase in aid services provided in recent years (in 2017 and 2018 up to around 80 million euros each) is an indicator that many of the measures described in the strategy are already taking effect. We succeeded in binding both private and public sponsors to Caritas Germany and in convincing them of the professional competence of the organisation. At the same time, the results of numerous evaluations underline that the quality of the work is at a good level. At the same time, it has been and is being further improved in some fields. For example, the work of the crisis team in the case of disasters was put to the test. And a new, cross-national unit has been set up to deal with the issue of "flight and expulsion".

## Successes in fundraising and cooperations

The fundraising strategy is successful. The donations received in 2017 and 2018 were well above the budgeted figure set out in the growth strategy. The goal of moderate growth has so far been achieved by gaining additional resources in almost all private, public and church sectors. The close cooperation with dioceses, parishes and other church authorities as well as the good cooperation with the Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development strengthen both professional exchange and financial independence.

## Strengthening of partners

The partner principle is a central element of Caritas Germany's work. All aid projects are implemented with local partner organizations. Accordingly, it is important that they are also able to take action in the case of disasters. To this end, Caritas Germany supports organizational development where resources are insufficient, undertakes planning together with its partners and conducts extensive training courses, for example in the areas of evaluation and accounting. The innovative instrument of cash transfer programming, which allows the people affected to help themselves, has been introduced and is being expanded.

## Expansion of structures

The increase in financial resources not only makes it possible to provide more aid, it also requires more staff and improved structures. Given the unpredictability of humanitarian crises, human resource planning is also a major challenge. A high level of employee flexibility – job rotation, cross-border work – is meant to make sure that Caritas Germany can keep on helping quickly and effectively in the case of a disaster.

## Helping sustainably, protecting the needy

Helping more and helping better also involves improving the protection of vulnerable people from sexual abuse, violence and other forms of abuse. Therefore, the German Caritas Association has launched a new Code of Conduct in 2018 and has appointed an ombudsperson to deepen this issue with employees and project partners in the future. Together with the local partners, the topic is to be anchored in the projects and employees should be sensitized to prevent any form of abuse. ■

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

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