Our vision
Each child has the potential to change our one world. That is why we help towards ensuring that children’s voices are heard. Together with girls, boys and their communities, we work to improve their lives and living conditions and, thereby, contribute to the realisation of children’s rights. They have the opportunity to have a future that is just and the freedom to develop their personality.

Our work
We are part of a global movement and believe it is our responsibility to provide children with an education, protect them against violence and economic exploitation and uphold their right to participation. We support locally initiated projects and are actively involved in programmes for particularly disadvantaged children. We help create a fairer living environment, in which equal consideration is given to human and environmental needs. This includes a concerted commitment during and after humanitarian disasters. Through worldwide dialogue, we learn from the experiences of other organisations working with and for children and make our own know-how and experience available through training courses and consultancy services. Through advocacy, development education, political campaigns and public relations work – often in co-operation with our partners, in alliances and networks – we advocate the realisation of children’s rights in our dealings with people in positions of responsibility and decision-makers throughout the world.

Our sponsors
Around 205,000 people make our work possible, 67,500 of them on a regular basis as sponsors and a further 1,000 as volunteers. A number of public figures use their high profile to raise public awareness for our work. Support from the Kindernothilfe Foundation alongside state and institutional funding also makes a significant contribution to our project work.

Integrity and transparency
Every year since 1992, we have received the seal of quality for donations from the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI) in recognition of our responsible use of donations. Within the scope of the PwC Transparency Awards, Kindernothilfe has received several awards for the high-quality and transparency of our reporting.
Our partner organisations and projects around the world responded with huge commitment and incredible creativity to the restrictions caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, in an effort to continue supporting children and their families at this extremely difficult time. In co-operation with them and our Kindernothilfe sister organisations in Austria, Switzerland and Luxembourg, we are maintaining close contact, analysing the situation on the ground, quickly adjusting budgets and project activities and, thereby, ensuring that humanitarian assistance continues to reach where it is required. We are just as impressed by the creativity of our children and young people in the projects as we are by the work on the ground – a crucial contribution to our success in helping girls and boys attain their rights despite the many restrictions.

The impacts of Covid-19 are accentuating the ongoing injustices of the global society. Throughout the world, ongoing school closures are threatening 200 million children’s right to an education. For months, now, girls and boys have missed out on the schools meals that were often the only nutritious food they received. The digital infrastructure required to facilitate educational opportunities and home-based learning is lacking. Large sectors of the economy have collapsed, with many young people forced to compensate, at least in part, for the loss of their parents income by sometimes turning to criminal and exploitative child labour. The increasing poverty we are witnessing in all project countries is leading to hunger, insecurity, sweeping restrictions and rights violations.

Transforming those affected into proactive protagonists – this principle motivated us to ensure that the voices of girls and boys are heard and, thus, clearly highlight the negative impacts. Together with partner organisations, we carried out our own study, interviewing working children in six countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America about the impacts of Corona restrictions. The study also aroused substantial political and media interest. For 2021, we have initiated a follow-up survey of the children involved. We hope to use this to learn more about their situation and experiences after living for a year with the pandemic and develop specific recommendations for action for decision-makers, from local up to international level.

In our longest-standing project country, India, figures for Corona infections are exploding: over 400,000 corona cases in one day – the highest amount recorded anywhere in the world. The number of unreported cases is likely to be significantly higher. Countless families have fallen into poverty. Our partners and projects have been working tirelessly to bring immediate and long-term relief to children and their families. But in the meantime, the disaster has had a severe impact on their staff: many have been infected; some have not survived. They are in our thoughts, and we offer our deepest condolences to the families and loved ones of those, who have died.

Our working objectives in Europe included improving the catastrophic situation of refugees in the Greek camps and, thereby, preventing the flagrant violations of their international rights. We were involved in projects for refugee children at the EU external border between Greece and Turkey, as well as in network activities and political initiatives. We succeeded in ensuring that unaccompanied refugee children and young people could be transferred from Greek camps to Germany, thereby combining concrete project and political work on the ground.

We are extremely grateful to our donors for their enormous support, especially in these difficult times. Our donation volume increased by five percent compared to the previous year. Total income for 2020, including a particularly strong result in December, was 64.9 million euros and, thus, 1.3 million euros more than in 2019. We were simultaneously able to maintain financing for the projects within the scope of our long-term planning and provide 3 million euros in funding for additional measures related to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Our goal of enabling children to lead a better life connects us with people around the world. In alliance with our international network of colleagues and partners, with all those supporting our work in Germany, Austria, Switzerland and Luxembourg in the form of sponsorship and other kinds of support, we are part of a global movement working on behalf of children’s rights. Our shared aspiration is to create a safe living environment for children and young people, where they have the opportunity and freedom to fulfill and cultivate their potential. We want to continue to play our part in ensuring that marginalised girls and boys are protected against economic exploitation and sexualised violence, that their access to the global knowledge society is secured, that their opportunity to participate is ensured and that the negative impacts of climate change on children’s rights are countered. And in the context of large-scale movements of refugees and migrants, children’s rights must be respected and civil society participation upheld and reinforced in the face of prevailing anti-migrant political tendencies. On the basis of our long-standing relations with over 360 partners, more than 300 Kindernothilfe staff throughout the world as well as approximately 1,000 volunteers and 205,000 private individuals, as well as the foundations, companies and public donors that support us financially, we are well-equipped to face the future.

Karin Weidemann, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Carsten Montag, Chief Programme Officer (CPO)
Jürgen Borchardt, Chief Financial Officer (CFO)
Contact: vorstand@kindernothilfe.de
Up to 800 runners took part in the 2nd Duisburg: Corona pandemic – one of the conclusions of the report, which we are jointly publishing. Photo: BEH

WorldRiskReport 2020: Refugees are particularly at risk from the Coronavirus pandemic – one of the conclusions of the report, which we are jointly publishing. Photo: beh

Duisbur: Up to 800 runners took part in the 2nd Kindernothilfe New Year Run. Photo: Ludwig Grundweid / Kindernothilfe

Beirut: After the devastating explosion in the city’s port, we received 156,719 euros in donations for the work of our partners. Photo: Kindernothilfe Partner

Supply chain: In a joint position paper, we and other organisations called on the German government to pass supply chain regulations that protects children against exploitation. Photo: Christina Kindermann / © Kindernothilfe

Corona pandemic: Our partners distribute learning material to children, who are unable to download them from the Internet. Photo: Kindernothilfe Partner

22nd Media Award “Children’s Rights in One World”: Many of our ambassadors participated in the award ceremony, which, for the first time, took place online.

Diaconic Corporate Governance Code
Who: Kindernothilfe, since 2007 – revised 2018
What: Complies with German Diakonie standards on governance and compliance with rules and laws; the focus is on compliance, a description of the tasks of the association’s bodies, combating corruption, a clear definition of competencies between the board of trustees and executive board, transparency in communication and fundraising, monitoring of work; the goal is efficient, binding, and regulated interaction across all levels of Kindernothilfe
When: Since 2007

Child Protection Policy
Who: Kindernothilfe, since 2013 – revised 2019
What: System in operation throughout the worldwide work of Kindernothilfe to protect children against all forms of violence, including such preventive measures as rules of conduct for different groups, standards for communication and human resources, a case management system and standards for training partner organisations
When: Since 2013

Transparency Civil Society Initiative
Who: Kindernothilfe and VENRO members, Transparency International Deutschland e. V., Deutscher Stiftungsrat, Deutscher Kulturrat, Deutscher Naturschutzring, Deutscher Fundraising Verband, Deutscher Spendenrat, Maecenata Institut für Philanthropie und Zivilgesellschaft, Deutscher Kulturrat, Deutschlands e. V., Bundesverband deutscher Stiftungen, Transparent Civil Society Initiative
What: Ensures uniform standards, more rigorous monitoring and proven professionalism; highest possible degree of transparency: sets out generally applicable standards for aid organisations; strengthens independent monitoring institutions such as the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI)
When: Since 2013

Integrity and Anti-corruption Policy
Who: Kindernothilfe, since 2008 – revised 2019
What: Requires all Kindernothilfe staff and committee members to act with integrity and in accordance with high ethical standards; prevent and combat corruption; report and contribute to the resolution of any suspicion or manifestation of corruption. The policy includes rules to protect whistle-blowers and anyone accused, case management guidelines clearly stipulating how to deal with any suspicions and appoint an ombudsperson
When: Since 2008

VENRO Code of Conduct
Transparency, organisational management and control
Who: Kindernothilfe and VENRO members, since 2018
What: Ensures uniform standards, more rigorous monitoring and proven professionalism; highest possible degree of transparency: sets out generally applicable standards for aid organisations; strengthens independent monitoring institutions such as the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI)
When: Since 2018

VENRO Code
Protecting children against abuse and exploitation in development co-operation and humanitarian assistance
Who: Kindernothilfe and VENRO members, since 2009
What: Requires all members, e.g., to protect children against sexual, emotional or physical abuse, exploitation and neglect; create an environment guaranteeing compliance with children’s and human rights; facilitate children’s participation in measures concerning them; raise awareness of the issue within their own/partner organisations; ensure that children’s dignity is preserved throughout their press, educational and public relations activities
When: Since 2009

VENRO Code
Reinforce the role of Southern NGOs. i.e. with headquarters in a country of the Global South
Who: Kindernothilfe and members of Transparency International Deutschland, since 2019
What: Continuous development of standards to combat corruption in the global context of Kindernothilfe
When: Since 2019

Charter4Change
Who: 35 international organisations, supported by 232 organisations from the Global South, since 2016
What: Reinforce the role of Southern NGOs. i.e. with headquarters in a country of the Global South (non-OECD country)
### Project funding 2020

#### Project countries in Africa

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Children/Youth</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>90,800</td>
<td>1,370,081 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eswatini</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>33,900</td>
<td>693,411 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ethiopia</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>602,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenya</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>47,400</td>
<td>1,350,214 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Malawi</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>101,400</td>
<td>989,960 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rwanda</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>249,600</td>
<td>1,317,396 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>26,500</td>
<td>420,775 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Africa</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>15,800</td>
<td>1,688,641 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Uganda</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>323,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zambia</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>51,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zimbabwe</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>113,100</td>
<td>1,834,960 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Africa (general)*</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>87,886 €</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>149</td>
<td>1,655,900</td>
<td>16,185,904 €</td>
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*International co-ordination of self-help groups

#### Project countries in Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Children/Youth</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>31,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10,100</td>
<td>1,732,406 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>74,700</td>
<td>4,934,523 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
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<td>Lebanon</td>
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<td>6,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Myanmar</td>
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<td>1,400</td>
<td>88,796 €</td>
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<td>Nepal</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2,400</td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
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<td>Sri Lanka</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
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<td>5,300</td>
<td>416,520 €</td>
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<td>Asia (general)*</td>
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<td></td>
<td>10,190 €</td>
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<td><strong>Total Asia</strong></td>
<td>292</td>
<td>180,400</td>
<td>13,275,831 €</td>
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</table>

* Costs include projects for “Klimakollekte” projects

#### Project countries in Europe

<table>
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<th>Country</th>
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<th>Children/Youth</th>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
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<td>Greece</td>
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<td>900</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kosovo</td>
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<td>1,400</td>
<td>130,000 €</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>28,300</td>
<td>272,094 €</td>
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* Costs include projects for “Klimakollekte” projects

#### Project countries in Latin America

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<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Children/Youth</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia</td>
<td>17</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>10,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chile</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>900</td>
<td>463,770 €</td>
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<td>Ecuador</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3,500</td>
<td>597,203 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Guatemala</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>13,300</td>
<td>2,825,508 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Haiti</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>18,700</td>
<td>1,977,300 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Honduras</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10,600</td>
<td>743,008 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Peru</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>12,600</td>
<td>1,186,852 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Latin America (general)*</td>
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<td></td>
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<td><strong>Total Latin America</strong></td>
<td>115</td>
<td>1,655,900</td>
<td>11,934,140 €</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

* Costs include projects for “Klimakollekte” projects

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*The continental maps take no account of any disputed territorial claims.

* The costs of the Training & Consulting programme are listed under head office’s educational and information work (funded for example by Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft).

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* Costs across all continents for the “Time to Talk” and “Dialogue Works – Time to Talk” projects

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* Costs within the scope of ONG-IDEAs

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* Principally for a “Klimakollekte” project
Our projects in a state of emergency

The Corona pandemic has also been an enormous challenge for our partners around the world. But with great commitment, creativity and flexibility, they have adapted the projects to the current situation and continued to support children and their families in these difficult times.

Text: Gunhild Aiyub, Katharina Draub, Dr Magdalene Pac, Lorenz Töpperwien; illustration: Jan Robert Donneweiler

Worldwide: Project work in pandemic times

In *Malawi*, our partner, Tikondane, has provided shelter in temporary homes to children living on the streets. In the world’s largest refugee camp in *Bangladesh*, our partner, SKUS, has ensured that girls and boys receive appropriate care by providing protective clothing and masks to medical staff and social workers so that they can continue their work there. In *Zimbabwe*, our partners advise parents on how to keep their children constructively occupied at home. In *Bolivia*, our partners provide counselling by WhatsApp or telephone. Psychologists working in our projects in *Ecuador* maintain telephone contact with children and families in an effort to prevent a dramatic increase in domestic violence. Project staff in *Peru* provide online support to the families of children with disabilities to enable them to continue with their therapeutic exercises. Psychological counselling also helps people tackle new, challenging situations. The focus here is on preventing violence within families. In *Rwanda*, our partner, Cladho, has sensitised project staff to be aware of the inadequate protection for children and the issue of children’s safety on the Internet. This is because the increase in online learning has also meant that children are also increasingly exposed to the risks of cybercrime.

Brazil: Child rights education

Although our partners had to suspend their ongoing projects, they found alternatives and, for example, have maintained contact with children, young people and families via messenger services or telephone. A project financed tablets, enabling young people to take part in virtual activities. Interactive campaigns were run, for example on the radio, to combat violence against women and girls. Our partner, Cedeca Casa Renascer, ran an online workshop on “Child rights in times of Corona”, giving young people the chance to air their questions.

Video: bit.ly/brasilien_hilfspakete

Peru: Free Wi-Fi and study packs for home-based learning

In 2020, Peru had one of highest death rates from COVID-19 in the world. The Ministry of Education set up a digital, media-based teaching programme for children. Yet, many families cannot afford a television, radio or Internet access – especially when their income has collapsed as a consequence of lockdown measures. Our partner, Filomena, has provided internet-enabled devices, which children and young people can use to download learning material. If this is not possible, the learning modules can be printed out and delivered to the child’s home. The partner has bought additional printers for this purpose. The staff show parents how to support their children’s home learning. Where possible, home visits complement the support programme.

Our partner, Aynimundo, makes it possible for children to continue with their physiotherapy, which also had to stop because of Corona. In videos, therapists give parents instructions on how to carry out the exercises, to the best of their ability.

Guatemala: White flags as a signal

In areas, where clean water and soap are scarce, the Corona virus is spreading especially quickly. Our partners, SADEGUA and ASEDIL, distributed protective masks and disinfectant in many communities and used radio broadcasts to inform the public about symptoms and measures. Hygiene and prevention sets were also distributed to street children. Their risk is particularly high, owing to the catastrophic hygiene conditions on the streets. Our partner, Coincidir, is also active and helps with the distribution of food parcels. In particular, its staff keep an eye out for houses flying a white flag. Even now, several months after the virus outbreak, some families are still hanging them out of windows or waving them at the side of the road. As a sign that they have nothing to eat. The white flag has, thereby, become a symbol for real need.

Video: bit.ly/guatemala_weißeflaggen
Kenya: Mobile wash basins for street children

Peter Mweke, a former street child and a famous rapper in his native Kenya, is the founder and head of the organisation, Street Changer. “Children living on the streets receive a meal from us every day. It’s their only chance of getting anything to eat.” Street children are particularly at risk of being targeted by the police during curfew. When Street Changer staff discover a child, who is in trouble with the police, they negotiate with the authorities. They have also organised a mobile water station mounted on a motorbike. Staff working at the St Martin Shelter in central Kenya have created washing stations in the centre and organised programmes to give children continued access to education and ensure they stay in touch with one another.

Video-1: bit.ly/kenia_waschbecken
Video-2: bit.ly/kenia_hilfe_für_kinder

India: Food distribution with the help of the police

“In the Dairy Slum, next to the dumping ground, we supported about 1,900 families with food parcels. And, in April 2020 alone, we distributed 5,000 masks,” says Father Santosh, director of Deepthi Foundation, our partner in Bhalswa. Hundreds of people came to the distribution points. The police have helped, too, informing Father Santosh when they find someone with nothing to eat. Deepthi has been issued a special permit, authorising them to break the curfew and care for the poor. The staff are still there for children, and specialists are able by telephone to instruct parents in physiotherapy or speech therapy exercises.

Video-1: bit.ly/indien_corona_reportage
Video-2: bit.ly/Corona_im_Armenviertel

Indonesia: Educational games and free data volume

To ensure that children have time to learn without having to work all day on the streets of Medan to ensure their family’s survival, our partner, PKPA, distributes essential foodstuffs, hygiene packs and has organised access to handwashing facilities. “We developed educational games and created a manual for children to raise their awareness of Covid-19, its consequences and how children and their families can protect themselves against the virus,” says Keumala Dewi from PKPA. Since many schools are closed, children need mobile phone credit to take part in online classes. But most families cannot afford this or find public Internet access in the city. After negotiations with the government, they made free online data available to ensure children are not left behind.

Eswatini: Emergency kitchens to combat hunger

In the country’s poorest regions, several partners distributed food and used mobile clinics to raise awareness. In hygiene training courses, people learned how to better protect themselves. During the curfews, project staff tried to maintain contact with families through text messages, offering them advice. Our partner, APDK, distributed food, protective masks and disinfectant to families bringing up a child with a disability. Another partner, ACAT, set up emergency kitchens in nearby fields, enabling children, who were missing out on their daily meal because of school closures, to get something to eat and not have to go hungry.

Video: bit.ly/eswatini_notküche

Lebanon: Online lessons using chickpeas

In Shatila, one of twelve Palestinian refugee camps on the outskirts of Beirut, our Lebanese partner, Just Childhood, runs a kindergarten. Although they have also had to close, they are still there for the children, producing online videos. Since the children have no learning material at home, the teachers use ordinary household items to conduct experiments. For example: they sprinkle chickpeas onto a layer of cotton wool on a plate, pour water over them, then wait for the peas to start germinating. An experiment, which the children can easily conduct themselves. “We upload videos, for example, including songs and other things we usually do together in kindergarten,” reports Hilda, one of the staff. “We also offer pre-school lessons for children preparing to go to school.”

Video: bit.ly/libanun_unterricht

Zimbabwe: Health status database

At the very beginning of the pandemic in March 2020, people’s freedom of movement was severely restricted by the imposition of 24-hour or night-time curfews alongside other travel and contact restrictions. Our partner, Ntengwe, delivers soap and disinfectant to the regional hospital, distributes information from the World Health Organisation, networks online with partners and circulates information to village communities via WhatsApp. “In the villages, we issue protective clothing to contact individuals with a smartphone. Via the Kobo Collect App, they collect data on the health status of villagers, which is then entered into a database. We will continue to do all we can to guarantee the safety of children and families in this crisis.”

Video: bit.ly/südafrika_setzlinge

Scan the QR codes and watch all of our partners’ videos on the pandemic: bit.ly/corona_videos
Right to education

Haiti: Schools as shelters in chaos

Haiti is sinking into the chaos of violence and crime. The pandemic is giving the population even more cause for concern. The St François de Sales School in Carrefour is providing children the stability, security and education they need.

Text: Katharina Nickelit, photo: Kindernothilfe-Partner

The Internet connection keeps dropping out. The interview with Patricia, Ronaldo and Kensia should actually have taken place in the school run by the Order of the Little Sisters of St Therese. However, shortly before our visit, one of the nurseries was kidnapped and only released after a ransom was paid. Kidnappings, general strikes, bloody street-fighting – and, on top of all this, now, Corona.

The school has provided comprehensive information about Corona, set up hand-washing stations and bought masks and disinfectant. After learning how to protect themselves against the virus, the children and young people were able to pass on this knowledge at home.

Given the high level of street-crime, would it not be better for the children to stay at home? “No,” responds Pierre Hugue Augustin, Kindernothilfe’s office manager in Haiti. “Right now, schools are more important than ever, since they are the only place of sanctuary the children have.” The Kindernothilfe partner is doing everything it can to keep the school open and, thus, maintain some semblance of normal, everyday life. “The best antidote to fear is to experience something beautiful,” adds Ronaldo. The children and young people develop their own ideas for activities that are helpful: writing and singing songs that give courage; drawing pictures to relate experiences that are so bad they cannot be expressed in words.

It is difficult to imagine that, against such a background, the girls and boys are still able to think about their education. “Of course,” assures Patricia. “Learning is so important! In class, I can show what I can do. I can feel myself developing. I get praise and recognition and I have something to be proud of. And this also helps me forget my fears.” At the end of the session, the young people want to get something off their chests. “We are so grateful for this school!” Kensia says. “The lessons are great and we are proud to be able to study here. ” “You won’t find a school anywhere else here that is so well-equipped”, Patricia adds. And for the first time there is no sign of apprehension in their voices, only enthusiasm.

Project info

Project region: Carrefour
Target group: 1,210 young people aged between 3 and 21
Project partner: Petites Soeurs De Sainte Thérèse (PSST)
Total duration: 01.10.2011 – 30.09.2021 (extension planned)
Project activities in 2020: During the three-month school closure as a result of Corona, the children learned at home. The learning material was printed out since many people, e.g., regard street children as criminals.

To prevent her family from starving to death, Jesi has to work alongside going to school. Corona has made their situation even worse. Our partner, PKPA, supports families on the island of Sumatra with food and educational opportunities.

Text: Christiane Dase, photo: Lennart Zech

Shod only in flip-flops, the girls climb over piles of waste food, cola cans, plastic waste and scraps of old cloth. The foul-smelling carpet of rubbish stretches several kilometres along the riverbank. The children stuff whatever they may be able to sell into bags and sacks. Because of the Corona pandemic many companies are closed. That is why hardly anyone is buying rubbish to be recycled. Yet, since their mother left the family, Jesi and her siblings have had to earn money. Before Corona, she went to junior high school in the mornings. She was in the eighth grade.

Children like Jesi and their families receive support from Pusat Kajian dan Perlindungan Anak (PKPA). The Kinder- nothilfe partner is aware that many families would not be able to survive without the income gained through child labour. But it does what it can to ensure that any work they do does not endanger their health or jeopardise their futures through having no time for schoolwork. That is why staff regularly visit the young people. For the last few months, staff have been distributing rice, oil, sugar and eggs as well as soap and masks to ensure that no child has to work any longer than previously. When the Corona restrictions were first introduced, they developed educational games and created a manual for children to help them learn more about the virus and how to protect themselves. PKPA negotiated with the government, which then agreed to make free online data volume available, so that children from poor families could continue their studies online.

Project info

Project region: Medan, Sumatra (Indonesia)
Target group: 3,995 people, including 2,080 children
Project partner: Pusat Kajian dan Perlindungan Anak (PKPA)
Total duration: 01.04.2020 – 31.12.2024
Project activities in 2020: PKPA distributed food parcels and raised awareness about Corona. For children from poor families, resorting to crime, e.g., theft, is often the only chance they have to survive. Many lost their jobs during the pandemic. Along with the authorities, PKPA developed minimum standards for dealing with children and published accompanying recommendations. The guidelines have been incorporated into Medan’s catalogue of legislation. Community members were trained to provide low-threshold legal advice. The partner set up other children’s forums. They were able, for example, to clearly express their concerns in meetings with local government officials. Counselling services, provided in collaboration with the university’s psychology faculty, helped prevent violence and abuse in families. PKPA found jobs for 26 parents.

Sustainability: Government agencies develop guidelines for the protection of children.

Contact: u.te.rabenau@kindernothilfe.de

Outflow of funds 2021:

133,000 Euro

Outflow of funds 2020:

133,000 Euro

Total project budget:

324,980 Euro

Total project budget:

46,666 Euro

Contact: ute.rabenau@kindernothilfe.de

Outflow of funds 2022:

65,370 Euro

Outflow of funds 2021:

1,210 young people aged between 3 and 21

Outflow of funds 2020:

133,000 Euro

Outflow of funds 2021:

1,402,053 Euro

Outflow of funds 2020:

133,000 Euro

Contact: meike.brode@kindernothilfe.de

Risk: A lack of community participation in the project, since many people, e.g., regard street children as criminals.

Right to education

Protection against economic exploitation

Indonesia: Between rubbish and school

Between rubbish and school

To prevent her family from starving to death, Jesi has to work alongside going to school. Corona has made their situation even worse. Our partner, PKPA, supports families on the island of Sumatra with food and educational opportunities.

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Risk: A lack of community participation in the project, since many people, e.g., regard street children as criminals.
Right to protection against violence
Kenya: Refuge for girls

The Tumaini Centre in Meru gives girls, who have been abused, a safe place of refuge, good future prospects and support to overcome their trauma.

Text: Katharina Nickoleit, photo: Christian Nusch

Twenty girls are currently living in the Tumaini Centre. The youngest is five, the oldest seventeen. Most have run away from sexual violence perpetrated by family members. All most all, who are of childbearing age, are pregnant or have a child. Joy, fifteen years old, escaped without becoming pregnant. After being raped by her cousin, she told her father. He accused her of damaging his honour. “He said he'd leave me in the bush to be eaten by hyenas.”

“The worst thing of all is that the girls were betrayed by the very people they trusted,” explains Joice Kuria from Kindernothilfe’s partner, Ripples International (RI), which provides psychological counselling and care for the girls. Her first task is to gain their trust, reassure them that they are safe. The high walls, topped with barbed wire, protect them from the people sent by their abusers to pressure them into withdrawing their charges. RI reports all cases to the authorities. “For the girls, it is extremely important that they are safe,” says Joice Kuria. “They need assurance that their safety is being protected.”

If possible, they should then return to their families, but only when it can be guaranteed that it will be beneficial for them.

Joy will not be going home. Her rape has made her taboo and she isn’t doing so well.”

Joy will not be going home. Her rape has made her taboo and she isn’t doing so well.”

Project info
Project region: Isiolo and Meru County, Kenya
Target groups: Disadvantaged people living in poverty, including 11,160 children
Project partner: Ripples International (RI)
Total duration: 01.07.2017 – 30.06.2022
Project activities in 2020: Due to the corona-related restrictions, RI has been increasingly using radio and TV shows alongside hand-out information material to raise awareness about the issue of child abuse and the project. Counselling for children was only possible by telephone, for which RI distributed mobile phones. All court hearings were suspended, thereby, delaying the impending freedom of the girls at Tumaini. RI succeeded in ensuring that children are prioritised. Hearings were held in police stations, with subsequent legal proceedings via zoom. 37 new cases of child abuse were reported. The children were taken in by the Tumaini Centre or other institutions.

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The 14-year-old Ajay lives with his family in Bhandaria in the Indian state of Madhya Pradesh. There have been many improvements since the Navchetna Community Development Project came to his village. For example, it encouraged the children to set up their own parliaments – they should have the right to decide on matters affecting their everyday lives and futures.

Text: Mayuri Datta/Kindernothilfe-Partner, photo: Mayuri Datta/ © Kindernothilfe

“We now have 13 children’s parliaments, where we meet regularly to discuss any problems in the village and what, from our perspective as children, should be changed,” explains Ajay. “I love being part of it! We learn to look out for the children in the village and help whenever one of them isn’t doing so well.”

Project info
Project region: 6 Adivasi villages in Jhabua District, Madhya Pradesh, India
Target group: 976 households (6,315 people)
Project partner: Monastery St. Trudpert Society
Total duration: 01.09.2012 – 31.03.2020
Impact report 2012 – 2020 (examples): At one time, there were few alternatives to working in farming. 257 young people are now receiving training, for example as electricians or tailors or in IT. Some girls have opened their own shops. Through the improvements in health and hygiene consciousness no more cases of tuberculosis have been registered. The 47 women’s self-help groups are independent of outside support, the members earning money, for example, by keeping chickens or growing vegetables. 485 farmers have installed irrigation systems. In some cases, families can now harvest several times per year. Such positive developments have reduced seasonal labour migration to 20 percent. Parents’ attitudes towards education have radically changed: they buy school material for their children, believe their daughters should be educated and are active in parent committees. Many pay for extra tutoring for their children in higher grades.

Sustainability: The community was involved from the outset in implementing the project

Risks after completion of the project: The Corona pandemic and climate changes

Total project budget: 253,111 Euro
Contact: verena.degens@kindernothilfe.de
Projects can only achieve sustainable change when their impacts – from their planning, through their implementation, to their completion – are systematically planned, monitored and directed.

1. Project initiation

Partners submit a short draft of the planned project, providing a brief outline of any particular problems, the target groups, the changes the project seeks to bring about and the strategies required to achieve this. We evaluate these within the scope of our overall country strategy and discuss them with the partner concerned. After basic approval is granted, the project can move on to the next phase.

2. Project planning

This phase begins with the systematic analysis of the child rights situation in the project region. This is then used as the basis for the formulation of the project goals, which specify the projected changes. The strategies and activities required to achieve these are presented in a log frame. Indicators are formulated to monitor the progress in achieving goals during project implementation. All this is accomplished with the fullest possible participation of the target groups, especially children and young people, to ensure that the goals are relevant to them and that their know-how and experience are incorporated into the project design.

3. Project approval & implementation

We discuss the project proposal with the partner. Once the project has been approved, the implementation phase begins. The participation of the target groups plays a vital role in bringing about lasting changes in their living situation.

In many projects, groups and committees set their own goals for the changes they wish to achieve and regularly monitor progress using simple, often visual, methods. This enables them to perceive the impacts of their own actions. This simultaneously promotes the human right to participation.

4. Project monitoring & steering

Monitoring also helps partners and target groups to observe the progress towards the achievement of goals, the appropriateness of the project design, the quality of the implementation of the activities and the project management.

5. Reporting

The annual project reports of our partners have a standardised structure and provide information on project implementation and the impacts achieved, partly on the basis of indicators. They reflect on successes as well as problems and make proposals for adjustments to project strategies and activities. These project reports also serve as the basis for the reports received each year by all donors.

6. Evaluation

In the past two years, 50 project evaluations were carried out in co-operation with our partners. All evaluations are put out to tender and carried out by external, independent experts. The benchmark for this is our evaluation concept. Project evaluations are strategically initiated, for example, where the project design requires further readjustment. After each evaluation, our partners express their views on the conclusions and discuss their proposed project design adjustments with us.

In addition to this, we commission cross-project strategic evaluations, which are important for our programme orientation. The consistent use of evaluation results is important, not only as a means of enhancing the impact of projects, but also for our work as a learning organisation.
Securing livelihoods on Zege

Carrying out an evaluation in a special context

Text: Barbara Winker, photos: Kindernothilfe-Partner

Kindernothilfe’s partner, the Jerusalem Children and Community Development Organisation (JeCCDO), has been working on Zege to improve water and sanitation provision since 2009. In 2015, the local priests allowed JeCCDO to introduce measures to expand agriculture and livestock farming for the first time. This was the prerequisite for the launch of the “Food and Livelihood Security on the Zege Peninsula” project, which was run between 2016 and 2020, with funding from the German Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The project objectives included increasing the local coffee production, expanding vegetable farming, creating new income-generating opportunities, empowering women and building capacities in the areas of health and food security. The target group comprised 1,840 households in three different communities. Shortly before the end of the project, a team from the consulting firm, ODA Development Consult, examined whether the project had achieved its goals. The objectives of the evaluation included collecting data relating to project impacts and sustainability, assessing the project’s strengths and weaknesses and making recommendations for follow-up projects.

The evaluation began in November in the middle of alarming developments: shortly before, government troops had marched into the neighbouring Tigray region to take military action against the ruling Tigray People’s Liberation Front. The impact of the fighting could still be felt not far from where the evaluation was being carried out. This, however, did not prevent it being completed according to plan. The evaluation team analysed project reports and assessed what had been achieved on the ground. Their work included interviewing 318 project participants about their experiences and seeking the opinions of official stakeholders.

Growing vegetables improves food security

The evaluation team emphasised the relevance of the project to the local context and against the background of the UN sustainability goals. More than 90 percent of those interviewed confirmed that the measures were in line with their own priorities. The interest in growing vegetables was so great that, instead of the originally planned 600 households, 1,339 families actually participated in the project. One participant reported: “We used to depend on coffee production to make a living. But now, we are producing vegetables and have incorporated all the different kinds into our own diets.” Of those interviewed: 92 percent said they now grow vegetables, compared to 15 percent before the project, 29 percent produce vegetables for the domestic market, thereby contributing to the growth in local supplies; and 91 percent confirmed the year-round availability of basic foodstuffs, compared to 25.2 percent before the project. There was an increase from 52 to 89 percent in the proportion of households consuming three meals a day.

Successful sheep and chicken husbandry

Alltogether, 668 households participated in the coffee farming training courses. During the evaluation, 92 percent of participants said that they now had the know-how required to grow and process coffee. The equivalent figure at the start of the project was only 35 percent. However, not all activities proved successful: some households rejected the recommended change in the variety of coffee they were growing. The planned expansion of beekeeping, intended to improve pollination and achieve higher productivity, also failed to get off the ground. Concerns were raised about the import of bee colonies required for this. And in the case of a projected training component for young people, the ideas of those involved proved to be irreconcilable with the project parameters. In response, JeCCDO reinforced other income-generating activities that were very popular among the target group: At the end of the project, 841 households were successfully involved in keeping sheep and/or chickens.

The increases in productivity and income also contributed to a growth in household wealth. At the end of the project, 58 percent of interviewees had their own house compared to 51 percent before the project, and 53 percent had their own land compared to 39 percent.

Beauty and poverty are never far apart on Zege

The peninsula, which is 595 km northwest of Addis Ababa on the shore of Lake Tana, is the setting for a host of historical places of interest and spectacular scenery. For example, it is home to six monasteries, which can be traced back to the 14th century. The local priests determine the rules for land use and maintain a long-standing ban on various farming practices, such as ploughing and cattle grazing. Accordingly, coffee plants cover more than 1,000 hectares of land, while cereal and vegetable growing are virtually unknown. Even the most basic foodstuffs have to be imported onto the peninsula. In combination with a high birth rate and climate change impacts, this is giving rise to growing food insecurity.
Self-help groups as means of increasing income

In 51 self-help groups (SHGs), 822 women were given the opportunity to save and take advantage of small loans. Of the women interviewed, 96 percent said that group membership had helped them build up their own business and increase their family income. What the women appreciate most about the groups is that they allow them new freedoms to participate in activities outside the home. This is how Muliye, a 58-year-old SHG member, puts it: “I don’t have any land or earn anything from farming, but depended on small income-generating activities that didn’t really cover the costs of providing for my family. For eight months of the year, we didn’t have enough to eat. Now, I can feed my family all year round. I have three children. They’re all at school and I can pay their school fees. Our diet has improved because I can buy a range of cereals, vegetables and other foods. What’s most important is that I have a positive outlook on life and have raised my profile in my community.” The groups also supported their members to draw up their own wills. Since this had not been a common practice, it often led to disputes over inheritance and deprived widows and children of their rightful property.

Hygiene and nutritional advice will continue

Activities related to the areas of water, sanitation and nutrition were also rated highly. Of the households surveyed, 78.6 percent are connected to the public water supply (58 percent at the start), while growing vegetables at school has benefited families as well as pupils and teachers. And 85 percent confirmed that project advice on hygiene and nutrition was useful. However, the project did not run long enough to enable the work with two co-operatives to reach a successful conclusion. They will, nevertheless, continue to receive support from JeCCDO, to ensure that through their trade in basic foodstuffs they will be able to contribute to sustainable food provision.

The evaluation team found that the interviewees strongly identified with the project activities, achieving a high implementation level of new practices. These two factors reinforce the sustainability of what was achieved.

Recommendations and use

The report’s recommendations focus heavily on eliminating several weaknesses in planning and implementation. Hence, training material and curricula should be simplified. Additional marketing advice should also be provided for coffee growing. When dealing with co-operatives, more consideration should be given to selecting competent leaders and to the function of internal committees. Although the report praises the work of the self-help groups, it does recommend working co-operation with microfinance institutions. Writing wills to protect family wealth should be maintained as good practice.

Kindernothilfe discussed the results and recommendations in detail with JeCCDO. The lessons learned will be incorporated into the follow-up project scheduled to begin in 2022, which will retain the successful components of vegetable growing and livestock farming alongside health and nutritional advice. With regard to training young people, project leaders will place more emphasis on mutual learning, the development of business plans and additional stimulation of life skills.

Financial report 2020

In 2020, income amounted to 64.9 million euros and expenditure to around 62 million euros, which meant we were able to close the year with a positive annual result of almost 3 million euros.

Income

Income increased by a total of almost 1.2 million euros or 2%. This consists of donations, subsidies and grants as well as other income. We achieved increases in donations (+5%) as well as in subsidies and grants (+7%). Other income, however, fell by more than a third as result of a decline in legacies (-2.3 million euros).

Expenditure

Expenditure, which was only slightly below the level of the previous year (158,000 euros), consists of expenditure on programmes, public relations and administration. Programme expenditure, amounting to 49.9 million euros fell by 546,000 euros compared to the previous year, mainly attributable to a fall of 518,000 euros in our project funding as a consequence of the Corona pandemic.

Expenditure on public relations and administration, on the other hand, rose by 402,000 euros compared to the previous year as a result of higher expenditure on advertising and general public relations. This was partly offset by a fall in expenditure on administration.

Annual result

The positive annual result is due, on the one hand, to an increase in income of almost 4.8 million euros and, on the other hand, to a reduction in expenditure of around 1.1 million euros.

We, consequently, did not have to withdraw 2.8 million euros from the reserves, as anticipated in the budget, but, taking the available tax options into account, were able to transfer almost 2 million euros to the association’s capital and around 1 million euros to the earmarked reserves. Accordingly, equity capital increased to almost 44.8 million euros.

In accordance with legal requirements, we have voluntarily submitted the annual financial statements and the management report 2020 of Kindernothilfe e.V. for audit. The independent auditors Treuhand Gesellschaft Schomerus & Partner mbH Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft in Hamburg have issued an unqualified certificate with no reference to extraordinary circumstances.
At a glance

36 countries

Around 1.9 million children and young people supported

566 projects in 33 countries

20,300 self-help groups in 22 countries

80.6% Project work

61.9 million euros in expenditure

363 partner organisations

1,000 volunteers

€64.9 million euro in income

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