Annual Report
Kindernothilfe
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Kindernothilfe is one of the largest Christian children’s rights organisations in Europe. Founded in Duisburg in 1959, it is a member of the Diakonisches Werk of the Evangelical Church in the Rhineland. For almost 60 years now, we have been working on behalf of disadvantaged children and their rights in developing countries. In 2017, Kindernothilfe provided support and protection to nearly 1.9 million girls and boys, enabling them to participate in 697 projects in 33 countries in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America.

Our work
All projects are implemented through local partner organisations. Human rights, children’s rights and Christian charity form the basis of our work, while help towards self-help, participation and sustainability are our guiding principles. At the same time, we take a stand as a child rights organisation both within society and the world of politics as well as working in national and international networks – as a member, for example, of the Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft (Alliance Development Works). We provide information and raise public awareness of development co-operation issues and, through our lobbying activities, remind politicians of their responsibility to make children’s rights a reality throughout the world.

Our goal
We achieve our goal whenever children and their families are able to live in dignity with real prospects for the future – free of poverty, hardship and violence. This includes securing their basic needs and rights as well as enabling them to take their development into their own hands with the support of their families and communities.

Our sponsors
A broad range of associations, groups, companies, schools, foundations, church congregations and individual donors support our work financially and through their voluntary commitment. People in the public limelight take advantage of their celebrity to raise our public profile, support us through donations and their appearances at events and in the media. The Kindernothilfe Foundation and Kindernothilfe organisations in Austria, Switzerland and Luxembourg also raise our public profile in German-speaking countries, reach other target groups and promote our project work.

Integrity and transparency
Every year since 1992, the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI) has awarded the seal of approval to Kindernothilfe for its responsible use of donations. In the context of the PwC Transparency Prize, Kindernothilfe has received several awards for its high-quality transparent reporting.
An overview of the most important developments in our work in Germany and abroad is provided by the three Kindernothilfe board members.

**Financial development:** We are most grateful for the marvellous financial support we received once again in 2017. The positive financial result of more than 68 million euros was more than anticipated and is a boost to our financial capacity. After several years, in which scarce resources meant that we were unable to fully implement all our planned interventions, our long-term programmes, in particular, benefited from full funding in 2017. At the same time, this annual result enables us to invest in innovative approaches within programmes and projects to secure the future viability of Kindernothilfe.

**Campaigns:** As part of the “It’s Time to Talk” campaign, jointly initiated by Kindernothilfe, children from 36 countries called for a greater say in political decision-making. The campaign, which looks at child rights and child labour from a children’s perspective, included interviews with 1,822 girls and boys aged between 5 and 18 in Africa, Asia, Latin America, the Middle East and Europe, asking them to describe their working conditions. We presented the results in November 2017 at the 4th World Conference on Child Labour organised by the UN’s International Labour Organisation (ILO) in Buenos Aires. Creating safe places for children to learn and play in cities, identifying and eliminating risk situations, embedding child protection in national legislation and implementing this at communal level: these were the political demands developed within the campaign “Heaven and Hell – Life in the city is no child’s play”. We succeeded in including these demands in the new urbanisation strategy of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ) and presented them in early 2018 at the 9th World Urban Forum in Malaysia.

**Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):** Particularly at a time of ever-advancing globalisation, the “2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” is gaining in significance. Even though it does not specifically include child rights’ goals, it does contain numerous references to children and their rights. The agenda calls all countries to account. Industrialised countries are also challenged to pursue a different course in development. The agenda identifies civil society as a key factor in development.

At the same time, we have to concede that constraints on the operational freedom of civil society are still increasing. In some countries, our partners – or even we ourselves as Kindernothilfe – are prevented from working for human and child rights (Shrinking Space) – sometimes to the point of endangerment to life and limb. Yet another reason for continuing our commitment to empower our partners through targeted capacity development and the establishment of sustainable civil society structures.

**Child rights-based programme work:** Over the past year, positive experiences in many countries have demonstrated how best to use our child rights-based programme work to counteract these developments. In Latin America, for example, we brought improvements to the lives of more than 100,000 children in eight countries. We trained partners in child protection and child participation, as a means of promoting children’s involvement in project and community work. In Bolivia, the challenges, opportunities and insights of rights-based community work were examined together with partners from Ecuador, thereby initiating an exciting process of mutual learning. In Honduras, our partners focused on child rights-based impact orientation with the aim of increasing the sustainability and effectiveness of their project work.

**Humanitarian Assistance:** Many partner countries once again witnessed major movements of refugees and migrants. In Bangladesh, for example, a huge camp came into being to provide sanctuary to Rohingya refugees displaced from Myanmar. Since their return to Myanmar is unlikely in the near future, Kindernothilfe and its partners are jointly examining possibilities for a longer-term, rights-based commitment.

The drought, predicted last year as a consequence of the El Niño, did lead in 2017 to a further dramatic deterioration in living conditions in the Horn of Africa. Based on a revised, up-to-date concept for humanitarian relief-related activities, we initiated further emergency measures in Somaliland and Ethiopia.

**Restructuring the India programme:** India is our most important partner country. Alongside developing our co-ordination office in Delhi, we successfully continued the restructuring of our partners’ field of operations and the reorientation of the child rights-based programme to poor states in Northern India. We reduced the financial volume of the programme, to give us the capacity to expand our support and, thereby, our work, for example, in Nepal.
Self-help group approach: As one of the most effective tools to combat poverty, implement fundamental children’s rights and empower families and communities to take their lives and destinies into their own hands, the work of self-help groups has been expanded. In Africa, alone, in 2017, our self-help group work supported and empowered around 30,000 groups in ten countries. More than half a million women and about 1.6 million children participated in the programme. In Myanmar, we launched self-help group projects, after working exclusively through Thai partners in the country in previous years. Because of its central importance and potential, we will expand our self-help group work in terms of both personnel and structure.

Training & Consulting: Over the years, Kindernothilfe has gained valuable experience in the design and implementation of child protection training for our partner organisations. As a result of this experience, we launched our new Training and Consulting division in June 2017 in Germany. Compliance with child protection was, and is, an integral part of our contracts with all partner organisations. Since 2013, our child protection policy has also specified clear rules of conduct, requirements and procedures with respect to child protection. Furthermore, since 2012, we have been running a training programme on child protection with all our partner organisations throughout the world. So far, more than 650 organisations have received training, and over 80 percent of our partners now have their own child protection system in place. We take every case and allegation of child abuse very seriously and have clearly defined procedures that can be applied when the situation arises.

Many supporters in Germany and our partner countries are part of this shared responsibility for a world worth living in – working together, so that children and adolescents can have real prospects, benefit from full protection and receive caring support and sustainable empowerment.

April 2018

Katrin Weidemann, CEO
Christoph Dehn (until 31.12.2017),
Carsten Montag (from 01.01.2018), CPO
Jürgen Borchardt, CFO
Contact: vorstand@kindernothilfe.de

Pictures of the year

We called for safe cities for children – at the World Urban Forum in Malaysia and with young people at the international youth conference in Duisburg. Photos: private

At the World Conference on Child Labour in Argentina we presented the results of the study "It’s Time to Talk!". Photo: Angelika Böhling

Emergency Assistance for Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh. Photo: Christian Herrmann

We have been supporting self-help groups in Myanmar since 2017. Photo: Partner of Kindernothilfe
### Continents

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2017</th>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Projects</td>
<td>Children / Youth</td>
<td>Expenditure in Euro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Africa</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>1,565,200</td>
<td>16,076 T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Asia</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>220,500</td>
<td>14,384 T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Europe</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>270 T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total America</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>83,300</td>
<td>11,792 T.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Worldwide general*</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>245 T.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>697</td>
<td><strong>1,872,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>42,767 T.</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This includes continent-spanning costs for “Time to Talk!”.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Children / Youth</th>
<th>Expenditure in Euro</th>
<th>Project Interventions</th>
<th>Target group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burundi projects since 2007</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>86,300</td>
<td>679,878</td>
<td>Nutrition, rural community development, self-help groups, life skills, lobby/advocacy work, human rights education, self-empowerment</td>
<td>Neglected, malnourished and other vulnerable children, socially excluded people, mothers/caregivers, influencers, decision makers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethiopia since 1973</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>642,200</td>
<td>4,546,216</td>
<td>Nutrition, health, basic education, small businesses, microcredits, rural/urban community development, self-help groups, life skills, human rights education, psychosocial rehabilitation, assistance for people affected by HIV/Aids, agriculture/livestock/forestry, disaster risk reduction, education/occupational training, rehabilitation of people with disabilities, emergency relief, self-empowerment, environmental protection, water, gender-specific project work, drought relief, capacity building of partners</td>
<td>Working, exploited, sick, malnourished, undernourished, traumatised and abducted children, street children, orphans, child-headed households, children with disabilities, other vulnerable children, victims of violence/abuse, socially excluded people, parents/caregivers, mothers, pregnant women, young offenders, decision makers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malawi since 1998</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>80,800</td>
<td>786,403</td>
<td>Rural community development, assistance for people affected by HIV/Aids, health, basic education, civil society development, community-based rehabilitation, nutrition, psychosocial rehabilitation, early childhood education, small business promotion</td>
<td>Vulnerable children, children with disabilities, orphans, the sick, street children, pregnant women, neglected children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rwanda since 1994</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>140,000</td>
<td>1,280,382</td>
<td>Civil society development, rural/urban community development, violence prevention, reproductive health, nutrition, small business promotion, gender-specific project work, assistance for people affected by HIV/AIDS</td>
<td>Mothers, vulnerable children, neglected children, socially excluded people, decision makers, victims of violence, victims of abuse, pregnant women, influencers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Somalia since 2011</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>25,900</td>
<td>1,780,029</td>
<td>Capacity building of partners, health, disaster risk reduction, psychosocial rehabilitation, legal aid, lobbying/advocacy, basic education, agriculture/livestock/forestry, water supply, environmental protection, small business development, rural community development, reproductive health, hygiene, nutrition, relief, civil society development</td>
<td>Mothers, vulnerable children, refugees, fathers, influencers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Africa since 1979</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>14,200</td>
<td>1,158,988</td>
<td>Life skills, psychosocial rehabilitation, self-empowerment, health, nutrition, assistance for people affected by HIV/Aids, small business development, lobbying/advocacy, human rights education, rehabilitation of people with disabilities, basic education</td>
<td>Traumatised, neglected children, other vulnerable children, victims of violence/abuse, street children, orphans, socially excluded parents, children with disabilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Swaziland since 1985</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>25,300</td>
<td>301,630</td>
<td>Rural community development, self-help groups, integrative education, occupational training, nutrition, agriculture/livestock</td>
<td>Neglected, malnourished, sick children, children with disabilities, orphans, other vulnerable children, marginalised parent(s)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uganda since 1981</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>264,900</td>
<td>1,244,029</td>
<td>Nutrition, basic education, assistance for people affected by HIV/Aids, rural community development, life skills, lobbying/advocacy, self-help groups, psychosocial rehabilitation, capacity building of partners, life skills, human rights education, self-empowerment</td>
<td>Neglected children, orphans, other vulnerable children, marginalised people, parents/caregivers, street children, influencers, decision-makers</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Zambia
- **Projects**: 14
- **Expenditure in Euro**: 1,323,414
- **Interventions**: Civil society development, basic education, life skills, psychosocial rehabilitation, rural community development, emergency relief, disaster risk reduction, community-based rehabilitation, human rights education, nutrition, assistance for people affected by HIV/AIDS, violence prevention, lobbying/advocacy, legal aid, capacity development of partners, gender-specific project work, occupational training, agriculture/livestock/forestry, hygiene, construction measures.
- **Target group**: Vulnerable children, victims of violence, neglected children, orphans, the sick, child-headed households, caregivers, mothers, socially excluded people, exploited, people in conflict with the law, working children, malnourished children, fathers, children with disabilities, victims of abuse, decision makers, influencers, street children, pregnant women.

### Zimbabwe
- **Projects**: 10
- **Expenditure in Euro**: 970,864
- **Interventions**: Civil society development, assistance for people affected by HIV/AIDS, small business promotion, life skills, legal aid, lobbying/advocacy, self-empowerment, human rights education, hygiene, basic education, psychosocial rehabilitation, nutrition, community-based rehabilitation, capacity building of partners, occupational training, environmental protection.
- **Target group**: Vulnerable children, orphans, sick and/or neglected children, people in conflict with the law, victims of violence, victims of abuse, traumatised children, children with disabilities, mothers, influencers, decision makers, parents/caregivers, child-headed households, socially excluded people, ethnic minorities, fathers.

### General Total
- **Projects**: 165
- **Expenditure in Euro**: 16,075,832
- **Interventions**: Self-help groups, community development, violence prevention, lobbying/advocacy, community development, peace education, lobbying/advocacy, community development, violence prevention.

*International coordination of self-help groups*

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### Asia

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Children / Youth</th>
<th>Expenditure in Euro</th>
<th>Project Interventions</th>
<th>Target group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Afghanistan</strong>&lt;br&gt;projects since 2002</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>61,200</td>
<td>372,559</td>
<td>Self-help groups, inclusion, peace education, life skills, lobbying/advocacy</td>
<td>Children with disabilities, other vulnerable children, socially excluded people, decision makers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bangladesh</strong>&lt;br&gt;since 1971</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>8,500</td>
<td>981,035</td>
<td>Disaster risk reduction, life skills, basic education, self-help groups, health, psychosocial rehabilitation</td>
<td>Street children, orphans, marginalised people, pregnant women</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>India</strong>&lt;br&gt;since 1959</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>80,300</td>
<td>6,276,104</td>
<td>Basic education, nutrition, community development, health, inclusion of children with disabilities, lobbying/advocacy, school education, self-help groups, health, adaptation, water</td>
<td>Working, malnourished, traumatised children, children with disabilities, street children, orphans, other vulnerable children, caste-based discrimination (especially empowering Dalit and Adivasis), ethnic minorities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Indonesia</strong>&lt;br&gt;since 1978</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>319,797</td>
<td>Occupational training, basic education, life skills</td>
<td>Street children, decision makers, people in conflict with the law, working children, caregivers, victims of violence, neglected children, exploited people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Lebanon</strong>&lt;br&gt;since 2013</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>2,800</td>
<td>1,545,113</td>
<td>Rehabilitation of people with disabilities, rehabilitation of children's rights</td>
<td>Underage refugees, parents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Myanmar</strong>&lt;br&gt;since 2017</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>42,857</td>
<td>Community development, combatting causes of flight and migration</td>
<td>Poor women and children, communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Nepal</strong>&lt;br&gt;since 2015</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>177,846</td>
<td>Self-help groups</td>
<td>Poor women and children, communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Pakistan</strong>&lt;br&gt;since 1977</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>16,700</td>
<td>2,065,844</td>
<td>Self-help groups, environmental protection (climate change), lobbying/advocacy, disaster risk reduction, basic education, life skills, human rights education, rehabilitation of people with disabilities, school education/occupational training</td>
<td>Street children, working, exploited children, children with disabilities, marginalised people, decision makers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Philippines</strong>&lt;br&gt;since 1977</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>28,700</td>
<td>1,555,603</td>
<td>Self-help groups, community development, protection against abuse and sexual exploitation, lobbying/advocacy work for children's rights</td>
<td>Poor women and children, communities, abused and exploited children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sri Lanka</strong>&lt;br&gt;since 1975</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>7,900</td>
<td>678,026</td>
<td>Rehabilitation of people with disabilities, peace education, lobbying/advocacy, community development, violence prevention</td>
<td>Children with disabilities, socially marginalised people, ethnic minorities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Thailand</strong>&lt;br&gt;since 1983</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>298,978</td>
<td>Self-help groups, community development, protection against abuse and sexual exploitation, lobbying/advocacy for children's rights</td>
<td>Women and children with a migrant background, street children, abused and exploited children</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Lobbying and advocacy work in South Asia
## Europe

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Children / Youth</th>
<th>Expenditure in Euro</th>
<th>Project Interventions</th>
<th>Target group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Germany since 2017</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2,100</td>
<td>101,833*</td>
<td>Child protection training and advisory services, capacity building of organisations</td>
<td>Carers of vulnerable children, influencers, decision makers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kosovo since 1998</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>800</td>
<td>249,879</td>
<td>Occupational training</td>
<td>Ethnic minorities, young people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian Federation since 1998</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>Health, assistance for people affected by HIV/AIDS, life skills, psychosocial rehabilitation, rehabilitation of people with disabilities, self-empowerment</td>
<td>Sick and neglected children, children with disabilities, street children, other vulnerable children, parents/caregivers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td><strong>3,000</strong></td>
<td><strong>269,879</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* This is the Training & Consulting programme, the expenditure of which is not included in the item project funding, but in the item education and information work of the office (financed, among other things, with funds from the alliance "Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft"). Therefore, the costs are not included in the calculation.

## Latin America

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Projects</th>
<th>Children / Youth</th>
<th>Expenditure in Euro</th>
<th>Project Interventions</th>
<th>Target group</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bolivia projects since 1974</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11,100</td>
<td>1,481,307</td>
<td>Poverty reduction, child protection, violence prevention, legal aid, school education/occupational training, rural community development, rehabilitation of people with disabilities, psychosocial rehabilitation, early childhood education, life skills</td>
<td>Working and exploited children, street children with disabilities, victims of violence/abuse, other vulnerable children, parents, teachers, duty bearers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil since 1971</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>16,000</td>
<td>2,656,607</td>
<td>Violence prevention, human rights education, life skills, child protection, self-empowerment, lobbying/advocacy, psychosocial rehabilitation, legal aid, gender-specific project work, rural community development, family-based agriculture, rehabilitation of people with disabilities, water</td>
<td>Victims of violence/abuse, neglected children, other vulnerable children, children living in rural poverty, children with disabilities, parents, families, social workers/educators, decision makers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chile since 1969</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1,900</td>
<td>608,348</td>
<td>Early childhood education, violence prevention, life skills, lobbying/advocacy, human rights education, psychosocial rehabilitation, strengthening partners’ lobbying activities</td>
<td>Vulnerable children, exploited, working children, decision makers, refugees, socially excluded people, ethnic minorities, caregivers, influencers, victims of violence/abuse, traumatised children</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ecuador since 1979</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4,500</td>
<td>652,281</td>
<td>Rural community development, nutrition, health, basic education, violence prevention, life skills, psychosocial rehabilitation, human rights education, lobbying/advocacy</td>
<td>Children living in rural poverty, working, exploited and neglected children, street children, victims of violence and abuse, teachers, parents, influencers, decision-makers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Haiti since 1973</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>21,500</td>
<td>1,907,098</td>
<td>Life skills, lobbying/advocacy, human rights education, psychosocial rehabilitation, self-help groups, nutrition</td>
<td>Neglected children, children living in urban and rural poverty, women, families, parents/ caregivers, teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Honduras since 1979</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>14,300</td>
<td>1,152,226</td>
<td>Violence prevention, rural community development, life skills, lobbying/advocacy, human rights education, psychosocial rehabilitation, legal aid, school education/occupational training, early childhood education, health, civil society development in the field of children’s rights, self-help groups, women’s empowerment</td>
<td>Working and neglected children, street children, victims of violence/abuse, parents/carers, women teachers, health workers, influencers, decision makers, civil society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peru since 1984</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>5,700</td>
<td>1,058,449</td>
<td>Violence prevention, early childhood education, small business development, child protection, lobbying/advocacy, rehabilitation of people with disabilities, inclusion, civil society development in the field of children’s rights, reconstruction after floods</td>
<td>Working, malnourished and neglected children, children with disabilities, pregnant women, parents, influencers, decision-makers, teachers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>General Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>149</strong></td>
<td><strong>83,300</strong></td>
<td><strong>208,559</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Project of the NGO-IDEAS initiative
The children of Dire Dawa

They live on the streets, work late into the night and are unable to go to school: the children of Dire Dawa. Kinder-nothilfe’s partner Forum on Sustainable Child Empower-ment (FSCE) provides protection for girls and boys from the poorest of backgrounds in Northeast Ethiopia, helping them to take charge of their lives.

Many people in Dire Dawa, among them thousands of children, live in the open, on the streets, sleeping under tattered tarpaulins tied to dried-out branches or under … under nothing at all. Circumstances, in which staff from Kinder-nothilfe’s partner FSCE found Kaido, not yet ten years old at the time, hungry, dirty, her head badly swollen. They took her to a shelter, where she was given a bed, covered with a sea of pink roses, a locker of sorts for clothes and a bar of soap. For the first few months, Kaido was allowed to stay with Sarah, the housemother, who helped wash her, tended her wounds and cooked hot meals for her. She also received a second-hand school uniform, some jotters and was sent off to school. She learned quickly: and is now the best in the class.

In the shelter, they taught Kaido to make her own decisions, to be strong and “never lose hope”. When the day came to return to her family, they held a leaving party for her. Kaido was sad because she did not really want to leave. But her mother, Turye, was also no longer living on the streets. With the help of a small financial start-up from Kinder-nothilfe’s partner, she bought some vegetables: tomatoes in large crates. She is now a market vendor. Kaido is “a different person now,” she says, “so radiant, so proud”. She is grateful to the FSCE. Kaido, her
sister Lesame (12) and little Amanuel (5) have been reunited. And the girls can now go to school.

Kaido, now in the sixth grade, pulls a dusty English book out of a cloth. She was given it as a reward for her good school performance. Just looking at it gives her encouragement: “No one,” she says, “can take away what you’ve learned.” Maybe she will become an illustrator, maybe do something in fashion, or maybe she will simply sell tomatoes like her mother. Whatever, she has learned enough to make her own money and the FSCE will continue to look after her.

Sebrina and her two friends came from a village about 70 kilometres from Dire Dawa. They were looking for work, wanting to change their lives. The police told Sebrina how lucky they were to be discovered before someone had found them and sold them to work as maids or for cheap sex.

The police also bring other children like them to shelters, to be cared for by housemothers; last year, 126 were brought to Beza, one of the housemothers. Here, they receive clothing, food and medicine, as well as treatment from doctors and psychologists. Once they are better – and only then – the officers taken them back home. And, nearly always, the parents cry out in gratitude: “We have never had any experience of parents rejecting their children. They are always pleased.” Sebrina also wants to go home: “They love me there, and that’s where I belong.”

Orphans & Vulnerable Children Protection Project in Dire Dawa

**Project partner:** Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment (FSCE), founded in 1989, Kindernothilfe partner since 2005, NGO focusing on child protection.

**Project duration:** 01.08.2016 – 31.07.2021.

**Target group:** 200 street children; 2,000 children living with child-headed families, grandparents, foster families or extremely poor families; 400 children lured by smugglers to Dire Dawa; 250 victims of sexual exploitation and exploitative child labour; 375 juvenile offenders, 500 needy mothers.

**Project objectives:** Abused, exploited and neglected children receive support and protection; improved prevention reduces the number of victims. Mothers increase their income in self-help groups (SHGs) and thereby improve their children’s nutrition, health and school attendance. As a result, fewer children end up on the street.

**Example of activities and outcomes achieved in 2017:** Mothers started SHGs, learned to look after their children, accounting and saved money together, which they then invested in small businesses. More than 100 children came to the alternative primary education centres. In state primary schools, children in need received school materials and toiletries; at least 150 of them also received extra tutoring, which improved their school performance. More than 60 abducted children are now reunited with their families. Around 100 first-time juvenile offenders were rehabilitated. More than 30 children, who had suffered under exploitative employment conditions or who had been sexually exploited, came to the shelter; most are now living with their families again. These families received start-up capital to help boost their income and enable them to take good care of the children.

**Plans for 2018:** Increase the income of 100 poor women and 50 child-headed households; help 1,150 children to attend school; provide medical/psychosocial support to 100 abducted children and reintegrate them into their families; rehabilitate 75 juvenile first-time offenders, who have committed minor offences; support 50 victims of sexual violence and street children.

**Ensuring sustainability:** Children, parents, volunteers and state-run organisations are involved in all phases of the project and learn to develop the project autonomously. Protection mechanisms for children are put in place and jointly developed with community groups. Women’s groups set up federations to challenge grievances and sort out their own economic and social problems.

**Risks:** Inflation can jeopardise the mothers’ income-generating ventures and lead to increased project costs. The reintegration of children into their families/society can be a long, drawn out process that may lead to some children dropping out. Project staff, therefore, take their lead from internationally established strategies.

**Total project budget:** 820,264 euros
**Outflow of funds 2017:** 161,704 euros
**Outflow of funds 2018:** 151,411 euros

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Project 60744
The project: humanitarian aid for the Rohingya

**Project partner:** Action Against Hunger/Action Contre la Faim (ACF), founded in 1979, focuses on nutrition, health, access to water, sanitation, hygiene and disaster risk reduction. Ananda Marga Universal Relief Team (AMURT, 1965), a network of teams in 34 countries, delivering humanitarian aid and supporting long-term development projects throughout the world. DushthaShasthya Kendra (DSK, 1988) combats poverty in difficult to access regions in Bangladesh.

**Project duration:** together 01.12.2017-31.07.2018.

**Target group:** ACF: 3,000 refugee children and young people, especially unaccompanied and orphaned girls and boys and their caregivers, 1,000 foster families, 500 Rohingya volunteers, 250 volunteers from the local population. AMURT: 1,500 refugee children and family members respectively in the children’s centres, and other children within the scope of the immunisation campaign. DSK: 5,000 Rohingya.

**Project objectives:** Improve child protection through the shelters and locally provided protective measures and projects; psychological stability of vulnerable children; nutrition; immunisation protection; hygiene; raise local awareness; reduce the risks to child protection; provide training in how to refer children to the right people and/or agencies to help them when required.

**Example of activities and outcomes achieved as of May 2018:** Partner organisations distributed hot meals in the children’s

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Asia Bangladesh

Further project reports from Asia:
www.kindernothilfe.org/asia_eastern_europe.html

Report and photos: Christian Herrmanny
Contact: redaktion@kindernothilfe.de
No one should have to endure what Tabaya experienced. Yet, the ten-year-old is strong: she gives a frank account of her flight from Myanmar to Bangladesh.

It took the girl 12 days and nights to make her way to Cox’s Bazar. The town in southern Bangladesh is the one safe place, where the Rohingya Muslim minority no longer have to be afraid of being driven out of their homes, mistreated or even killed. Barefoot and on the verge of exhaustion, Tabaya arrived here with her six siblings, her parents and an aunt. That was in early September 2017. Since then, they have been living in the camp for Rohingya refugees that sprawls across several square kilometres – under the most difficult conditions but, at least for the time being, safe.

Tabaya is just returning from the food distribution point. “We get rice and vegetables here, and, as from today, I’ll be going to the school next door.” The “school” is the children’s centre, where the many girls and boys can paint, do some craftwork and play. To think about something else. To put their gruesome memories – at least to an extent – to one side, or to help them deal with them: the psychosocial care provided in the centre offers children a safe space and helps them cope with their experiences.

The Rohingya have been coming to Southern Bangladesh since 1986. Members of the religious minority – persecuted and oppressed in Myanmar – have been forced to flee their homes repeatedly to seek refuge in neighbouring countries. In 2009, more than 300,000 refugees settled on the outskirts of Cox’s Bazar, a popular resort for wealthy Bangladeshis. Since the brutal attacks, murders, rapes and pillaging in Myanmar at the end of August 2017, an estimated 700,000 women and men, but above all children, have joined them.

Despite their grief at the loss of relatives and their homes, despite the difficult supply situation and the constant queues for water, tarpaulins, ropes or medical care, the mood in the refugee camps is surprisingly calm. The toilet-blocks, partly financed by Kindernothilfe, play a key role in the life of the camps. They ensure improved hygiene, while many of the latrines are connected to a biogas plant. This allows the families to prepare food and heat water in the gas-fired cooking area. The plant also reduces the stench from the toilets and circumvents the need for trees to be cut down and used as fuel for cooking purposes. Thanks to the international aid, no one has to starve here at the moment, even if the diet of rice, lentils, oil and sugar is not particularly varied.

In the small infirmary for babies and toddlers, Dr Jubayer Moomin principally treats infections, fever and diarrhoea. The young patients often have complications. They are weak and usually unvaccinated; they lose weight – despite being given fortified milk and food.

The challenges in Bangladesh are enormous: a country that is already one of the poorest in the world. The next rainy season, expected in mid-2018, will further exacerbate the situation and lead to a further massive deterioration in living conditions in the huge camps.

centres, organised hygiene training, drilled wells and built latrines and washrooms. In the children’s centres, pregnant women, nursing mothers and young mothers received support. The staff received training in child rights/child protection issues. 173,000 Rohingya and local children were immunised against diphtheria and cholera. To improve night-time security, paths, particularly those leading to sanitary facilities, were illuminated with solar-powered lampposts.

Plans for 2018: Planned are 40 drilled wells, 75 latrines, 62 shower cubicles, 300 rubbish bins, 200 hygiene trainings, daily meals for 2,000 children, the construction of 18 classrooms, 12 toilet cubicles, 9 child protection centres, the establishment of child rights committees, psychosocial support for young girls, raising the general population’s awareness of child rights/child protection.

Ensuring sustainability: In order to be prepared for the coming rainy season, stable and durable construction methods will be used when building children’s centres. Since repatriation of refugees to Myanmar will not be possible in the near future, children’s centre programmes will gradually be transformed into school programmes.

Risks: “Safe spaces/houses” are a new concept for refugees in the camp. In order to obtain the necessary approval and support, discussions will have to be held with various government agencies and authorities. Discussions will, therefore, be held in advance with government representatives and key decision-makers to get them on board and acquire the necessary consent.

Total project budget: 545,795 euros
Outflow of funds 2017: 57,825 euros
Outflow of funds 2018: 487,970 euros

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Project 26351 ACF, 26451/26452 AMURT, 26702 DSK
Prevent the next generation from inheriting child labour

In many countries it is commonplace for children to work, because their families are unable to make ends meet. Kindernothilfe supports a project in Peru that is transforming child labour into occupational training.

Report: Katharina Nickoleit, photos: Christian Nusch

“Do you need some cinnamon? Or a plastic bag?” Two questions that Nacho (12) and his brother Ronaldo (8) repeatedly ask customers visiting the market. “On a typical afternoon, each of us earns about 23 soles (six euros),” Nacho explains. “Half of this goes towards buying materials; the rest is our profit.”

Nacho and Ronaldo live with their family in Puente Piedra, a suburb of Lima. Their parents each earn between five and six euros a day. The father, Bertin, drives a three-wheeled “taxi”, while the mother, Adaliza, works as a travelling saleswoman. “What we earn might be enough for food,” Bertin says. “But we have to buy school materials and the bus has to be paid. That’s just not possible with what we earn. The boys have to help out.” And so Nacho and Ronaldo go to the market every Saturday and Sunday for a couple of hours. For their parents, the twelve euros the boys contribute to the family’s income are indispensable.

In a project run by Kindernothilfe’s partner, IFEJANT, the boys learn how to calculate the costs of running a business, prepare a financial plan and create reserves. Selling cinnamon and plastic bags was Nacho’s idea. But even a well thought-out business idea has little chance of success with no capital behind it. That’s why IFEJANT is awarding mini-micro-credits to children. Nacho and Ronaldo borrowed about 15 euros to buy an initial stock of plastic bags and cinnamon. “We paid that back ages ago!” Ronaldo says self-confidently.

Critics believe it makes more sense for parents to earn more so that their children no longer have to work. “In Peru, two-thirds of the working population depend on casual labour,” says Elvira Figueroa, head of IFEJANT. “The families have to survive; yet the children need money for the school bus and for jotters. That’s why they have to work. That’s just reality.”

IFEJANT shows children how to increase their income, so that they don’t have to work so much and, thus, have more time for school and free time. “And the parents here learn something about children’s rights,” Elvira says. “For instance, that they have no right to force their children to work or take them out of school to work as domestic staff or builders’ labourers.” Children who do not learn enough will share the same fate as their parents – and, in turn, pass that on to their children. Thus, as a prerequisite for their participation in the project, parents must commit themselves to sending their children to school. “Through their school education and with what they learn here, the children’s chances are quite good,” Elvira says, going on to list a number of her protégés who now have employment contracts. Something that is a rarity in the slums of Puente Piedra.

Nacho is thinking about looking for a job in a shop. “It might work out. After all, I do have lots of selling experience.”
Training programme for working children and young people in Lima

Project partners: IFEJANT (Instituto de Formación de Educadores de Jóvenes, Adolescentes y Niños Trabajadores de América Latina y el Caribe “Mons. Germán Schmitz”), founded in 1992 as a coalition of various initiatives and movements of working children and young people in Lima and a partner of Kindernothilfe since 2004.


Target group: 80 working children and young people from socially disadvantaged families, 180 volunteers, who mentor and support the young people for the duration of the project.

Project objective: Working children and young people learn how to develop a business idea, manufacture and market products and support their families without exploiting employees. Improving their self-organisation skills and social participation enables them to stand up for their own interests and rights. They are able to protect themselves against violence in the family, at school and work and promote a non-violent environment.

Example of activities and outcomes achieved in 2017: 89 working children and young people learned to draw up a business plan. By carrying out their own market analysis, they learned about the interests of their customers and received feedback about their products. At the end of 2017, 39 business plans examined by a delegation of children and young people were deemed worth supporting. This means that with the help of supporters and some mothers they can now be implemented. Young people also learned to protect themselves against violence in the family, school and workplace and promote a non-violent environment.

Plans for 2018: A new project by IFEJANT – “Vida Digna para los NNAs: Organizados y sin Violencia” – seeks to underpin the rights of another 350 boys and 400 girls in three regions while pursuing the same goals as the original project. The girls and boys, who are now self-employed, will develop strategies in 2018 to increase their income and improve their working conditions. Through campaigns, stage-plays and public information events in co-operation with IFEJANT, they will raise awareness for their rights.

Ensuring sustainability: Children, young people and adults learn to assume responsibility and become actively involved in society. Teamwork and solidarity among the boys and girls are encouraged. By making their own money, they become autonomous. They become politically involved in local/national child and youth councils, learn to defend their interests and stand up for their rights.

Risks: The growing violence in Peru is a risk for a project, in which young people are continually standing up for their interests in public. IFEJANT’s co-operation with the police is, therefore, of key importance in preventing the latent threat of working children becoming criminalised.

Total project budget: 675,596 euros
  > Kindernothilfe share: 578,883 euros
  > Third party financing: 96,713 euros
Outflow of funds 2017: 17,563 euros
Outflow of funds 2018: 44,500 euros

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Project 88005
Impact orientation of our project work

The impact we wish to achieve is the sustainable improvement in the lives and living circumstances of children, young people and their families. Focusing projects on their desired impacts rather than on the implementation of activities, together with a systematic monitoring of their impacts, are prerequisites for successful project work.

**Project planning**

Project planning is carried out in two phases. First, our partners develop a draft of the planned project. This provides a general outline of the problem and of the changes to be achieved through the project, together with the potential strategies to be used. Following their discussion and our basic approval of the proposed project, the partner organisation begins with the project development phase. Orientation to child rights and the desired impacts is crucial here. We expect the target groups, especially older children and young people, to be given the opportunity to participate in project planning. This is the only way to ensure that projects are relevant and that participants’ knowledge and experience is incorporated into the project design. Comprehensive analysis of the children’s rights situation on the ground is at the heart of this. Project objectives are formulated on this basis, outlining the concrete changes the project planners wish to achieve through the project. These changes are developed into an “intervention logic”, which formulates project goals, strategies and interventions. Project planning also includes the indicators that measure the progress in achieving goals during project implementation. All this is presented in a project application submitted to us by our partner organisations, with whom we then enter into negotiations.
**Project monitoring of partners and target groups**

Alongside implementing activities, we also expect our partners to systematically monitor the achievement of project objectives. Data relating to indicators specified in the application is collected on a regular basis, analysed and, where possible, discussed with target group representatives. Each year, the partners, usually together with these representatives, evaluate progress and their experience of project implementation and make plans for the year ahead. This includes an assessment of which strategies and activities had been successful and could, where appropriate, be extended, and of areas where adjustments are required. The results are shared with us in annual project reports. Our intention is for people in the projects to be involved as much as possible in its management and impact monitoring. In many projects, groups and committees set goals for the changes they wish to achieve and regularly monitor progress using simple, often graphic, methods. People’s active involvement in setting project goals and its monitoring increases their motivation to participate, their identification with the interventions that concern them, and, usually their impact and sustainability.

**Kindernothilfe’s project monitoring**

We primarily use project visits and project reports for monitoring purposes. We visit all projects on a regular basis, always with an eye on progress in terms of achieving objectives, the appropriateness of project design and the quality of the implementation of activities and project management. We use a reporting format that encompasses the planned interventions as well as the loose ends and follow-ups from previous visits. The annual project reports have a standardised structure and provide information on the implementation of activities and the impacts achieved, partly on the basis of indicators from the project application. They reflect on both the successes and problems encountered and make proposals as to how project strategies and activities can be adjusted. We then discuss this with our partners. These reports serve as the basis for the reports received each year by our sponsors.

**Evaluation**

In addition to numerous project evaluations we, ourselves, carry out, we also commission strategic evaluations that examine programme approaches. In 2017, the focus was on the impacts of the self-help group approach on children’s development. All projected evaluations are put out to tender and subsequently carried out by external, independent experts. The benchmark for this is our evaluation concept (http://bit.ly/1D5mN3C), which incorporates the OECD criteria (relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, sustainability) as well as the standards of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Evaluation (DeGEval – German Evaluation Society). One component of each evaluation is an investigation into the impacts achieved, their sustainability as well as recommendations for improvement. The consistent use of evaluation results is important not only as a means of increasing the impact of individual projects, but also for the work of Kindernothilfe as a learning organisation. Following each evaluation, our partners are invited to respond to the conclusions and recommendations, which we discuss with them. This could also include any necessary adjustments to the project design. In our head office, all evaluation reports are discussed in the team, while any evaluations that break new ground are presented to a wider group of staff.

**Professional networking and joint initiatives**

In VENRO’s Impact Monitoring Working Group, we share experiences and ideas with colleagues from other organisations, organise joint training courses, develop policy papers and hold discussions with government ministers and other politicians to take full advantage of our joint influence. We represent the interests of civil society as part of the advisory board of the Evaluation Institute DEval. As a member of DeGEval, we participate regularly in conferences and take part in working groups. At present, we are also very much involved in three different initiatives: the VENRO initiative “Impact Orientation in National Work (Germany)”, which focuses on methods that, with a minimum of effort, are able to monitor the impact of educational work and lobbying. We participate here in the “ActionKidz” campaign. The VENRO project “Partnership for Quality and Effectiveness” is based on the Development Effectiveness Principles and promotes international dialogue on issues relating to impact orientation. Since impact monitoring by the target groups, themselves, is one of our major concerns, we are also involved in the NGO-IDEAs initiative. Now that over 4,000 self-help groups in Asia are using this instrument to plan and monitor their goals, we have turned our focus to Latin America. In four countries, eleven partners are using the instruments with groups in projects to promote child rights, the inclusion of children with disabilities and early childhood education.

**Training partners and staff**

Planning and monitoring impacts is a major challenge. Determining whether planned activities have been carried out or elements learned in training are being put to use, is relatively simple. But measuring the tangible changes in people’s lives and to what extent a project has actually contributed to this is often a major challenge. That is why we are providing training for our partners in 12 countries and for our staff, and have developed manuals and presentations on specific aspects of impact orientation. But the accompanying dialogue with our partners and joint project visits also enhance their understanding of impact orientation as well as ours.

**Albert Eiden**

International Quality Development Manager

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**Annual Report 2017**
Hunger hurts. For many children in Burundi, it is a constant companion. In the small East African country, 58 percent of the overall population is chronically undernourished while 56 percent of children suffer from diet-related stunting. The implementation of effective projects to protect children from the lifelong consequences of undernourishment and malnutrition is, therefore, an urgent requirement.

With the support of the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development, Kindernothilfe has been supporting food security measures in Karusi Province since 2010. The local partner is Réseau Burundi 2000 Plus (RBU). The project context is difficult: a repressive regime, corruption and failed state institutions are hindering development. Agricultural production is being jeopardised by increasingly extreme weather conditions, erosion and a growing number of diseases and pests. According to the World Food Programme, yields have fallen by about 24 percent since 1993. In Karusi, the livelihoods of 94 percent of the population depend on them.

Food security is complex and encompasses a range of aspects including sustainable water and soil management, education, health and gender equality. That is why we employ a combination of different measures: for example, we promote the local production of improved quality seeds and the construction of crop stores. Within neighbourhood networks, smallholder families learn advanced farming methods and how to protect their fields from erosion. Savings and loan groups reinforce social cohesion and economic resilience. In addition, the creation of kitchen gardens and practical nutritional advice contribute to improved availability and the use of local ingredients. The smallholders participate actively in all project phases: men and women pool their family resources, set goals for their families and implement them using development plans they, themselves, have drawn up.

But even comprehensive projects cannot possibly encompass all necessary measures. Limited funds must be used efficiently if families’ immense hardship is to be alleviated. Alongside good co-ordination with other actors, this primarily calls for information-based project planning and management. Our projects are embedded in systems that ensure continuous monitoring of their implementation and achievement of goals as well as spot-check in-depth examinations (through the evaluation).
Since the project consists of several food security components, monitoring must collect and evaluate a wide range of data. To determine whether local production is increasing, all crop yields are measured. Data on quantities being stored provides information on how many families are actually using the stores for crop conservation. Through joint field inspections, project staff and smallholders assess whether improved farming and resource protection methods are actually being mastered and implemented. Every three months, staff inspect the savings and loan groups’ records to see whether their credit balances and savings are showing positive development and benefiting all members. During home visits, families use their plans for the future – sketched out on large sheets of paper – to report on the activities they have already carried out and where they are still experiencing implementation difficulties.

Such extensive monitoring entails a heavy workload for project staff. Yet, when asked about this, they repeatedly emphasise how much it is benefiting their work: They are continuously kept up-to-date with regard to the progress of the project and use the data for the further planning of activities. Project families directly involved in data collection are very aware of the great interest in their situation and are quick to demonstrate their confidence in, and appreciation of, the staff. Where limitations are identified, they can usually be dealt with quickly, for example by staff offering additional assistance in implementing resource protection measures. All data is shared with Kindernothilfe.

Monitoring, however, cannot answer all questions. Thus, an interim evaluation carried out in 2017 also specifically examined how well the project-supported co-operatives and producer groups were functioning and how sustainable they were. Questions were also raised about project impacts on landless households and how they could be supported by supplementary measures. Testing on a range of data-collection instruments that indicate whether improved nutritional provision and access to food also leads to nutritional improvements for women and children of various age groups should continue.

The team of evaluators interviewed households with the help of questionnaires and focus group discussions, evaluated numerous documents and asked representatives from the community and local authorities to assess the project. The evaluation report confirmed a number of major project successes: with the support of their co-operatives, seed producers are now able to autonomously plan the materials they need for production, procure them and market their produce. Nearly all smallholders produce and use organic fertilisers, protect their soils using terracing and intercropping techniques, and are proficient in farming and after-crop management methods. The evaluation’s concrete recommendations included the development of simply structured forms to improve the recording of business procedures, measures to secure long-term financing for the stores and specific operational approaches for the subgroups of landless households with entirely different starting situations. With the evaluators’ support, the project team used internationally established data collection tools – adapted to and tested in local conditions – to record the nutritional situation. Their future use in monitoring and evaluation will provide insights into how the diet of women and children has changed.

Insights from the monitoring and evaluation are being fed into the design of a follow-up project that will seek to improve nutritional and health advice. One of the goals is to reduce the high number of malaria cases and allow families to access a simple form of health insurance. The basic medical care provided can improve families’ health and working capacity and support the uptake and use of food.

Our partner organisation has benefited from carrying out regular internal and external audits of the quality of its work. Several independent reports demonstrate the effectiveness of the chosen approaches. RBU’s work is held in high regard and supported by several international actors. Tried and established measures can thereby reach more people and help them to win the fight against hunger.
When it comes to child labour, the experts agree at least on one point: particularly bad forms of child labour must be prohibited and combated. Hazardous or exploitative work, together with full-time work that leaves children no time to go to school or play, should have no place in the lives of children.

Yet, the discussion concerning light forms of child labour flares up every so often: is it okay for children like Nacho and Ronaldo (see pp. 14-15) to sell plastic bags, cinnamon or orange juice? Or should a ban on child labour also include such activities? What risks – and, also, what opportunities – do they face in their work?

On closer examination it is immediately obvious that this is a discussion dominated by adults. They talk about the solutions to be introduced for working children, about the solutions that are employed in the children’s best interests. Yet the crucial perspective of those actually affected – the working girls and boys, themselves – is not considered. They are rarely given the chance for their voices to be heard, even though their perspectives and suggestions in the child labour discussion would make a valuable contribution to finding long-term solutions to the problem.

With the development of a unique pilot project, Kindernothilfe, together with terre des hommes Germany and 57 partner organisations in 36 countries, decided it was time to talk to working children and young people about their situation. The goal of the Time to Talk! project was to ask questions, listen carefully and give children the opportunity to actively participate in the
debate. Since then, children subject to child labour in Asia, Africa, Europe and Latin America have been interviewed about the topic. And so far, more than 1,800 children aged between five and 18 have had their say. The girls and boys have contributed their own personal points of view to the discussion.

In 134 interviews using creative methods to ensure the surveys are child-friendly, the children expressed their views, problems and wishes. Across four continents, they explained why they had to work, the impact it has on their day-to-day lives and, most importantly, what their message is to the politicians and other organisations concerned with child labour issues. As in the case of Nacho and Ronaldo, the main reason for children having to work is quite simple: to make a contribution to the family’s income and thereby guarantee their own survival. Participants throughout the world also agreed on the activities that are inappropriate for children: all exploitative work must be prohibited! However, children’s working conditions are just as diverse as the countries, in which they live. And the work, itself, is also just as varied: garbage collection, factory work, weaving, fishing, to name just a few.

This led the children to the conclusion that could change the debate decisively: the typical child worker simply does not exist; just as one wholesale response to the problem of child labour does not exist. Their circumstances are too diverse: are they living in the countryside or in the city? Are they engaged in the same craftwork as their parents? Are they orphans? Are they displaced?

With regard to a wholesale ban on child labour, the children take a clear position: current, over-restrictive child labour laws must be adapted to what actually happens in practice. This is because they regard working conditions as the key issue: light, acceptable forms of work should be permitted, as long as they do not infringe children’s rights to education and play. And work must never be allowed to deprive children of these rights. The girls and boys are unanimous: education is vital, if they are ever going to succeed in breaking the vicious circle of poverty that still traps the generations before them. Seventy-six percent of all children surveyed already combine work and school.

Children are now calling on politicians to formally recognise these realities and create educational opportunities that would enable them to reconcile school attendance with light work. This could be achieved, for example, by them attending evening school or combining school with occupational training.

The results of the survey involving about 1,800 working children and young people were summarised in a research report and presented to the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour in Buenos Aires, Argentina, in November 2017. Around 3,800 government representatives from over 190 countries, representatives of trade unions, civil society and the United Nations were given the opportunity to hear the perspective of working children and young people.

In the closing statement of the world’s most important conference on child labour, delegates agreed to work together to end all forms of child labour by 2025. An ambitious goal that will require a great deal more than lip service from politicians and society if it is ever going to be achieved. The opportunity for children and young people to be involved as active participants and to be taken seriously is long overdue. Time to talk! has shown that, when given the opportunity, young people can make constructive and valuable contributions to the debate. It is now time that their proposed solutions are incorporated into the fight against child labour.

Just like young Nacho, many children view their work as an opportunity to learn some rudimentary skills and regard this first practical experience as preparation for working life. For Anne Jacob, the Kindernothilfe director of the Time to Talk! project, such a solution also appears to be a viable option: “If children have to work for livelihood purposes, then, in a best-case scenario, they should at least be able to ensure that it has a positive impact on their future. Of course we would all like to live in a world, where child labour is unnecessary. Child labour, however, is a structural problem, which, if at all, can only be solved one small step at a time, involving those directly affected and, thus, not something that can happen overnight.”

More information about the campaign and research report available at: www.time-to-talk.info
We allocate 82.7% of every euro donated to project expenditure. Of this, 72.1% cents go towards projects supporting children, their families and communities. We use 6.6 cents to finance the administration and monitoring of projects by country experts in Duisburg. They ensure that donations bring about sustainable improvements in the lives of children and their situation. A further 4.0 cents are allocated for long-term changes to structures and framework Transparency and Control conditions with an impact on development. This is the only sustainable way to combat poverty and injustice against children. We influence politicians through our lobbying and campaign work, and raise awareness for issues of global concern through our work in education and public relations. For example, many products are cheap only because they are produced by children in poor countries. Thus, consumer behaviour in Germany does have an impact on the problem of child labour. Recognising these global interconnections is the only way to secure permanent change.

We invest 17.3 cents in other areas: Kindernothilfe spends 5.8 cents on administration. Our staff ensure that the work is carried out smoothly and efficiently – for example, through professional accounting, monitoring or up-to-date data processing. We, thereby, ensure that your donation is put to good use for girls and boys worldwide. 11.5 cents from every euro donated goes towards public relations and donor services. Donations account for more than 90 percent of Kindernothilfe financing. But we need to continually attract new donors to support our work if we are to sustain our help for boys and girls in our programme countries in years to come. Hence, these costs are an investment that, ultimately, benefits children.
Our Commitments

Effective work requires a solid foundation, a reliable framework and diligent monitoring. Kindernothilfe has defined guidelines and committed to applying existing external good practices guidelines. The goal is to ensure that our work is becoming even more transparent, accountable and efficient.

**Kindernothilfe statutes**
Who: Kindernothilfe committees  
What: Defined mission for our international and national work; composition and tasks of the various units of Kindernothilfe

**Diaconical Corporate Governance Code**
Who: Kindernothilfe  
When: since 2007  
What: Transparency open communication; clear separation of responsibility between the board of trustees; and the executive board; commitment to excellence at all levels; clearly defined roles of Kindernothilfe’s bodies, departments and executive board monitoring; sets a goal for efficient, clearly regulated rules that govern collaboration at all levels

**Child Protection Policy**
Who: Kindernothilfe  
When: Since 2013  
What: System in place throughout Kindernothilfe to protect children in its worldwide work against all forms of violence, that encompasses preventive measures including behavioural codes for different groups, standards for communication and human resources, a case management system and standards for training partner organisations.

**Kindernothilfe’s Anti-corruption code**
Who: Kindernothilfe  
When: since 2008, updated 2016  
What: This code of behaviour directs staff to act with integrity in accordance with the aw and in accordance with high ethical and moral values; to prevent and combat corruption and to report any witnessed or experienced act of corruption. This code establishes the position of ombudsperson

**VENRO Code “Development related public relations”**
Who: Kindernothilfe and members of the Association of German NGOs for Development Policies (VENRO)  
When: signed in 1998  
What: Sets professional and ethical standards in communications with the press and donors including the transparent, efficient and responsible use of funds; prohibits sharing, selling or exchanging donor contacts. This code ensures that Kindernothilfe does not portray or present people in need in an undignified manner in photographs or in texts, does not use a catalogue style when presenting information on child sponsorships and does not encourage people to donate by using dramatic and extreme wording or expressions.

**VENRO Code of behaviour**
Who: Kindernothilfe and VENRO members  
When: since 2008  
What: Unified standards, stronger monitoring and proven professionalism; greatest possible transparency defined generally applicable development organisation standards; strengthened independent supervisory authorities such as the Deutsche Zentralinstitut für soziale Fragen (DZI) (German central institute for social issues)

**Initiative for Transparent Civil Society**
Who: Kindernothilfe and VENRO members, Transparency Deutschland e. V., Bundesverband deutscher Stiftungen, DZI, Deutscher Fundraising Verband, Deutscher Kulturrat, Deutscher Naturschutzzring, Deutscher Spendenrat, Maecenata Institut für Philanthropie und Zivilgesellschaft  
When: 2010  
What: Ten basic information items, which each civil society organisation should; publish on its website including the bylaws, names of executives, sources of funding, use of funds and staff organizational structure. Please find the complete text of the association’s statutes as well as codes at: www.kindernothilfe.org/our_commitments

**VENRO Code “Protection of children from abuse and exploitation in development co-operation and humanitarian aid”**
Who: Kindernothilfe and VENRO members  
When: since 2009  
What: Obliges all members; to protect children from sexual, emotional; or physical abuse; create an environment that guarantees child and human rights; give children the opportunity to participate; raise awareness within Kindernothilfe and among our partners on these issues; guarantee that the dignity of children remains intact in all public relations, press and awareness-raising activities

**Charter4Change**
Who: 31 international organisations, now supported by 199 organisations from the global South  
When: 2016  
What: the role of Southern NGOs – non-governmental organisations with their headquarters in a country of the global South – should be strengthened.
Kindernothilfe closed the financial year 2017 with an extraordinarily good financial result: income rose by almost 13 percent from the previous year to 68.1 million euros, while expenditure fell to 59.3 million euros. Most of the funds were allocated to educational projects.

**Income: 68.1 million euros**
Donations increased by 8 percent, while public subsidies rose by 16 percent and income from bequests/legacies was 2.5 times more than in 2016.

**Expenditure: 59.3 million euros**
Expenditure comprises project expenditure of 49 million euros as well as 10.3 million euros on public relations and administration. As part of overall project expenditure, spending on specific project support was around 3.2 million euros less than in 2016. Most of the funds went towards educational projects. By contrast, expenditure on public relations and administration increased by 789,000 euros (+8 percent).

**Annual result: 8.8 million euros**
The annual financial statement shows a net profit of approximately 8.8 million euros (previous year: net loss of just over 1 million euros), which is principally a result of one-off circumstances, including unusually high bequests/legacies.

In accordance with §317 of the HGB [German Commercial Code], we have voluntarily submitted our annual financial statements and management report 2017 for external audit. The independent auditors, PKF FASSELT SCHLAGE Partnership mbB issued an unconditional certification with no indication of extraordinary circumstances.

The financial report printed here is not the statutory financial statement. The full financial statement for 2017, consisting of balance sheet, profit and loss account and notes, as well as the management report 2017 is available at: www.kindernothilfe.de

### Income
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>81.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subsidies and grants</td>
<td>8.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>10.2 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Expenditure
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Project expenditure:</strong></td>
<td>82.7 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project expenditure</td>
<td>72.1 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project support</td>
<td>4.0 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project administration &amp; monitoring</td>
<td>6.6 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education, information and advocacy</td>
<td>5.8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Public relations and administration:</strong></td>
<td>17.3 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public relations and donor services</td>
<td>11.5 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration</td>
<td>5.8 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td>100 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Expenditure on specific areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific Area</th>
<th>Total Expenditure (in thousand euros)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>10,899</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political and legal support</td>
<td>6,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanitarian assistance</td>
<td>4,693</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quality development</td>
<td>4,515</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poverty reduction</td>
<td>4,333</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>3,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Psychosocial work</td>
<td>2,841</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food security</td>
<td>2,415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violence prevention</td>
<td>2,307</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>564</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>42,767</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Education:
- Vocational training, early childhood education, basic education, promoting life-skills, secondary education

#### Food security:
- Nutrition, agriculture, livestock and forestry

#### Health:
- Health care and preventive measures, HIV and AIDS, hygiene, rehabilitation of disabilities, reproductive health, water supply

#### Humanitarian assistance:
- Construction, disaster risk reduction, emergency relief, reconstruction

#### Political and legal support:
- Gender-specific project work, lobbying and advocacy, human rights education, legal assistance, civil society development, e.g. self-help groups

#### Poverty reduction:
- Supporting small enterprises, micro-credits, rural/urban community development, environmental protection

#### Psychosocial work:
- Psychosocial rehabilitation, strengthening self-confidence and personality

#### Quality development:
- Capacity building of partners

#### Violence prevention:
- Peace education, preventing all forms of abuse and neglect, child protection

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**The Audit Certification**

We have audited the annual financial statement – consisting of balance sheet, income statement as well as notes to the annual financial statements – under consideration of the accounting records and the management report of Kindernothilfe e.V., Duisburg, for the business year of 1 January to 31 December 2017. The legal representatives of the Association are responsible for the accounting records, preparation of the annual financial statements including the management report in compliance with the German Commercial Code. On the basis of the audit conducted by us it is our responsibility to give an opinion on the annual financial statements under consideration of the accounting records and the management report.

We have carried out our audit in accordance with the stipulations of HGB [German Commercial Code] § 317. In doing so we considered the German Accepted Auditing Principles stipulated by the Institute of Public Auditors in Germany [IDW]. In compliance with these principles we planned and performed our audit in order to gain sufficient certainty as to whether accounting records, the annual financial statements and the management report are free of significant flaws. We planned and performed our audit such that misstatements and violations of the provisions regarding accounting that materially affect the presentation of a true and fair view of the net assets, financial position and results of operations in the annual financial statements under consideration of the accepted accounting principles are detected. When determining the audit approach we considered the knowledge about business activities and about the economic and legal environment of the Association as well as the expectations of potential flaws. In the course of our audit the effectiveness of the internal accounting control system as well as proof for the statements in the accounting records, annual financial statements and management report are audited on a sample basis. The audit includes the assessment of the applied accounting principles as well as the significant assessments of the legal representatives including the appreciation of the overall presentation of the annual financial statements and the management report. We are of the opinion that our audit provides a sufficiently secure basis for our assessment.

Our audit has not led to any objections.

According to our assessment on the basis of the findings in the course of our audit we are of the opinion that the annual financial statement complies with the legal stipulations and presents a true and fair view on of the net assets, financial position and result of the Association Kindernothilfe e.V., Duisburg, taking into consideration the generally accepted accounting principles. The management report coincides with the annual financial statements and it provides a true and fair view on the position of the Association as well as an adequate assessment of the opportunities and risks of the future development.

Duisburg, 22 March 2018
PKF FASSELT SCHLAGE Partnership
Auditors, Tax Counsellors, Lawyers

Dr. Fasselt, German Certified Public Accountant

Schiensland, German Certified Public Accountant

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In accordance with §317 of the HGB [German Commercial Code], we have voluntarily submitted our annual financial statements 2017, consisting of balance sheet, profit and loss account and notes, as well as the management report 2017 to be audited by the auditors PKF FASSELT SCHLAGE Partnership mbB. In the following, we cite the auditor’s report, which refers to the full financial statement and management report 2017. The notes 2017 and management report are available on our German website.
Outlook

An overview of the issues and tasks, opportunities and risks that will be of specific concern to us in 2018

**New concept for our domestic departments**
A process was launched in 2017 to redesign the departments Donor Services (RS / Referat Spenderservice) and Communications and Marketing (RKM / Referat Kommunikation und Marketing) as well as Donations Accounting. The aim was to increase effectiveness by taking advantage of work-related and personnel synergies and to achieve a consistent conceptual and strategic orientation for all financial providers. A planning team is currently developing the operational implementation of the new concept. The process will be completed in the second quarter of 2018 to coincide with the head of the newly created department (amalgamating RKM, RS and Donations Accountancy) taking up her post.

**60th anniversary of Kindernothilfe**
Kindernothilfe will celebrate its 60th birthday in 2019 – with preparations beginning this year. A church service, to be broadcast by ARD television from Duisburg in May 2019 and the awarding of the Media Prize “Children’s Rights in One World” in Berlin in November 2019 will mark the beginning and end of the anniversary celebrations. There will be plenty of opportunity for encounters, activities and events with lots of “60-related ideas”.

**Innovation**
To ensure that Kindernothilfe has a viable future and retains its operational flexibility in an ever-changing environment, a project promoting innovation was carried out throughout head office in 2017. A number of “innovation groups”, each equipped with its own budget and quota of personnel hours, developed up-to-date donation methods and digital forms of co-operation with our partner organisations and co-ordination offices abroad. Altogether, six prototypes were created, which, following completion of the project phase, are being developed in stages. Some are already being implemented.

A “Workshop for new methods” in 2018 will look at ways of making Kindernothilfe fit for the future. Empowering employees and creating a dynamic culture of innovation and transformation is intended to increase the speed and flexibility of the impact of our entire organisation across all areas of our work, while enabling staff to deal with changes and challenges in a consistently efficient and effective manner.

**Organisational development**
Kindernothilfe is initiating an organisational development process that not only co-ordinates ongoing projects and interventions, but also develops ideas and new impulses for the future of Kindernothilfe. Clear-cut forms of work, structures and processes should boost the efficiency and innovative capacity of Kindernothilfe and thereby improve its strategic effectiveness and future viability.

**Forecasts, risks, opportunities**
For the first time in several years, the financial forecast for 2018 shows a balanced budget of 59.2 million euros for income and expenditure. It will be important for Kindernothilfe in the coming years to be able to at least maintain its share of the donation market, for example through attractive forms of funding. The long-term relationship with our donors, usually over a period of several years, is a huge asset that must be protected and preserved. Child sponsorship remains a vital source of
income. Digital options should also, therefore, be used to promote the (further) development of alternative and existing child sponsorship models.

In strategic terms, the development of alternative medium to long-term financing and co-operation models will be a necessity. Alongside raising public awareness of who we are and what we do and our organisational profile, this is an aspect we will be focusing on more and more in the coming years as part of our new Training and Consultancy division.

Through our lobbying activities in recent years, Kindernothilfe has developed a good reputation at the Federal Ministry for Economic Development and Cooperation (BMZ) and is now regarded as a reliable contract partner. In the coming months, we will have to explore how we can use the opening of the budget line for social services for new applicants.

The abuse of children within projects is always a potential risk. That is why Kindernothilfe has carried out child protection training with all project partners throughout the world and put protective mechanisms in place to prevent child abuse and focus on their protection.

One critical development for a number of our partners in recent years has been the increasing constraints being placed on the operational freedom of NGOs in many countries. State surveillance and repression, restricted freedom of speech, corruption and state tyranny are increasingly hampering our partners’ abilities to stand up for children’s rights (shrinking spaces). Moreover, the deteriorating economic situation in a number of developing and emerging economies, the increasing inequality in the distribution of income and wealth, mounting civil unrest, ethnic conflict and the growing threat of terrorism in specific regions of the world are also hampering and jeopardising the work of our partners.

To ensure that resources are used effectively and efficiently at project level, we have initiated appropriate measures throughout the project cycle. Against this background, we are increasing our efforts to prevent and combat corruption and ensuring that these aspects are firmly embedded in our programme and project work.

Currency fluctuations and (unforeseen) price increases in partner countries may entail the short-term risk that partners and projects are unable to receive money in their national currencies and lack the funds required to implement activities and deliver services. This may mean that (partial) goals and the planned impact of programmes/projects are not achieved. This inevitably leads to the fact that anticipated project successes and impacts are not achieved – or only partly – and, accordingly, negative consequences for the target groups.

Duisburg, April 2018

Katrin Weidemann, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Carsten Montag, Chief Programme Officer (CPO)
Jürgen Borchardt, Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

Contact: vorstand@kindernothilfe.de
Donation Seal of quality

Kindernothilfe handles donations in a trustworthy manner. Every year since 1992, this has been officially confirmed by the Seal of Quality for charitable organisations awarded by the German Central Institute for Social issues (DZI). This certifies its financial responsibility and statutory use of donations.