



ANNUAL REPORT

2017

Diakonie 
Katastrophenhilfe

We are the humanitarian aid agency of the Protestant Church in Germany.
Our head office is in Berlin.

In 2017 we
were active in

36 countries
in Africa, Asia, America
and Europa.

In **130 projects** we provided emergency relief, supported
people with reconstruction and carried out disaster risk
reduction measures.

Funding for these
projects amounted to **37.8 millionen
euros.**

In our **11 project and regional offices**
throughout the world

67 staff are
employed.

We help in the event of



CONFLICT



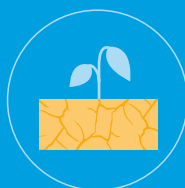
FLIGHT AND
MIGRATION



INTERNAL
DISPLACEMENT



EARTHQUAKES



DROUGHT



FLOODING



STORMS



VOLCANIC
ERUPTIONS

Dear friends of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe,



In 2017, around 134 million people throughout the world were dependent on humanitarian aid – four million more than in the previous year.

Although funding for humanitarian aid has risen in recent years, it falls well short of meeting requirements. According to the UN, although 21.8 billion euros in humanitarian aid was required in 2017 – donors provided 11 billion euros, just over one half of this.

Yet, the year was dominated by several major ongoing crises, for example in Syria and South Sudan, which demanded continuing humanitarian aid, and by the massive famine in East Africa. Our donors – unlike some donor countries – acknowledged this, and our income from donations rose accordingly. I am most grateful for the great willingness to help and the enormous trust invested in our work. This generosity has become even more crucial, since state funding – including funding for Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe projects – has also been cut. This has meant that we were unable to provide the same level of support as in previous years.

For several years now, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe has been standing alongside the people in East Africa, who have been struggling to cope with drought and extremely dry conditions. We tried, at an early stage, to make our contribution to preventing famine.

The humanitarian situation in Syria remains tragic. The lack of access to people in areas of heavy fighting is an enormous challenge to all humanitarian workers. Because of the desperate situation of the people in Syria, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, despite these difficulties, shifted the focus of our work away from neighbouring countries towards providing aid in Syria, and is planning to concentrate even more on the country in the future.

The situation in Syria is symptomatic of the dramatic disregard for international humanitarian law, which is supposed to guarantee protection for the civil population during war. This has pushed humanitarian aid to its limits. The international community must fight for the restoration of values of humanity.

For the solidarity, which we and the people in crisis and disaster regions have experienced, we would like to thank everyone, who has supported us, and all our donors – especially on behalf of the people, whom we, together with our local partners, have been able to help.

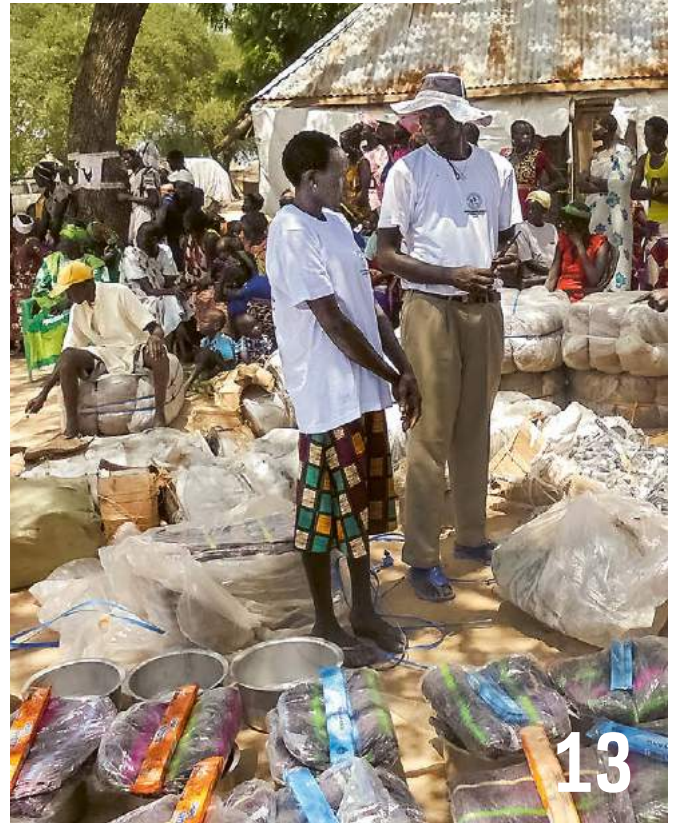
Yours sincerely,

Reverend Dr h. c. Cornelia Füllkrug-Weitzel
President of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe

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A backward step for civilisation

INTERVIEW WITH REVEREND C. FÜLLKRUG-WEITZEL

Crises and disasters, both longstanding and new, presented major challenges to Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe again in 2017. An interview with its president.

What were the greatest challenges for Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe in 2017?

In 2017, we had to again recognise, that crises are multifaceted and complex. Droughts, like the one in East Africa, have always existed, but they are increasing in intensity. But this doesn't necessarily mean that the people have to end up starving. In Somalia and South Sudan, the people are experiencing drought as well as armed conflict. They have to leave their land and lose their animals – their personal savings account. They, thereby, lose what was already a very tenuous livelihood. And this triggers a dramatic downward spiral, with negative impacts on their health and their children's access to education. They lose all prospects for the future. And, in turn, this loss of prospects can be a source of radicalisation and conflict. 2017 has also clearly demonstrated that providing relief in an emergency situation – irrespective of how vital it is – is, in itself, not enough. We have to look beyond this. Prevention is becoming one of the more important responsibilities in times of climate change. The people affected will have to find alternative income opportunities and another way of life. Seeds, for example, will have to be adapted to the changed climate conditions and diversified to ensure sufficient harvest yields. This is an area where we support our partners.

Another dramatic development, also very complex, is the conflict in Syria: initially, the population's entitlement to democratic participation was crudely disregarded. Then, the conflict was hijacked and fought as if it was a religious conflict. And, finally, it was ruthlessly instrumentalised for the self-seeking objectives and geo-strategic interests of regional and international parties. The situation is

highly complex and perplexing.

In such a situation, no one really is in a position to control the conflict. In the meantime, the region is being flooded by an unending supply of arms. It appears as if all sides in the conflict simply do not care whether the civil population has access to water, food or medical care. No one is prepared to assume responsibility for the protection of the civil population, a responsibility anchored in international humanitarian law.

This has pushed humanitarian organisations to breaking point: they are simply unable to gain access to some areas of conflict – again, a violation of international law. Safe humanitarian corridors are virtually non-existent, which means that humanitarian aid cannot fulfil its aspiration of delivering help, where the need is greatest. Delivering humanitarian aid to areas not under Government control is incredibly difficult, and all sides involved in the conflict instrumentalise this for their own propaganda purposes.

What I find difficult about this conflict is the German Government's funding policy. For the work in quieter areas under Syrian Government control, the German Government is focusing its funding on United Nations interventions. At the same time, it also wants its direct funding of German organisations to be used in regions that are particularly difficult to access. Since access is exceptionally difficult for staff working for international (non-governmental) organisations, it is practically impossible to support the work of local partners and monitor compliance with existing standards. That is why we are also particularly reliant on donations to finance our working co-operation with our few partner organisations.

One other crisis: how do you regard the position of the Rohingya?

In Myanmar and Bangladesh, we are witnessing a disaster that was predictable. The political situation of the Rohingya had been developing into a crisis for some time. Their circumstances, even after leaving their homes, are dire. They are living in overcrowded camps with undignified hygienic conditions. I am concerned that their frustration will spark renewed violence and conflict, and that the women and children there will be left unprotected. During the summer monsoon season, the situation in the camps will continue to deteriorate.

What impact do such situations have on women and girls in particular?

Because of their vulnerability, they are easy prey for human trafficking, enforced prostitution and sexual violence. The lack of prospects and loss of intimacy in such overcrowded camps are a breeding ground for sexual assault and abuse from the people around them. And, just recently, we have, unfortunately witnessed that, even within humanitarian organisations, individual members of staff have taken advantage of the situation in a sordid, irresponsible manner. The consistent protection of particularly vulnerable people – i.e. women, children, people with disabilities – is at the very top of our list of demands. If violence against women and children is not rebuffed, men start regarding it as normal behaviour, and an endemic climate of violence – a culture of violence – can develop. In this situation, it is, therefore, vital for those affected and the wider community, that time and money is invested in protecting women, children and people with disabilities.

A good example of this is our work in

Haiti, where we have been supporting a women's organisation that has introduced simple but effective protective mechanisms for women in the camps. Our partner organisation has sensitised the people leading the camp, for example, to ensure that separate sanitary facilities are built for women and men

Is there not a danger that support could be caught up in the spiral of violence?

In many places, violence is, unfortunately, an everyday occurrence. For example, in Colombia. The world was convinced that the historic agreement between the Government and FARC rebels would, at last, bring peace. It is now apparent, though, that violence against the civilian population and forced displacement are again increasing. Every day throughout the world, three human rights activists are murdered, one of them in Colombia. There has been no land reform or any evident, effective improvement in health, the infrastructure or economy, thus ensuring that inequality continues. Humanitarian aid must protect and feed the people, since the state is failing to fulfil its responsibilities. That is bitter and dreadful – and it makes me so angry, but not cynical or heartless with respect to the people and their suffering.

What does Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe need?

Firstly: that the Christian virtue of charity is neither disparaged nor destroyed. Secondly: non-earmarked donations are very important for our work. They help us not only to respond flexibly to a rapidly developing situation and allocate funding where, although the suffering is dramatic, almost no one is receiving any help. Non-earmarked donations are also important because they enable us to enter into long-term partnerships with local organisations. The long-term, farsighted reinforcement of their capacities and role in humanitarian aid is one of our key concerns.

Is the aid effective?

Our aid is effective. However, we must avoid confusing the technical term effectiveness with real effectiveness.



▲ The President of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, Cornelia Füllkrug-Weitzel, visits aid workers in Syria.

Standards are important. When I visited a camp in Darfur, I noticed that the completely new toilets bearing the UN seal had not been used. The reason I was given was that they are not culturally acceptable. Aid must be adapted to each context. The people concerned should be allowed to construct what they, themselves, need and in a way, that is compatible with their culture.

What does the humanitarian aid system need?

The people must be able to have a say in the kind of aid delivered. Although I fully understand the need for international standards, I sometimes find them problematic. Defining effectiveness in collaboration with the people concerned would be more appropriate. And, with our financial support, they must be put in a position of being able to act as independent humanitarian actors: help to self-help should also apply to humanitarian aid.

We require effective policies and diplomacy that defend and reinforce international law. Essentially, it is a huge challenge, in itself, ensuring that “law in wartime”, international humanitarian law, is fully realised. But it will be even more difficult to

enforce these laws to protect the civilian population, when key actors neither comply nor act as good role models but, themselves, default on agreements. In particular, the conflicts in the first decade of this new millennium, dominated by the “war against terror” and the consistent dilution of the idea of unconditional protection of humanity for all, have seriously undermined this aspiration. Hardly anyone can stand up with the United Nations and demand, with any credibility, that all conflicting parties – whether they are nation states or other armed groups – preserve humanity and comply with international humanitarian law. A dramatic development! It took the blood of two world wars, before protecting civil populations, wounded soldiers, medical and humanitarian workers in armed conflict was set down in a code of conduct, recognised by the vast majority of nation states. The fact that this international humanitarian law is now being relentlessly dismantled is a foolish backward step for civilisation. It exposes women, children, the elderly, the badly wounded and incapacitated combatants to the horror of all forms of violence, vulnerability, hunger and death.

Newly arrived internally displaced persons (IDPs), holding their vouchers, wait in a queue for the allocation of shelter and distribution of material.

EAST AFRICA + + DROUGHT, WAR AND FORCED DISPLACEMENT

10.9 million

people in East Africa in 2017 were dependent on food aid. The focus was on several countries.

In **Somalia** **3.3 million** people are starving, three million of them living in rural areas. In some areas, up to 70 percent of the harvest failed.

2.3 million people in **South Sudan** were displaced.

Half of all health facilities and one third of schools have been destroyed.

But in **Ethiopia**, too, for example, the number of people threatened by starvation rose by the end of 2017 to **8.5 million**.

One reason for the disaster is drought: in recent years, the rainfall in some regions has decreased by up to **80 percent**.

The main reason, though, is war. Because of the fighting, many fields have been left uncultivated. And, even when it does rain, it is either too little or it comes down in torrents and washes away the topsoil. The red patches on the political maps, identifying areas of extreme hunger, are growing constantly.



EAST AFRICA + + A DRAMATIC SITUATION



▲ In Somalia, displaced families live in simple shelters, directly exposed to the drought threatening millions of people.

THE CRISIS SITUATION

Climate change exacerbates what are already difficult living conditions in countries such as Somalia, Kenya and Ethiopia. Again, and again, long periods of drought threaten the lives of so many people and lead to food shortages.

Hopes for an improvement in the situation in 2017 came to nothing: once again, there was no rainfall. The United Nations kept increasing its initial estimation of the number of people in East Africa dependent on humanitarian aid in 2017: in the Horn of Africa up to 11 million people were dependent on food aid.

Famine was officially declared for part of South Sudan in February 2017, affecting 100,000 people. In the country, 5.1 million women, men and children are in desperate need of food aid, and more than one million children are acutely undernourished. In Central and Southern Somalia, the number of people in need of aid rose to 6.2 million – more than half the country's total population. Nearly

three million people in 2017 were dependent on food aid, and around 87,000 children were extremely malnourished.

The population in South Sudan and Somalia are more than ever dependent on aid. As a result of the continuing armed conflicts in both countries, the provision of humanitarian aid is especially difficult. Many regions are inaccessible for aid workers.

The population is more than ever dependent on aid.

Between November 2016 and October 2017, more than one million people in Somalia were forced to flee the drought and the armed conflicts in other parts of the country. Many pastoralists, living traditionally from keeping livestock, have lost their livelihoods and way of life: their animals have perished, their last remaining resources used up. To survive, thousands have fled to the camps in and around Mogadishu and across the border to Ethiopia.

The situation in South Sudan is particularly dramatic: 1.9 million IDPs are now living there. Another 2.4 million have fled to neighbouring countries. Since the beginning of 2017, around half a million others have fled to neighbouring countries. Sixty percent of them are children.

Drought does not only cause hunger, but also leads to life-threatening illnesses. Out of desperation, people drink contaminated water from polluted water sources.

More than 78,000 people had cholera in 2017, with the death toll reaching over 1,150.

Our assistance

Together with its local partner organisations, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe provides people in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan with food and drinking water, as well as household and hygiene items. In addition to receiving emergency relief, the local populations also benefit from preventive measures: they are shown how, despite the difficult climatic conditions,

farming their land is still possible. The internally displaced persons (IDPs) also receive start-up assistance such as occupational training or seeds. In 2017, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe provided more than 18 million euros for humanitarian aid in East Africa. Twelve million euros of this came from third-party contributions, e.g. from the German Federal Foreign Office, and the remaining six million from donations. Since the beginning of 2017, more than half a million people in the countries of Somalia, South Sudan, Ethiopia and Kenya have been supported in the form of food, school meals, drinking water provision and the repair of wells, as well as help to cover their basic needs (e.g. hygiene and safe living quarters).

The people learn to cultivate their land in new climate conditions.

A large proportion of beneficiaries are IDPs, who, as a result of the long years of violent conflict and the current drought, have lost their livelihoods.

The extreme weather conditions – drought, followed by torrents of water – are making life difficult for the people in the region. In such a situation, the local people are dependent on emergency relief.

South Sudan – school meals in Gok State

To bring about a long-term reduction in hunger in Gok State in South Sudan, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, together with its partner organisation Vétérinaires Sans Frontières, is running a project, in which 15,000 school children receive a school meal every day. Without this, the children would have stopped coming to school long ago – for, in times of drought, parents must decide between food or schooling.

“My name is Awutchok Mayom Amhok, and I am 15 years old. I come from Mayenthon Payam in Ngap County in Gok State. I’m the second oldest in a family of seven children. Since we’ve been getting school meals,

my friends and I go to school every day. And we’re always on time. It wasn’t always like this. We used to come late, because we’d to wait at home until there was something to eat. Now, the school is always full. Lots of children from other schools come to us, since we’ve had school meals. Even children in my village, who stopped going to school, are coming again. Our school has many more children than before.

The teachers and cooks are very strict about us washing our hands before we eat. It’s something we do out of habit now. Apart from that, we tidy up all the rubbish and, together, keep the schoolyard tidy.”



▲ Lining up according to the class they are in, the school children receive a warm, nourishing meal from the kitchen of the Achol Malek Primary School in South Sudan.

Aid for more than
664,000 people



Project information

Project region: Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Uganda

Priorities: Food security, drinking water provision, emergency healthcare, resilience building, refugee support, structural development

Project achievements: ++ **SOUTH SUDAN** Food security for 15,000 school children ++ Cash transfers for more than 124,000 people ++ **SOMALIA** Provision of drinking water to 58,000 people ++ 2,360 families receive vouchers to cover basic needs ++ School attendance of 3,000 children ++ **ETHIOPIA** Drinking water for more than 21,000 people ++ Food security for 6,000 pregnant women and children ++ **KENYA** Drinking water and water purification tablets for around 12,000 people ++ **UGANDA** Hygiene articles, kitchen utensils, water tanks and building material for emergency shelters for 27,000 people

Number of projects: 25

Financing: 10,422,000 euros in 2017 approved, including 3,060,000 euros from the German Federal Foreign Office (AA), 953,000 euros from the United Nations, 455,000 euros from the ACT Alliance, 294,000 euros from the German Caritas Association, 235,000 euros from the Church Development Service, 100,000 euros from Diakonie Austria, 30,000 euros each from the Evangelical Churches of Hesse Electorate Waldeck and in Hesse and Nassau, 20,000 euros from the North Church, 10,000 euros from the Diaconal Agency in Rhineland-Palatinate. Remainder: Donations

Budget for 2018: 13,736,000 euros

SOMALIA + + A LACK OF LIFE'S ESSENTIALS



▲ The 70-year-old Habibo Ibrahim had to flee the Hudur Bay Region in Somalia. She now receives what she needs to survive as well as somewhere to stay and vouchers.

THE CRISIS SITUATION

The civil war in Somalia has been raging for over 20 years now. The country has no recognised government, with large swathes of the country ruled by clans and the Islamist Al-Shabaab militia.

The Somali people have virtually none of the things they need to survive. And humanitarian aid cannot even reach the people, where the need is greatest – large parts of Central and Southern Somalia are inaccessible for international aid.

Millions of people have no healthcare whatsoever, and less than a third of the population has access to clean drinking water. The infant mortality rate is high, since easily preventable illnesses such as diarrhoea cannot be treated. In 2017, large parts of the country were hit by a devastating drought. In many areas, the earth has dried up completely, the animals have died of thirst. Throughout the year, more than 900,000 people had to leave their homes – the only way for them to survive. More than 6.2 million people in Somalia were dependent on humanitarian aid.

Our assistance

Since the spring of 2017, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe has been extending its

aid provision in Central and Southern Somalia. In the camps around Mogadishu, 2,360 families received vouchers to cover their basic requirements.

In addition, 3,000 children were enabled to go to school. In the Hiraaan Region, five deep wells were repaired and water vouchers distributed to 12,000 people. And, with the help of the local population, 20 water catchment basins were also repaired.

Aid is successful, when there is enough water for humans and animals.

In Galmudug Province, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe supplied clean drinking water to more than 58,000 people: vouchers were distributed to families, who exchanged them for water. Every week, a family of six received 490 litres of water – enough to also give some to their livestock.

In Adado District, seriously affected by the drought, 200 families received cash support for three months. Each household was given 68 euros for the immediate purchase of food – the risk of dying of starvation was high and remains high today.

Aid for
250,000 people



Project information

Project region: Somalia

Priorities: Food aid for households with malnourished children, access to primary education, emergency assistance in the areas of drinking water, hygiene and accommodation

Project achievements: Altogether around 250,000 people benefited from the project ++ Access to drinking water for 8,000 people ++ Food and food vouchers for 900 individuals ++ emergency relief for more than 30,000 people in the form of vouchers for emergency shelter, everyday essentials, drinking water ++ Latrines for 3,600 people in the displacement camps ++ Construction of 14 shallow wells ++ Supply of building kits for emergency shelters to 18,000 people displaced by drought

Number of projects: 9

Financing: 4,949,000 euros approved in 2017, including 1,800,000 euros from the German Federal Foreign Office (AA), 953,000 euros from the United Nations, 455,000 euros from ACT Alliance, 294,000 euros from the German Caritas Association, 200,000 euros from the Church Development Service, 100,000 euros from Diakonie Austria, 30,000 euros each from the Evangelical Churches of Hesse Electorate Waldeck and in Hesse and Nassau, 20,000 euros from the North Church, 10,000 euros from the Diaconal Agency in Rhineland-Palatinate. Remainder: Donations

Budget for 2018: 8,872,000 euros

SOUTH SUDAN ++ Aid in a difficult crisis



Aid for at least
152,000 people

▲ School meals consisting of a nutritious soya-maize mixture ensures that children have something to eat and encourages them to go to school regularly.

THE CRISIS SITUATION

South Sudan is one of the world's poorest countries. Since the end of 2013, it has been badly shaken by armed conflict. The civil war has triggered a humanitarian crisis. Since the beginning of the conflict, more than 3.8 million people have been forced to flee their homes and are either displaced within their own country or living now in neighbouring countries. Thousands were killed or wounded. In 2017, the ongoing conflict exacerbated what were already difficult conditions for fulfilling basic needs. Those who left had to abandon their fields, unable to grow or harvest anything. Fearing attacks, most traders also avoid the areas of conflict. Local markets remain empty. Prices for basic foodstuffs, such as maize or beans, have increased markedly, making them unaffordable for many people. Because of the underdeveloped and damaged road network, 60 percent of the country is inaccessible during the rainy season. Regular periods of drought have also led to food shortages and widespread hunger: according to UN estimates, 5.1 million people were dependent on food aid at the end of 2017.

Our assistance

To survive the acute hunger crisis, daily school meals are provided for 15,000 children in 47 schools in Cueibet District.

To reduce dependency on food aid and boost local production in schools and the surrounding households, model gardens were created. Teachers and pupils received training, seeds were distributed and model poultry-breeding farms set up in collaboration with local households. Beekeeping was also introduced, tree nurseries developed and non-food items including sleeping mats produced.

Dikes as protection against flooding.

In another project, more than 17,000 needy families were supported. 7,400 households received cash support, enabling them to buy food and secure other basic requirements. In addition, around 4,280 people with no fixed abode were given vouchers for building material to construct their own protective shelter. Because the communities were badly affected by severe flooding during the rainy season, 75 kilometres of dike were repaired and local flood response groups trained and equipped. The dike repairs were carried out by the local



population, with those involved receiving a small income for their efforts.

Project information

Project region: South Sudan

Priorities: Emergency relief to improve the food situation, promotion of resilient food production, structural development, cash assistance

Project achievements: Food security for 15,000 school children ++ 10,000 linen sacks for the community flood response groups ++ Food aid for 1,000 families suffering acute hunger ++ Cash assistance for more than 124,000 people ++ Equipping 1,600 families with fishing equipment ++ Repair of 75 km of dike through the cash for work scheme

Number of projects: 7

Financing: 3,185,000 euros approved in 2017, including 1,260,000 euros from the German Federal Foreign Office (AA), 35,000 euros from the Church Development Service. Remainder: Donations

Budget for 2018: 2,414,000 euros

Hoping for a new home



The Doh family, after being displaced, found a new home in another town in South Sudan. They were only able to survive thanks to Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe.

Deng Marol Doh is 39 years old. He and his wife have eight children. Last year, the entire family left the Twic East District in South Sudan to return to their home village in Duk District. “We lived here until 2013. But then fighting began between the Government and opposition in Juba. My village was attacked and my house burned to the ground. All our cattle, over 20, were stolen. I fled with my family to Twic East, where we were able to survive, thanks to the humanitarian aid.”

When Deng returned home to Duk, everything had changed. They no longer had a home, and there was also no work. “Together with two other families, we lived for several months crammed together in a hut belonging to relations”, he explains. To provide for his family, he went to the bush to look for material he could sell. His wife collected firewood. Before the war, he had a good income. They lived from farming and cattle breeding and were independent. They lost everything in the war. “Now, every day is a nightmare”, Deng says. “I don’t know what’s going to happen tomorrow. We are

only able to survive thanks to the humanitarian aid.”

Since losing everything, he has lived every day, worrying about his family’s survival. He is also concerned about his children’s education. “There is still no security”, he says.

“Many people who were working on their fields again were killed by armed groups. Something that’s still happening today.”

At the end of last year, Deng and his family were selected by Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe as beneficiaries of an aid project. It supports families that without outside support are unable to build a new house. And so, the support enabled

Deng to build a new home for his family, a typical South Sudanese hut. “I can hardly describe how happy I am. We’ve been living in our new house for the last four months, something that helps me and my children so unbelievably much. We can lead a normal life again. One day, I’ll be self-employed again.”

“Together with two other families, we lived for several months crammed together in a hut belonging to relations”

Hope died along with the animals



After losing their goats, the Diriye family fled to a displacement camp in Somalia. The drought left them with no other choice. Today, the family receives some money from an aid programme. Enough to survive.

Abdullahi Mohamed Diriye is 71 years old. Since November, he and his family have been living in a displacement camp in Bahdo, in the Somali district of Adado. Because of the drought, they lost their herd of goats: without the 310 animals, which, up to then, had been the source of his family's livelihood, they had no choice but to seek sanctuary in one of the displacement camps.

Abdullahi describes, how he and his family have coped.

"At first, I collected all my savings and bought water and feed for the weakened animals. But, of course, I also had to provide for my family. When my money ran out, I borrowed some from friends and relations – altogether 1,565 euros. I wanted to repay my debts by selling the remaining livestock after the rainy season. But the rain didn't come, and all the goats died. And along with the animals my hope died too. Since arriving in the camp we've received little aid, but, thank God, enough to survive. In March, I lost a daughter after an outbreak of measles in the camp. I, myself, have diabetes and can't do any heavy work. But my 16-year-old

daughter supports us: she goes regularly to the town of Bahdo. She works there as a housemaid, washing clothes and plates. With the money she earns, she buys food for the family. She doesn't earn enough to feed us all, but it helps. I'm most grateful for the help I got today from the Centre for Peace and Democracy (CPD).

"We can now send the children to school instead of out to work."

They transferred 85 euros onto my mobile phone. With this money, I can repay 17 euros I owe the food merchant. And with the rest I'll buy food for my family. I wish this cash aid was available for longer than three

months, to help us and other families in the camp get through this difficult time.

In the camp, itself, there is a lack of water and toilets. We only have two latrines, which the camp residents have built together with the host community. There's a water tank, installed by the local water committee, from which we can collect free water."



SYRIA, IRAQ AND NEIGHBOURING STATES + + REGION OF SUFF- ERING AND DESTRUCTION

13.1 million

people in Syria were in need in 2017. 5.6 million of them in acute need. Altogether, 5.6 million Syrians have fled to neighbouring countries.

Half of all health facilities and one third of schools in Syria have been destroyed. .

1.75 million children do not go to school.

The future of the people in the region, especially in Syria, is, in the eighth year of war, more than under threat. And no end is in sight.

The 12-year-old Awas comes from Mabede, a village in Northern Syria. In the entrance to the refugee tent, there is a tiny kitchenette. Awas and her family live in the Kawargosk refugee camp

THE CRISIS SITUATION

There is no end to the violence in Syria and Iraq. The civil war in Syria in its seventh and, now, in its eighth year has become even more perplexing and violent – a humanitarian disaster for the entire region.

Since 2011, almost half a million people have lost their lives as a result of the fighting and, according to the UN, more than five million people have fled the country, with another 6.3 million displaced within their own country. In 2017, around 13.1 million people were dependent on humanitarian aid, almost half of them children. All parties involved in the conflict, do not even always attempt to protect the civil population or facilities such as hospitals. There are one million war-wounded and around 500,000 people have lost their lives since the beginning of the war, many of them civilians. Average life expectancy has fallen to only 55 years. Currently, it is estimated that as many people in Syria are dying from untreated chronic diseases as from war injuries.

Since the beginning of 2011, approximately 250,000 people from Syria have sought refuge in Iraq. Yet, the situation there is also insecure. In addition, more than 3.3 million Iraqis have fled to safer regions within their own country. Living conditions for refugees and IDPs in Iraq are becoming increasingly difficult. Rents are increasing, food is in short supply, and there is no work. Social support or health systems have either collapsed or no longer exist. The humanitarian situation there is deteriorating day by day, with 8.7 million people dependent on humanitarian aid.

Our assistance

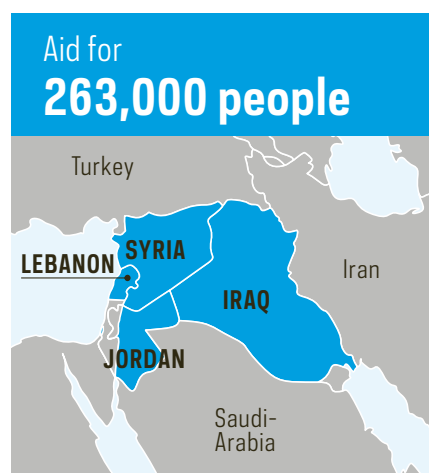
In the spring of 2012, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe launched its aid programme in Syria's neighbouring states. In 2014, this aid was extended to Northern Iraq. Since then, aid has been delivered to people in Syria, Jordan, Iraq, Lebanon and Turkey.

In Syria, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe operates through its local partner organisation, GOPA (Greek Orthodox Patriarchate of Antioch and all the East). GOPA has been working in different regions of the country for several years, and is recognised as a neutral institution, which means that, despite difficult access, it is able to deliver aid in places, where it would otherwise be barely possible. It supports people by providing drinking water, life-saving medicines and psychosocial support, to help children, above all, come to terms with war trauma.

Since 2012, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe has spent more than 53.8 million on aid for Syria and the neighbouring states, of which 12.7 million came from donations. So far, this has enabled us to reach 956,000 people in the region. The priority of our support is helping Syrian refugee families in Syria and its neighbouring states. In Northern Iraq, internally displaced Iraqis also receive support.

The local partners distribute e-vouchers (sent by email), clothing, blankets, food, hygiene articles and other essentials. They provide psychosocial support to help overcome war trauma and support people in their basic and advanced training. The priority is on refugees living outside the official camps, for example with friends or relations or in emergency accommodation.

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe is currently extending its aid provision within Syria. In many regions in the country, life is returning to the ruined towns and cities. The biggest wish of countless families is to return home. That is why it is helping people to do what they can to rebuild their homes, ensuring they have adequate shelter to make a fresh start.



Project information

Project region: Syria, Iraq, Turkey, Jordan, Lebanon

Priorities: Distribution of relief items to cover basic needs: food, hygiene articles, kitchen utensils, blankets, sleeping mats, heating material for the winter, cash for work and food vouchers, psychosocial support and occupational training in community centres

Project achievements: ++ **IRAQ** Income-generating measures for more than 570 families ++ Emergency relief kits for more than 28,000 displaced from Mosul ++ Boosting self-help capacities, language courses and occupational training for 15,600 people ++ **TURKEY** Protective measures for 36,000 Syrian refugees ++ Cash transfers for 4,000 people in Sanliurfa Province ++ **LEBANON** Improving the living infrastructure for 3,500 families in refugee camps in Beirut ++ Psychosocial support for 900 children and their families ++ Warm meals, psychosocial support and fulfilling the basic needs for 3,500 people ++ **JORDAN** Winter relief for 1,800 people

Number of projects: 14

Financing: 6,829,000 euros approved in 2017, including 1,800,000 from the German Federal Foreign Office (AA), 416,000 euros from the Church Development Service, 137,000 euros from Diakonie Austria
Remainder: Donations

Budget for 2018: 17,676,000 euros

SYRIA ++ Winter relief and reconstruction



▲ Through winter relief, families receive packages containing clothing: socks, hats and scarves.

THE CRISIS SITUATION

The seven-year-long war in Syria is one of the most complex humanitarian crises of our times. According to UN estimates, 13.1 million people are dependent on humanitarian aid, including 5.3 million children.

More than 6.3 million people were displaced within Syria in recent years – more than virtually any other country in the world. About another five million have fled the country and are registered as refugees in neighbouring states. Average life expectancy is now no more than 55 years.

The people do not have the means to repair or rebuild their houses and other property. The situation is exacerbated by the damage caused by bombardments during the war – their accommodation is cold and difficult to heat. There is a lack of blankets, mattresses and winter clothing.

Our assistance

In 2017, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe launched a project to help particularly needy families through the winter. Many of the beneficiaries are women-headed families. These households are especially poor and in great need.

Warm bedding was distributed to 3,800 families: each family received

two mattresses, two blankets, two pillows and other bedlinen as well as cotton towels.

To protect children, above all, against the cold, 1,900 families with children between the ages of six and 15 received additional clothing packages containing trousers, warm socks, hat and scarf. For each child, the families also received two pairs of winter shoes. Altogether, 22,800 people benefited from the project.

The biggest wish for many: to return home.

In the second half of 2017, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe extended its aid provision within Syria. The biggest wish of so many families is to return home. That is why Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe is supporting people, for example in the Hama Region, to rebuild their houses and other property so that they at least provide adequate shelter for them to make a fresh start.

As in all other parts of the world, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe works in Syria with a local partner. The partner knows the country, the language, the culture and is better equipped to adapt to a conflict situation that is changing from one day to the next. And this also facilitates local capacity building.

Aid for
60,000 people



Project information

Project region: Syria

Priorities: Emergency relief for IDPs from Aleppo, medicines for the seriously ill

Project achievements: Reconstruction of 665 damaged houses ++ Provision of hygiene articles and everyday essentials to more than 30,000 IDPs from Aleppo ++ Medical treatment and medicines for 585 seriously ill people

Number of projects: 6

Financing: 2,207,000 euros approved in 2017, including 53,000 from Diakonie Austria
Remainder: Donations

Budget for 2018: 3,414,000 euros

TURKEY ++ Psychosocial support is also required



▲ Three generations of three families have been living together for the past four years in Turkey. They say that they have become accustomed to poverty.

THE CRISIS SITUATION

As a result of the conflicts in Syria and Iraq since 2012, 3.5 million people have fled to Turkey: 3.2 million from Syria alone, 1.4 million of them children. This means that Turkey has taken in the largest amount of displaced people from Syria and Iraq.

Ninety percent of all refugees in Turkey live outside the official refugee camps. They have limited access to state services and are, therefore, confronted with major challenges in trying to adjust.

Given that they have very few job opportunities, most refugees, once their savings have been used up, are dependent on aid. Half of all refugees are children, who are particularly likely to be traumatised, sometimes severely, and are suffering as a result of losing family members and their homes.

The families receive very little support from the Turkish Government. The average monthly income for a family is around 60 euros. The crippling inflation makes survival even more difficult. Most refugees live below the poverty line.

Our assistance

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe supports people threatened by poverty, who are not living in refugee camps.

In Turkey, its focus is on psychosocial support. Educational courses, legal aid and individual support are intended to boost refugees' independence and improve their access to social services.

Above all, children and women in the refugee camps and in the host communities benefit from this support, which ranges from psychosocial support to occupational training.

Many families need help particularly with their registration, which is required if they are to receive free access to health facilities or schooling.

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe has also set up a centre for refugees in Istanbul. Based in a community centre, it provides psychosocial support for around 1,200 people. Through art therapy and playing games, the children can give expression to their feelings. Adults are informed about their rights as refugees, while mothers can attend food and nutrition courses.

Between November and February, the focus was on winter relief, financed from an ongoing EU project (ECHO). In Southeast Turkey, relief was provided to 21,600 refugees. They received cash cards, loaded with 50 euros per person. At special markets, people can buy warm clothing, blankets or fuel for heating stoves.

Aid for
43,000 people



Project information

Project region: Turkey

Priorities: Protective measures, courses and workshops on the rights of refugees, cash assistance

Project achievements: Protective measures for 36,080 particularly needy refugees ++ Winter relief in the form of warm clothing, shoes, and heating fuel for 21,600 Syrian refugees ++ Access to basic foodstuffs and provision of basic necessities for 4,000 people through cash transfers

Number of projects: 3

Financing: 1,405,000 euros approved in 2017, all from donations

Budget for 2018: 5,600,000 euros

IRAQ ++ Refugees helping refugees



▲ In the Bazyan community centre, Dastan Hoshier Ahmed (2nd from right) giving instruction on the computer to women from Syria and conflict regions in Northern Iraq.

THE CRISIS SITUATION

The Autonomous Kurdish Region in Northern Iraq has a population of 5.3 million, with another 242,000 registered refugees from Syria. Since the violent advance of the so-called Islamic State in June 2014, more than three million people have also been displaced within Iraq – most of them seeking sanctuary in the Kurdish areas. The extreme growth in the numbers of new arrivals places additional strain on the local job market. Social facilities such as schools and hospitals are also overburdened and unable to cope with the increased demand.

And even if the fighting in Kurdistan has ceased, the humanitarian crisis is a long way from being over. According to UN estimates, at least 11 million people in Iraq are dependent on humanitarian aid.

Our assistance

In Sulaymaniyah Province, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe has opened three community centres. Here, the refugees and host community have access to a shared room to help with integration and relieve tension. The centres offer such things as art therapy for children and young people, workshops on refugee rights, on nutrition, health and hygiene, as well as literacy

and IT courses. Most course leaders are themselves refugees and, thus, can share in the newcomer's experiences.

Through its occupational training and its support of small businesses, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe also lays down the foundation of new income sources for participants. Further training courses will be offered until 2018. Within a period of two to three months, course participants acquire basic knowledge and skills for such professions as technicians, electricians, plumbers and confectioners. In addition, 60 paid work placements for up to six months are awarded.

Occupational training is the cornerstone to making their own income.

In the regions of Dohuk, Sulaymaniyah and Halabja, more than 700 refugee families and IDPs are provided with food and food vouchers. The vouchers enable families to decide for themselves what food or hygiene articles they want to buy – surely better and more dignified than pre-packed food packages.

Aid for
123,000 people



Project information

Project region: Iraq

Priorities: Emergency relief, income-generating measures and creation of new livelihood opportunities, psychosocial support

Project achievements: Income-generating measures for more than 570 families ++ Emergency relief kits for more than 28,000 IDPs from Mosul ++ Boosting self-help capacities, language courses and occupational training for more than 15,600 people ++ Food packages for 2,000 families (from Kirkuk) ++ Three community centres reach 6,000 people, altogether 15,680 people benefit ++ 120 families benefit from income-generating measures ++ 340 individuals receive occupational training leading to qualifications ++ 51,000 people received improved access to social services

Number of projects: 1

Financing: 117,000 euros approved in 2017, all from donations

Budget for 2018: 7,665,000 euros

Britney Lopez walks through the district of Paloquemao in Florencia, Colombia, home now to displaced people.



HAITI, COLOMBIA AND DR CONGO ++ COUNTRIES IN CRISIS

We are active in many countries throughout the world. Wherever there is a need for emergency relief.

For example, in Haiti, where there were **13,000** cases of cholera in 2017. Or in Colombia: **17 million** of the total Colombian population of 49 million live in former civil war battlefields. **13.1 million** people in the Democratic Republic of (DR) Congo are dependent on humanitarian aid.

HAITI ++ Relief work and disaster risk reduction



▲ In Port-au-Prince, an earthquake/hurricane-safe emergency centre was built on a raised pedestal by GADEL, the partner of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe. It has an emergency store, training centre and emergency accommodation.

THE CRISIS SITUATION

Haiti is particularly susceptible to tropical storms, drought and earthquakes. The country, the poorest in Latin America, lies in the direct path of hurricanes. These storms develop off the coast of West Africa and sweep across the Atlantic to the Caribbean. The cycle of disasters, together with the lack of rural employment, the overconsumption of natural resources and arid conditions rob the people of their livelihoods and way of life, forcing them to migrate to the cities or to inflict even more damage on the endangered environment.

In recent years, Haiti has also been repeatedly hit by cholera epidemics.

Two out of five Haitians suffer as a result of food shortages.

How long it takes the desperately poor state to recover from such disasters, is clearly demonstrated by the example of the victims of the 2010 earthquake.

Eight years after the devastating earthquake, more than 37,600 people are still living in makeshift camps, now using up their last resources. In many places, the population has also not recovered from Hurricane Matthew in 2016.

Our assistance

For several years now, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe has been active in disaster risk reduction in Haiti. In the north of the country, an emergency centre was built, evacuation plans developed for families and disaster protection forces trained in quick response procedures in emergency situations. The centre also has 300 emergency relief kits.

For their work, the families receive a small income.

In the south of the island, houses are still being rebuilt following Hurricane Matthew. Support is also being given to 10,000 families. Through the cash for work scheme, agricultural land is being reclaimed and seeds and working implements distributed. The families are also trained in ecological and sustainable farming methods.

In the southeast of the country, 40 community cisterns are being installed to secure long-term water provision for the people living in areas affected by drought. Six hundred families also received support to create vegetable gardens and were trained in climate-friendly cultivation methods. Seeds, deciduous and fruit trees were also

Aid for
66,000 people



distributed and training given in healthy nutrition.

Project information

Project region: Haiti

Priorities: Emergency relief, reconstruction and disaster risk reduction

Project achievements: Reconstruction of 27 houses and latrines following Hurricane Matthew ++ Support for 1,200 families to re-establish their farming existence ++ Construction of 40 community cisterns ++ 600 families supported in the creation of vegetable gardens, and trained in climate-friendly cultivation methods ++ Emergency plans for 600 families ++ Building resilience to natural disasters ++ 2,200 households benefit from training courses focusing on disaster risk and environmental protection ++ Goats for 300 households

Number of projects: 1

Financing: 630,600 euros approved in 2017, all from donations

Budget for 2018: 2,377,000 euros

COLOMBIA ++ THE SITUATION REMAINS CRITICAL



▲ In Guapi, displaced people, who have settled here, are equipped with water tanks for drinking water purification.

THE CRISIS SITUATION

There were high hopes that peace was at hand: a peace agreement has been in place in Colombia since 2016. Half a century of violence claimed more than 220,000 lives and led to more than seven million people being displaced within their own country. So, do we have peace now in Colombia? Unfortunately, no. The situation for the people living in the regions affected by the conflict remains critical. In the areas cleared by rebels, other armed groups have forced their way in, taken control of the territories, and are fighting against the civil population and attacking leading politicians.

Peace, in many respects, remains superficial.

This inhibits, for example, people involved in fishing or farming. Children and young people run the risk of being forcibly recruited, while women are subjected to sexual violence. Away from the public eye, the humanitarian situation in many parts of the country remains desperate: there is not enough food and inadequate access to clean drinking water, sanitary facilities and health care. Even after the peace agreement, widespread forced displacement is still commonplace in many parts of Colombia.

Our assistance

In the Departement of Cauca, armed conflict has caused extensive damage. In addition, conflicts over land distribution threatened to escalate. The indigenous and Afro-Colombian populations living in remote areas are particularly affected. One of the aims of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe here, was to promote long-term peace through reconciliation work in the communities.

The aid was aimed at victims of the conflict, widows, widowers and orphans as well as former combatants and civil society organisations. Altogether, around 11,000 people received support. It included psychosocial support, raising awareness about victims' rights and start capital for income-generation measures for families.

Children and young people received support to go to school, while a programme focusing on peaceful cohabitation was run in schools. For several years, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe has been involved in a wide range of projects to improve living conditions, and will continue its commitment there in the coming years.

Aid for
21,000 people



Project information

Project region: Colombia

Priorities: Protection for displaced people, provision of clean drinking water, food security, psychosocial support, improving victims' mental health

Project achievements: Food vouchers for more than 112,000 people ++ Construction of 56 water points ++ Food security for 6,900 people ++ Workshops on self-protection mechanisms ++ Distribution of protection kits, including torches, hygiene articles and sandals for the newly displaced ++ Peace education for 11,000 people ++ Emergency relief for 20,300 people, including food packages, cooking utensils, hygiene articles, water filters, water purification tablets ++ Protection against enforced recruitment and improved school infrastructure for 3,500 children and young people

Number of projects: 3

Financing: 2,099,000 euros approved in 2017, including 500,000 euros from the German Federal Foreign Office (AA), 434,000 euros from Bread for the World, 377,000 euros from SDC (Swiss Agency for Development and Co-operation), and 315,000 euros from the Norwegian Refugee Council.
Remainder: Donations

Budget for 2018: 996,000 Euro

DR CONGO ++ Securing survival



▲ At the stall of a poultry merchant, Esther Ngolela Badibanga (60 years old), selects three house hens, in return for her voucher. She can now start her own small poultry breeding business.

THE CRISIS SITUATION

The Congo Basin in the DR Congo is the second biggest river system in the world. There is no lack of water, with enormous potential for agriculture and food production: 80 million hectares of fertile land within the state territory. Ideal conditions to feed the country's 94 million inhabitants. Yet, hunger prevails in the DR Congo. In 2017, it increased by 30 percent. In December, 7.7 million people were affected by acute food shortages.

Hunger in the DR Congo is manmade. It is a consequence of long years of war and armed conflict, which have forced so many people to leave their homes and farmland. The fields, themselves, have often become battlefields. A return for former inhabitants is then impossible.

Since 2016, violence has escalated, especially in the Kasai Provinces. There are frequent violent attacks on the civil population by different armed groups. Village communities, livelihoods, ways of life are destroyed, resulting in wide-scale expulsion. By mid-2017, 1.9 million people were internally displaced.

Our assistance

In Kasai Central Province, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe is helping to secure survival. Thus, in Demba Region,

support was provided to a total of eight villages, from which the inhabitants were forced to flee following outbreaks of violence in the spring of 2017. Although people returned in the summer, their village had been destroyed and all their possessions lost to looters.

With nothing to live from and starving, some of them tried to survive for several months in the bush. Particularly destitute families are, therefore, given food vouchers, which secures their immediate survival. To provide start up support to enable them to provide for themselves in future, families were equipped with farming tools and seeds.

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe installed water points and built latrines.

200 families, who lost their homes as the result of an arson attack, were given material to build new homes. They also received household items including cooking utensils. They, themselves, built the walls using homemade bricks, thus making an important contribution to the reconstruction of their houses.

Aid for
200,000 people



Project information

Project region: Democratic Republic of Congo

Priorities: Emergency relief projects, food distribution, distribution of seeds and plants together with the required tools, installing drinking water points, building latrines, conflict prevention training

Project achievements: Food vouchers for more than 112,000 people ++ Construction of 56 water points ++ Drilling two wells ++ Equipping 3,600 families with water canisters and other hygiene items ++ Latrines and showers for eight primary schools ++ 200 families received material to build new homes ++ Cash assistance for 2,500 particularly needy families ++ 1,600 displaced families received small livestock for breeding and three young fruit trees each ++ Training 250 peace workers in mediation

Number of projects: 8

Financing: 3,875,000 euros approved in 2017, including 1,000,000 euros from the German Federal Foreign Office (AA), 1,000,000 euros from the Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ), 333,000 euros from the Church Development Service, 310,000 euros from Bread for the World. Remainder: Donations

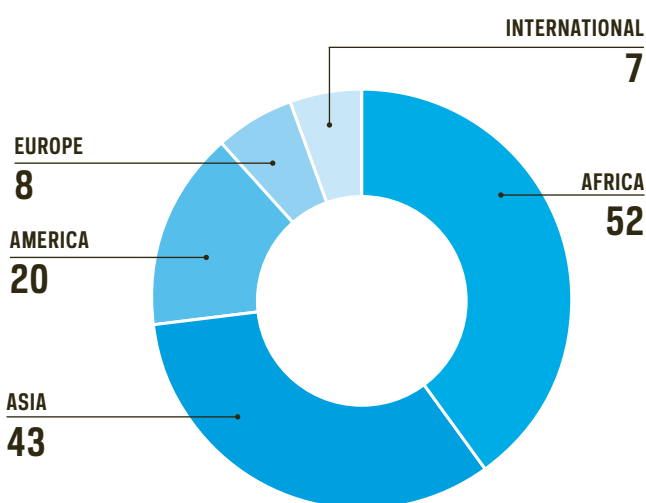
Budget for 2018: 5,929,000 euros

How are we financed?

FINANCES 2017 ++ Facts and figures

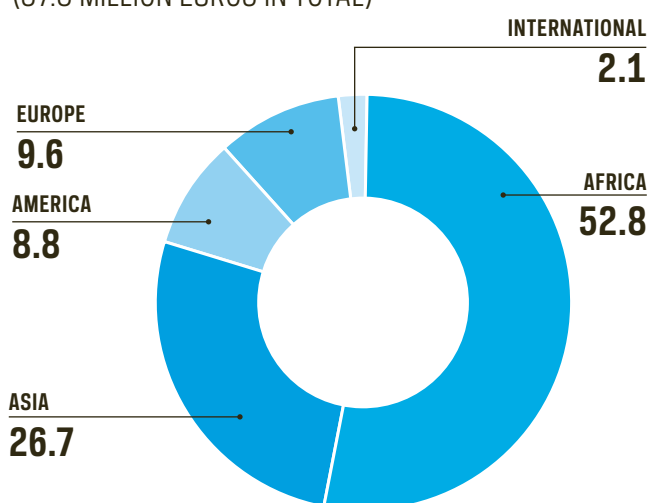
Projects

NUMBER OF PROJECTS PER CONTINENT
(130 PROJECTS IN TOTAL)



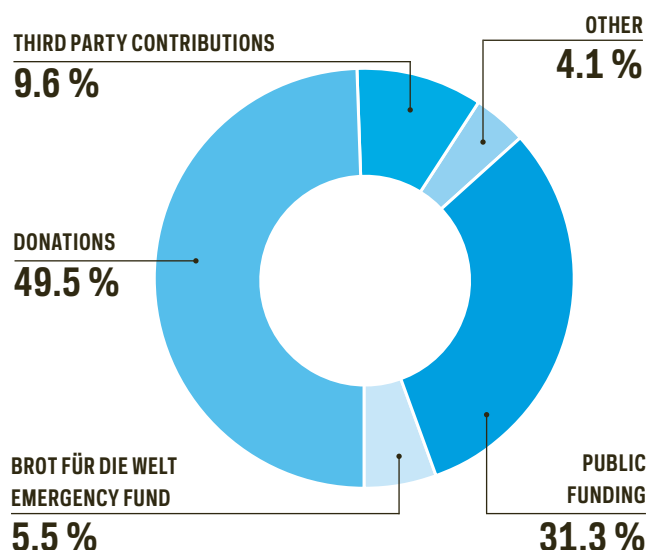
Project Funding

APPROVED FUNDS ACCORDING TO REGION IN PERCENT
(37.8 MILLION EUROS IN TOTAL)



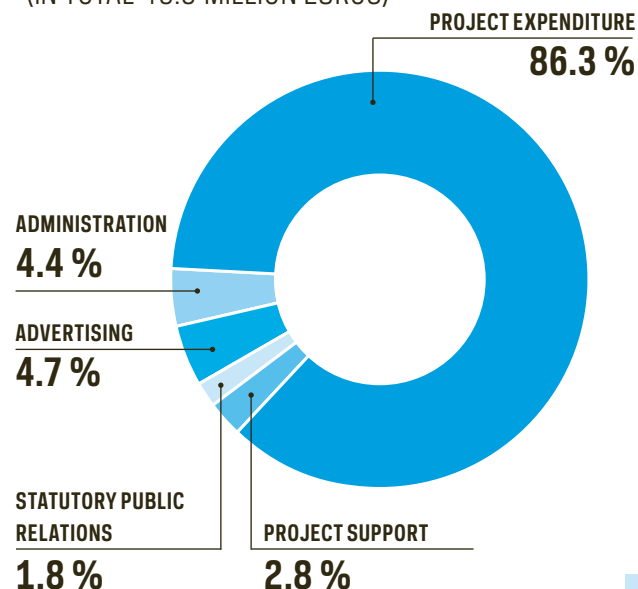
Income

ACCORDING TO SOURCE OF FUNDS IN PERCENT
(IN TOTAL 54.9 MILLION EUROS)



Expenditure

EXPENDITURE ACCORDING TO TYPE OF EXPENDITURE IN PERCENT
(IN TOTAL 49.9 MILLION EUROS)



Annual accounts

ANNUAL ACCOUNTS 2017

	2017		2016	
	in euros	in %	in euros	in %
Balance of funds at 01.01.	51,773,732.35		58,866,752.48	
plus receivables from donors at 01.01.	8,662,413.31		5,883,345.85	
Total available funds at 01.01.	60,436,145.66		64,750,098.33	
Donations	27,206,103.98	49.5	21,100,341.22	35.5
Fines	0.00	0.0	0.00	0.0
Legacies	274,985.64	0.5	32,116.47	0.1
Brot für die Welt-Fund	3,000,000.00	5.5	3,000,000.00	5.1
Income from investments	1,264,855.46	2.3	905,276.72	1.5
of which: financial income	1,395,481.62		1,209,530.15	
of which: financial expenses	130,626.16		304,233.43	
Public Funding	17,211,385.51	31.3	30,076,855.39	50.6
Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ)	5,981,287.50		7,843,401.23	
Federal Foreign Office (AA)	8,553,076.87		12,839,461.54	
European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO)	1,756,455.73		7,640,000.00	
United Nations (UN)	838,187.70		1,694,470.87	
Miscellaneous	82,377.71		59,521.75	
Third-party contributions	5,243,848.76	9.6	4,138,354.29	7.0
Brot für die Welt-Co-operation	145,205.58		0.00	
German Caritas Association	200,000.00		350,000.00	
ACT Alliance	510,279.65		322,453.81	
Diakonie Austria	400,977.43		470,814.91	
Other third-party contributions	3,987,386.10		2,995,085.57	
Other income	706,789.10	1.3	145,074.19	0.2
Total income	54,907,968.45	100.0	59,398,018.28	100.0
Expenditure				
Project expenditure	42,976,082.38	86.1	59,675,802.98	89.8
Human rights emergency relief projects	100,000.00	0.2	74,000.00	0.1
Project support	1,388,709.49	2.8	1,803,654.03	2.7
Statutory public relations	889,549.35	1.8	981,804.27	1.5
Advertising	2,355,648.71	4.7	2,223,048.69	3.3
Administration	2,190,016.45	4.4	1,732,728.46	2.6
Total expenditure	49,900,006.38	100.0	66,491,038.42	100.0
Balance at 31.12	56,781,694.42		51,773,732.35	
plus receivables from donors at 31.12.	5,550,901.81		8,662,413.31	
Total available funds at 31.12.	62,332,596.23		60,436,145.66	
thereof approved project funds	32,727,269.32		24,064,856.01*	
thereof free reserves	4,420,483.68		4,420,483.68	
thereof approved earmarked project fund reserves	1,300,000.00		0.00	
thereof approved free project fund reserves	3,612,853.30		3,612,853.30	
available for future approval	25,660,723.03		19,675,539.36	

Notes on income, its approved funding and sources

The annual accounts of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe are extracted from the audited annual statement of the Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development (Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e. V.) and the Protestant Central Office for Development Assistance.

Total income

Total income in 2017 was 54.9 million euros – 4.5 million euros less than in 2016 (or 7.6 percent). This reduction is due entirely to a reduction in public funding, particularly from ECHO. In contrast, income from donations gratefully increased from 21.1 to 27.2 million euros, i.e. a plus of 28.9 percent. Income from investments clearly rose from 0.9 million euros in 2016 to 1.3 million euros.

Donations

In 2017, we received 27.2 million euros in donations. This clear increase of 6.1 million euros was largely due to the donations received for the victims of the ongoing famine in Africa, but also to a welcome increase in non-earmarked donations, which rose from 8.7 million euros in 2016 to 12.7 million euros. However, donations received for the continuing conflict in Syria fell sharply, from 2.5 million euros in 2016 to 1.4 million euros in 2017. Donations were also again disappointingly low for forgotten crises and longstanding conflicts such as those in the DR Congo and Chad.

Brot für die Welt-Emergency Fund

From its sister organisation, Bread for the World, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe receives earmarked donation funding to enable flexible support of our work – the same amount in 2017 as in 2016.

Interest

Income from interest comes about because donations are not immediately

allocated in full to project partners, but in instalments in accordance with project progress. Until this funding is disbursed, the approved funding earmarked for the project is invested in interest-bearing investments. Investments in stocks are subject to strict internal guidelines. The resulting income from interest is ring-fenced and allocated to project support, advertising and administration. The increase in interest from investments is due to an increase in capital gains from stocks (+ 0.3 million euros) from the previous year, as well as lower disbursements from the depreciation of securities (0.1 million euros).

Public funding and third-party contributions

In 2017, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe received subsidies amounting to 17.2 million euros from the German Government, the EU and UN for ongoing and new projects. In the same period, new projects amounting to 14.4 million euros were approved, considerably less than in 2016 (36.6 million euros). This reduction must be viewed against the background of the record amount in 2016, and was not unexpected. In 2016, the EU had approved an extraordinarily high amount (9.5 million euros) for relief projects for refugees in Turkey, which continued in 2017. The prospects are good that this refugee aid in Turkey will be further supported in 2018.

In addition, the German Federal Foreign Office (AA) approved significantly less funding (9.3 million euros) than in 2016 (15.2 million euros). The main reason for this was the reduction in funding for the Syrian conflict (1.8 million euros in 2017 compared to 5.1 million euros in 2016). The priorities of the AA funding of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe projects in 2017 were as follows:

- 1.8 million euros in 2017 for projects related to the Syrian crisis (2016: 5.1 million euros);
- 4.3 million euros for victims of

forced expulsion, displacement and drought in Africa;

- other funding was provided for victims of the conflict in Eastern Ukraine (2.3 million euros) and a disaster risk reduction project in Guatemala (0.3 million euros).

The BMZ approved funding amounting to 2.5 million euros from the budget position. “Development-oriented structural and transitional aid (ESÜH)” for a project supporting IDPs in Southern Chad. We also received funding (1.0 million euros for each) for two projects in the Occupied Palestinian Territories and in the DR Congo from the specific BMZ budget for church-based projects. Thus, with the help of funding from the German Government and the EU, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe was able to support important projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Other third-party contributions:

We received around 0.5 million euros (0.3 million euros in 2016) from members of the ACT Alliance, primarily for a project in Somalia and, to a lesser extent, for a supplementary aid intervention for victims of the 2016 earthquake in Ecuador. Within the scope of our many years of successful co-operation with Caritas International, we received approximately 0.2 million euros (0.4 million euros in 2016) for a project in Somalia. Other funding was again provided by diverse regional Protestant Churches and Diaconal agencies. The priorities included the Middle East crisis and the drought in East Africa. From Christian Aid, a British member of ACT Alliance, we received around 0.1 million euros for a refugee project in Greece. After a long hiatus, we received a grant for around 0.6 million euros from the Aid Agency of the Protestant Church in Switzerland (HEKS) for a project in Iraq.

The longstanding successful co-operation with Diakonie Austria/Neighbours in Need Foundation led to funding amounting to 0.4 million euros (2016: 0.5 million euros), with a focus

on the Middle East crisis and the drought in East Africa. The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) provided 0.2 million euros for a project in Colombia.

Miscellaneous income

Miscellaneous income amounting to 0.7 million euros came partly from the sale of merchandising products, but primarily from accrued liabilities and reimbursement of expenses.

Notes on expenditure

General comments

A series of changes to expenditure, particularly in the area of personnel costs and miscellaneous operational expenditure were prompted by changes to in-house cost allocations between Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and its sister organisation Bread for the World. These changes came about within the scope of a regular examination of existing cost allocation principles, which took account of the changes in recent years.

Total expenditure

In 2017, the expenditure of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, amounting to approximately 49.9 million euros, for projects, project support, public relations, advertising and administration was considerably lower than in the previous year (66.5 million euros). Project expenditure of 43.1 million euros was significantly lower than the 2016 level (59.7 million euros). This significant reduction is entirely the result of a substantial cut in public funding, which could not be wholly offset by the increase in donations. Statutory expenditure on relief projects, project support and statutory public relations in 2017 amounted to almost 45.4 million euros (2016: 62.5 million euros) or 90.9 percent of total expenditure (2016: 94.0 percent).

Project expenditure

Funding priority has shifted substantially from Asia to Africa. Over half of all project approvals were for projects in Africa, three quarters of them for projects in Congo, Somalia, South Sudan and Chad. In 2017, Asia accounted for around 26 percent of total project

approvals. This reduction is primarily a consequence of the fact that, in 2016 – in contrast to 2017, we received substantial funding amounting to almost 9.5 million euros from ECHO for the conflict in Syria. This conflict remained the main priority of support in Asia, accounting for 75 percent of total support interventions. For projects in Latin and Central America, 3.3 million euros were made available, of which around 50 percent went towards projects in Colombia. The focus of our support in Europe, was Ukraine with 2.7 million euros.

Project support

As well as personnel and administration costs, this includes ‘upstream’ and ‘downstream’ project activities, for example, project selection, scrutiny of project applications, and capacity building for partner organisations. Expenditure on monitoring, revision as well as impact evaluation and assessment are also included. Expenditure on project support fell by 0.4 million euros or 23 percent from 2016 levels – primarily because of the above-mentioned changes to in-house cost allocation.

Statutory public relations

The purpose of statutory public relations work is to raise public awareness for humanitarian aid, with the aim of spotlighting the plight of the victims of natural disasters and armed conflict. Working priorities in 2017 included our info-stall at the Protestant Kirchentag in Berlin, press and media work as well as the publication of annual reports and other information brochures. Increased expenditure, especially for our presence at the Kirchentag, was partly offset by reduced expenditure on awareness-raising interventions. Personnel costs here have also fallen due to changes to in-house cost allocation.

Advertising and administration

Expenditure on advertising in 2017 rose substantially by 0.1 million euros or 6 percent from the 2016 level. This was due to increased expenditure on donor mailings and other marketing related to the drought in East Africa. Due to the changes to in-house cost allocation, personnel costs fell. Compared to 2016, administration costs in-

creased by around 0.5 million euros or 26.4 percent, partly because of the previously mentioned changes, but also due to additional consultancy expenditure associated with the implementation of tax authority requirements and the ongoing strategic development of the organisation as a whole.

The proportion of expenditure on advertising and administration rose substantially from 5.9 percent in 2016 to 9.1 percent in 2017. This was primarily because the volume of spending decreased as a result of the reduction in the volume of third-party contributions. In absolute terms, expenditure on advertising and administration increased by 15 percent, especially as a consequence of the above-mentioned changes to in-house cost allocation. Despite the reduced overall volume, this is still a very small amount and complies with the criteria of the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI).

For a full list of expenditure and types of expenditure, see page 30.

Where are we based?

WELL-PLACED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

Head office in Berlin

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe co-ordinates its humanitarian aid projects from its head office in Berlin. In 2017, 32.96 staff members were working there in equivalent full-time posts (i.e. 56 individuals), primarily in the programme department and public relations. Remuneration is based on the public service wage agreement (TVÖD) in the pay scales 8 to 15. Gross salaries range between 2,543.69 and 6,480.39 euros (gross monthly income excluding employer's statutory and pension contributions).

Working areas such as human resources and finance administration are the responsibility of specialist departments within the Protestant Agency for Di-

akonie and Development. A proportion of the costs is borne by Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe.

The programme department is divided into responsibilities for the three regions: Africa, Asia/Europe and Latin America/Caribbean. Their staff, led by a management team of three, co-ordinate the project, from application to evaluation and support local partners' planning and implementation. The staff team also includes specialists in security matters, cash assistance and humanitarian aid.

Overseas offices

As a rule, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe implements its projects in co-operation

with experienced local partner organisations and members of the ACT Alliance network. Three regional offices in Africa, Asia and Latin America support the strategic work and partner structures in the regions. They know the society, language and culture as well as the economic, political and social contexts. Where we have no established partners or no ACT member is on hand, we may also set up temporary project offices, for example in the event of a disaster or armed conflict.

A member of staff is based in our Brussels EU office to represent our concerns at EU level and secure EU funding for projects. In 2017, 67 members of staff were working on our behalf outside Berlin.

Who supports us?

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe has a comprehensive network of national and international partners. As part of diverse alliances, we co-ordinate our work, give a voice to people in crisis situations and campaign for humanitarian issues in political and church circles.

International Partners

ACT Alliance (Action by Churches Together), with 144 members, is one of the world's largest church-based networks for humanitarian aid and development. Many of our local partner organisations are also members of ACT. ACT has around 25,000 employees and volunteers working in over 140 countries. Its aim is to co-ordinate the churches' global humanitarian aid and, through compliance with shared quality standards, make it even more effective.

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe also works in close co-operation with the Catholic

humanitarian organisation **Caritas international**, and with **Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe Austria** and **Diakonie in Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Poland**, as well as with **AIDRom in Romania**.

Public funding

In addition to donations and church collections, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe also receives public funding, especially for "forgotten crises". The **German Federal Foreign Office (AA)** subsidises emergency relief projects in response to natural disasters, in conflict regions and for disaster preparedness. We are a member of the Humanitarian Aid Co-ordinating Committee of the AA.

The German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ) supports projects promoting developmental and structural transitional assistance.

A partnership agreement with the

European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department (ECHO) enables us to apply for funding for humanitarian aid projects.

Associations and alliances

VOICE: 82 European NGOs are members of Voluntary Organisations in Co-operation in Emergencies, which engages in dialogue with the EU on issues relating to emergency relief, disaster risk reduction as well as the principles and quality of humanitarian aid.

The **Action Alliance for Disaster Aid (Aktionsbündnis Katastrophenhilfe)** brings together highly experienced humanitarian organisations including Caritas international, the German Red Cross, Unicef Germany and Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe to make joint appeals for support in the event of major disasters and raise awareness for humanitarian crises.

Who bears responsibility for our work?

EXECUTIVE BOARD AND COMMITTEES

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe is the humanitarian aid agency of the Evangelical Church in Germany (EKD). It is part of the Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development (Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e. V.). Reverend Dr h.c. Cornelia Füllkrug-Weitzel is its president. Within the organisation, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe is attached to Bread for the World.

The Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development and its agencies Bread for the World and Diakonie Germany are overseen by an Executive Board (salaried). Its members are appointed for a six-year term by the supervisory board. The current members are Reverend Ulrich Lilie (Chairperson; President of Diakonie Deutschland), Reverend Dr h.c. Cornelia Füllkrug-Weitzel (Deputy Chairperson; President of Bread for the World) Professor Dr Claudia Warning (International and Domestic Programmes;

until 4/2018), Maria Loheide (Social Policy), Dr Jörg Kruttschnitt (Finances, Human Resources, Organisation, Legal Affairs and the Economy). In 2017, the gross salaries of these five board members amounted to 838,047.83 euros (including pension contributions, contributions to insurance for pastors and church officials and provident funds). Three Committees determine the work of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe. Their members work on a voluntary basis, with no remuneration:

The **Diakonie and Development Conference** is the supreme decision-making body of the Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development. Its 112 members make decisions on the agency's fundamental policy issues. It approves the budget and annual accounts as well as discharging the Supervisory Board and the Executive Board. Its Chairperson is Angelika Weigt-Blätgen, Managing Director of the Evangelical Women's Association in Westphalia.

The 20 members of the Supervisory Board oversee the implementation of the decisions of the Diakonie and Development Conference, appoint the Executive Board members and oversee their work. Its Chairperson is Bishop Dr Markus Dröge, Bishop of the Evangelical Church in Berlin-Brandenburg-Silesian Oberlausitz.

The 18 members of the **Development Service and Humanitarian Aid Committee** advise the management of Bread for the World on issues concerning development and funding policy, humanitarian aid, communications, fundraising and education. At the suggestion of the Executive Board, it also approves project funding allocated by Bread for the World. Its Chairperson is Professor Dr Jochen Cornelius-Bundschuh, Regional Bishop of the Evangelical Church in Baden.

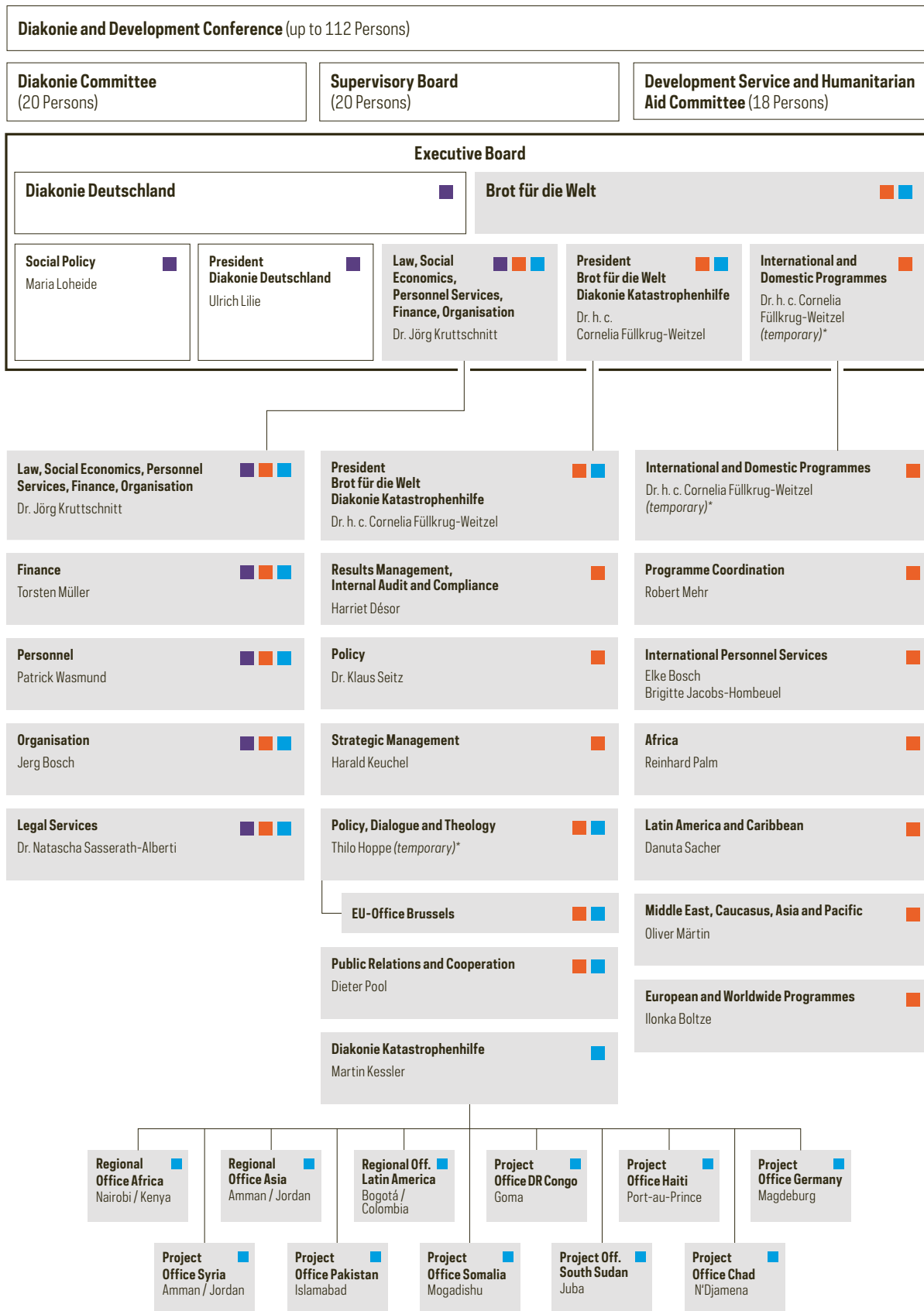
Detailed information about the committees and their members available at: www.diakonie-katastrophenhilfe.de

EXPENDITURE IN 2017 ACCORDING TO TYPE OF EXPENDITURE

Type of expenditure	Project expenditure in euros	Project support in euros	Statutory public relations work in euros	Advertising in euros	Administration in euros	Total in euros
Project expenditure	42,629,800.83					42,629,800.83
Material expenditure	116.01	455.36	181,281.30	1,570,430.22	7,525.86	1,759,808.75
Human resources expenditure	330,263.61	1,000,771.67	500,627.71	443,257.20	1,024,280.05	3,299,200.24
Depreciation	12,246.41	53,623.81	27,076.35	23,585.87	231,704.08	348,236.52
Other operational costs	99,700.21	319,813.11	174,097.84	310,214.11	890,821.05	1,794,646.32
Interest expenditure (office in Berlin)	3,955.31	14,045.54	6,466.15	8,161.31	21,211.39	53,839.70
Taxes					14,474.02	14,474.02
Total in euros	43,076,082.38	1,388,709.49	889,549.35	2,355,648.71	2,190,016.45	49,900,006.38
As a % of total expenditure	86.33	2.78	1.78	4.72	4.39	100.0
Previous year's total in euros	59,749,802.98	1,803,654.03	981,804.2	2,223,048.69	1,732,728.46	66,491,038.43
As a % of total expenditure	89.86	2.71	1.48	3.34	2.61	100.0
Change from previous year in euros	16,673,720.60	414,944.54	92,254.92	-132,600.02	-457,287.99	16,591,032.05
Percentage change from previous year	-3.53	0.07	0.31	1.38	1.78	

Organigram

Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development



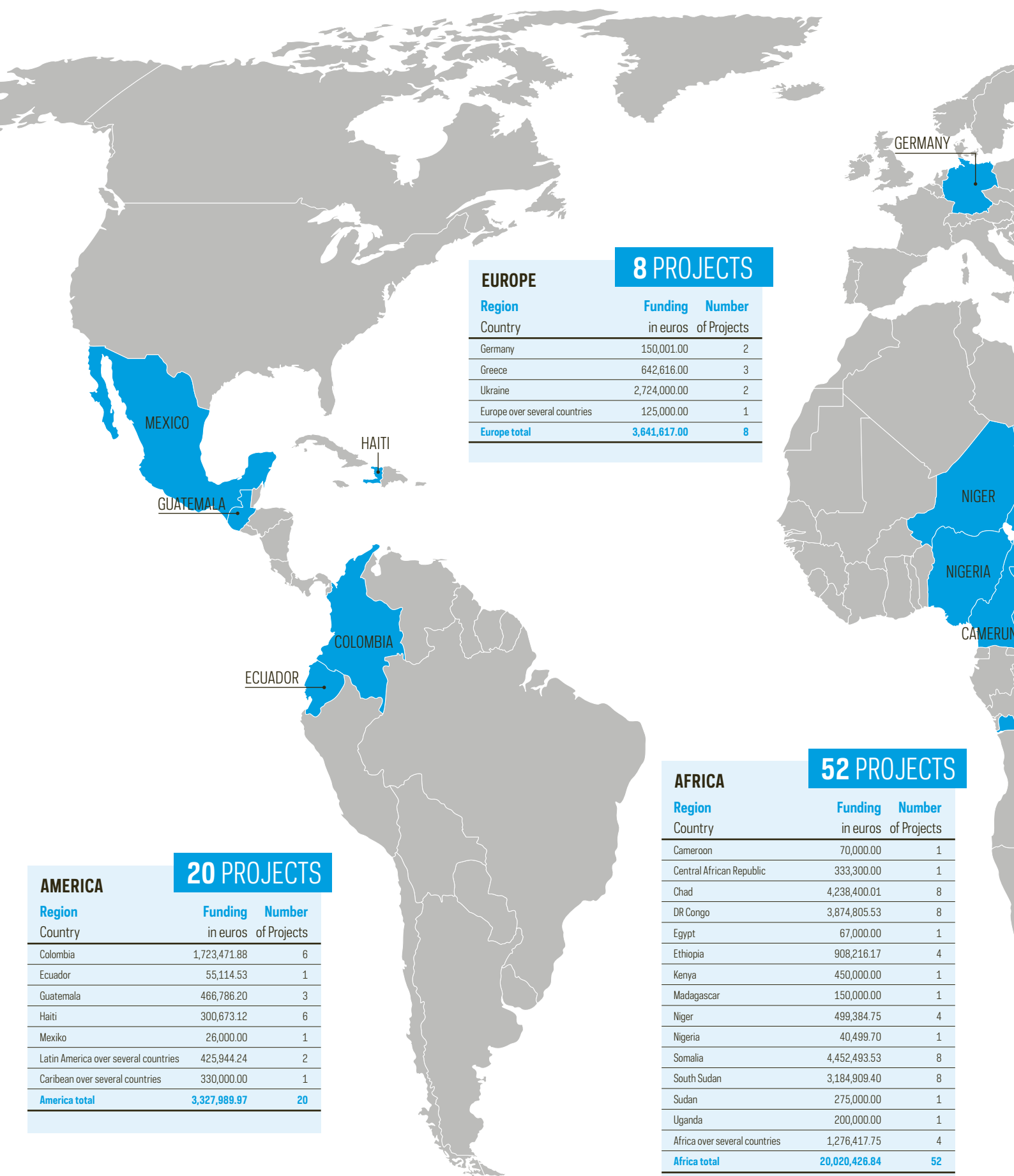
■ Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe
■ Diakonie Deutschland
■ Brot für die Welt

* until 30th of April 2018:
Prof Claudia Warning

** until 28th February 2018:
Dr Thorsten Göbel

June 2018

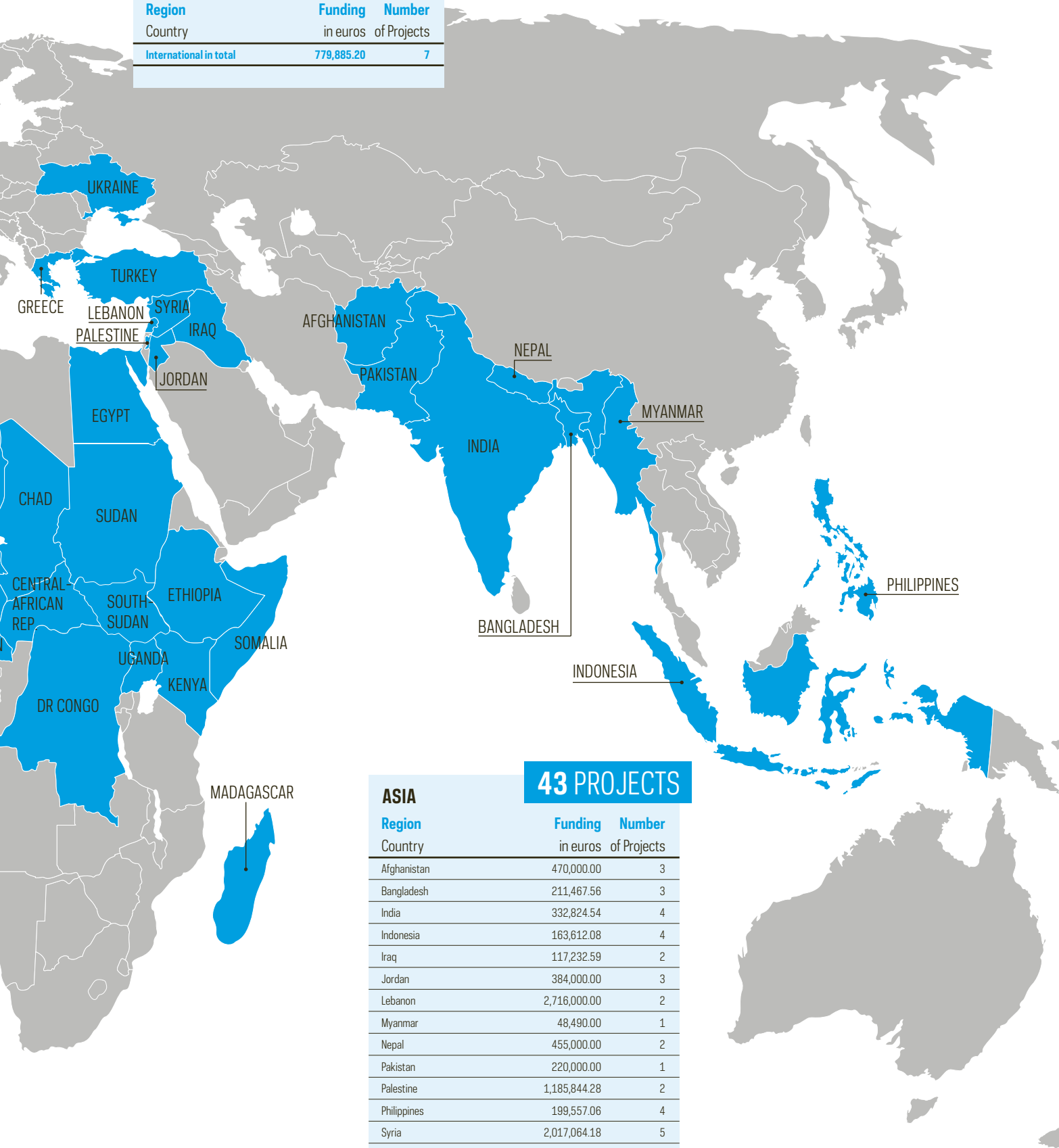
Humanitarian aid in figures



INTERNATIONAL

7 PROJECTS

Region	Funding	Number
Country	in euros	of Projects
International in total	779,885.20	7



ASIA

43 PROJECTS

Region	Funding	Number
Country	in euros	of Projects
Afghanistan	470,000.00	3
Bangladesh	211,467.56	3
India	332,824.54	4
Indonesia	163,612.08	4
Iraq	117,232.59	2
Jordan	384,000.00	3
Lebanon	2,716,000.00	2
Myanmar	48,490.00	1
Nepal	455,000.00	2
Pakistan	220,000.00	1
Palestine	1,185,844.28	2
Philippines	199,557.06	4
Syria	2,017,064.18	5
Turkey	1,405,272.78	5
Asia over several countries	200,197.23	2
Asia total	10,126,562.30	43

How do we help?

GLOBALLY ACTIVE ++ Our support and principles

For over 60 years, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe has been providing aid, where it is most needed. We support people, who have become victims of natural disasters, war and forced displacement and who are unable to deal with their predicament without external assistance. We provide this assistance irrespective of religion, skin colour or nationality, and do so in a quick, non-bureaucratic, reliable, effective and transparent manner.

Earthquakes, storms, drought, floods, wars and refugee camps – since 1954, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe is to be found, where it is needed, especially in supporting people caught up in the “forgotten crises” that receive little media or public attention.

Respecting human dignity is our overriding principle.

Our partners are experienced, local organisations, firmly rooted in their own society. They know the language and culture and are familiar with the economic, political and social contexts. This means that, even in places that are difficult to access, we already have a presence on the ground, when help is urgently needed – and we stay as long as we are needed.

Our humanitarian aid is targeted exclusively to meet the needs of the people affected. Respecting human dignity is our overriding principle. In conflict regions, we maintain strict neutrality. Our support is provided in a way that promotes reconciliation. Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe is the humanitarian aid agency of the Protestant Churches in Germany. Together with Bread for the World, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe is part of the Prot-

estant Agency for Diakonie and Development. This co-operation guarantees the transition from helping those in acute need to subsequent long-term support: Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe provides immediate emergency relief, while Bread for the World provides for sustainable development.

We provide people caught up in crisis situations with what they need: food, clean drinking water, blankets, tents, clothing, building material and medicine. We usually purchase relief items locally, thus saving time and transport costs and boosting the local economy. As well as emergency relief, we are involved in reconstruction and disaster risk reduction. Our humanitarian engagement is rooted in the Christian commandment to love one’s neighbour as oneself, and adheres to the international principles of humanitarian aid.

The **guiding principles** of our work are set out in the “Common Statement by Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and Caritas International” and in the “Code of Conduct of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief”.



▲ Following the earthquake in Nepal in 2015, the drinking water supply was restored through storage tanks, pipelines and wells.

Our principles:

1. The humanitarian mandate has priority.
2. Humanitarian assistance is provided irrespective of the race, religious affiliation or nationality of the recipient and with no exclusion whatsoever.
3. Humanitarian assistance is not used to promote any specific political or religious standpoint.
4. We ensure that we are not instrumentalised for the foreign policy of governments.
5. We respect culture and customs.
6. We attempt to build disaster response on local capacities.
7. We ensure the participation of programme beneficiaries in the implementation of support measures.
8. Our emergency relief seeks to reduce future disaster vulnerability and fulfil basic needs.
9. We are accountable both to the beneficiaries of our assistance and to the providers of our relief resources.

In our information, public relations and advertising activities, we depict disaster victims as partners with human dignity and not as objects of pity.

How effective is our support?

QUALITY ASSURANCE AND IMPACT EVALUATION

How good and how effective is our support? Does it reach, where it is needed most? And does it include what is needed most? Questions asked by Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe with respect to each humanitarian project.

Quality within humanitarian aid is decisive – the lives and survival of people are ultimately at stake. Together with our local partner organisations and the members of the worldwide church humanitarian aid network, ACT Alliance, we comply with internationally accepted standards guaranteeing the quality of humanitarian aid and relief supplies. This safeguard involves multi-phase project management alongside detailed planning, support and evaluation of all relief measures.

Needs assessment and project planning

Needs assessment reported by local partners, followed by the planning and financing of support measures in Berlin.

Project approval and co-operation agreement

Support measures, with specific stipulations, are approved. A co-operation agreement is drawn up with the project partner organisation, specifying rights, duties and quality standards.

Project implementation and support

Regular progress reports submitted by partners. Scrutiny, appraisal, adjustments carried out by project officers in Berlin.

Evaluation and development

A final report analyses project implementation and outcomes. External experts regularly examine and evaluate projects, to help us develop them further, learn from mistakes, and apply effective innovations elsewhere.

Project monitoring

At all stages of the project cycle, pro-

ject managers and the Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe controlling department regularly monitor the finance reports to ensure proper use of project funds and adherence to budget provisions.

External audits

Independent external auditors assess projects, regional and project offices and partner organisations. As part of the annual audit, external German auditors conduct spot-checks on projects in accordance with specific criteria.

Public donors, such as the German Federal Foreign Office, the Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ) or the European Union, inspect the projects they (co-)finance. Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe also voluntarily undergoes an annual assessment by the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI).

Preventing and addressing corruption

In many countries, in which Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe operates, corruption, fraud and embezzlement are widespread. There are many reasons for this: a failing state, low wages – also among customs officials, the police and judiciary, or legal loopholes providing scope for bribery and corruption. To curtail the risk of corruption, embezzlement or misconduct, we use all available instruments and comply with the following codes of conduct (alongside “Our principles” outlined on page 34):

- the Diaconic Corporate Governance Code (DGK) since 2005: this transfers the German corporate governance system to the diaconal context and contains standards and recommendations for good, responsible corporate governance;
- the mandatory guidelines for the prevention of corruption: these have been in place for all employees since

2007 (Code of Ethics and Anti-Corruption Guidelines);

- the standards for project management and directives for the procurement and awarding of contracts contain detailed regulations intended to prevent corruption at the earliest stages;
- the code of conduct of the global church humanitarian aid network, ACT Alliance: compliance is a key component of the employment contract for our employees posted abroad;
- the SCHR code of conduct; the ACT code of conduct for the prevention of misconduct in humanitarian aid, including corruption, fraud, exploitation and abuse (also sexual) and to ensure child safeguarding; the SPHERE Humanitarian Charter
- with the “Voluntary Commitment for More Transparency and Good Governance” adopted in 2008, we committed ourselves to complying with specific principles and rules to ensure openness and transparency across all operational levels.
- The EWDE Child Protection Strategy and Conduct Guidelines.

Where irregularities occur and there is a suspicion of corruption, we respond immediately and consistently, with measures ranging from investigating suspicious cases, extraordinary audits, pay freezes or recovery of funds, as far as the termination of contracts.

Details of the standards and principles of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe’s support are available at: www.diakonie-katastrophenhilfe.de

How do we prevent risk?

CONTROLLING AND RISK MANAGEMENT

Anyone working in the field of humanitarian aid is working in a high-risk context. This includes financial risks as well as security issues. Such risks are unavoidable in most of our project countries. All the more reason, then, for Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe to make this a priority issue.

Financial risks are part and parcel of humanitarian aid projects. Therefore, we support our project partners and local staff through capacity building and training. The courses deal not only with general issues relating to finance management and the financial monitoring of projects. Project partners and personnel also attend courses dealing with the guidelines of national and international donors.

In our regional office in Africa (Nairobi, Kenya), for example, a regional controller evaluates project partners and self-financed projects. The reports are analysed at our head office in Ber-

lin and any necessary measures discussed with the offices concerned.

Head office staff also regularly visit the regional offices, where they examine all aspects of their work in accordance with standardised auditing criteria. These range from human resources and bookkeeping to registration papers and their validity. Where risks do arise, these are noted in detail in a risk report submitted to the head of department (page 37).

In response to security risks, particularly in conflict regions, we provide training for staff working in, or visiting, high-risk countries. Before each working visit, we meticulously examine the up-to-date security situation and specify rules of conduct or mandatory reporting procedures. In addition, HSS plans (Health, Safety and Security) are now available in almost all offices.

From 2017, minimum requirements apply to all training courses, for example,

in first aid on active duty, security training and the proper use of field communication technology. Our head office in Berlin also has its own emergency plans.

Financial and security risks cannot be entirely ruled out, but, through appropriate measures and preparations, they can be prevented or their impacts reduced. We are working constantly to improve our internal monitoring systems and security measures.

How do we work together?

THE CHARTER4CHANGE INITIATIVE

As local as possible – that is the aim of the Charter4Change Initiative, to which 33 humanitarian aid organisations from the Global North have now signed up. Their aim is to empower local actors and eliminate the obstacles that thwart equal participation in the humanitarian system. The signatories have committed themselves to ensuring that local civil society partners acquire better, direct access to available resources – not only as part of project implementation but for the capacity building of their own institutions.

For Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, its commitment to the Charter was, and is, a logical consequence of its understanding of partnership. Nevertheless, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe continues to seek improvement. Alongside a renewed percentage growth in funding allocated directly to local partners from 57 percent in 2016 to 62 percent in 2017 (the Charter4Change goal is 20 percent) Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe's dialogue with the German Federal Foreign Ministry was the reason why the German Government also makes

independent capacity building possible within its humanitarian aid.

“Local actors are the first to arrive on scene. If they can assume the responsibility of delivering effective emergency relief, this can save lives and boost confidence in what they are doing,” says Christian Huber, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe advisor for humanitarian affairs.

How do we report?

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Where and how does Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe provide support? How are the suffering people coping in crisis regions? Information on these issues and more is provided regularly to our donors, to churches and parishes, journalists and a broader public audience.

The material is created and published in our Berlin headquarters, home of the department for public relations, fundraising and advertising. The staff liaise regularly with church and political institutions in Germany, and with national and international networks. Alongside statutory public relations, we also advertise our work: send out mailings, place advertising (print and online), attend public events or nurture relations with major donors and companies. We also commission external providers including printers and graphic designers for specific production phases. These are subject to strict cost and competitive tendering procedures in accordance with our ethical and economic terms of reference. Service providers, which we regularly use for large-scale contracts include AZ Direkt, for the production of mailings, and Ströer Medien, for billboard advertising.

Campaigning

Each summer, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and Caritas international run a joint campaign under the motto, “The biggest disaster is forgetting”, to put the

spotlight on forgotten emergencies: disasters that are either largely or completely ignored by the media and wider public. In 2017, our focus was on the famine in East Africa, where, a continuing drought and violent conflicts have led to 20 million people experiencing hunger in Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia and South Sudan.

During Passion Week, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe also produced posters and texts for use in church worship. The call went out to parishes and individuals to support people, who are suffering as a result of natural disasters and violent conflict, with their thoughts and prayers and help fund humanitarian aid for people in need.

Online

Information on Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe projects is available at www.diakoniekatastrophenhilfe.de – sometimes as short and precise texts in our project databank, sometimes in the

ing Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/diakoniekh](https://twitter.com/diakoniekh) and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/diakonie.katastrophenhilfe. A newsletter can also be ordered from www.diakoniekatastrophenhilfe.de/newsletter

Project information

Up-to-date, informative and concise project information is available for selected projects. Flyers, which can be downloaded from the online shop and printed out, can be laid out in churches or at public events.

Educational kits



What do people caught up in a disaster need? And what do they receive from aid organisations like us? To provide a better insight into emergency relief, we have created a package of educational material, containing real aid items and a brochure with lots of play-based modules, for use in schools or confirmation classes. The focus is on displacement. Available from our online shop: <https://shop.diakonie-katastrophenhilfe.de>



form of interesting project reports. All publications, exhibitions, educational material, calendars and the German-language donor magazine “Der ferne Nächste” (“the distant neighbour”) can either be ordered or downloaded in the online shop. Online donations can also be made.

Information is also available by follow-

What are our plans?

OUTLOOK: ISSUES AND CHALLENGES

Our annual report underlines just how much was achieved in 2017, thanks to your generous support. We look ahead to the coming year with concern: disasters will again affect the lives and livelihoods of many people in 2018. Man-made crises abound: the wars in Syria, Yemen or South Sudan are still not over; smouldering political crises in Colombia, Somalia or Congo can quickly boil over. And, of course, natural disasters can hit unexpectedly. Syria will remain a priority in 2018. It seems unlikely that political negotiations will bring an effective end to fighting. The conflict is symptomatic for the crisis in international conciliation efforts: international law is being eroded, alliances are continually changing. Peace is only possible, when local and global actors talk to each other. Without this and effective international financial support, people have no prospect of returning home.

In 2018, we are looking to extend our activities in partnership with local actors. Reinforcing local organisations is important not only in Syria. Because of our working dialogue with donors, we will improve the financing and implementation of specially adapted advanced training programmes and partnerships.

Maintaining essential humanitarian freedom will be a challenge – partly because of the lack of security and very difficult access, but also due to an absence of political solutions, which, however, constitute the framework for support following emergency relief. Reconstruction in Syria is currently unthinkable – yet, the people need more than just blankets and jerry cans. They need somewhere to live in dignity, an infrastructure, running water, and a place to receive medical care. We believe that through our working co-operation with our partners hitherto we

have the opportunity to work directly with, and through, those affected. Alongside Syria, the flight of the Rohingya from Myanmar in 2017 or of the people from South Sudan starkly highlighted the immensity of dealing with people, who have been forced to flee their homes. Given that 68.5 million people are currently displaced, it is obvious that our work in 2018 will be largely dedicated to these people and the communities, in which they have found refuge. In response we will build up and extend our programmes in this area. Our humanitarian aid seeks, through providing support and protection, to restore people's dignity. The fact that humanitarian aid is being increasingly linked with policies to stop refugees, means that real needs are receiving less attention. This dynamic will spur us on to remind political decision makers repeatedly of the importance of needs-oriented, unpolitical humanitarian aid.

The enormous disaster in Yemen stands in the shadow of Syria. Because aid is blocked and remains underfunded, providing support here is almost impossible. Nevertheless, in co-operation with local partners in 2018, we want to find ways of ensuring that our aid does reach the people, who urgently need it.

What we became aware of again in 2017, partly as a result of the drought in East Africa, but also of the ostensible peace agreement in Colombia, is the significance of media attention – this is what prompts donations and state funding. Our aim is to repeatedly call on state donors and you – our generous individual donors – to act at an early stage and with foresight. This is the only way to ensure that our projects are well-planned, implemented on time and judiciously designed.

Many conflicts, as in DR Congo, for ex-

ample, are an ever-changing concoction of conflict, instability and would-be-normality. In the case of longstanding crises, well-co-ordinated emergency relief and the (re)construction of lives and livelihoods are vital. One key element is disaster risk reduction, also in countries where natural disasters are recurrent. Our goal is to improve the networking of local people, communities and organisations with state bodies. In discussions with our sister organisation, Bread for the World, we see the positive potential of programmes to secure survival in crises, and promote sustainability and peaceful co-existence.

We have major challenges ahead of us in 2018. We hope that we can count on your support in the coming year – for you are the guarantor enabling us to put Christian charity into action, effectively, quickly, with foresight and in partnership. This also helps us and partners such as ACT Alliance, to raise our voices, when politicians should take the action required to protect people and create better framework conditions for humanitarian aid. Together with all the people affected in crisis situations, and with our partners, once again, we thank you, our private as well as our national and international donors.

Martin Keßler
Head of Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe



Yezidi refugee children in a camp for IDPs (internally displaced people) in Baadre.
The children are returning from the temporary school to their refugee accommodation.



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