



HILFSWERK

Hilfswerk
International
**ANNUAL
REPORT**
2021



HILFSWERK INTERNATIONAL

“ *Hilfswerk International has been providing sustainable help for self-help since 1978. Our projects are need- and solution-oriented and, thanks to the passion of our employees in Austria and abroad, lead to tangible improvements for people worldwide. The insights on the following pages confirm that Hilfswerk International’s activities bear fruit in the short and long term.* ”

Christian Domany
President Hilfswerk International



HAND IN HAND - WORLDWIDE

Hilfswerk International is an Austrian organization for development cooperation and disaster relief. We help people in war and crisis regions and are particularly committed to helping children in need. Our projects are diverse. They range from fighting hunger through agricultural support to promoting small businesses and helping children with disabilities. What always remains the same, however, are our principles:



RESPECT

We respect the people, their dignity, culture, history, and traditions. Our projects are implemented jointly and at eye level with the local population from development to implementation.



CHILDREN AT THE CENTER

Children are extremely vulnerable and deserve special protection. That is why they have a high priority in all our activities. We invest in the education of children and young people so that they can help to shape a good life for everyone in the future. After all, promoting children is promoting the future.



EMPOWERMENT

We empower people worldwide so that they will soon no longer be dependent on outside help. We recognize existing potential and together with the population we create conditions that this potential can be developed. By helping people to help themselves, our projects leave their mark - and have an impact for generations.



STRENGTHENING WOMEN

Poverty is still female. Hilfswerk International is therefore particularly committed to the empowerment of women and gender justice. This includes equal participation of women and men in political and public life, prevention of violence, and ensuring reproductive health.



Together for a better world

With the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the 193 UN states agreed on a strategy for eliminating poverty worldwide in 2015. With its projects, Hilfswerk International contributes to achieving these goals and making a good life possible for all.



Dear Reader!

The year 2021 required a lot of strength. Never-ending conflict hotspots, global political instability, and extreme climatic conditions require(d) our commitment against poverty, hunger and injustice daily. It is all the more gratifying to see the fruits of our work in all our project regions.

In many of our partner countries, such as in Mozambique, running water as we have, is not something that can be taken for granted. Hilfswerk International installs water systems and trains the population on hygiene issues. In Colombia, we are working alongside indigenous peoples to protect the Amazon rainforest. In Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Western Balkans, we are playing a key role in protecting refugees, and in the South Caucasus we are developing holistic models to combat poverty.

Meanwhile, Lebanon is in the midst of the biggest crisis in decades, which

has driven more than 80% (!) of the people into poverty since the explosion in the port of Beirut. And it is precisely in these challenging times that we manage to break new ground in development cooperation with **SABUN** in Lebanon, of all places (page 5).

As you can see, our activities were also diverse in 2021. But one common thread runs through it all: We stand by people in need. **None of this would be possible without your help.** Thanks to your help, we save lives, help children, and accompany entire regions into a self-determined, stable future.

For that, I thank you from the bottom of my heart. **And we still have a lot to do!** Because we will not give up as long as children are starving and our planet is being destroyed.

I would be delighted if you continued to stand by our side in the years to come!

In this annual report, I would like to show you what we were able to achieve in 2021. We will give you an insight into the diversity of our aid measures and the resulting development opportunities for children and adults - and entire regions.

Best regards,

Stefan Fritz
Managing Director
Hilfswerk International



SABUN - "THE GOOD SOAP"

This is Midia. Midia fled the war in Syria with her husband and three children 11 years ago. Back then, they found protection in Lebanon. But life is not always easy here either.

There is hardly any work for Syrian refugees, and the economic situation in Lebanon is tighter than ever. The housing situation of Midia and her family is precarious: Her three sons are now 16, 14 and eleven years old. The five headed family lives together in one single room which has about 15 m². On these 15 m² they sleep, study, eat, play and work. The worst thing about it is that the room has no window, and therefore no daylight.

HELP AT EYE LEVEL

More than 1.5 million Syrians have fled the civil war to neighboring Lebanon. Here, refugees struggle daily to survive and often live in extreme poverty.

SABUN helps women in this situation: With this traditional craft and the sale of the soap, the Syrian (and Lebanese) soap makers receive a fair income. This way they can provide for themselves and their families.

HOPE THROUGH SOAP

Midia enjoys making handmade soap. *"For me, it feels less like work and more like relaxation. I love mixing the Lebanese olive oil with the lye. I try to make every single soap perfect."*



Good for Midia: Midia is one of five soap makers in Lebanon who are the heart of the SABUN project. Soap making gives them an income, a life of dignity and self-determination, and above all, hope for a better future.



Good for the environment: All ingredients for "the good soap" are sourced regionally to keep transport distances as short as possible. The cold manufacturing process requires hardly any energy.



Good for you: The soap is made in traditional handwork and consists only of natural ingredients, completely without chemicals and gently cares even for sensitive skin.



SABUN "the good soap" was launched by Hilfswerk International and focuses on working at eye level with Syrian and Lebanese women. All proceeds in turn go back into the soap project.

The SABUN soap is made by soap makers in traditional handwork and consists of only three ingredients: Olive oil, lye and water. At home, the soap makers mix the oil with lye and water and fill the soaps into molds.

Soap production has a long tradition in Lebanon and Syria. For centuries, soap has been made here by hand and with the oil from local olives.

The SABUN soap follows this tradition, using local raw materials, old crafts, and a proven recipe.

“ The soap gives me a life of self-determination. ”

Midia, soap maker

ORDER SOAP NOW AND
SUPPORT WOMEN:

www.dieguteseife.at
[instagram.com/sabun-die-gute-seife](https://www.instagram.com/sabun-die-gute-seife)

HOPE FOR LEBANON

Lebanon did not come to rest in 2021. The worst economic and financial crisis in decades plunged the population into bitter despair. Inflation continues to rise rapidly, and the middle class virtually no longer exists. Countless Lebanese families live in poverty. In addition, there are around 2 million Syrian and Palestinian refugees, who even before this crisis were struggling to survive on a daily basis.

We at Hilfswerk International have been active in Lebanon since 2006, supporting Lebanese and Syrian families through humanitarian aid and long-term development cooperation.

In the past year alone, we were able to reach **more than 45,000 people in Lebanon** with our emergency relief and development projects. Hilfswerk International's humanitarian activities focus on children and women in need in the areas of

- » health
- » education, and
- » income generation.

HUMAN RIGHT TO HEALTH

In the unofficial refugee camp in the Bekaa Valley on the Syrian/Lebanese border, hundreds of thousands of Syrian refugee families have been living in temporary shelters for over 10 years in some cases. Access to health services is de facto non-existent for the refugees. For babies, children and (pregnant) women, this is enormously dangerous. Therefore, Hilfswerk International ensures access to free medical and psychosocial care in the refugee camp for women and children. This includes raising awareness on topics such as family planning, reproductive health, and nutrition during pregnancy.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING FOR WOMEN

Literacy courses and sewing classes give women in the Bekaa Valley the chance to shape their lives after fleeing. In addition, the weekly courses serve as an opportunity to exchange ideas, to help each other and to escape together from the sometimes very dreary everyday life.

EMERGENCY AID AT EYE LEVEL IN THE CRISIS

Increasing unemployment leads to a lack of hope and perspective for many - especially young - people in Lebanon. In the Hilfswerk International emergency aid project, we create jobs with meaning: Unemployed people in the health and social care sector support families in crisis and receive an adequate income in return. This enables people to be self-determined and at the same time ensures the care of socially vulnerable, sick, and acutely needy families in the time of crisis. With this approach, we create temporary employment opportunities for vulnerable professionals who, in return, provide assistance to other families.

JUDITH AND SARI: A PERFECT MATCH!

Judith is one of the professionals we were able to support last year. She has a university degree in psychology and is unable to find work due to the economic crisis in Lebanon. She uses her skills as a volunteer, but without a salary it is becoming increasingly difficult for her to afford everyday necessities like food and housing. Hilfswerk International hired Judith.

Judith's help was urgently needed by Sari and her family. Sari is nine years old and lives in Beirut. Her parents cannot adequately care for her because she has three other siblings. Sari's mother and father are on the road from early in the morning until late at night to earn some money as day laborers. At school, Sari is behaving more and more conspicuously, and the teachers are worried. Judith began to visit Sari regularly.

"I started working with the whole family. Cooking together, going for walks, game nights."

This has helped Sari and her family a lot. We also do homework together and slowly even Sari's school grades are getting better."



“ Finally, I have an income! My work as a psychologist helps others, but also myself. ”

Judith from Beirut

CREATING PERSPECTIVES

Poverty and unemployment are major problems in Tunisia. The situation is particularly difficult in the southern parts of the country, where one in four people of working age is unemployed. The unemployment rate for young people and young adults is as high as 40%. Unemployment comes with a burdening lack of perspective for entire families, from which children suffer in particular.

Hilfswerk International has been active in Tunisia since 2012. In 2021, our project regions were primarily in Tataouine, Medenine and Kebili in the south of the country, as well as in Ettadhamen near Tunis in the north. Our focal points were and are

- » the creation of jobs for young people, and
- » conflict prevention through sports for disadvantaged children.

COHESION THROUGH SPORT

Ettadhamen is one of the regions in Tunisia where everyday life is often not easy. It is characterized by conflict, poverty, and frustration. Children and young people are confronted with a lack of prospects from which they can hardly escape. In our sports project, we give these children the opportunity to simply be children: In pedagogically guided sports training sessions in mixed groups, stress and frustration are reduced, friendships are forged, and moments of success are experienced.

Sport makes a valuable contribution to peaceful coexistence and the health of children. It teaches them how to deal with stress and negative emotions. Cultural and social differences become unimportant when they play together. They learn to value and respect each other, to integrate into group structures and to work together to achieve a goal - the joint training sessions are social inclusion in action.



ENTREPRENEURSHIP AS AN OPPORTUNITY

Well educated, but without a job. This is everyday life for young people in Tunisia. There are many reasons for this. One of them is that the Tunisian economy does not create enough jobs for the rapidly growing number of young people who enter the labor market every year. In addition, the education does not meet the requirements of the labor market.

"I studied at the university. I then worked in a call center for several years, but my salary was barely enough to survive."

explains Souad from Tataouine. Souad lacked neither a good education nor a vision. Because even as a child, the now 27-year-old wanted to run a tailor shop for traditional and modern clothing. Souad is one of the more than 80 people who then took part in the Hilfswerk International project for the promotion of young entrepreneurs.

"Everything I know about entrepreneurship I learned from Hilfswerk."

In the group and individual trainings, Souad was trained in entrepreneurship, start-up, marketing, and innovation techniques.

"Today I am living my dream. I have my own clothing factory and can provide for myself and my family. I was even able to hire two employees, who make their own living with their salaries and are now able to shape their lives independently."

"The soccer training is the best part of my week. The coach and the kids are very nice, and we have a lot of fun. The best thing is when I score a goal, and everyone is happy with me."

Fadia from Tunisia



HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT

For more than 20 years, Hilfswerk International has been committed to helping people in Mozambique, which ranks ninth last worldwide in the Human Development Index.

Mother-child health, food security and environmental protection have been our focus areas ever since.

Our motivated local team knows the challenges of the country in southern Africa inside out. Together with our colleagues, with schools, communities, and local authorities, we have designed and implemented sustainable development models over the past decades.

FOOD SECURITY AND HEALTH IN NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE

The Cabo Delgado region has extremely high food insecurity. The forecasts for the coming years are bleak. With its emergency aid project, Hilfswerk International was able to achieve that

- » the food security of **46,000 women and children** is increased through the distribution of food parcels.
- » **112,000 people** in the region now have reliable access to clean water and sanitation, as well as improved hygiene and health practices.
- » **3,145 IDPs** have income-generating opportunities through agricultural training and the promotion of women's business initiatives.

In southern Mozambique, in the province of Sofala, we were also able to achieve successes: **1,220 people** in the particularly remote Panja region now have access to running water. Hilfswerk International has been able to build water supply systems, repair damaged water points, and install latrines and hand-washing facilities. This means water for the local population, for local health posts, and for schools.



MOTHER-CHILD HEALTH

Our long experience of how to effectively strengthen mother-child health in Mozambique is now being consolidated in a medical training course. We have developed and implemented a comprehensive teaching model. The main contents are

- » Early care of newborns
- » Integrated management of pregnancy and birth
- » HIV/AIDS treatment and prevention
- » Family planning
- » Appropriate nutrition for breastfeeding and pregnant women, babies, and children

This allows us to reach a total of about **106,500 people, 4 nursing schools and 2 universities.**

HAND IN HAND: DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Farmers in Sofala are clearly feeling the effects of climate change. In the interior of the country, drought on the one hand and flooding on the other are causing problems for farming families. This threatens the region's food security. Hilfswerk International supports farming families in the cultivation and marketing of products such as moringa, sesame, onions and peanuts. We help to introduce new technologies in agriculture and reforest river basins and **mangrove forests**. This improves the food situation and generates income. This also enables families to pay their children's school fees. **Our environmental activities in Mozambique directly reached more than 239,000 people in 2021.**



“ Since we have water thanks to Hilfswerk, I have not been sick. Water means life, health, and progress. ”

Helena from Panja, Mozambique

LIFE WITHOUT HUNGER

Periods of droughts in Zimbabwe are getting longer, extreme weather conditions are becoming more frequent. The people of Zimbabwe are clearly feeling the effects of climate change. In 2021, too, the rains all but failed to materialize. The consequences are major crop losses for farming families - and thus also hunger.

This is because almost 70% of Zimbabwe's population lives on the land and depends on its crops.

TOGETHER AGAINST HUNGER

We at Hilfswerk International work closely with smallholder farmers in the project areas of Matobo, Lupane and Insiza to fight hunger and create new income opportunities. Our sustainable development project focuses on specific crops: those that can survive with very little water and under extreme conditions. These include amaranth, quinoa, mongongo or castor bean. With these plants we help the country step by step into a self-determined future. **A future without hunger.**

- » We train smallholder farmers in the cultivation, refinement, and marketing of drought-resistant crops (mongongo, amaranth, castor, quinoa).
- » We distribute seeds, mixed fertilizers, and tarpaulins for hygienic processing.
- » "Agriculture Ambassadors" receive training on climate-friendly agriculture. They then pass on what they have learned to other farming families.
- » In workshops, families learn how to process the nutritious plants. The farmers exchange recipes and experience.

THE HILFSWERK METHOD AGAINST HUNGER



Strengthening the resilience of families in times of drought



Promoting more diversified agricultural production



Marketing opportunities for smallholder families



WE HELP IN ZIMBABWE

On the one hand, in the **short term**, through emergency aid in times of extreme drought. The distribution of nutritious Mahewu porridge and rice with peanut butter to school children ensures the immediate survival of children in famine.

On the other hand, in the **long term**, through training in the processing and marketing of drought-resistant crops to improve overall food security in Zimbabwe.

2021 AT A GLANCE

- » Training **1,576 smallholder farmers** to grow quinoa
- » Distribution of **285 kg of amaranth seeds** and **150 kg quinoa seeds**
- » **18 Trainings** in harvesting and processing of amaranth and quinoa
- » Cooking workshops for nutritious dishes from native plants for **111 participants**.
- » 2 cooking and baking trainings for **33 young people**



“ My children will soon no longer have to go hungry. That is the most beautiful feeling a mother can have. ”

Shamiso from Zimbabwe

LEBANON



SYRIA



TUNISIA



MOZAMBIQUE



ZIMBABWE



HAITI



MOLDOVA



SOUTH CAUCASUS



WESTERN BALKANS



UKRAINE



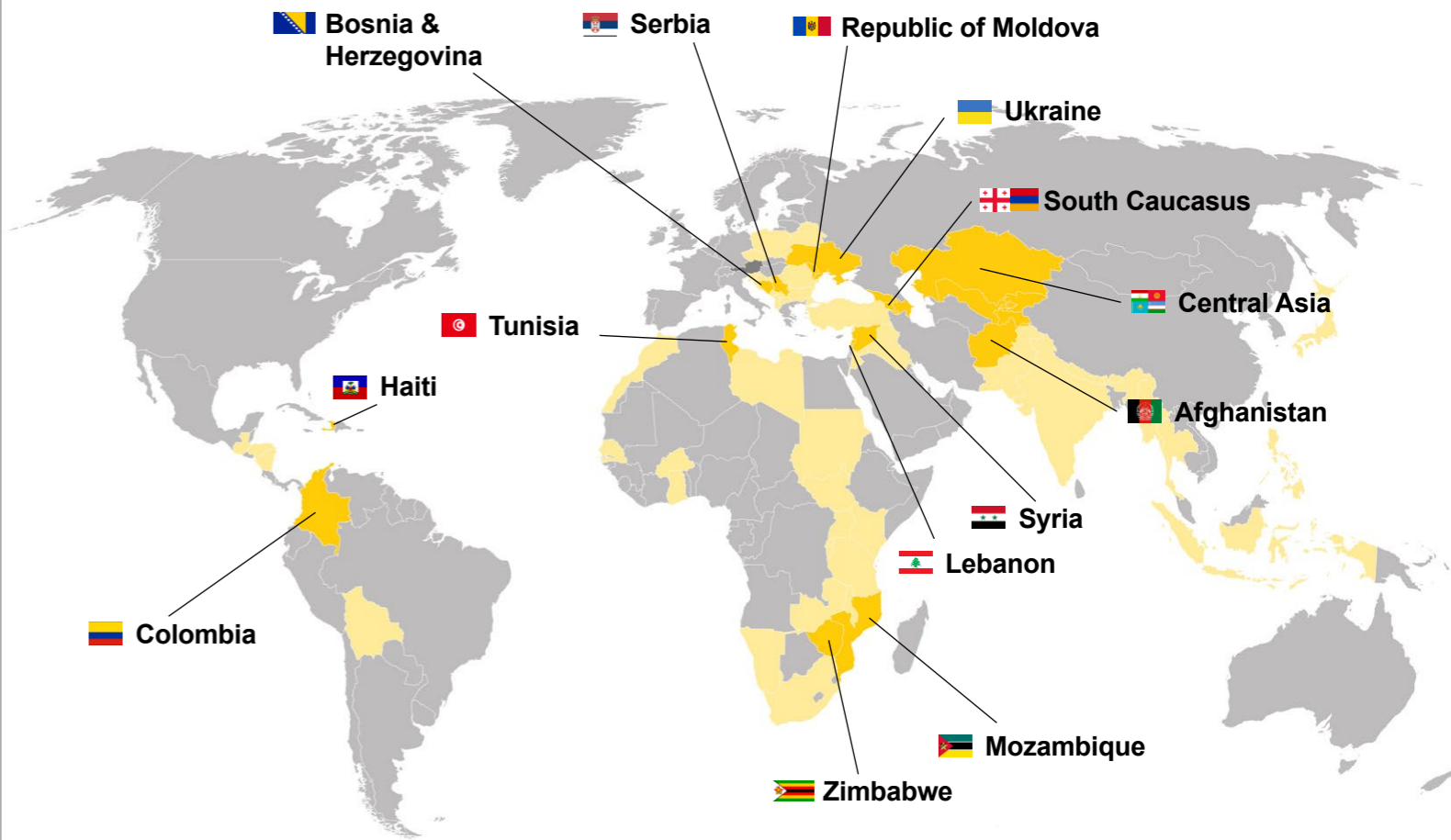
CENTRAL ASIA



AFGHANISTAN



COLOMBIA



The project countries shown in yellow correspond to a snapshot in 2021. The world map also shows all the countries in which we have been active to date in light yellow.

UNSERE SCHWERPUNKTE

- Disaster relief
- Social & Legal
- Reconstruction & Housing creation
- Education
- Agricultural development & Food security
- Economic development
- Health & Medical care
- Electricity & Water supply



OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES

Gabriela is eight years old and cannot move. She was born with severe motoric disorders. She lives with her mother in a small apartment near Hîncești in the **Republic of Moldova**. Gabriela is a very smart girl, however, she cannot attend public school because of her disability. She is dependent on care around the clock.

Therefore, her mother Andreea could not work since her birth. Moldova does not have a social welfare system like the one in Austria e.g. When Gabriela got a place at the Hilfswerk Children's Center in Hîncești, the sun finally shone again for the two of them. Here, the girl is not only lovingly cared for, but she also receives all the necessary therapies. Andreea knows she is in the best of hands. She can now go back to work during the day and pay for the necessary medication.

Hilfswerk International has been helping children with disabilities like Gabriela for 20 years in the two children's homes in Hîncești and Pripiceni. There, children with severe and multiple disabilities are cared for similar to a school or kindergarten. In addition to learning, handicrafts and exercise, the daily schedule also includes various forms of therapy that are adapted to the children's individual needs.



AMBASSADOR FOR CHILDREN IN NEED

Our sincere thanks to our ambassador for Children in Need, **Jeannine Schiller**. Thank you for your tireless commitment to the children's centers for children with disabilities in Moldova. Your passionate dedication gives the children a life in dignity.

- » **2 centers:**
Soul Drops in Pripiceni and Blue Bird in Hîncești
- » **53 children** visit the centers daily
- » **120 children** and their parents come for special therapies and consultations



YOUTH SHAPES THE FUTURE

Many teenagers and young adults in the Republic of Moldova do not use their right to vote. The ongoing political and economic instability contributes to the fact that more and more young people distrust politics and do not participate in elections. In recent years, therefore, Hilfswerk International has worked intensively with schools in 22 communities in Moldova to raise awareness of democratic processes. In 2021, we helped 65,000 young voters to navigate through the bureaucratic jungle, and motivated them to participate in elections.



“ Gabriela is in good hands at the Hilfswerk Children's Center. The caregivers are loving and treat her with much joy and appreciation. ”

Andreea from Moldova

HELP FOR THE SOCIALLY DISADVANTAGED

ARMENIA: WORKING TOGETHER FOR STRONG COMMUNITIES

Every fourth Armenian lives below the poverty line. Children are particularly affected by this; almost 30% of children here are considered poor. Public social assistance does not reach all families by a long shot. Only one third of the people suffering from poverty receive state support.

To overcome poverty and social disadvantage, we find needs-based, local solutions that help particularly disadvantaged families in the Armenian regions of Shirak, Tavush, Armavir and Syunik. To ensure that social services reach their intended recipients, we develop quality standards and transparent funding mechanisms for the provision of social support services. A small grants scheme for community-based social services also closes gaps in the range of local services on offer. For long-lasting and sustainable success, Hilfswerk International and its local partner organizations strengthen the role of civil society organizations in identifying the need for political action and in the cooperation with other local stakeholders.

With this we reach...

- » 80 local representatives of civil-society organizations
- » 100 active citizens
- » 120 representatives of the local administration (e.g., from the departments of education, social affairs, youth) and other local bodies (e.g., medical services, police)
- » Members of the 15–20,000 socially disadvantaged households in the target communities.

GEORGIA: DIGNIFIED CARE AND SUPPORT IN OLD AGE

People in Georgia are getting older and older. The younger generations often migrate from their home villages in the hope of a better future. Older people are then left alone and without support. There are hardly any state structures for the care and support of the elderly. There is a lack of uniform care standards and often the nursing staff is not sufficiently qualified. The Covid-19 pandemic exacerbated the situation by leaving many elderly in local communities without support to manage their everyday lives and relevant social interaction. "Aging with dignity" is hardly possible under these circumstances.

MOBILE CARE: A MILESTONE

Hilfswerk International is therefore setting up professional mobile care services for the elderly in Georgia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (see p 21). To this end, we are drawing on the many years of expertise of our colleagues from Hilfswerk in Austria. In our so-called House of Support, we train caregivers and volunteers and organize tailor-made and Covid19-sensitive care for the elderly and people in need of care in Georgia.



ESCAPING LONELINESS

We foster the inter-generational exchange between trained young volunteers and elderly and support internet connectivity of elderly to combat their social isolation. We active elderly persons through "healthy aging" courses and events rendered in person and online. We create additional, temporary income opportunities for active, skilled pensioners for rendering support to vulnerable families. Complementary psycho-social, medical, and legal consultations are offered to elderly persons and their relatives.

Benefiting from this...

- » 100 elderly people cared for by the mobile care services
- » 230 elderly persons participating in the healthy ageing activities
- » 10 caregivers and 20 neighborhood supporters capacitated in mobile care
- » 30 young volunteers and 30 active pensioners connected with vulnerable families and socially isolated elderly

“ I am grateful that Hilfswerk International is working for children in Armenia. So, I hope that my daughter can grow up without poverty. ”

Mariam from Armenia

SUSTAINABLE AID IN EUROPE

Hilfswerk International has been assisting the people of **Bosnia and Herzegovina** since 1996. Since then, we have been helping socially disadvantaged families, children, Roma, and elderly people on their way to a better future.

In recent years, our focus has increasingly shifted additionally to other Western Balkan countries, because many challenges in the region can only be overcome together. Thus, our project activities are also effective in Serbia, North Macedonia, and Montenegro.

In 2021, our focus areas were migration and flight, health, and aid for Roma.

2021: HILFSWERK INTERNATIONAL SUCCESSES AT A GLANCE

A highlight in 2021 was the completion of the water supply in the Lipa refugee camp. The Lipa camp in Bihać was the only refugee camp in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which did not have sufficient water supply. In the past, this has led to the outbreak of scabies, and caused great health hazards that are simply not bearable from a human point of view.

"By ensuring running water, we are enabling the human right of access to clean water for the thousands of people fleeing war, terror and violence in Camp Lipa." Suzana Jasarevic, Regional Director of Hilfswerk International in the Western Balkans

What we additionally achieved in 2021:

HEALTH

- » We developed a model for mobile care for the elderly in Bosnia and Herzegovina (and Georgia, see page 19).
- » 1,000 hours of care and support for the elderly and those in need of care were implemented.
- » We were able to train 30 nursing professionals.
- » Activities on "healthy aging" were implemented in 4 communities.
- » Local health systems in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, and North Macedonia were strengthened and the health and social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic for the elderly were reduced.

FLIGHT & MIGRATION

- » The living and health conditions of refugees in the Bihać region are improved by the construction of a stable water supply for the Lipa refugee camp.
- » By strengthening migration-related structures in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, North Macedonia, and Montenegro, we promote better cooperation in dealing with refugees in the region.
- » Support in strengthening the readmission system of Bosnia and Herzegovina.
- » We help to build a sustainable support for reception and integration of war returnees in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

HELP FOR ROMA

- » Social inclusion of Roma families through sustainable housing solutions and better access to the education system.

» *We started helping people in Bosnia and Herzegovina 25 years ago. At that time, the focus was on reconstruction after the Bosnian war. Since then, we have been able to help tens of thousands of people in various areas to lead a better life in dignity.* »

Suzana Jasarevic
Regional Director Hilfswerk International
in the Western Balkans



» *As a care worker, I not only help other people, but I can also provide for myself and my family with my income.* »

Adisa, nurse



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Slow economic development is making it difficult for people in the Central Asian countries of **Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, and Uzbekistan**. The consequences are a burdensome lack of prospects and unemployment as well as great poverty, especially in rural areas.

However, there is promising potential for development in these countries, and it lies in the agricultural and food sectors. Strengthening these traditional economic sectors helps to overcome poverty. Since 2008, we at Hilfswerk International have therefore been helping the Central Asian countries with their economic recovery.

In 2021 ...



training courses in the field of quality control of fresh and dried fruit and vegetables were held for 80 experts. This contributes directly to the competitiveness of agricultural products.



we were able to work with 60 people (including small businesses, farmers, and consulting companies) to develop concepts for making the food and agricultural sector more innovative, efficient, and sustainable.



more than 40 representatives of MSMEs and BIOs (Business Intermediary Organizations) from the four project countries took part in a practical business simulation "Global Strategy" in which they developed export strategies for their companies.



24 experts were able to introduce the Global G.A.P. Standard for livestock production after a training course.



TRAINING IN THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

For sustainable success, we are also focusing on modernizing agro-industry-related higher education curricula at **four universities in Kyrgyzstan and Uzbekistan**. We

- » support academic staff by helping 120 teachers deepen and update their expertise,
- » strengthen links between universities and the food industry,
- » network Central Asian universities with European ones for knowledge exchange and
- » provide 70 laboratory instruments.

STRENGTHENING YOUTH

Civil society organizations in Tajikistan often have only weak capacities. Yet they are the very ones who can help young people build a stable and inclusive future. To support civil society, our **Pro Youth** project strengthens civil society actors in youth participation and employment, enabling more than 2,000 teenagers and young adults.



“ As a farmer, I was able to learn a lot about food safety and quality standards from the training provided by Hilfswerk International. For me personally, but also for the entire region, this means the end of the economic standstill. ”

Jamshed from Tajikistan

PROTECTION OF THE RAINFOREST

In more than two decades in Colombia, we at Hilfswerk International have learned that sustainable aid for the population, protection of the rainforest and peacebuilding best succeed hand in hand. Since 2000, we have been working to promote democratic, peaceful coexistence, rural development, and environmental protection. Our activities are concentrated in particular in the province of Guaviare in the south of the country.

The Amazon rainforest is the largest CO₂ reservoir in the world: In addition to the oxygen produced, from which all people worldwide benefit, the Amazon is also home to many medicinal plants. And above all: a habitat for many (indigenous) population groups.

The destruction of the Amazon harms all of humanity, and directly individual indigenous groups and farmers who are losing their habitat. Therefore, all our activities in Colombia have a special environmental focus.

AT A GLANCE

In 2021, we successfully protected the two river basin regions Agua Bonita and Rio La Maria in Guaviare. In addition to reforestation measures, it was important for us to train the smallholders so that they can increase their agricultural production and processing.

In this way, we reached 930 farmers and their families as well as 14,000 of their neighbors living along the river basins.

We also worked in interlocking activities with young, local organizations that market local products in Colombia. The youth organizations have set themselves the goal of ensuring that the entire value chain is ecologically and socially compatible.

IN 2021, WE REACHED ...

- » 3 local youth organizations
- » 30 indigenous families (Sikuani, Jiw, Tucano)
- » 10 families of the indigenous group Nukak
- » 4 schools with 1,140 students by adapting the curriculum to environmental and cultural realities in the region
- » 200 youth through peacebuilding trainings
- » 570 students through the renovation of schools and sports centers.



“ In Colombia, Hilfswerk International develops entire development models together with the population, which we also implement jointly. From small farmers to regional governments, all stakeholders are involved from the beginning. We take the time to understand the root causes of the problems and to then solve them in the long term. Even though this is often lengthy, it ensures the effectiveness of our work. This approach brings improvements for so many families, which is a great motivation for me and our team in Colombia. ”

Fredy Rivera
Program Director
Hilfswerk International



“ The Amazon is our habitat. If it no longer exists, we no longer exist. Thank you for helping us to protect the rainforest. ”

Chani, Nukak boy from Colombia

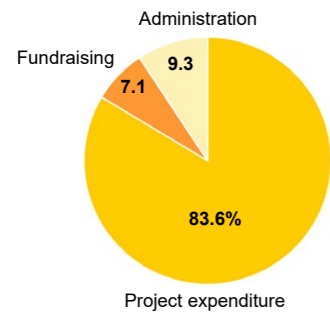


HELP THAT BEARS FRUIT

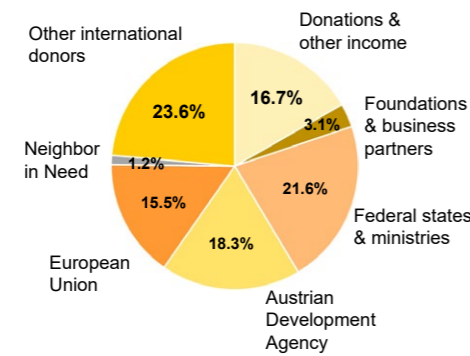
We ensure that the funds we receive are used effectively and are committed to rigorous accounting controls by independent auditors.

In 2021, Hilfswerk International's total expenditure was **5,333,192** euros. Of this, **83.6%** were spent on project work, **7.1%** were used for fundraising and **9.3%** for administration.

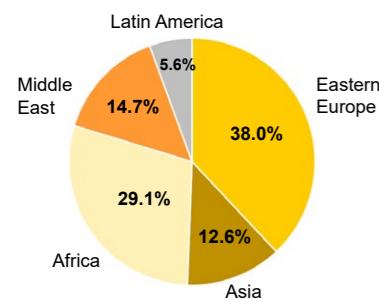
Application of funds € 5,333,192



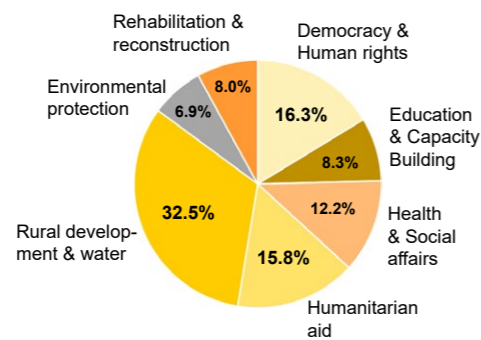
Sources of funds € 5,333,192



Regional breakdown € 4,633,862



Sectoral breakdown € 4,633,862



CONTACT

+43 (0)1 40 57 500-111
office@hilfswerk-international.at
www.hilfswerk.at/international/en

facebook.com/hilfswerkinternational
instagram.com/hilfswerkinternational



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We thank our strategic partners:

- ADA - Austrian Development Agency
- Office for Foreign Affairs Liechtenstein
- Foreign trade Austria
- BAMF - Federal Office for Migration and Refugees
- Federal Ministry of Internal Affairs
- Federal Ministry for Art, Culture, Public Service and Sport
- Federal Ministry for Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection
- EC - European Commission
- Else Kröner Fresenius Foundation
- Erste Holding
- FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the UN
- FFG - Austrian Research Promotion Agency
- Finance in Motion
- GIZ - German Society for International Cooperation GmbH
- Institute for Foreign Relations (ifa)
- IV - Federation of Industrialists
- Kahane Foundation
- State of Lower Austria
- State of Upper Austria
- State of Salzburg
- State of Styria
- State of Tyrol
- LBG Austria
- LED - Liechtenstein Development Service
- Medicor Foundation
- Neighbor in need
- OENB - Austrian National Bank
- City of Vienna
- UNDP – United Nations Development Programme
- UNHCR – United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- UNIDO – United Nations Industrial Development Organization
- Austrian Chamber of Commerce



HAND IN HAND - EMPOWERMENT FOR A BETTER FUTURE

Hilfswerk International was founded in 1978 and has been implementing projects worldwide ever since, working in Africa, Central Asia, (South-)Eastern Europe, Latin America, as well as the Middle East. Hilfswerk International provides sustainable help for self-help in accordance with international development goals to promote social, economic, democratic and ecological development with a focus on long-term capacity development in the most vulnerable populations.

Our projects are as diverse as the countries and regions we work in but human rights, empowerment and capacity building are built into all of them as guiding principles. While Hilfswerk International works in many different sectors, our programs and projects can be categorized into these three main cross cutting themes:



ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE PROTECTION

People in the poorest countries of the world are worst affected by environmental destruction and the loss of natural resources. Hilfswerk International has a special responsibility to set positive examples of managing and conserving environmental resources.



GENDER EQUALITY

Hilfswerk International is committed to promoting gender equality as well as avoiding and eliminating all forms of gender-based harassment and discrimination between individuals in all of our activities.



INCLUSION

Everyone has the right to be treated with dignity and no one should be excluded from access to social services or resources. Thus we promote social inclusion and non-discrimination for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups in all of our activities.



Hilfswerk International's actions in the Western Balkans (Bosnia & Herzegovina, Serbia, North Macedonia, Montenegro) managed from the Sarajevo office support individual families and the whole region. By working with various stakeholders in the fields of migration, health, social protection, services, and economic development our actions bear visible fruits towards a better future in the region.

☞ **Suzana Jasarevic, Hilfswerk International
Regional Director Western Balkans**

Hilfswerk International's focus in Tunisia is to empower vulnerable communities and youth to combat unemployment, social injustice, and poverty. Sustainability has been the backbone of all our initiatives here. Our ultimate objective is to leave behind resilient communities that are empowered and filled with hope.

☞ **Heythem Ferjani, Hilfswerk International Tunisia**



The biggest financial and economic crisis in Lebanon is causing unbearable suffering for so many people here. Hilfswerk International implements not only emergency aid but also development projects focusing on improving the knowledge and the skills of beneficiaries to live throughout this crisis in dignity.

☞ **Mireille Karaky, Hilfswerk International Lebanon**

In Moldova all our activities aim at fighting poverty, empowering the citizens with capabilities and means to ensure sustainable development and equal opportunities for all persons in need. Hilfswerk International is specialized in providing support in democratic, economic, educational, and social development as well as humanitarian aid. Our team knows the communities in Moldova very well and we strongly believe that with joint efforts while respecting and supporting diversity, a better future for the people in this country is possible.

☞ **Tatiana Echim, Hilfswerk International Moldova**



We plan entire development models together with the population in Mozambique and Colombia. We take the time to understand the problems' roots and solve them in the long term. Although this is often complex, it ensures the effectiveness of our work. This approach brings improvements to so many families which makes me proud to be part of the team.

☞ **Fredy Rivera, Hilfswerk International Program Director**

Hilfswerk International is a driving force for quality, safety, and promotion of agriproducts in Central Asia. We have solid experience in empowering business intermediary organizations, small and medium organizations and relevant state agencies through capacity building, regional integration, and innovation.

☞ **Umed Aslanov, Hilfswerk International Central Asia**



The Georgian society has been struggling to overcome poverty and ensure support for the most in need for so many years. In addition to the already existing complex and rooted social and economic struggles in the country, the Covid-19 pandemic further deepened them and created an unbearable situation for the most vulnerable people. Hilfswerk International has always been a relief for people in the South Caucasus including Georgia with its well-structured and target-oriented projects geared towards sustainability and local empowerment.

☞ **Mancho Lagazidze, Hilfswerk International South Caucasus**