



ASB-Foreign Aid Annual Report 2015

We help
here and now.

 **ASB**

Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund

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ASB/Susanne Hörle

Preface

Dear readers,

in April 2015, when there was an earthquake in Nepal, thousands of people lost their lives and their homes, and people around the world showed a great deal of compassion. In Germany, too, the images from the country in the Himalayas moved a large number of people. Thanks to your donations, ASB was able to help quickly while avoiding needless bureaucracy. ASB staff is still working in Nepal today, where they help with reconstruction work and train people so that they are better protected against disasters in the future.

Another disaster also moved us in the past year: more than 60 million people worldwide are fleeing from war and violence, terror, destruction and persecution. ASB is also there for them.

This applies to the major conflicts in Syria and Ukraine as well as to the crises that go virtually unnoticed in Germany, such as the conflicts in Mali or in the Central African Republic, which caused many people to flee across the border to Niger.

Be it emergency aid, disaster preparedness, help for displaced people and refugees or international partnerships between Samaritans of different nations: the full-time and volunteer staff of ASB are always there when quick, non-bureaucratic and above all human assistance is needed.

We would like to extend our thanks for their tireless effort. We would also like to thank our members and donors, and all beneficiaries and partners. With their help we are able to fulfil our mission and help where help is urgently needed – here and now.



Knut Fleckenstein
Federal Chairman



Ulrich Bauch
Federal Manager



Edith Wallmeier
Head of Foreign Aid



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Help where the need is greatest

Said knows no way out: he managed to flee to Europe with his two small children and to bring them to safety. But he was separated from his wife while fleeing from his homeland. Customs officials have now closed the Serbian-Macedonian border and thus torn the family apart overnight. Said doesn't know how to get in touch with his wife or how he will ever find her again. ASB helps refugees like Said in many countries around the world.

Photo: ASB / Fulvio Zanetti

Nepal

“When the earth trembled we only just managed to bring ourselves and our three-year-old daughter to safety outside,” says Rabindra from Bungamati, a village near the capital of Kathmandu. “Now we have nothing left, but we are alive.” Almost 9,000 people died and several millions became homeless, when on 25 April 2015, and again on 12 May 2015, earthquakes of magnitudes 7.8 and 7.3 shook Nepal. In the first days after the disaster, there was a shortage of everything: the people didn’t know where to get food and drinking water or where to spend the night.

Immediately after the first earthquake, an ASB emergency team set off to Nepal to find out what the people needed most urgently. There was destruction on a mas-

sive scale in rural areas in particular. In the Sindhupalchowk district near the Chinese border almost all the houses had become uninhabitable. That’s where ASB distributed food and plastic tarpaulins to 200 families.

The earthquake caused the village of Marming to be cut off from the outside world. This is where ASB distributed shelter sets: 1,000 households were given roof tarpaulins, floor panels and ropes as well as blankets and mattresses to protect themselves from the monsoon rains that were about to hit. Because the roads had become impassable, people walked down the mountains for two to three hours and up again to collect the materials.

Fast help

As part of an aid transport organised by “Aktion Deutschland Hilft”, ASB gave the Dhulikhel university hospital (which served as a medical distribution centre after the earthquake) an emergency health kit that can be used to provide medical care for 10,000 people for three months.

Dhulikhel also has a children’s home. Although the home itself was not damaged by the earthquake, the residential building of the landlords in Kathmandu was. The landlords now wanted to close down the home in order to live there themselves. To prevent the children’s home from being vacated immediately, the ground floor was cleared for the family – the children now lived in a very small space. ASB helped purchase



a property to set up a child-friendly home for the children as quickly as possible.

Reconstruction work

Because aid supplies were made available immediately, the Samaritans were able to help many people in remote areas quickly. ASB nonetheless realised that it also needed to help rebuild the region. ASB and the Samaritans from Danish People's Aid put up about 300 temporary shelters in Rabindra's home village of Bungamati, which can be turned into permanent houses. Rabindra and his family also live in one of these shelters, and he is grateful for it: "The house protects us from the rain," he said.

110 villagers were trained to set up the shelters, and maintain and repair them. They also learned techniques to better protect buildings against earthquakes. These skills will benefit the entire village when it comes to building permanent earthquake-proof houses in the future. There was widespread fear of new earthquakes for weeks and months afterwards.

The project therefore also holds workshops to train teachers in trauma treatment. Apart from its efforts in Bungamati, ASB also built simple houses in the districts of Chitwan, Nuwakot, Dolakha, Tanahu, Kaski and in Dhading. 730 emergency shelters, five collective shelters and 25 schools were built, and three damaged schools were repaired.



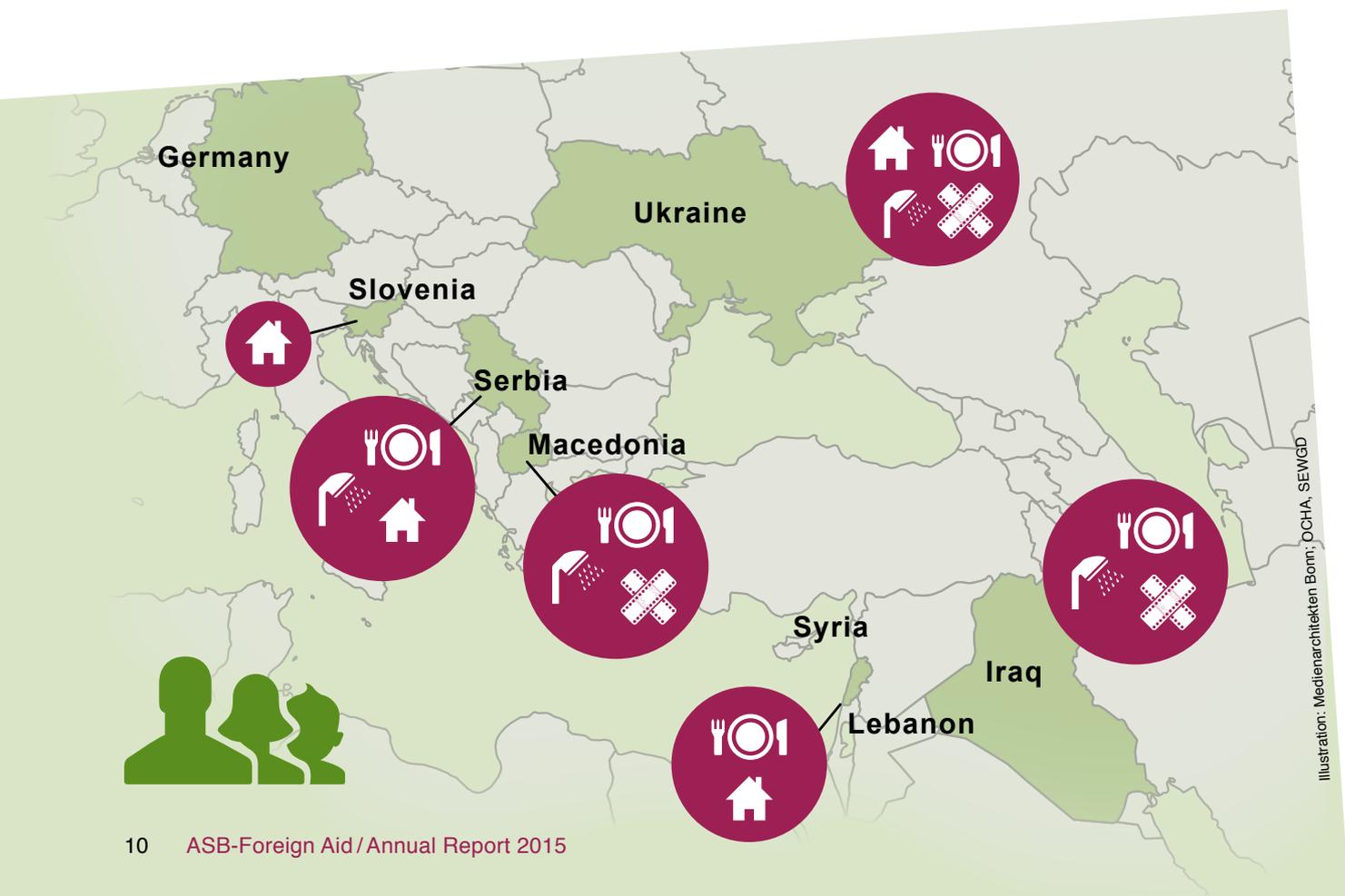
Photo: ASB/Susanne Hörte

Long-term help

The relief supplies, food and especially the shelters significantly improved living conditions. However, by the end of the year the reconstruction process was far from complete. Roads were still impassable, houses could not be used because they were in danger of collapsing and shops were still closed. ASB has opened an office in Kathmandu. In November, the Nepalese authorities officially registered it as a relief organisation.

This is how ASB helps refugees abroad

Worldwide, there are more than 60 million refugees. Most of them find refuge as internally displaced persons in safe regions of their own country or in neighbouring countries. ASB works in many countries to alleviate the suffering of displaced persons and refugees.



Niger

ASB has been active in Niger for more than ten years. In 2015, the Central African desert state faced a particular challenge. A long period of drought in the previous year meant that water and food were becoming increasingly scarce. The people were barely able to feed their cattle or cultivate their land. According to government information, 4.2 million people did not have enough food. As a result of the ongoing conflicts in the neighbouring country of Mali and in the Central African Republic, several thousand refugees sought protection in Niger. They needed resources, which were already scarce.

Gas stoves improve day-to-day lives

“If my husband decided to take away my gas bottle and sell it, I would get a divorce,” says Fatima, a refugee from Mali, who found temporary refuge in the Intikane camp in Niger. Like 3,300 other families, she was also given a gas cylinder by ASB – a small revolution for the refugees and their Niger neighbours. Until recently, Fatima had to walk for almost three-quarters of an hour to get firewood. It wasn’t just a long journey; it was also a dangerous one, especially for women and children. Now that she has the gas bottle, she no longer has to go on these long walks (see infographic).



Photo: ASB/Florian Hauke

Securing livelihoods

ASB helps the people in the region to feed themselves and to continue to farm the land in the difficult drought months. ASB stores 80 tons of food and medicines as well as vitamins for people's livestock in four food storehouses. Within the communities, networks have been set up to promote professional animal husbandry. ASB trained a seven-member management committee per storehouse to manage the supplies. To ensure that the region's locals do not regard the many refugees as competitors or as a threat in the daily struggle for survival, ASB has involved refugee and local families equally in the project, and looks after some 16,000 refugees and 39,000 locals. With success: "All of us in the community benefit from the arrival of the many thousands of refugees," the village chief of the nearby Eknewen settlement confirmed.

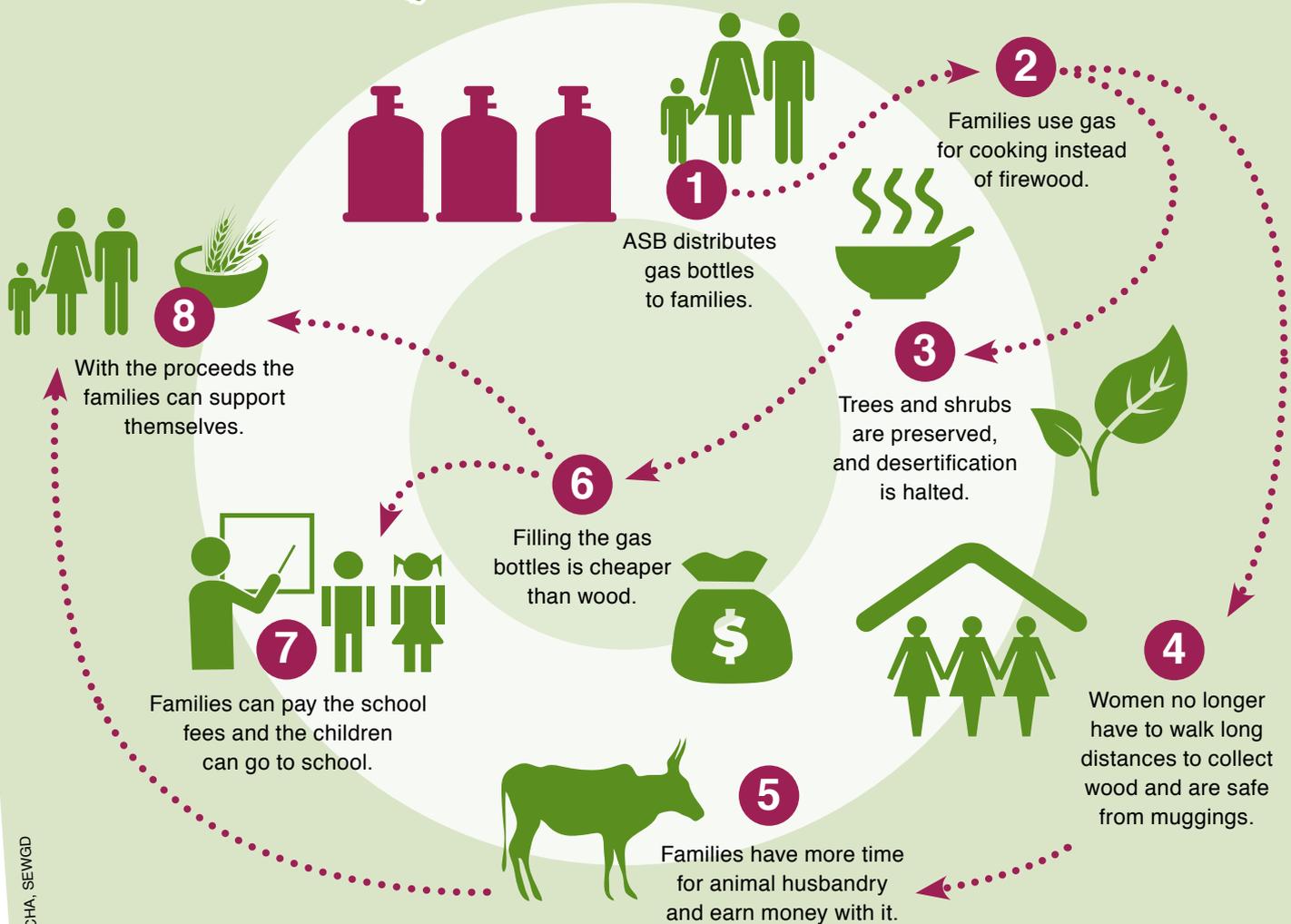
Helping the poorest directly

In the district of Dakoro, in the south of the country, ASB continued its support for 140 of the poorest families in the region, a project that was started in 2014. They were given 20 kilos of seeds that are resistant to pests and the difficult climatic conditions, thus promising better harvests. What's more, ASB used donations and funds from "Aktion Deutschland Hilft" to pay the families a monthly cash allowance. These cash transfers ensured that they were able to feed themselves and survive in the dry season.

In the long run, the cash payments ensure that the people can keep their livestock, possessions and harvest yields and to be self-sufficient again. The families were selected carefully: 18 of them had come to the Central African Republic as groups of refugees and 22 had family members with a disability. ASB helped some 840 people through the most difficult time.



Gas bottle system in Niger



Illustrations: OCHA, SEWGD

Northern Iraq

The autonomous region of Northern Iraq is a stable zone in the crisis-ridden Middle East. At the end of 2015, some two million people, both internally displaced Iraqis and war refugees from Syria, were registered as refugees. ASB helps them as much as possible to manage their everyday lives in the refugee camps Berseve I and II. In the winter and in the following autumn, ASB and the Austrian organisation “Neighbour in Need” distributed hygiene kits to around 2,000 families to prevent the outbreak of infectious diseases.

ASB also held multi-day workshops to train refugee women and men to become hygiene teachers. The disseminators then visited individual families in their tents and explained the various hygiene measures. ASB also provided winter clothes and heaters for the refugees and built a health centre in the Berseve I camp.

Better treatment for patients

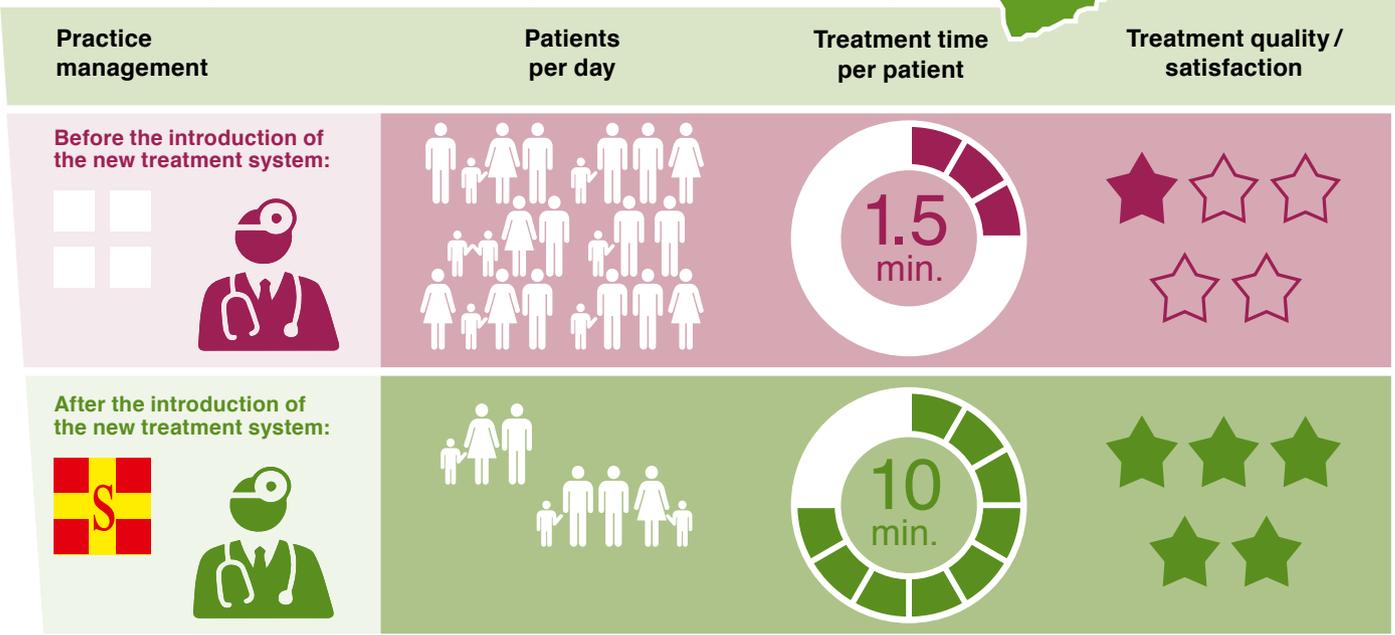
The local health authorities had also asked ASB for support at the health stations. Medical professionals from the FAST (First Assistance Samaritan Team), who had already provided emergency medical aid in 2012 for refugees in Northern Iraq, helped restructure the processes (see infographic): “During our training trip we managed to significantly improve treatment quality. Instead of 300 patients, only 150 were now treated per day,” one of the helpers, Ferdinand Hofer, explained after his return. “This gives doctors the time to really care for their patients, carefully examine them, diagnose and treat them.”

The FAST members also drew up a hygiene plan and trained the local staff. The structures created in the health station in Berseve now serve as a model for other camps.





The new patient treatment system in Northern Iraq



The FAST team members successfully introduced a new patient treatment improving the quality of the medical center.

Illustrations: shutterstock/VectorPainter, Hari Syahputra; OCHA, SEWGD

Community centres support refugees

To help the refugees integrate in their new home country, ASB also built community centres in the two refugee camps. In the centres the refugees can get social and legal advice and attend courses on how to find a job or set up a small business.

The project is aimed specifically at women, because they had been the victims of severe violence during the displacement and because they are generally disadvantaged in a very traditional and patriarchal society. The training courses, such as sewing, hairdressing and IT, give them the opportunity for independence in their communities.

Lebanon

By December 2015, Lebanon had accepted more than 1.8 million refugees. This was an exceptional act of solidarity on the part of the Mediterranean state, which itself only has just under four and a half

million inhabitants and posed severe challenges for the country. It is barely able to meet the people's needs. Almost 30 percent of the refugees are not even able to buy the most essential food, clothing, school materials and sanitary products. A large part of the Lebanese population also lives below the poverty line and relies on governmental and humanitarian aid.



Photo: Reuters/Mohamed Azakir

The situation for refugees and residents has steadily deteriorated in recent months.

ASB helped 18 communities to improve their services for the population – for example by providing public means of transport and building water systems. Tension between the two groups was relieved because residents and refugees equally benefited from the new services. Furthermore, 400 Syrian families were given a basic monthly income to buy food and other important items.

One of the biggest problems is finding accommodation for the many refugees. ASB helped find flats and houses and renovate them to make them habitable for particularly needy refugee families. The houses are located outside the refugee camps, so that the families can be integrated into the Lebanese communities.

Syria

Kobane is a centre of Kurdish life in Syria – and thus enemy territory for the terrorists of the Islamic State. Around 200,000 people lived in the city and its surrounding villages before they were attacked and expelled by IS in September 2014. In January 2015 Kurdish fighters liberated the city, and around 30,000 returned to their totally destroyed home region, and more joined them every day.

Bread as a basis of life

The people, however, were not able to simply return to their previous lives. Most of the houses were uninhabitable, and all the shops were closed. The people could not even buy the most basic foods – they were not available.

Because flour was in very short supply, ASB obtained it from nearby Turkey and delivered it to the only bakery that was still open in Kobane. Every day, bread was given out free of charge to more than 35,000 people. In addition, ASB distributed 52 tons of basic food and sanitary products to 1,400 families. The packages contained cooking oil, rice, noodles, sugar, baby food and nappies, among other things.

Serbia

In Serbia, the Balkan floods in spring 2014 inflicted serious damage and left countless families destitute – for example the Matkovic family of six who live in a small village in the west of the country and derive their livelihood from farming. 74-year old Milena gets a small pension and is the only one with a regular income. Her sons Svonko and Milan run the parents' farm, which they turned into a flourishing business in a few years of hard work. They cultivated plums and raspberries and kept 30 sheep. Milena's

daughter-in-law Sanja and her two grandchildren Lazar (15) and Angela (13) also helped where they could. Then the usually calm Omnica brook flooded large parts of the village. Landslides buried the family's fruit orchards and contaminated the land where the sheep grazed. Almost all the animals died.

New beginning with a plant nursery

ASB provided emergency aid and above all helped with the reconstruction work. In two project phases until 2017, ASB will help families reconstruct their homes – or build new houses for families whose homes have become uninhabitable. ASB is also helping 350 small businesses and farms get back on their feet.

For the Matkovic family, this aid was a true relief: they were given new raspberry plants, hail protection, irrigation systems and wire to secure the berry bushes. As soon as Svonko and Milan had been given the materials they began to replace the dead fruit trees. Now they can look forward to a good harvest.

Emergency aid for refugees along the Balkan route

When millions of people fled to Europe in the late summer, many of the Balkan states were overwhelmed and overburdened. Serbia also asked for help with providing supplies to the more than 577,000 refugees who passed through the country.



Photo: ASB SEE

They needed food and water as well as medical care. They needed washing facilities and a place to sleep and rest.

ASB built transit camps in Kanijza and Subotica on the Serbian-Croatian border. Another camp was set up in Dimitrovgrad near the border with Bulgaria. There, people had the chance to take a rest from their tiring journey for a short while. ASB also provided sanitary facilities. Every day, between 750 and 3,000 refugees used this service.

At Šid railway station, where many refugees continued their journey to Croatia, ASB provided basic medical care, and medical emergency teams were available around the clock.

ASB helped the refugees directly and also provided support for the guest communities. The town of Kanjiza gave the Samaritans a fire engine. In Dimitrovgrad they trained administrative staff to help them coordinate the movement of refugees better.

Macedonia

Macedonia was also a transit country in 2015 for hundreds of thousands of refugees. Most of them continued by train to the Serbian border. Still, they needed help on their journey – especially vulnerable groups such as adolescents travelling alone, pregnant



Photo: ASB/Fulvio Zanettini

women and mothers with young children, older, sick and disabled people relied on their help. ASB distributed more than 15,000 packages of food and sanitary products.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

More than 40,000 families in Bosnia and Herzegovina lost their homes after heavy rains in spring 2014 flooded large parts of Croatia, Bosnia and Serbia within a short time. With its drinking water treatment plant, the First Assistance Samaritan Team (FAST), the specialist emergency response team of ASB for deployments abroad, provided the disaster victims with clean water, thus helping prevent diseases.

Help with reconstruction work

As part of the EU flood programme and under the leadership of the UN Development Programme (UNDP), ASB selected 465 damaged houses, which were repaired or rebuilt in 2015.

The houses were selected based on strict criteria set by the UNDP. Some families therefore did not receive support from the disaster relief fund – either because their houses were damaged too severely and therefore did not fit in with the reconstruction project. ASB therefore used its own funds to rebuild 21 badly damaged residential buildings in the Posavina region.



Ukraine

Following the annexation of Crimea, many areas in eastern Ukraine are still contested today, and about 1.5 million people have fled to other parts of the country. The Ukrainian authorities were unable to provide for their many internally displaced people on their own. Since 2014, eastern Ukraine has received no state benefits such as pensions or social benefits.

At the same time, prices for food, energy and other urgently needed goods rose dramatically. Many Ukrainians are therefore unable to provide for themselves and rely on help.



Photo: ASB/Michael Schmatz

Outstanding commitment

What's special about the situation of the IDP in Ukraine is the high level of voluntary commitment among the population. However, because of the sheer length of the crisis and the large number of refugees, they soon needed help, which was provided by ASB in cooperation with members of the Ukrainian Samaritan organisation.

Developing competencies

While it is important to provide the displaced with the essentials – in order to regain their hope they have to be able to return to an independent life. The Samaritans therefore held courses in nursing, first

aid and health care to train the internal displaced and improve their chances on the labour market.

ASB and its Ukrainian partner association SSU work in the capital of Kiev as well as in the regions of Poltava, Kharkiv, Sumy and Dnipropetrovsk in the north east of Ukraine – the areas where most people from the crisis regions around Luhansk, Donetsk and Crimea sought refuge. In 2015, the Samaritans distributed food and hygiene kits to 52,000 people in need and provided 2,600 people in need with winter clothes.

ASB also rented flats for some of the displaced people, where they could spend the winter. ASB provided basic medical care and trained helpers in how to cope with the psychological stress.

Life story:

Ukraine: survival in the cold

More than 1.5 million people were displaced from eastern Ukraine and Crimea. Many of them have had difficult experiences and are hoping for peace in the safe parts of Ukraine.

When Yulia bends over towards her young son, she starts to smile. It is still a special moment for the young mother, because in the past months she didn't have much to smile about. She fled from the fighting in Donbas and had to leave everything behind – their house and little garden, friends and colleagues, and in the end even her husband, who is fighting in the Ukrainian army.

Yulia fled from the bombs and the uncertainty, from the increasingly difficult supply situation and the deteriorating sanitary conditions. “We hid in the basement and hoped that we would get out alive,” said the young woman about the difficult days in her home region. “Luckily, I made it.”

She is no exception: “Many people are in a similar situation to Yulia,” says Svetlana Levkovska, the head of the Samaritan association in Kiev. “Women and children in particular suffer as a result of the conflicts.”

In Ukraine, the winters are cold, very cold.

Yulia finally arrived in Kiev, heavily pregnant. There, the young woman met the helpers of the Ukrainian Samaritan association. Together with ASB they help tens of thousands of internal refugees from the east of the country. They distribute food and hygiene packages, organise basic medical care for children, women and men and provide emergency shelters.

Yulia and her young son live in such an emergency shelter for young mothers and their children in the outskirts of Kiev. The women have organised themselves, do handicrafts, to earn some income. But that is not enough by far. Once a month, volunteers bring the refugees non-perishable food, nappies and sanitary products.

Photo: Markus Nowak





Help for a new start

In Niger, nomadic families are forced to walk long distances to feed their animals, which again and again causes strife with sedentary farmers. ASB provides prospects for the future.

This allows families to take greater control of their own livelihoods. Children in particular can grow up in safety and have a real chance for a better life.

Photo: ASB/Florian Hauke

Bosnia and Herzegovina

At 44.3 percent, the unemployment rate in Bosnia is one of the highest in Europe. The severe floods that caused major damages in May 2014 further contributed to many families' struggling to survive.



Photo: ASB SEE

ASB has set up a comprehensive programme to strengthen the socio-economic situation of socially disadvantaged families. In September 2014, another project was launched in Gorazde and in Kotor Varos. By the end of April 2015 people in both communities in particular need of support completed a founder course.

The course provided information about setting up and managing a business, how to apply for subsidies and grants and how to open up new sales channels.

To ensure the starting capital was not misappropriated and to create added benefits for the communities, the course participants were given equipment and seeds as well as one greenhouse per plant nursery. Because ASB is able to obtain inexpensive greenhouses, it was possible to support 23 company founders (instead of 16 as originally planned).

Help for survivors of landmine accidents

Landmines are another major problem in Bosnia. Thousands of people survived accidents caused by these treacherous remnants of war and are now disabled. What's more, the flood in May 2014 washed away many mines (whose location had been known and people had been warned about them) and once again turned them into life-threatening traps. Between February 2013 and June 2015, ASB supported some 450 people who have been injured by



Fighting the causes of floods in the Balkans



Illustrations: OCHA, SEWGD

landmines in 23 Bosnian communities and in the Serbian Brcko district.

As part of this project, ASB also helped the families have been affected to register with the Bosnian database for mine victims. They learn about funding opportunities and can apply for assistance. All participants also attended courses on how to set up small businesses (see infographic).

Support for Roma families

Of the approximately 40,000 Roma living in Bosnia, around 17,000 people still need support from the government. Between June 2013 and December 2015, ASB has supported 152 Roma families in the Bihac region as well as in the Serbian towns of Bijeljina, Vukosavlje and Zvornik to help them integrate, both economically and socially.



Photo: ASB SEE

Since many of the families have previously lived in makeshift huts made of corrugated iron and tarpaulin, building flats was the focus of the activities. 64 houses and 88 social flats were built in 14 villages – eleven on the Bosnian side and three on the Serbian side. In cooperation with the Bosnian Ministry of Human Rights and the Needs of Refugees, the OSZE and the UNHCR, a plot of land for building was selected for the remaining families. The families also attended ASB consultation meetings, where they were told how to register with the local authorities, how to register their children for kindergarten and school and where to get medical treatment.

ASB also built new access roads to the settlements and set up electricity and water networks. Here, too, ASB provided training for company founders. 30 particularly marginalised families were given start-up financing for their businesses.

Kosovo

Since the end of the civil war between the states of the former Yugoslavia, thousands of refugees have been living in the Republic of Serbia. The international community has been helping families to return to their native lands for 20 years or – if this is not possible – to build a new life in their new homeland.



Photo: ASB SEE

ASB has been active in Serbia since 1999, where it campaigns for the return of refugees to Kosovo. A difficult task: 45 percent of people in Kosovo live below the poverty line and another 18 percent live so close to the poverty line that they continue to be at risk of extreme poverty.

Unemployment is very high in the two districts in which ASB is active. Many families rely on support and assistance: in Fushe Kosova/Kosovo Polje, some 717 families need help, half of which are Roma and

Ashkali. In Prizren as many as 1,400 families are unable to earn their own living.

In September 2014, based on the successful projects in the previous years, ASB initiated another programme for returning families and by 2015 it had trained 33 other families in how to set up a business. These families attended training courses and drew up business plans, which were reviewed by experienced consultants. With the help of start-up financing, the families already started to earn an income in 2015.

Serbia

Although their numbers are declining every year, thousands of refugees and people displaced as a result of the Balkan wars still live in temporary communal accommodation in Serbia. For many years, ASB has been helping to accommodate refugees in safe homes or to return to their homeland.

Between 2013 and the end of November 2015, ASB set up another building programme for refugees in such communal accommodation. Houses for families were built in Smederevo, Gadzin Han and Vranje. ASB not only took care of building the living units, it also dealt with the often very complicated land rights of the building plots.

An insight into the work of two recently set up and particularly successful companies has been captured on video. The message can also be understood by those who do not understand the Serbian commentary.



In 2015 the families moved into their flats. Because they were without financial means, ASB provided beds, chairs, a table and other basic items of furniture. Two communal accommodation facilities in Smederevo and Gadzin Han were closed in the wake of the project. Another communal accommodation facility in the town of Vranje was closed at the beginning of 2016.

Help returning to Kosovo

There are still families in Serbia who want to return to their homeland Kosovo. Many of them cannot afford to return. ASB therefore develops return programmes tailored to the needs of individual families, which help people with the move, to make a new start and reintegrate.

In 2015, ASB helped 208 displaced families to return to Kosovo with these tailored programmes. ASB provided 110 families with furniture, cooking utensils and food parcels. 22 districts were involved in the project in Kosovo.

ASB compiled information material in the form of posters and leaflets, which were displayed in prominent places. At the same time, local institutions and the staff of the local authorities were informed about ASB projects to enable them to give advice to the people affected. The information campaign also includes intensive media work as well as talks and information events.



Photo: ASB Georgia

To ensure that the people can make a successful new start in Kosovo, ASB provides the returnees with basic economic training. The families draw up business plans for companies they are planning to set up and that will ensure their livelihood. In 2015, ASB allocated start-up financing in the amount of 50,000 euros to particularly promising business plans. Five other outstanding business plans were rewarded with 20,000 euros each. One of the companies produces plastic bags, making it the first and only company in Kosovo to produce such a product. The company created many jobs, which means it provides a livelihood not just to one but many families.

Georgia

In addition to several tens of thousands of Georgians, the Pankisi valley is also home to several thousand Kists, an ethnic minority that has played an important role in the public and cultural life in the region for decades. During and after the war in Chechnya in the late 1990s, several thousand Chechens fled to the Pankisi valley, some 25 kilometres from Akhmeta. Around 90 percent of these refugees have still not returned to their homeland.

Since life in this remote valley is difficult even under normal circumstances, it is particularly difficult for the refugees. The number of people living below or just above the poverty line is particularly high in the Kakheti region. One in five people are officially classified as poor. Because of its geographic location, access to the media is limited and difficult in the valley.

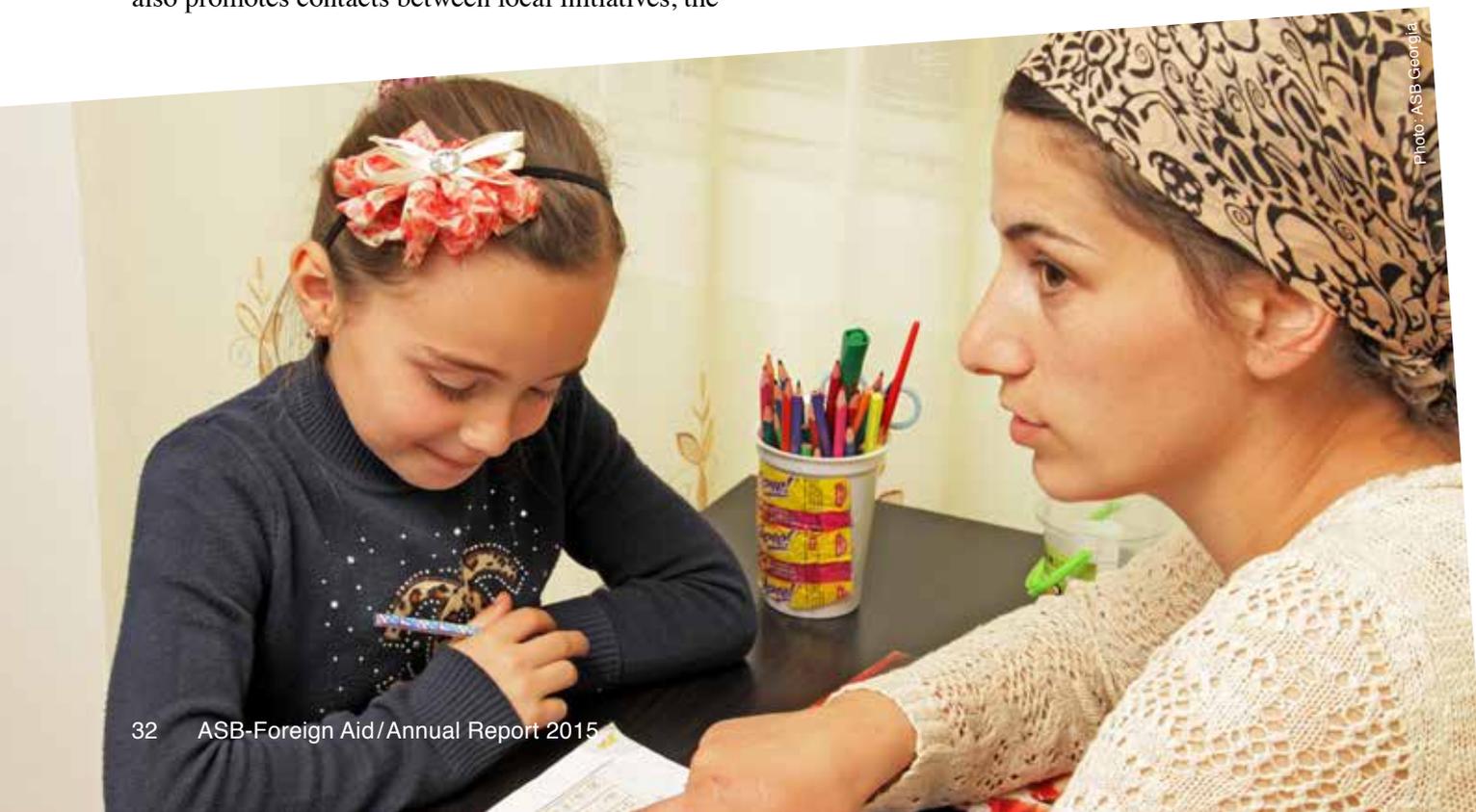
ASB aims to help both the refugees and the local population lift them out of extreme poverty. To do this, ASB promotes the setting-up of small social businesses. Local initiatives establish centres that offer services to the elderly, children and young people. The service centres provide new jobs and training opportunities, and the social services, such as kindergartens, care and transport services, also benefit the people of the region.

Social enterprises

The set-up and development of the social enterprises also promotes contacts between local initiatives, the

local population and the authorities, and ensures that families in need have better access to the support services. In 2015, three social enterprises were established: one day care facility for people with disabilities, one weekend school for children and adolescents from socially deprived families and an outpatient care service for the elderly.

The Georgian President's Foundation called the weekend school particularly innovative and worthy of support, and it will financially support the school in 2016.



In the Shida Kartli region, in the northwest of the Georgian capital of Tbilisi, ASB supports the foundation of such social enterprises and the creation of strong partnerships between private initiatives and the regional authorities. In the towns of Gori, Kaspi, Kareli and Khashuri, information events were hosted as well as business classes and round table meetings with those responsible in the local authorities. A kindergarten was set up, which opened its doors in 2015.

Dozens of families now no longer need to take their children to far-away daycare facilities and have more time to do their work and improve their living conditions. The kindergarten also creates jobs – a model of success that will hopefully be copied in the future.

Cross-border cooperation

ASB has also initiated a major project to strengthen civic organisations in Georgia and Ukraine. In cooperation with the Center for Strategic Research and Development of Georgia (CSRDG) and the Ukrainian Center for Independent Political Research (UCIPR), the project will strengthen the role of civic organisations in these countries.

One of the focal points of the project is the transfer of knowledge. The aim is also to develop specific projects that promote the setting-up and development of civic structures in Georgia and Ukraine. The process is designed to strengthen the role of social and community organisations within the opinion-forming and

legislative process with regard to social issues and the organisation of social services.

The support gives the seven selected organisations the chance to perform assessments on the specific needs of social services in their regions. They will then develop solutions together with important strategic and political partners and introduce their findings into the political discourse.

Peacekeeping in Samegrelo

The conflict between Georgia and region of Abkhazia, which began in 1992 and 1993, remains unresolved. The smouldering conflict causes unrest and distrust among the population and impedes growth in this border region. Socially disadvantaged families in particular suffer from these disputes, because the de facto independent region of Abkhazia does not have a functioning state welfare system. The most recent heavy fighting between Russia and Abkhaz separatists and Georgia happened in 2008. More people were displaced.

The communities on both sides of the unofficial border are isolated from one another and align themselves with different partners: the Abkhazian side with Russia, and the Georgian side with the “West”.

Support for social enterprises

ASB has a tried and tested programme in place for the setting-up of social enterprises that provides economic help to disadvantaged families, social security and peace-support operations. In 2015, ASB focused its efforts on supporting the Caucasus Caregiver Cooperation, a network of the various social enterprises in Abkhazia and Samegrelo. Training courses helped improve cooperation between the enterprises and the local authorities.

In Zugdidi, a nursing service for the elderly was set up, a domestic help service for people with disabilities and daycare centres for children with disabilities. The facilities created jobs for displaced people and locals and they offer services on both sides of the border. The personal contacts create trust, which is an important basis for peace alongside economic development.

Niger

Niger is one of the countries that are particularly affected by climate change. Recurrent droughts and famines threaten the livelihood of large parts of the population. The desert is spreading in many places, and conflicts over land are common and often violent.

The town of Gangara on the border with Nigeria and the surrounding villages experienced many armed conflicts over land rights in the past. Many peasants live in Gangara and not much of the land is used as pasture land. The surrounding villages are home to many Nomads who move from pasture to pasture with their herds. Neither the farmers nor the cattle breeders know much about fundamental rights – neither their own nor those of others. Conflicts are inevitable.

In the region bordering the Sahel zone, ASB is therefore committed to preventing conflicts and thus to creating long-term development prospects.

Information campaigns

To achieve its objectives, ASB provides training for all stakeholders involved in issues of land and property. These stakeholders include the traditional tribal chiefs, the staff of local relief organisations, representatives of civil society and local government employees. The course participants learn about important principles of land rights and the rights of elected representatives in the city council, and they find out about human and civil rights and the duties of citizens in civil society. In 2015, 160 tribal chiefs attended these training courses.

ASB also set up 25 land allocation committees. In 2015, the members of 16 committees were trained in legal matters and conflict management to enable



Photo: Florian Hauke

them to act as mediators in controversies. The other committees have already been set up and member training courses are being planned.

As part of the project, which will continue until 2017, ASB is also creating a geo-database of the region's natural resources. In popular weekly radio broadcasts, experts debate with the stakeholders about possible disputes and solutions. Last year,

some 112,000 people were informed about land rights. A success model: the many training and information campaigns reduced violent conflicts by around 54 per cent within a year.

Life story:

New prospects for children and young people

In Georgia, ASB supports the setting-up of social enterprises. One of them is a weekend school for socially disadvantaged children and young people. They attend the school to learn and discover new things about the world and many opportunities for development.

Mariam and Murad recently started attending this school, and they like it. Especially on weekends. It sounds like a joke, but this has become a dream come true for the two Georgian siblings. Murad is in year eight, and his sister Mariam in year four. They have two smaller siblings who do not go to school yet. “We make ends meet, but can’t offer any extras for the children,” says their mother Lia.

Excursions outside the remote village where the family lives have not been possible so far. The bus fares to the city or places of interest are too expensive. Thanks to the weekend school, such trips are now possible. “The children have even been to the capital and visited a museum,” says a delighted Lia.

Better grades, better opportunities for the future

But the timetable of this special school includes more than just leisure activities. The children and young people attend literature courses and can use the school library. Mariam used to have problems learning English. Today she is an enthusiastic reader of English children’s books. And Murad has also warmed to dreaded maths.

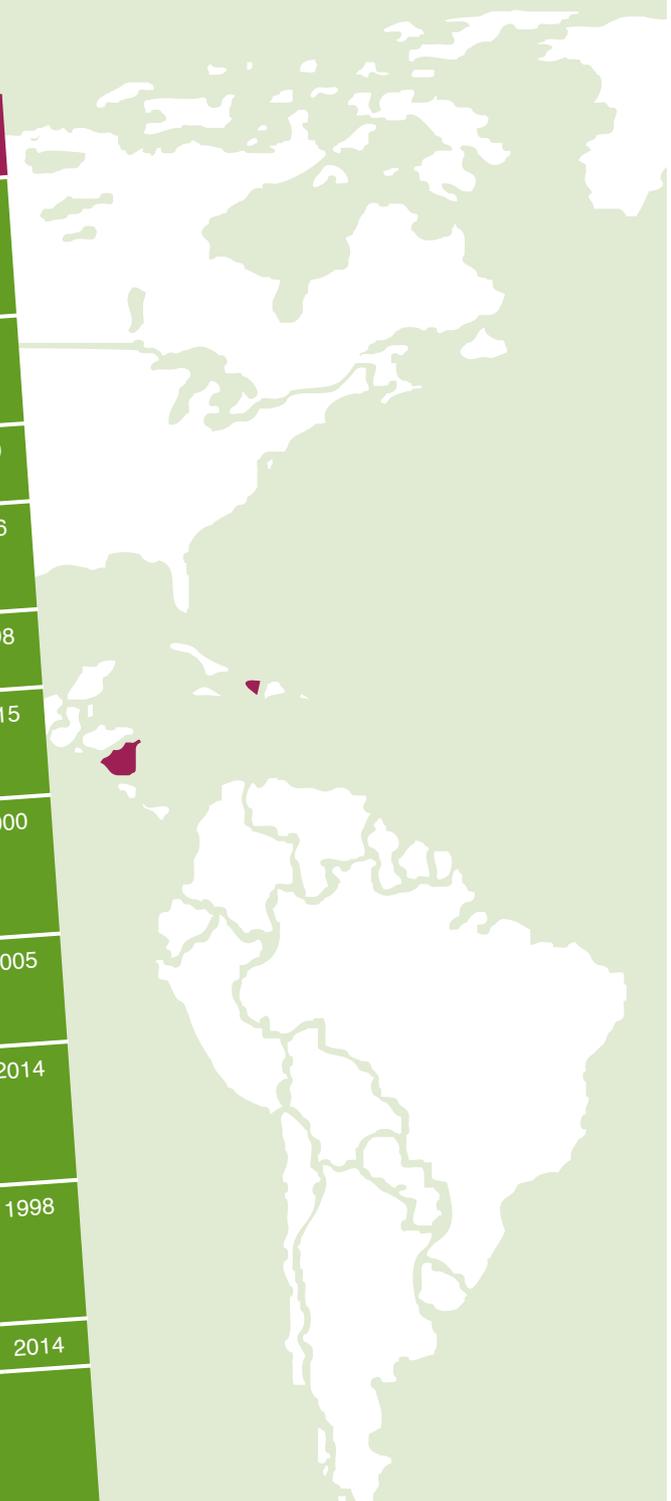
*“This school is the very
best thing.”*

“I tried to help the children with their homework,” says Lia. “But the older they are the more difficult the school curriculum, and I can no longer help them that much. And we can’t afford a tutor.” But thanks to the weekend school, the children’s grades have improved significantly. Murad is even thinking of becoming a teacher. “It sounds crazy, but the weekend school is the best thing that could have happened to us.”



Photo: ASB Georgia

Country	Programme Focus	Staff international/ national	since
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Reconstruction of housing, income-generating schemes, support for marginalized groups of the population, emergency support and rehabilitation of infrastructure after the flooding	0/8	1992
Georgia	Inclusive disaster risk reduction, establishing social enterprises for social care services, peace building through income-generating schemes	1/11	2010
Haiti	School- and community based disaster risk reduction, rehabilitation of roads, school gardens	4/35	2010
Indonesia	Community-based disaster risk reduction, advocacy activities in inclusive disaster risk reduction, income-generating schemes	1/30	2006
Kosovo	Income-generating schemes, rehabilitation of infrastructure, support of marginalised populations	0/4	1998
Nepal	Distribution of food and non-food-items, reconstruction of houses and community libraries, disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction	1/5	2015
Nicaragua	Community-based disaster risk reduction, disaster risk reduction with focus on families with disabled children, establishing of safe drinking-water-facilities	1/7	2000
Niger	Support of rural municipalities, income-generating schemes for people with disabilities, securing food supply	1/26	2005
Northern Iraq	Emergency aid for refugees and internally displaced persons, distribution of relief items, basic medical services, hygiene trainings, community centers	1/1	2014
Serbia	Support for refugees on the "balkan road", support of returnees to Kosovo, support of Roma families, emergency aid and rehabilitation of infrastructure after the flooding	1/7	1998
Ukraine	Support of internally displaced persons	0/2	2014



ASB-Foreign Aid projects

Country	Type of aid	Donors	Volume in €
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Reconstruction of housing, income-generating schemes, promoting the development of local structures, support for marginalized population groups, emergency aid and rehabilitation of infrastructure after the flooding	EU, AA, ADH, local government agencies, own funds, UNDP	1,639,486.56
Gambia	Supporting a health-care centre, Ebola prevention measures	AA, ADH, own funds	38,562.68
Georgia	Inclusive disaster risk reduction, consolidation of peace by setting up social enterprises for social care services, mobile care, social assistance for long-term hospitalized children, supporting the umbrella association	Institute for Foreign Cultural Relations (ifa), ECHO, Non-profit development cooperation organisation (GEZA), ADH, Aktion Mensch, BPRM, own funds	805,209.67
Haiti	School-based disaster risk reduction, road repairs, training for earthquake-proof construction, school gardens	BMZ, own funds	725,688.73
Hungary	Rescue services support	Own funds, ASB Chemnitz und Umgebung	3,000.00
Indonesia	Community-based disaster risk reduction, humanitarian aid, income-generating schemes, advocacy activities in inclusive disaster risk reduction	AA, BMZ, AusAID, ADH, own funds	527,162.01
Kosovo	Income-generating schemes	AA, own funds	162,973.32
Latvia	Distribution of relief items, exchange of experts, supporting the umbrella organisation, supporting volunteer actions	Own funds, ASB Hamburg-West, EU NABiBB	20,550.00
Lebanon	Support for newly arrived refugees, shelter for syrian refugees	ADH	197,151.49
Liberia	Ebola prevention	ADH	16,000.00
Lithuania	Supporting the umbrella association and the branch office in Kaunas, youth exchange programmes, distribution of relief items, support for day-care centres, implementation of a social welfare centre, support for transport services in Kaunas	Own funds, ASB Ostthüringen, ASB Hamburg-Nordost, ASB Wiesbaden, ASB Mittelhessen, ASB Warnow-Trebbel, ASB Stormarn-Segeberg	44,335.27
Nepal	Distribution of non-food-items, reconstruction of houses and public libraries, disability-inclusive disaster risk reduction	AA, ADH, own funds	448,111.81
Nicaragua	Community-based disaster risk reduction, disaster risk reduction with a focus on families with disabled children, construction of drinking water supplies	DIPECHO, ADH, own funds, BMZ	408,483.19
Niger	Supporting rural municipalities in Gangara, income-generating schemes for people with disabilities, securing food supply	EU, ADH, FAO, own funds, Dominikus Ringeisen Werk	521,672.92

Country	Type of aid	Donors	Volume in €
Northern Iraq	Emergency aid for refugees and internally displaced persons, distribution of relief items, basic medical services, community centers	AA, ADH, BMZ, initiative “Nachbar in Not”	1,270,602.84
Philippines	Basic medical care for the population affected by typhoon Haiyan, disaster risk reduction projects with local partners	AA, ADH	427,601.64
Poland	Development of umbrella association, summer holiday camp, exchange of experts, implementation of mobile social services, participation project for victims of Nazi persecution in the region of Lesser Poland	Own funds, ASB Heilbronn-Franken, Foundation EVZ	38,533.74
Romania	Transport of relief items, support for establishing a home for the elderly	Own funds, ASB Helmstedt	3,000.00
Serbia	Support for refugees on the “balkan road”, rehabilitation of housing for refugees and displaced persons, income-generating schemes, support of returnees to Kosovo, support of Roma families, emergency aid and rehabilitation measures after the flooding	EU, UNDP, BPRM, AA, ADH, own funds	1,997,404.62
Slovakia	Development of umbrella association	Own funds	10,000.00
Syria	Distribution of essential relief supplies for recently arrived refugees in the Lebanon, construction of emergency shelters for Syrian refugees	ADH	19,354.84
Ukraine	Winter emergency aid for internally displaced persons, establishing a care centre and mobile care service for the support of victims of Nazi persecution, support for an emergency children’s facility, organisation of a youth exchange programme, support for the umbrella association, establishing medical and emergency services, organisation of encounters between former forced labourers and young people, support for injured Maidan activists, support for the Vorzel orphanage	AA, own funds, Foundation EVZ, ASB Bayern, ASB Schleswig-Holstein, ASJ Schleswig-Holstein, ASB München, ASB Berlin	1,413,811.24
Cross-border projects	Cross-border support of the Federal Association and of the FAST Teams	Own funds, ASJ Hamburg	171,189.22
Total amount			10,909,885.69

as of 31/12/2015

Abbreviations: **AA**: German Federal Foreign Office **ADH**: Germany’s Relief Coalition (Aktion Deutschland Hilft) **ASBÖ**: Samaritan Association of Austria **ASSR**: Samaritan Association of Slovakia **AusAID**: Australian Agency for International Development **BMZ**: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development **BPRM**: Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (US Department of State) **ECHO**: European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection **EU**: European Union **EU NABiBB**: European Union – National Agency Education for Europe at the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training **FAO**: Food and Agriculture Organisation **Foundation EVZ**: Foundation “Erinnerung, Verantwortung und Zukunft” **LSA**: Samaritan Association of Latvia **SFOP**: Samaritan Association of Poland **UNDP**: United Nations Development Programme **UNFPA**: United Nations Population Fund **UNHCR**: United Nations High Commission for Refugees **UNICEF**: United Nations International Children’s Emergency Fund

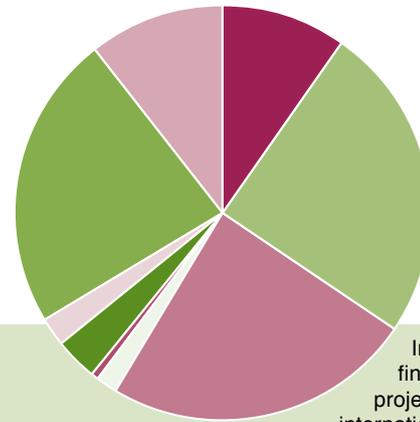
Facts and figures

ASB Foreign Aid is a department of the ASB Federal Association and therefore does not maintain a separate balance sheet. The annual volume of the projects implemented by ASB Foreign Aid in 2015 comprised a total of 10.909 million euros.

In 2015, the Foreign Aid Department at ASB Headquarters consisted of 13 permanent staff (head of department, project coordination, finance coordination).

ASB Foreign Aid utilizes all monies according to the rules set out by German not-for-profit law that requires funds intended for a particular purpose to be appropriated for the purpose intended. Timely usage of funds as well as the responsible build-up of reserves is also part of these principles. For more information about ASB Foreign Aid's mission statement and quality assurance processes please see pages 76 to 79 of this annual report.

The charter of ASB Deutschland e.V. as well as the annual report including the ASB Federal Office financial statement is published on our website www.asb.de/en



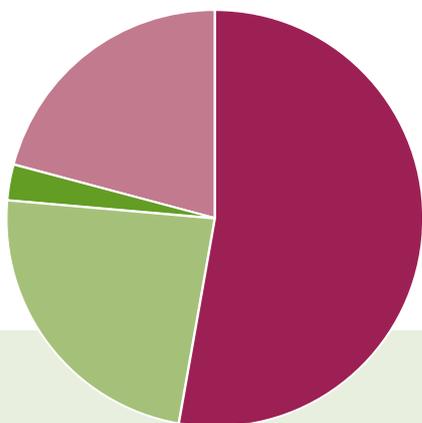
In order to receive financial support for its projects from national and international donors, ASB has to contribute its own share of between ten and 25 percent. This own contribution is raised via donations.

Origin of funds by donors

BMZ	1,068,807.53 €	9.80 %
Ausw. Amt (incl. zivik)	2,717,751.08 €	24.91 %
EU	2,613,617.45 €	23.95 %
ECHO and DIPECHO	203,277.63 €	1.86 %
UN organisations	40,278.86 €	0.37 %
USAid BPRM	372,696.12 €	3.42 %
Foundations, donors and partners	232,607.44 €	2.13 %
ADH	2,517,467.42 €	23.07 %
ASB	1,143,382.16 €	10.48 %
Total	10,909,885.69 €	100.00 %

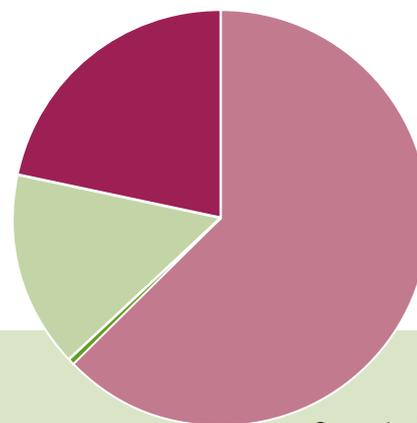
as of 31/12/2015

Abbreviations: ADH: Aktion Deutschland Hilft/German Relief Coalition Ausw. Amt: Auswärtiges Amt/Foreign Office Refugees and Migration (US Department of State) DIPECHO: Disaster Preparedness International Development



Project expenditure by sector

Humanitarian Aid	5,772,880.57 €	52.91 %
Return and reintegration	2,571,173.05 €	23.57 %
International Samaritan Cooperation	312,218.27 €	2.86 %
Disaster risk reduction	2,253,613.80 €	20.66 %
Total	10,909,885.69 €	100.00 %



Source of own funds

Funds provided by ASB Federal Office from membership subscriptions	722,114.38 €	63.16 %
Interest received	741.76 €	0.06 %
Non-designated donations	174,289.66 €	15.24 %
Designated donations	246,236.36 €	21.53 %
Total	1,143,382.16 €	100.00 %

Our project table shows "own funds". This overview illustrates what these funds consisted of in 2015.



Knowing what to do in an emer- gency

Malina has a great responsibility: she is a nursery teacher and looks after around 15 children in her kindergarten group every day. In Georgia, a country whose geographical location means that it is at great risk from natural disasters, every day can bring a nasty surprise.

And so Malina practices with the children what to do in the event of an earthquake or a landslide to survive the disaster. Her eager protégés visibly enjoy the playful exercises and Malina is relieved. She knows that she can rely on the children in an emergency, because they have learnt how to protect themselves and where to get help.

Photo: ASB Georgia



Photo: ASB Georgia

Georgia

The Caucasus region between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea, where Georgia is located, is very much at risk from disasters. Floods, earthquakes, droughts and landslides: the population has to expect climate extremes at any time.

It is all the more important to take precautions and to educate people about how best to behave in the event of a disaster – even small children can learn to protect themselves.

Helping children to learn

ASB hosted training courses in kindergartens for 80,000 children and 6,400 nursery teachers. The needs of disabled children were given special attention, because they are particularly vulnerable in an emergency. The children learned the emergency number by heart, about the contents of an emergency kit and how to help others quickly. The little emergency helpers also practised how to evacuate buildings and how to do this in the safest possible way. Children with disabilities were involved in all exercises, and they learned how to tell the other children what support they need.



Photo: ASB, Georgia

Active throughout the country

The project did much more than that, however: in coordination with the Georgian Ministry for Education and Research, ASB developed learning materials for child-oriented disaster prevention, which was distributed to all participating kindergartens.

Furthermore, disaster protection committees were set up in all children's daycare facilities; the committees are responsible for the emergency exercises even without ASB being present. Another success

supports the lasting impact of the work of ASB: The topic has now become part of the national school curriculum thanks to the efforts of the Samaritans.

To ensure that not only children and their families know what to do in an emergency, ASB has significantly expanded its activities: the helpers in Georgia reached large parts of the population with a nationwide campaign. Through television, radio and the press, they created awareness of the fact that disaster prevention affects everyone.

Nicaragua

The new disaster prevention guidelines of the United Nations, which were agreed in 2015 in Sendai in Japan, call upon the governments to make disaster preparedness inclusive, i.e. accessible to everyone. In an emergency, people with disabilities are not always able to help themselves and are therefore particularly at risk. Nicaragua, El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras in

Central America are among the countries most at risk of natural disasters.

However, people with disabilities were not taken into account in the national disaster preparedness plans, their right to safety and protection was not sufficiently considered. In order to integrate people with disabilities in disaster preparedness from the outset, disaster protection plans have to be published such that they can be accessed by all people in the region, including



Photo: ASB Central America

disabled people. Protective equipment and emergency materials also have to be accessible to everyone.

Since April 2015, ASB has been part of a large-scale project that aims to put the political and social structures in place that ensure that people with disabilities and older people are effectively integrated into disaster preparedness and disaster management. On a local and national level, ASB held training courses in cooperation with both civil society organisations and state authorities. ASB trained 25,000 pupils and teachers, among others, in inclusive disaster preparedness.

Regional partnership

In the past few months in Nicaragua and its neighbouring countries, ASB has set up a large network of aid organisations for the disabled and disaster protection workers who campaign for inclusive disaster preparedness. The network works very well. Both governmental and non-governmental bodies show great interest in integrating disabled people and their needs into their disaster preparedness activities.

ASB and its partners have already achieved one major goal in 2015: the project has succeeded in including the needs of disabled people in the regional disaster protection plan.



Photo: ASB Central America

Haiti

In January 2010 Haiti was struck by a severe earthquake, which caused a significant setback for the country in terms of development. In the cities in the west, near the quake's epicentre, enormous efforts are still needed five years later to recover from the effects of the disaster. The country's infrastructure was destroyed.

Its geographical location means that Haiti is still prone to natural disasters. The island of Hispaniola, whose western part forms the Republic of Haiti, is located in a seismically active zone with frequent earthquakes. Severe tropical storms and strong rainfall, especially during the hurricane season from June to September, can also strike at any time. What's more, widespread deforestation causes frequent landslides.

The risks in Haiti are particularly threatening, because the country's public institutions do not work very well and are not able to appropriately react to imminent danger.

Introducing constructional safety

ASB helped with reconstruction measures in Haiti from the beginning, and it has been responsible for disaster preparedness in the west of the country since 2013. The Samaritans built six earthquake-proof

schools in the region. This not only increases the safety of pupils; in an emergency, the buildings also serve as shelters to the other residents. To ensure that secure buildings can be erected once ASB project has been completed, the helpers teach the people in the region the basics of disaster-proof construction.

ASB also secured vulnerable sections of rural roads. Only if these roads remain passable in the event of a disaster is it possible to quickly supply the people affected with aid supplies and food.

New knowledge has to have long-term effects

As part of a previous project in the districts of Petit-Goâve and Grand-Goâve, ASB taught all pupils of the around 250 primary schools how to behave during a disaster. This information is soon forgotten, however, unless it is regularly repeated. ASB therefore held refresher courses at all schools and other activities to consolidate the students' knowledge.

ASB also invited the headmasters to attend a joint training course. In addition to earthquake exercises, the headmasters learned about various escape routes and practical hand movements.

They also learned about which food, water and technology supplies should always be available, how to perform an evacuation and what is important in the event of an emergency. The headmasters used the



Photo: ASB Haiti

workshop to exchange knowledge and experiences. They will introduce what they have learned at their schools and act as disseminators there.

ASB did more than just provide information about disaster preparedness: the Samaritans opened school

gardens in selected schools. There, pupils and parents had the opportunity to learn about new cultivation and preservation methods. In Haiti, for example, ASB helps families develop their agricultural methods in small steps.

Philippines

The Philippines is also a region particularly vulnerable to natural disasters. Typhoon Haiyan, one of the most devastating hurricanes of the past few years, which swept over the group of islands in November 2013, dramatically illustrates this ever-present threat.

However, the Philippine government and the residents failed to respond by preparing better for upcoming incidents. They did not have the capacity or the financial resources to systematically prepare for a disaster. For children and for the elderly with disabilities, this is particularly disastrous. The society is hostile to people with disabilities. They are often marginalised and their rights disregarded.

This is what happened to 63-year-old Judith, who lives in Somosa, a village on the island of Cebu. She has been physically disabled since childhood because she contracted polio. Her husband Edgardo has a severe visual impairment. In 2013, Cebu was hit hard by the typhoon. The strong wind easily blew the roof off the house of the elderly couple. During the storm, they helplessly crouched on the floor of their wooden house. They had never heard any instructions on how to get themselves to safety.

Using funds efficiently

In the Philippines, ASB cooperates with several organisations that help the disabled and with disaster protection workers. ASB helps them develop as an organisation. Together they learn how to use the existing staff and financial resources to act effectively and help many people in the long term.

In addition, ASB and its partner organisation taught several hundreds of people with disabilities how to appropriately react to a disaster. Many of them were trained as disseminators who pass on their knowledge. Furthermore, ASB closely cooperates with the local governments, the central government and with representatives of civil society in order to raise awareness of the special needs of disabled people on all levels.



Photo: ASB, Indonesia und Philippines

Help for a million schoolchildren

Judith also visibly benefited from the work of ASB; people with disabilities were invited to attend a meeting in their home region to review the local disaster preparedness plans and to practice safety measures. She was very pleased about the way the meeting was organised: “I am especially happy that our opinion was taken into consideration when choosing the meeting place. The meeting was held close to our homes, which means we were able to attend it,” she said.

Together the participants agreed on safe and easily accessible escape routes for people with disabilities in the event of a disaster. These were included in the local risk plans. The meeting motivated Judith. She campaigned for the setting-up of an initiative of people with disabilities, which had once existed in her village. With success: the initiative now has articles of association and is represented in the local council.

ASB also carried out evacuation drills and gave lessons on disaster preparedness. The project reached more than 3,200 teachers and contact persons in various school districts. Around one million school children benefited from the initiative of the two aid organisations.



Photo: ASB Indonesia

Indonesia

ASB has been active in Indonesia since 2006, where it teaches people how to prepare for and react to disasters in schools and communities. ASB now has considerable experience in the implementation of such measures. ASB is seen as a pioneering organisation when it comes to developing disaster



preparedness specifically for people with a special need for assistance, such as people with disabilities as well as children and the elderly. This is especially important in Indonesia, because this island state is one of the most seismically active countries in the world.

At the same time, Indonesia with its around 250 million inhabitants is one of the world's most densely populated states. The Mentawai Islands in the far west of the archipelago, however, has a relatively low population density. The people make a living from fishing or agriculture, often isolated from roads and towns. When there is an earthquake here it can take several days before help reaches the people. It is all the more important for the local population to be able to help themselves.

ASB together with the authorities and interest groups drew up disaster management plans in four communities on the Islands. It also launched special disaster preparedness forums. Their representatives learned about various aspects of disaster preparedness and response. Together they step for step simulated an earthquake situation in all four communities.

Making things clear

Because the activists in the area of disaster protection in Indonesia have often provided contradictory information on what to do in the event of an earth-

DISASTER PREVENTION



quake, many people feel uncertain about how to act. In the event of a disaster, this can cause additional risks.

For this reason, ASB in coordination with official disaster protection workers launched a large-scale media campaign in Indonesia to introduce a unified approach to disaster preparedness. ASB produced

materials such as bags, posters and T-shirts with safety advice and the clear instructions: “Drop-Cover-Hold”. ASB reached an additional 13,000 people with an SMS campaign. Each person received three messages that were sent out on the anniversaries of previous earthquakes and on the International Day of Disaster Risk Reduction.

Interview:

Saving lives through foresight

In December 2013, when Hurricane Haiyan swept across the archipelago of the Philippines and caused destruction on a large scale, the helpers of course first provided emergency aid. During the reconstruction phase, the focus is now both on restoring things to how they were before the storm and on creating a better starting situation for future disasters.

Because the Philippines is one of the countries most affected by the impacts of climate change. According to a statistic from the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security, the Philippines are in third place on the global danger scale that represents the likelihood of natural disasters.

ASB is aware of this problem and therefore focuses its activities on disaster preparedness measures. ASB project coordinator Martin Kunstmann explains the idea behind the project and the successes achieved so far.

Mr Kunstmann, what is the approach that underlies the relief measures of ASB in the Philippines?

In cooperation with local partner organisations and official bodies, we want to enable people to adequately prepare for dangers such as hurricanes and earthquakes. Our programme aims to teach people how to cope with the increasingly difficult climatic conditions and how to respond appropriately in an emergency. Our main focus is on the needs of people with disabilities. They are particularly vulnerable in the event of a disaster. By effectively pre-

Photo: ASB/Astrid Königstein



Martin Kunstmann is project coordinator at ASB Foreign Aid, and he manages disaster preparedness projects in Indonesia and the Philippines, among other things.

paring everyone involved, we are able to help people with disabilities in an emergency.

This sounds very good, but also abstract. What specifically do you do when you are on site?

It is important for us to involve the people concerned in all our activities. We therefore cooperate closely with self-help organisations of people with disabilities and with local social initiatives for inclusion. We train their staff and volunteers, so that they know how to continue in the coming years without ASB being present.

“We want to enable our partners to continue their work without ASB being present.”

We also draw up disaster protection plans together with our partners, which in particular take into account the needs of people with disabilities. Because we don't simply arrive and impose our knowledge and our plans on the people, but rather develop them together and adapt to the specific conditions in the region, we ensure that the knowledge about how to properly prepare for natural disasters and life-saving actions in an emergency reaches as many people as possible. The aim is for the measures to be continued once ASB is no longer present.

Why did ASB choose this area of responsibility?

In Indonesia, ASB has been promoting inclusive disaster preparedness for many years. With great success. Now the needs of people with disabilities have been included in the disaster protection plans almost everywhere.

Schoolchildren learn how to protect themselves and disabled classmates in the event of a disaster. And in the case of evacuations – for example when there is an earthquake or a storm warning – we can see that our plans really do work. The people in the regions

at risk bring themselves and their neighbours to safety, the evacuation centres have plenty of supplies and the radio stations are maintained. We are hoping to repeat this success in the Philippines.



Helpful partnerships

There are Samaritan organisations in some dozen countries, and there are active and committed partnerships in place between the many divisions of the Samaritan associations.

In addition to joint meetings and aid deliveries, these partners develop innovative concepts and implement projects together.

In the past few years, not only helpful projects were initiated as a result of the partnerships, but many close friendships have developed, too. A network that spans borders.

Photo: LSA

Latvia

In 2010, ASB Hamburg-West and the Latvian Samaritan association (LSA) in Riga entered into a partnership. In order to expand the activities of the volunteers, ASB from Hamburg is paying for a volunteer coordination position. This is where training measures are organised for honorary members and many activities in social institutions (such as visiting services, games afternoons ...)

ASB Federal Association supports the umbrella organisation of the LSA with direct partner support measures, including the setup of an e-learning platform with information and training videos about topics like nursing and first aid. In addition, a semi-

nar programme for family members who are carers was developed, which was successfully put into practice in mid-2015.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

Sarajevo was the host of the “network conference international Samaritan cooperation”, which brought together representatives from Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia, Georgia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Romania and Germany. During the conference, specific cooperation ideas were developed, such as close cooperation between LSA in Riga in



Photo: LSA

Latvia and Žene sa Une in Bosnia for the construction and running of social institutions. Ever since, SSK Georgia and SFOP Poland have been working more closely together for the benefit of children with disabilities and together they develop successful concepts.

A networking conference in Kiev is planned for 2016. The aim is to hold a network meeting once a year in different places in order to encourage closer cooperation between the organisations.

ASB Federal Association supported the Samaritans of Žene sa une in Bosnia in building mobile social services for large families, the elderly and people with disabilities in Bihac and Cazin. A team comprising a social worker, two nurses, four volunteers, a doctor, a psychologist, and two coaches, visits people at home, offers a nursing service, carries out training for caregivers and provides educational advice. With support from the German partners, the service could be expanded significantly in 2015, so that now some 200 benefit from it. Financial support was provided for a legal advice centre specifically for women.

The Workers-Samaritans-Youth organisation (ASJ) in North Rhine-Westphalia is planning to set up a partnership with the Samaritan organisation Žene sa Une in Bihac in Bosnia. Žene sa Une was set up in 1992 to support women, children and the elderly affected by the war. The organisation has been a member of

SAMARITAN INTERNATIONAL, the network of international Samaritan organisations, since 2013. To officially start the partnership, young people from North Rhine-Westphalia travelled to Bihac and prepared further meetings and joint projects with the Bosnian partners.

Hungary

ASB in Chemnitz and surroundings have had a friendly partnership with the Samaritans in Hungary for many years. In 2015, the Samaritans from Chemnitz provided support and advice as well as financial resources for the setting-up of a base camp for volunteers. The aim of this new service is to attract new volunteers and to strengthen the existing volunteer structures.

Furthermore, citizens can obtain advice in the new social services centre and use the services of the Hungarian Samaritans, who help people in need with shopping, visits to the authorities, in the household and with hygiene. In the future, the new centre will also host lectures and further training events as well as first aid courses.



Photo: ASB SEE

Serbia

Apart from the reconstruction work following the devastating flood in Serbia in 2014, the focus of the Serbian Samaritans was on helping the refugees on the Balkan route. ASB Hessen helped its Serbian partners by donating an ambulance, which the mobile medical teams used to provide medical care for refugees on their travels. Thanks to the support from Hesse, 2,130 refugees were provided with medical care. 35 volunteers in the mobile teams attended further training courses before their deployment.

The help given to refugees has shown that a culture of volunteering is emerging in Serbia. More and more people help the Serbian Samaritans of the Initiative for Development and Cooperation (IDC). ASB Federal Association therefore helps the setup of volunteer structures by hosting regular meetings and training volunteers. The educational services are very well received and have led to the establishment of a volunteer structure. In 2015, 50 new volunteers were trained using the resources provided by ASB, helping to gradually extend the network of helpers at the IDC.

Photo: SFOP

Poland

The Polish Samaritan association (SFOP) has set up advice services for 300 survivors of the Nazi regime. The elderly people and their families are provided with legal, medical and social advice. What's more, in 2015 the people affected had the opportunity to take part in excursions and attend educational programmes on the topics of health, fitness and nutrition. The programme was expanded thanks to assistance from ASB and the Foundation "Erinnerung, Verantwortung und Zukunft"

(EVZ). The programme also trained volunteers, who then took part in a visiting programme; they visited the elderly survivors and together with pupils wrote down their memories.

To help the SFOP to further expand their activities, ASB Federal Association also provided assistance to its Polish partners in Zakliczyn and helped fund accounting and administrative staff costs. ASB also supported training courses for their Polish colleagues in volunteer management, acquiring third-party funding and first aid.

Lithuania

The Lithuanian Samaritan association (LSB) in Kelmé and ASB Warnow-Trebetal further consolidated their partnership in 2015. This included a summer holiday camp for young people from both countries. Here, the focus was on getting to know the other culture and living conditions. During a trip to Berlin, the young people discussed democracy, German history and Berlin as an international metropolis.

Sustainable association structure

ASB Warnow-Trebetal also supports the setup and development of an autonomous association structure of the LSB Kelmé and therefore funds the general manager position. The aim is to recruit new members and to promote cooperation with policy makers.

ASB Dresden & Kamenz helped its partner, the LSB Vilnius, renovate their offices. What's more, funds were provided for the development of an autonomous and sustainable association structure at the LSB Vilnius. The focus was on investing in a management position.

In Kaunas in Lithuania, ASB Westhessen helped its partner with renovating and expanding a day centre for senior citizens. In 2015, a separate entrance was

built at the centre for people with disabilities, and a transport service for people with disabilities and visitors was set up.

The social centre of the LSB in Kaunas also has a kindergarten. With financial support from ASB Hamburg-Nordost, the centre was expanded to include two additional rooms, and an entrance to the backyard was built, where the children can now play safely. ASB Westhessen provided the funds for the design of the courtyard and for sports equipment.

Successful professional exchange

In 2015, ASB Gera and the LSB Pakruojis once again organised a professional exchange programme. The focus of the visits was on training soft skills, which the staff of associations and networks need.

ASB Sömmerda is planning to set up a partnership with the LSB Kedainiai. A delegation from Sömmerda travelled to Lithuania to set up a lasting partnership. There, they learned all about the projects and needs of the Lithuanian Samaritans and presented the work of ASB Sömmerda. Together they drew up partnership agreements for their future cooperation, such as annual youth meetings.

In 2015, ASB Mittelhessen also supported the “New Middle” social centre of its partner in Ukmergė. The Samaritans from Hesse also financed the moderni-

sation of the electrical and sanitary facilities, which were in urgent need of it, as well as the setting-up of a centre for senior citizens.

The umbrella organisation of the LSB received support from ASB Federal Association, which funded part of the staff and office costs and contributed to the financing of the annual LSB youth meeting.

International youth meeting

Last but not least, an international youth meeting was hosted in Lithuania in the summer of 2015, which included participants from Germany, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, and Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition to youth unemployment in Europe, the focus of the meeting in Kaunas was on the promotion of intercultural competence. The German participants included young people from the ASJ Hamburg and young adults from ASB Hamburg-Nordost.

Photo: ASJ Hamburg





Photo: ASB Georgia

Georgia

ASB Federal Association supports several projects of the Georgian Samaritan association. In 2015, these included the development of the mobile nursing services in Telavi and Gori and of an early support centre for children with disabilities and their families and the setting-up of a palliative care unit for children in the Children's New Clinic in Tbilisi.

As well as therapy rooms, the palliative care unit also has a family room. The nursing staff, doctors and hospital managers attended training courses on how to care for terminally ill and dying children and their families. ASB and SSK also co-funded the purchasing of therapeutic toys and the recruitment of a physiotherapist and an occupational therapist.

The SSK also implemented a rugby project for socially disadvantaged young people; as they learn this popular sport they are able to forget about their difficult living conditions for a little while. The team sport also allows them to acquire important skills that can help them find jobs. This project is also financially supported by ASB Federal Association.

Organisational consulting also plays a role in the partnership of the two umbrella organisations. ASB Deutschland e.V. helps the SSK Georgia develop their coordination and management skills, develop



Photo: ASSR

and implement projects, and initiate and maintain strategic relationships with various stakeholders. In 2015, the focus in Georgia was on the setting-up and coordination of a volunteer service and the development of the first aid courses.

Slovakia

The Slovak Samaritan association (ASSR) is headquartered in Stara Lubovna. In 2015, ASB Deutschland e.V. supported this umbrella organisation by helping fund staff and office costs to allow the ASSR to continue its work.

Ukraine

In Germany, Ukraine mostly makes the headlines because of the conflict with Russia. In 2015, the relief efforts of ASB in this crisis-ridden country therefore focused on internal refugees from the east of the country and from Crimea. The vibrant partnerships between ASB branches and their colleagues from the Ukrainian Samaritan association (SSU) continued in 2015.

For almost two years, ASB Berlin has been helping with the setting-up of a rescue dog network in Ukraine. In the cities of Kiev and Pavlograd, a big city in the centre of the country, 20 dog owners and their four-legged friends are now in training, learning how to look for missing persons and for people buried under rubble.

The project was officially launched in 2015 with financial support from ASB Federal Association. A practice group was started in Kiev soon afterwards. A local shipping company provided the training grounds and, together with ASB Berlin, procured materials such as tunnels and ladders to help simulate real danger situations.

That's where the two-headed teams now practice what to do in an emergency. A visit to Germany is scheduled for 2016, when the dog handlers from Kiev are planning to take an official German aptitude test to become certified.

ASB Schleswig-Holstein has been a partner of the Samaritans in Chernivtsi in Ukraine for many years. In 2015, when it became clear that the oncology clinic of Chernivtsi was in need of renovation, the partnership once again showed its strength and the Samaritans from the coast helped the Ukrainian Samaritans financially. ASB also continued to help fund accounting and administrative staff costs.



Photo: ASB/Esther Finis



Photo: ASB/Esther Finis

The Workers-Samaritans-Youth organisation (ASJ) Schleswig-Holstein also funded the playground plus equipment in a kindergarten for children suffering from tuberculosis in Chernivtsi. All play equipment was modernised and a lot of new equipment was purchased.

In 2015, ASB Federal Association also supported a project that looks after and supports survivors of National Socialism in Kharkiv. Survivors of the violent crimes committed by the Nazis are looked after by an outpatient nursing service. There is also a visiting service with many young volunteers. In October, an experienced nurse from Germany held a training course for the staff of the nursing service.

A global network, also on the internet

Many ASB country offices and Samaritan organisations are represented in Social Media and report on their manifold activities. An exchange that strengthens the international Samaritan network.

 Samaritan International added 38 new photos to the album SAMARITAN Flash Mobs 2015.
29 September 2015 · 🌐

On September 29 2015, Samaritan organisations from 10 countries took to the streets to conduct flash mob events to raise awareness for the importance of first aid training among young people.
#samifirstaid

Photos by the respective organisations / local organising teams of the flash mobs.



 The Samaritan Association of Georgia added 3 new photos — with Nino Tsintsadze and Marika Tepnadze.
8 December 2015 · Tbilisi, Georgia (country) · 🌐

ჩვენი ბავშვთა ადრულული განვითარების ცენტრი ლაგოდეხში
Our Early Development Center in Lagodekhi



👍 Like 💬 Comment ➦ Share



Samaritans Lithuania @LSBSamaritai · 13. März 2015
samaritai.org/pakruojo-samar.../
 LSB Pakruojis celebrating International Women's Day 2015 #March8 #GoodSamaritans #Tulips



IDC Serbia @IDCSERBIA Folge Ich

#Volunteer_work #makeadifference in lives of #refugees passing through Serbia
facebook.com/idc.serbia/



DEFALT 1 ⚠

13:31 - 3. Nov. 2015
 Republik Serbien



ASB Nepal
 Chitwan is populated by the indigenous Chepangs and Tamangs living in the foothills of Lushar and Kailash VDCs. The Chepangs, are one of the most deprived and marginalized aboriginal communities of Nepal when living an isolated life. Their subsistence economy is mainly based on forest resources. The Tamangs are the largest ethnic community among the Tibeto-Burman speaking people, representing more than 10% of Nepal's population. They also rank as the most underprivileged among the Tibeto-Burman speaking communities of Nepal.

ASB Nepal © ASB 2015
 4,000 likes · 4,000 views · 4,000 comments

DidRRN @didrrn · 2. Apr.
 Today #world #autism #awareness #day remember that #inclusion means no one should be left behind.

3 likes · 4 comments

Screenshots: Facebook, Twitter, YouTube

Links across borders

The partnerships between the Samaritan organisations are not just about projects, they are mainly about relationships between people. Together they develop measures to improve the living conditions of socially disadvantaged families in their countries. The partners learn from each other and with each other. Be it deliveries of relief goods, visits, youth meetings or professional exchange – the friendly cooperation benefits everyone involved.

The Samaritans show us that language barriers and distances can be overcome when people meet at eye level. This is a success model for the future.



as of 31/12/2015 Plan: Stock vector@Pingeat

Events in Germany

Round table meetings about the situation in Ukraine

“We are heading for a humanitarian disaster. Right in the heart of Europe,” said Michael Schnatz, ASB project coordinator in Ukraine, on 22 April 2015 in Cologne. “Together we have to do everything we can to prevent this.” ASB had invited representatives of other German aid organisations who were active in the Ukraine to join a round table meeting. There, they exchanged experiences about their latest sup-

port measures as well as about the problems and challenges they faced. A second networking event was held in Kiev in June 2015, where ASB organised a round table meeting with the Ukrainian Samaritan association (SSU). Finally, a third round table meeting was held in Berlin.

Meeting with the Ukrainian ambassador in Berlin

On 19 November 2015, ASB federal manager Ulrich Bauch and the head of ASB Foreign Aid, Edith Wallmeier, met the Ukrainian ambassador Dr Andriy Melnyk in Berlin. The two ASB representatives introduced Dr Melnyk to ASB activities in Ukraine and talked about challenges and difficulties. They also discussed further possible ASB projects, such as longer-term reconstruction work. Find out more about the work of ASB in Ukraine at www.asb.de/ukraine.

Parliamentary evening in Berlin

ASB hosted a parliamentary evening in Berlin on 21 September 2015. The event focused on refugee aid in Germany and worldwide. In his speech, ASB federal chairman Knut Fleckenstein MdB made it clear that the challenges cannot be solved in Germany alone: “We would be well advised to hang on to the



right to asylum and to do everything we can to find a European solution. ASB is ready to cooperate.”

In his closing remarks, ASB president Franz Münterfering also highlighted the importance of ASB’s refugee aid work in Germany and abroad: “We cannot save everyone. But it’s about each individual person. I am very proud to be the president of ASB and the refugee aid work ASB is currently providing.”

A video illustrated the efforts of ASB on the Balkan route. Find out how ASB helps those who have lost everything: www.asb.de/fluechtlingshilfe

Media response to ASB refugee aid work

In June, ASB gave journalists the opportunity to gain an insight into the situation of the displaced people and the many helpers in Ukraine. You can read about the results and publications of this journalists’ trip at www.asb.de/ukraine

In September, ASB federal chairman Knut Fleckenstein MdEP travelled to Serbia accompanied by many journalists. This publication is also available online at www.asb.de/journalistenreise-serbien

Volunteers rehearse for an emergency

For four days in June, Lake Kemnader See in Bochum turned into a disaster area – this is where



Photo: ASB Susanne Höhle

helpers of ASB rapid intervention team rehearsed for their deployments abroad. The members of the First Assistance Samaritan Teams (FAST) set up their field clinic and water treatment plant.

An important part of the exercises was to correctly diagnose and treat abrasions and contused wounds, diarrhoea and respiratory diseases. The medical staff had to pay particular attention to specific cultural conditions. The patients were played by extras who presented to the field clinic with various symptoms and problems. The wounds were created by the realistic emergency representation teams using make-up. The extras also challenged the helpers with the water treatment plant, which was used by the FAST members to turn the untreated water from Lake Kemnader See into drinking water.

You can find an extensive picture gallery of the exercises at www.asb.de/FAST-uebung-bochum

ASB Foreign Aid guidelines

The Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB) is a German aid and welfare organisation with 16 branches at federal-state level and more than 200 branches at regional, district and municipal level as well as 125 associated not-for-profit companies. Almost 37,000 employees and some 16,000 volunteers ensure a quality service in areas such as civil protection, rescue services and social welfare services. As a non-political and non-denominational organisation, ASB has, since its foundation in 1888, represented continuity and reliability. With its first mission abroad in 1921, Foreign Aid became a major component of the organisation. Humanitarian and democratic principles form the basis of our activities at home and abroad.

Our main activities

Using an integrated approach, we provide effective worldwide aid and also support the establishment and development of local self-help structures.

International Samaritan Cooperation

By enabling exchange and networking between German and international Samaritan associations, we promote the development of structured organisations and provide support for their work in Central and Eastern Europe.

Disaster Risk Reduction

By strengthening local disaster management and self-help capacities, we reduce the local population's vulnerability in the event of an emergency. We also

assist the local population to prepare for dealing with the aftermath of disasters.

Humanitarian Aid

In the event of a sudden crisis or disaster abroad, we provide quick and targeted relief according to the needs of the affected population.

Return and reintegration

We seek to enable refugees and displaced persons to return to a safe environment. A crucial element in our work is to create socio-economic prospects to afford people the chance of a fresh start.

How we work

Providing help – as fast as possible, as long as necessary

Our work is based on an integrated approach. In the event of a sudden crisis or disaster, we provide help as quickly as possible by, for example, deploying our rapid response teams, with the assistance of reliable partners and our own established local country offices. We regard it as a duty to support people struck by disaster for as long as is necessary. Therefore, we not only provide Emergency Relief but also help communities with reconstruction work, implementation of long-term measures to fight the causes of poverty and help the local population to better prepare themselves for possible future emergency situations.

Linking fulltime and voluntary commitment

Voluntary contribution is one of ASB Germany's most valuable resources. This is why we combine our fulltime and voluntary contingents to cooperate in the provision of emergency aid to people all over the world.

Strengthening local partners

We aim to improve the living conditions of local populations and to reduce their dependence on external support. We strengthen the local population's capacity to help themselves by systematically supporting local groups, e. g. NGOs, through consultation, further education and financial funding.

Our flexibility in terms of programmes and strategy enables us to react in ways most appropriate to the requirements of the respective country.

Promoting international partnerships

Within the Samaritan Cooperation Central and Eastern Europe, we initiate, promote and encourage partnerships between German ASB branches and Samaritan organisations in other countries. Thus we help establish sustainable welfare structures in partner countries and create a range of social services for people in need.

Bundling resources

As part of a leading welfare federation, we have access to a wide range of experience and know-how. We share this knowledge with our partner organisations and cooperate in national and international networks on a basis of mutual trust. This enables us to bundle resources and make full use of their synergistic effects.

Being accountable for what we do

Part of our philosophy is to ensure the responsible and efficient use of our finances. We feel obligated to be fully accountable to those we help as well as those who fund our operations, namely our donors, supporters and the general public. Therefore, we continuously carry out internal and external quality assurance procedures as well as audits to ensure and extend the transparency and professional quality in our work.

We help here and now.

ASB is a non-political and non-denominational charity and relief organisation. We help all people – regardless of their political, ethnic, national and religious affiliation. We enable people to develop and maintain the greatest possible degree of self-determination. We provide rapid and direct help to all those in need of our support.

Since its foundation in 1888, ASB has provided services that focus on people's needs, including care for the elderly, rescue services, First Aid, services for children and young people, support for people with disabilities and those suffering from mental problems, as well as foreign aid and adult and further education. The ASJ, the ASB's independent youth association, promotes the social engagement of children and young people. ASB-Foreign Aid focuses on Emergency Relief and Disaster Risk Reduction as well as reintegration and cooperation in Central and Eastern Europe.

Anyone wanting to be involved in voluntary services will find suitable opportunities at ASB, for example as part of a civil protection team or as a paramedic, as a visitor to the elderly or a reading mentor, as a visiting dog handler or a school nurse.

More than 1.2 million people throughout Germany share the ASB's humanitarian and democratic principles and support our non-profit association

with their membership and their personal commitment, as part of 16 regional associations, more than 200 local branches and around 120 associated not-for-profit companies.

What was to become ASB began in 1888 with six carpenters in Berlin. At a time when there were neither health and safety regulations nor emergency rescue services and workers often sustained terrible injuries, our founding fathers successfully established the first "Training Course for First Aid after an Accident", in spite of considerable opposition. In 1909, the first Arbeiter-Samariter-Gruppen (Workers Samaritan Groups) from across Germany formed the Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund (ASB).

As a relief organisation and charity, ASB also considers itself an advocate for socio-political issues. ASB takes a position on current debates and is in contact with members of the Bundestag (lower house of German parliament) and the European Parliament as well as ministries and other institutions.

Quality assurance

In all its projects aimed at alleviating need and poverty, ASB focuses on the requirements of those affected, integrating them in planning and implementation alongside local partner organisations. In this way, the abilities and know-how of the local population as well as the available resources are put to best use, and people’s potential for self-help is strengthened. ASB hands over responsibility for projects to its local partners as early as possible so that the work is continued on an independent basis.

Quality, effectiveness, efficiency and transparency are of utmost importance when implementing aid projects. This is why ASB is committed to a continuing process of learning and regularly assesses and evaluates its projects. ASB’s provision of aid measures follows international standards such as the Code of Conduct, the Sphere Standards (minimum standards in Humanitarian Aid), “Do no Harm” or the standards of German and international donors (e. g. basic rules for Humanitarian Aid, guidelines for the donation of drugs).

ASB also applies its own standards, such as

- the ASB Procurement and Tendering Guidelines,
- the ASB Safety and Security Standards, and the
- “Standard Operational Procedures” for the consistent implementation of logistical, administrative and operational processes in ASB Country Offices.

Project coordinators regularly monitor local projects, and audits carried out by donors ensure that ASB projects are scrutinized for effectiveness and efficiency. If required, additional quality assurance measures are introduced.

Glossary

Advocacy: If you are involved in advocacy, you speak up for people who are unable to speak for themselves, for example in disaster or crisis situations. You become the “advocate of those in need”, demand the observance of human rights or draw attention to forgotten disasters.

Absolute poverty: An indicator has been developed to determine how many people live in absolute poverty: having enough money to meet vital needs. Those who have less than 1.25 dollars a day are considered to be poor in absolute terms. Most of the 1.2 billion people who are part of this group have in fact less than one dollar a day. Most of them do not have any money at all and have to live off their harvest or their livestock.

The World Bank mentions another form of poverty: moderate poverty. Those who have less than two dollars a day are considered poor. The World Health Organisation (WHO) provides another definition: According to it, poverty is defined as the ratio of individual income and average income. Those who have less than the average income of the country they live in are poor.

Capacity building refers to the transfer of knowledge and skills. Here the aim is to enable deci-

sion-makers, workers, teachers and other stakeholders to organise help, set up risk preparedness structures and initiate social developments through providing education and training.

Cash-for-work: The underlying idea is as the name suggests: people affected by a natural disaster can help with cleaning up and reconstruction work and receive a wage in return. They can tide themselves over when there are no other sources of income and at the same time learn how to help themselves in the event of future natural disasters.

Human Development Index (HDI): The human development index presents annual figures and data about life expectancy, living standard and level of education. It aims to create a basis for comparing the level of development of as many countries as possible.

Humanitarian corridor: The humanitarian corridor refers to safe access to people in war zones. Experts include in this everything people need for normal development. This includes food and shelter, as well as psychological factors like security, love, a sense of identity and self-esteem.

IDPs (internally displaced persons): People who have been displaced from their homeland as a result of war or human rights abuses but have not crossed the border of their home country are called IDPs.

Once they have crossed the national border, they are called refugees.

Disaster prevention / disaster preparedness:

These include all activities that help prevent or reduce the impact of natural disasters in vulnerable regions. This may include the installation of early warning systems and educating the public about life-saving behaviours in an emergency. Inclusive disaster preparedness is becoming increasingly important – this means that people with disabilities are included and their needs are integrated into all emergency plans.

Humanitarian aid coordination committee: This committee is a forum for exchange between the federal government, humanitarian non-governmental organisations and other institutions involved in humanitarian aid. The aid organisations and federal ministries that have come together in this committee have agreed, among other things, on the “twelve basic principles of humanitarian aid abroad”. ASB is also a member of the coordination committee and adheres to these basic principles, which you can find here: http://www.auswaertiges-amt.de/DE/Aussenpolitik/HumanitaereHilfe/Grundregeln_node.html

NGO: This abbreviation stands for non-governmental organisation. It refers to organisations that are active independently of state control. Examples include international and cross-border aid organisa-

tions as well as religious and science organisations. ASB is also an NGO. Often, they are called INGO – international non-governmental organisations.

Shelter means protection and accommodation. In humanitarian aid, shelter refers to protection systems that are temporarily erected after a disaster. Often, they are tents or corrugated-iron huts, which can be built quickly but are nonetheless stable.

Vulnerability: In humanitarian aid, this refers to the vulnerability of states and regions to natural disasters. If, due to a lack of social, physical, economic or natural resources, a region is expected to suffer severe damages in the event of a disaster, then experts call this ‘high vulnerability’.

WASH stands for “water, sanitation and hygiene”. This refers to all activities that help provide clean drinking water. This area of work also includes the transfer of knowledge about hygiene and basic sanitation.

Partners and networks 2015



Aktion Mensch

Aktion Mensch supports projects and provides start-up assistance for organisations working with the disabled, children and young people. Aktion Mensch also invests in setting up structured approaches to disability support in Central and Eastern European countries. www.aktion-mensch.de



Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID)

AusAID is the government agency responsible for managing Australia's overseas aid programmes. www.ausaid.gov.au



European Commission Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO)

ASB is a partner of ECHO, the European Union authority responsible for Humanitarian Aid. ECHO awards funds for emergency and disaster relief and subsequent reconstruction programmes. www.ec.europa.eu/echo



European Commission Directorate for Development and Cooperation (EUROPEAID)

EuropeAid is responsible for the preparation of European development strategies and provides development aid anywhere in the world. http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/index_en.htm



Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

The BMZ sets the guidelines and concepts of German development policy. It supports sustainable projects to combat poverty and provides development oriented Emergency Relief. www.bmz.de



German Federal Foreign Office

The German Federal Foreign Office supports fast-response humanitarian and disaster relief aimed at saving lives in acute emergency situations. www.auswaertiges-amt.de



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

The goal of the Food and Agriculture Organization is to improve the food supply situation worldwide, for example by increasing agricultural production. www.fao.org



Foundation "Erinnerung, Verantwortung und Zukunft" (EVZ)

In remembrance of the victims of National Socialist Injustice, the Foundation "Erinnerung, Verantwortung und Zukunft" campaigns for strengthening human rights and international understanding. It promotes international projects concerned with addressing historical events and support for the victims of National Socialism. www.stiftung-evz.de



Germany's Relief Coalition (Aktion Deutschland Hilft/ADH)

Germany's Relief Coalition, Aktion Deutschland Hilft, is a federation of German relief organisations that combine their extensive experience to provide rapid and effective aid for major catastrophes and emergency situations abroad. ASB was a founding member of ADH in 2001. www.aktion-deutschland-hilft.de



Institute for Foreign Relations (ifa) Civil Conflict Resolution Programme

The ifa is actively involved in working towards a peaceful and enriching coexistence of people and cultures across the world. The civil conflict resolution programme (zivik) advises non-governmental organisations and the German Federal Foreign Office on civil conflict resolution. www.ifa.de/zivile-konfliktbearbeitung.html



National Agency Education for Europe at the Federal Institute for Vocational Education and Training (NA BiBB)

NA BiBB supports adult education through the LEONARDO DA VINCI and GRUNDTVIG programmes, by networking European and national projects. www.na-bibb.de



SAMARITAN INTERNATIONAL (SAM.I)

SAM.I is an amalgamation of 13 non-governmental organisations that campaigns for the development of a uniform emergency aid system at European level. ASB was a founding member of SAM.I in 1994. www.samaritan.info



SOLIDAR

SOLIDAR is a European network of 53 aid organisations campaigning for social and economic justice in more than 90 countries worldwide. SOLIDAR is active in Humanitarian Aid, development cooperation, social policy, social services and lifelong learning. www.solidar.org



United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF works for children's rights and to ensure sustainable living conditions for every child around the world. The United Nations Children's Fund is represented in more than 150 countries. www.unicef.de



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)

UN Women fights against the discrimination of women and girls, works for the empowerment of women and the achievement of gender equality on a worldwide basis. www.unwomen.org



United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

Based on the Geneva Convention on Refugees, UNHCR runs worldwide campaigns to enable people threatened by persecution to be granted asylum in other countries. According to its mandate, UNHCR is charged with seeking lasting solutions for refugees. www.unhcr.de



United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)

WFP is the United Nation's most important institution in the fight against global hunger and provides food aid in many disaster and crisis regions around the world. www.wfp.org



VENRO (Association of German Development NGOs)

VENRO is a voluntary alliance of some 100 German non-governmental organisations. VENRO members are private as well as church-related organisations concerned with development cooperation and Emergency relief as well as development policy education, public relations and advocacy. www.venro.org



Voluntary Organisations in Cooperation in Emergencies (VOICE)

VOICE is an association of 85 European humanitarian non-governmental organisations, and acts as chief contact with the European Union on topics such as disaster relief, disaster prevention management and rehabilitation. www.ngovoice.org



WASH-Network/The German Network for Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

was founded by German non-governmental Organisations (NGOs) on June 20th 2011. The members of the WASH Network are German non-profit organisations which focus on development cooperation or humanitarian emergency relief and rehabilitation and are actively engaged in the WASH sector.

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