



Annual Report 2017



'Our vision is a just world where all men & women determine the course of their lives in dignity & security, using environmental resources in a sustainable manner.'

Helvetas Intercooperation gGmbH ('Helvetas Germany') was established on November 7th, 2013. It has its registered office in Bonn and is entered in the commercial register of the Bonn District Court under the registration number HRB 20460 on December 6th, 2013. Since the beginning of 2014, the company has been recognized as a non-profit organization by the tax authorities. Helvetas purpose is the advancement of development cooperation and the advancement of internationalism, of tolerance in all areas of culture and on the concept of international understanding within Section 52 (2) sentence 1 no. 13 and no. 15 of the German Tax Code.

Helvetas Germany is committed to the self-determined development of disadvantaged people and communities in developing countries, and helps people to help themselves. The organization promotes people's fair access to vital resources and champions the protection of social, economic, political, ecological and cultural rights and duties. In Germany, Helvetas pushes for demonstrating solidarity and instituting policies towards developing countries which are geared to the needs of the people in these countries. Helvetas is politically and denominationally neutral.

Helvetas is an international network of independent affiliate member organisations working in the field of development cooperation and emergency response. As a network, we promote the fundamental rights of individuals and groups and strengthen governments and other duty bearers in their service provision. The Helvetas network builds upon six decades of development experience. With 1400 collaborators, it is engaged in more than 30 countries. The affiliated members share a common vision and mission and subscribe to common working principles and policies. The members implement joint development programmes and adhere to a common strategy including defined working approaches and thematic areas of intervention.

Development work on four continents

Helvetas's core activities are international projects. Helvetas strives to improve the living conditions of disadvantaged people in rural areas in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe. The projects focus on six working areas: Water and Infrastructure (water and sanitation, bridges and paths); Rural Economy (food, organic agriculture and Fair Trade); Environment and Climate Change (soils, forests and water); Education (literacy and skills development); Knowledge and Learning; and Governance and Peace (human rights and culture).

Giving the South a voice

Successful development work involves not only projects in the South, but also change in the North. Helvetas endeavors to draw attention to the lives of people in developing countries and the challenges they face through campaigns and awareness-raising activities.

Organizational Structure

The supervisory board of Helvetas Germany is the shareholders' meeting. Director of Helvetas Germany is Louise Luttkholt. Helvetas Germany implements projects in joint programs and program structures of the Helvetas network. It has long-term representations in the program countries.

Helvetas worldwide



*In red colour: Programme countries with projects by HELVETAS Germany

Projects 2017

In 2017 Helvetas Germany supported the country programs in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Laos, Myanmar, Nepal, Tajikistan, Tanzania and Vietnam with its projects and contracts. More projects are planned in various other program countries of the Helvetas network.

Bangladesh - Strengthening Civil Society Organizations

With this project, capacities of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) will be strengthened. The organizations will engage in inclusive and transparent decisions on budgets and expenditures on matters of daily concern of the people. The project is commissioned by the European Commission and with its emphasis on partnerships between CSOs and Union Parishads, best practices will be developed in supporting the emergence of a local civil society. Helvetas Germany will focus on improving the knowledge of the target groups on legal requirements for CSO participation in the budgetary processes and related information disclosure and accountability mechanisms. A related capacity building and skills development, as well as coaching by the facilitators will lead to a more participatory development budget formulation process involving citizens and organized CSOs. It is expected that citizens, actively represented by the CSOs, will recognize that the budgetary processes and the resource allocation have become more

transparent and participatory. Furthermore, the allocation of budget by Union Parishads will address the demands of women, poor and disadvantaged population groups in a better way.

Burkina Faso – Laafia

In the province of Gnagna, an above-average number of children die due to contaminated water. The public isn't aware of how important hygiene is for health. In our project 'Laafia' school children in 15 villages will now become 'ambassadors for change' as a better health system and with that a better future for all will be created. What the children have learned within the project activities, they will use daily at school and transfer their new knowledge to their families. The family members will learn from their example and will quickly realize that they get sick less often. At the same time, the project ensures that authorities and private companies also acquire necessary knowledge to sustainably anchor the new achievements. The project is supported by a generous donation from 'Together for Africa'.

Lao PDR – Connect

In our project Connect we are strengthening the capacities and conditions of CSOs so that they can act again more freely and that development goals can be achieved effectively and sustainably. The operating space for Lao CSOs has been shrinking since 2012, with increased restrictions, limited learning and networking space, and few opportunities for CSOs to engage in meaningful and participatory dialogue with the government. This has resulted in a lack of citizen inclusion in service planning and delivery, heightening the vulnerability of Laos' most marginalized groups. In cooperation with '[Cord](#)' (in the lead) and our partner organizations 'Participatory Development Training Centre' ([PADETC](#)), 'Learning for Development Association' ([LDA](#)) and the NGO-Network, we provide space for knowledge exchange, policy dialogue and service delivery to Laos' most disadvantaged communities. We connect actions with networks (i.e. the Lao Youth Network, Lao Farmers' Network, SUN CSA and INGO Network) to enhance the channels through which CSOs' work can be leveraged to support Laos' national development goals more effectively. Connect strengthens the operational, managerial and technical capacity of CSOs, enabling them to recognize and respond to development needs (particularly those pertaining to education and nutrition) which affect marginalized groups. Furthermore, our CSO-LA project strengthens the confidence of CSOs and enlarges the space in which they can influence policy at the local and national level.

Our working areas

Water & Infrastructure
 Access to clean drinking water & sanitation



Rural Economy
 Agriculture as a driver of development



Environment & Climate Change
 Combating climate change



Skills Development & Education
 Opportunities through education



Democracy & Peace
 Participation & peaceful conflict resolution



Knowledge & Learning
 Exchanges of experiences promote professionalism



Myanmar – Promoting Equitable, Accountable, Civic Engagement in Myanmar (PEACE)

The project PEACE will contribute to enhance resources and strengthen capacities of local CSOs for an empowered and accountable civil society in Myanmar that embraces diversity, promotes social inclusiveness, accountability, transparency and civic responsibility. The 'Local Resource Center' ([LRC](#)) is our local partner in Myanmar. LRC is a registered Myanmar non-governmental organization and NGO-umbrella network. Until now, support to the LRC has been fragmented, short term and did not allow for more holistic and predictable planning and implementation over a longer period. LRC needs also to be better equipped to negotiate, anticipate, strategize and provide professional services, which respond to the shifts in development frameworks in the country. Together with 'Partnership for Transparency Fund' ([PTF](#)) we support the LRC to fulfil its role as an important change agent, local CSO service provider, and key platform in Myanmar. LRC provides capacity building and networking services to over 1000 local civil society member organizations. Through the PEACE project, these 1000 local CSOs are supported in strategic initiatives promoting civic engagement and responsive local governance. At least 500 CSOs are equipped and capacitated to participate in multi-stakeholder platforms, development projects and participate in decision-making with local authorities and public / private service providers at national and sub-national levels. In sum, PEACE will contribute to local CSOs` participation in the planning, implementation and review of development projects, service delivery, and policies at national and sub-national levels, for a more inclusive and equitable development in Myanmar.

Nepal – A bridge for the people of Kumpur

In 2013 the broadcasting channel ARTE showed a documentary about the most dangerous school trails in the world. In one of them, ARTE describes the problems of Nepalese children in Kumpur village, who must cross the river with a tightrope. Conquering the Trisuli river is very dangerous; resulting sometimes even in accidents. The documentary sparked off interest and support from private donors wishing to support the villagers. Consequently, Helvetas Germany coordinated with the Government of Nepal building a safe suspension bridge. Donors continued to contribute generously to the project and the construction work could be continued and finally completed in February 2017.

Tajikistan – Sustainable Food & Nutrition Security

Even though Tajikistan has reduced its poverty rate from 80 percent in 1999 to approximately 32 percent in 2014, the country remains the poorest in Central Asia. Rasht Valley belongs to one of the remotest regions in Tajikistan; 65 percent of its population lives below the poverty line; this has an effect on food and nutrition security. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, agricultural knowledge is still insufficient in Tajikistan. Bad harvests and economic downturn in Russia effect the economic growth in Tajikistan. The economic development will most likely continue to decline and this means that the positive gain in poverty reduction will slow down, stop or even reverse. Insufficient and one-sided agricultural production, political and geographical isolation and lack of commercial alternatives have resulted in food insecurity. The knowledge of alternative models of marketing agricultural products is poorly developed and the average household income of the population is extremely low. With this project we want to improve sustainable food and nutrition security together with our [Alliance2015](#) partner [Welt-hungerhilfe](#) and our local partner organization Azal. Through (1) a diversified and sustained increase of food availability, (2) through an uptake of sustainable methods of soil cultivation, and (3) through the creation of additional income sources the project supports 25 communities in the districts of Rasht, Tavildara and Jirgatal to improve the living conditions of the local population in the long term. With the recovery of idle land in suitable locations, the project addresses the problem of land scarcity. In particular, extremely disadvantaged families who will get assigned new farmland will profit from the project.

Tanzania – Women as small-scale entrepreneurs (KUWAKI)

Tanzania remains one of the poorest countries in the world. About 80% of the people in Tanzania are living in rural areas and especially women are sociocultural and economically disadvantaged. For this reason, we support the project KUWAKI in the Singida province. KUWAKI is an abbreviation for KUWEZEHA WANAWAKE KATIKA KILIMO which means 'Women empowerment through irrigated vegetable production and marketing'. Besides women, the project emphasizes the inclusion of other disadvantaged groups like albinos, disabled persons and people living with HIV/AIDS. 138 lead farmer show big commitment in sharing their knowledge with the 2.606 group members. Thanks to this project, women and other disadvantaged groups can strengthen their status within the society. To make more people aware about the project activities, there are regular radio- and television broadcasts since September 2015. The Erbacher Foundation has contributed to the project with a generous donation.

Vietnam – BioTrade Initiative

With this project, we upscale the sustainable Ethical Biotrade (EBT) business model to the natural ingredient sector of Vietnam so that the country becomes an internationally recognized supplier of natural ingredients to phyto-pharmaceutical, cosmetic and food supplement industries. The Action is implemented together with our partner NGO "Center for Rural Economy Development" ([CRED](#)). Helvetas Germany is responsible for managing the project while CRED acts as facilitator, coach and provider of technical and methodological competence. Furthermore, we are working together with 12 small and medium sized phyto-pharmaceutical enterprises, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment. The main actors are the Vietnamese medium-sized companies that process the plant parts, because their market connection to buyers guarantees the rural population the purchase of their plant raw materials. Vietnamese phyto-pharmaceutical enterprises supply national and international markets with EBT products. They will expand their BioTrade business, reduce their environmental footprint and improve their working conditions. Consumers increasingly demand for BioTrade products from Vietnam. Finally, more than 5.000 smallholder farmers increase their livelihoods through EBT value chains and stable supplies to EBT enterprises. An enabling policy and regulatory framework for BioTrade initiatives is stimulating the sustainable growth of the phyto-pharmaceutical sector in Vietnam.

Jahresabschluss 2017, Revisionsbericht

KPMG AG, Cologne, has audited the financial statements as well as the profit and loss account for the year 2017 and approved them without reservation.

Outlook for Helvetas Germany

Helvetas Intercooperation has already been active for 4 ½ years. The organization has used this time efficiently to establish itself in the German development society and to submit initial project proposals to the European Union, the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and German foundations. Helvetas Germany is open to synergies and meaningful cooperation with other organisations that share the same goals. We are a member of 'Together for Africa' and aim to become a member of the NGO umbrella organization VENRO.

Thank you very much for your interest in our work!

Income statement for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2017

	2017		2016	
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
1. Revenue		11,336.81		9,379.50
2. Grants		946,495.36		457,863.74
3. Donation income		17,341.91		44,889.43
4. Other operating income		172,560.47		4,940.00
5. Expenses from project funding		-737,110.21		-235,650.39
6. Personnel expenses				
a) Wages and salaries	-272,531.85		-152,594.16	
b) Social security, pension and other benefits	-65,998.86	-338,530.71	-33,006.11	-185,600.27
7. Other operating expenses		-80,099.81		-85,954.30
8. Other interest and similar income		57.43		88.75
9. Net income for the year (PY: net loss)		-7,948.75		9,956.46

Balance sheet as at 31 December 2017

Assets

	31 Dec. 2017		31 Dec. 2016	
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
A. Current assets				
I. Receivables and other assets				
Other assets		148,453.19		168,463.05
– thereof from shareholders:				
EUR 22,800.34 (EUR 51,010.00) –				
II. Cash and cash equivalents		1,044,094.12		626,586.68
		1,192,547.31		795,049.73
B. Prepaid expenses		334.00		334.00
		1,192,881.31		795,383.73

Equity and Liabilities

	31 Dec. 2017		31 Dec. 2016	
	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR
A. Equity				
I. Subscribed capital		25,000.00		25,000.00
II. Accumulated deficit		3,237.46		-6,719.00
III. Net income for the year (PY: net loss)		-7,948.75		9,956.46
		20,288.71		28,237.46
B. Special item for project funds		105,658.81		97,236.00
C. Provisions				
Other provisions		25,004.00		18,061.00
D. Liabilities				
1. Liabilities to banks		0.00		456.11
2. Trade payables		3,246.11		9,364.27
3. Liabilities to shareholders		17,861.50		16,307.01
4. Other liabilities		1,020,822.18		625,721.88
– thereof for taxes: EUR 923.32 (PY: EUR 1,239.34) –				
		1,041,929.79		651,849.27
		1,192,881.31		795,383.73

Source and use of funds statement related to the Transparent Civil Society Initiative commitment

	Ideational	Special-purpose		Total
	EUR	Project funding EUR	Consultancy EUR	
Source of funds				
Donations received	17,341.91	0.00	0.00	17,341.91
Subtotal (income fund raising)	17,341.91	0.00	0.00	17,341.91
Income from consultancy	0.00	0.00	11,336.81	11,336.81
Project contributions				
– Private grants	95,000.00	251,867.33	0.00	346,867.33
– Government Grants	0.00	599,628.03	0.00	599,628.03
Other operating income	506.47	172,054.00	0.00	172,560.47
Other interest and similar income	0.00	57.43	0.00	57.43
Subtotal (income from services provided)	95,506.47	1,023,606.79	11,336.81	1,119,113.26
Total income	112,848.38	1,023,606.79	11,336.81	1,147,791.98
Use of funds				
Expenses forwarded donations	16,179.80	0.00	0.00	16,179.80
Subtotal (expense use of funds)	16,179.00	0.00	0.00	16,179.00
Expenses project funding	0.00	737,110.21	0.00	737,110.21
Expenses wages and salaries	75,719.03	251,474.87	11,336.81	338,530.71
Other operating expenses	61,804.75	2,115.26	0.00	63,920.01
Subtotal (expense from the provision of services)	137,523.78	990,700.34	11,336.81	1,139,560.93
Total expenses	153,703.58	990,700.34	11,336.81	1,155,740.73
Net income	-40,855.20	32,906.45	0.00	-7,948.75

Bonn, May 2018



Louise Luttkholt
Director