

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024



**WHICH  
PATH LEADS TO  
A DIVERSITY  
OF VOICES?**



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



## WHY

### WE ACTIVELY ENGAGE

- 4 Editorial
- 7 Our partner countries
- 9 Improving systems



## WHO

### MAKES IT POSSIBLE

- 22 Finances from Helvetas Germany
- 24 Our organization
- 25 The Helvetas Network



## WHAT

### WE DO

- 11 Helvetas at a glance
- 13 Ensuring basic rights
- 16 Strengthening good governance
- 19 Creating new perspectives

## About Helvetas

Helvetas has been contributing to efforts to alleviate poverty, working to advance human rights, and fighting injustice across the globe. Poor and disadvantaged people and communities are at the center of our work. Together, we create new prospects, leveraging existing potential, strengths, and assets: we help people to help themselves. We provide humanitarian response following natural disasters and in conflict situations. We always work closely with local partner organizations from civil society and the private sector, as well as with local authorities.

Helvetas' 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 the working areas Water, Food and Climate; Skilly, Jobs and Income; Voice, Inclusion and Cohesion and Humanitarian Response.

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 towards disadvantaged people in the Global South.

## IMPRINT

Published by Helvetas Germany

Picture Credits:

Top picture: © Matt Bennett

Middle picture: © Helvetas Lebanon/ Mada

Bottom picture: © Helvetas Vietnam

# MOVING FORWARD IN UNISON – NOW MORE THAN EVER

**The gap between the rich and the poor is increasing worldwide.  
At the same time, development cooperation is receiving less and less  
funding. Helvetas Germany nevertheless continues to work with local partner  
organizations to overcome hunger, poverty and injustice.**

## Overcoming crises together

The year 2024 was characterized by great contrasts. While global crises continued to escalate - be it due to the ongoing consequences of the war in Ukraine, the escalation of the Middle East conflict or the increasing instability in the Sahel region - it also became clear once again how indispensable international cooperation is. Global economic conditions remain tense and public budgets are coming under pressure in many places - with a noticeable impact on the financing of development work.

And yet, we at Helvetas Intercooperation have not been discouraged. On the contrary - we have further expanded our commitment to a fairer, more sustainable world. In an environment of growing uncertainty, we have worked with our local partners to create stability, develop new solutions and successfully anchor projects locally.

Whether in the areas of promoting resilience, education, food security or climate adaptation - our teams around the world have found creative, pragmatic ways to remain effective.

In the face of geopolitical tensions and shrinking public funds, the global sustainability goals are in danger of being lost sight of. And yet every day we see how many people continue to work with conviction, courage and determination for a better future - in governments, in civil society, in companies. It is this power of cooperation at eye level that has also sustained us in 2024.

For us at Helvetas Germany, confidence does not mean closing our eyes to reality.

It is an expression of our determined action against powerlessness and resignation. The challenges are tough - but the will to change is evident.



Martin Koppa,  
Director of Helvetas Germany

Our heartfelt thanks go to all our partners, employees and supporters. They make our work possible. Let us continue together in the coming year - with determination, solidarity and confidence.

*Martin Koppa, Director*

## Helvetas Germany

Helvetas Intercooperation gGmbH (Helvetas Germany) was established on November 7th, 2013 and has entered in the commercial register of the Bonn District Court under the registration number HRB 20460 on December 6th, 2013. Helvetas Germany is denominationally neutral and politically independent and is a member of the international Helvetas network. The Helvetas network builds upon six decades of development experience and is engaged in more than 30 countries with more than 1400 collaborators. The members implement joint development programs and adhere to a common strategy including defined working approaches and thematic areas of intervention.



# LOCALLY DRIVEN DEVELOPMENT

**In the 1980s, NGOs began to recognize that development projects are only successful and sustainable when they involve collaboration with local organizations, since they understand the challenges on the ground and have the local population's trust.**

This insight led to long-term, close collaborations with partner organizations, including NGOs, associations, federations and civil society organizations. The focus shifted toward locally driven development. The local population, civil society, the authorities and state governments, as well as the private sector, became increasingly and actively involved in projects. Today, this participatory approach is firmly established in international cooperation – and has become an even greater priority with the 2030 UN Agenda for Sustainable Development and since the final declaration of the 2016 World Humanitarian Summit in Istanbul, also known as the “Grand Bargain.” It's also a core principle of our work at Helvetas.

## **More cooperation for true partnership**

Local partners bring extensive knowledge of the local context to the table and facilitate access to the population. With its local and international staff, years of experience in project planning and implementation and its international network of experts, Helvetas contributes to the successful implementation of programs and projects developed together with these partners – with the ultimate goal of creating fair opportunities for people to break free from poverty.

## **An engaging debate**

**The debate over postcolonialism and the “decolonization of development cooperation” has been going on for some time. The postcolonial perspective posits that many development problems in formerly colonized countries have historical roots and can be traced back to exploitative colonial systems.**

**This perspective also comprises locally driven development, which involves a critical review of traditional concepts and practices in development cooperation. This includes the fact that many programs are still shaped by donors from the Global North and are aligned with European or American value systems rather than attempting to make meaningful use of local knowledge.**

The integration project in **Bolivia** is a perfect example of this. The project focuses on strengthening local partners, communities and state institutions in order to jointly develop sustainable integration solutions. By working closely with civil society organizations, host communities and public authorities, sustainable structures are created that ensure access to education, healthcare and social rights for children and young people. The project pursues an approach that promotes the active participation of those affected and supports the development of public protection mechanisms. The aim is to improve the living conditions of the affected families in the long term and to strengthen their social participation.

In the **Vietnamese province of Cao Bang**, Helvetas Germany is working with the local partner and planning authority to support the development of an ecological and climate-resilient spice cultivation system. Local knowledge, practical expertise and digital innovations are jointly incorporated into the design of climate-resilient cultivation methods and the restoration of species-rich biozones. This close partnership not only strengthens the ecological resilience of the region, but also promotes inclusive and sustainable economic development.

Many of these partnerships have existed for years. A basis of trust has developed that enables discussions at eye level. Projects are planned and implemented jointly – the principle of locally driven development. The principle of equality is rightly questioned: NGOs from the Global North usually act as donors, which automatically puts them in a position of power. This imbalance must be consciously thematized and shaped.



© Helvetas

Shared responsibility: Together, representatives of the Honduran Ministry of the Environment, an association of the municipalities and Helvetas discuss the protection of watersheds through proper solid waste management.

## New perspectives on an old issue

Despite all these efforts, decisions are often made without involving the affected people and partners, in part because of short planning times, strict budget constraints and detailed reporting requirements. International and national financing processes are complex and often difficult for smaller organizations to handle. When information, technical expertise and access to key decision-makers are also lacking, it becomes difficult for local partners to act independently.

In humanitarian crises, international NGOs often work with their own staff rather than with local organization because disasters require a rapid response, logistical capacity and large amounts of material resources. But, not considering the local context brings with it the risk of diminishing the effectiveness of the measures adopted.

A remaining key issue is direct access to donors in the Global North, who tend to trust organizations from their own countries and to use them as intermediaries for monitoring and quality assurance. At the same time, organizations such as Helvetas are more than just technical actors. NGOs play an important communication role; they can convey needs, impacts, opportunities

and challenges to a broad audience and raise awareness, there by promoting an understanding of development cooperation.

## A paradigm shift in our thinking

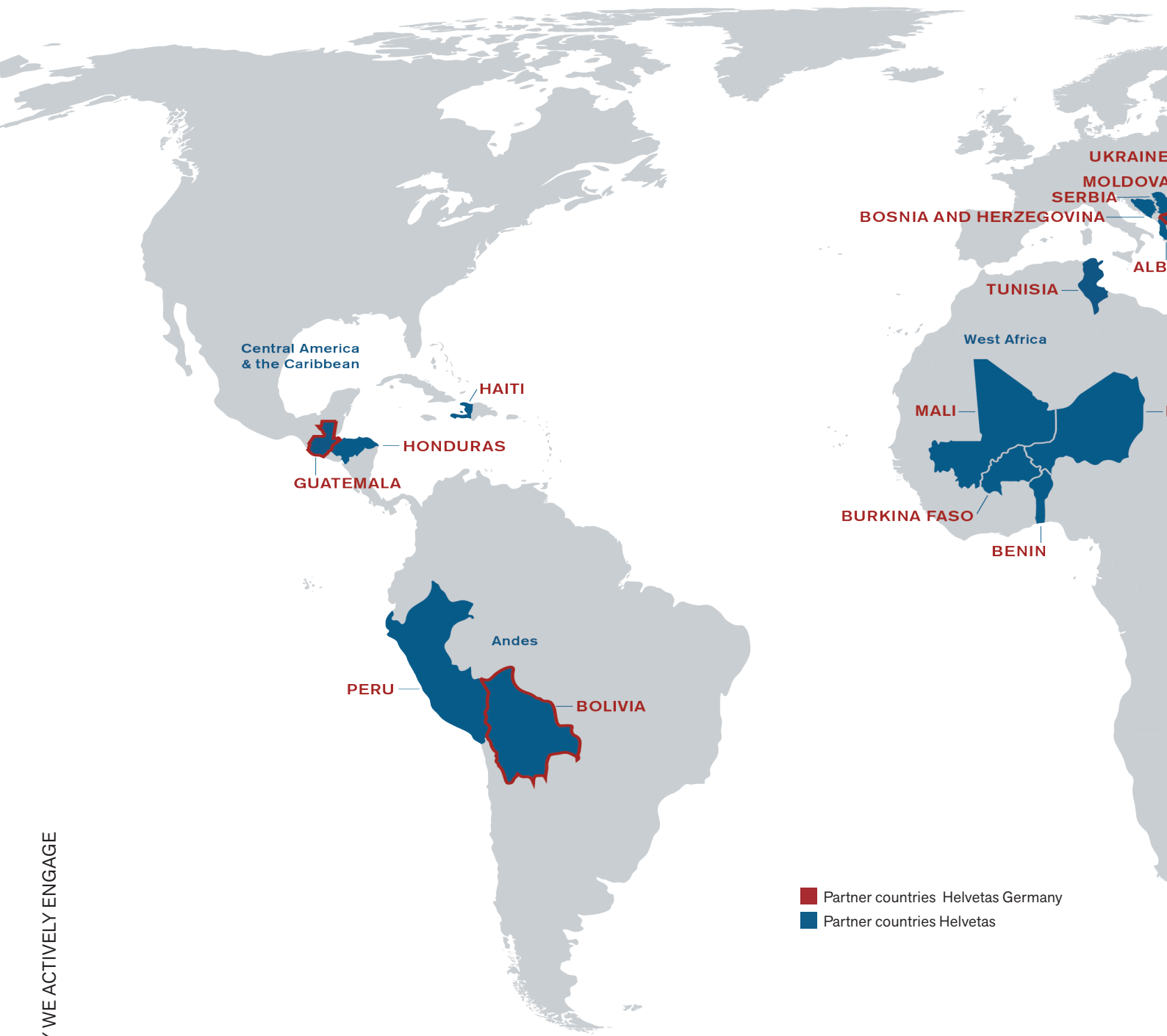
Ultimately, the debate underscores the long-held desire of many actors – from both the Global South and North – to eliminate the unequal distribution of power in development cooperation. This has led to further strengthening organizations in our partner countries so that they can implement their own strategies. The goal is to meaningfully involve all relevant actors, promote locally driven development processes and enhance partners' sense of responsibility and capacity to act.

For Helvetas, locally driven development cooperation means working on a long-term basis with partners in countries and regions who share similar values. We work together to identify challenges and develop solutions. Each organization contributes its strengths. We are convinced that it is worthwhile to invest in strong and sustainable partnerships with civil society organizations, the private sector and local authorities. The result is a win-win for everyone.

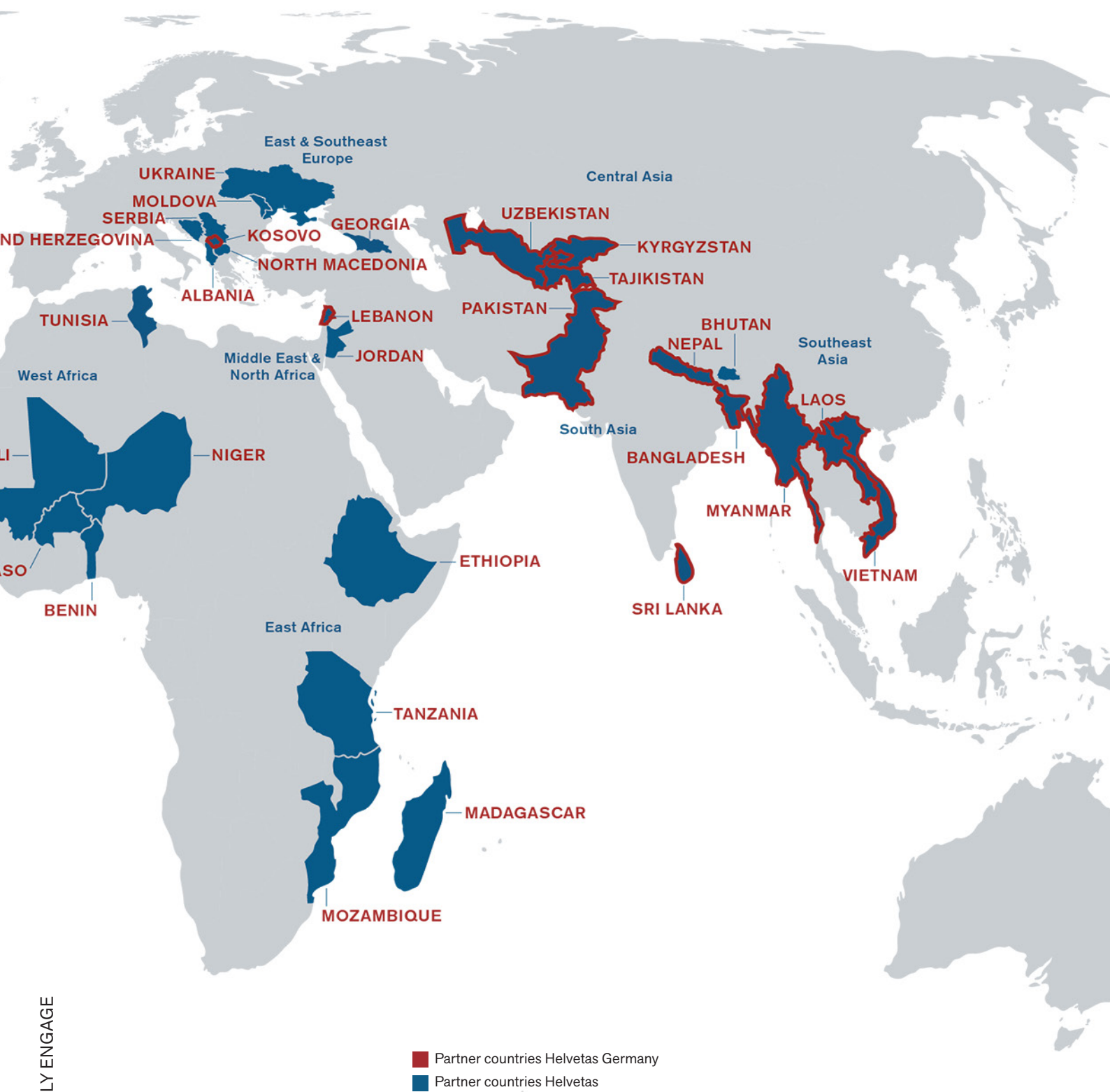


# FAIR OPPORTUNITIES FOR EVERYONE

Helvetas works with and for people living in poverty. We work in countries that are among the poorest in the world as well as in middle-income countries and in fragile, insecure regions. Because our experience shows that sustainable development takes time, we are committed to long-term efforts of creating fair opportunities for all.



OUR PARTNER COUNTRIES





# CIRCULAR SOLUTIONS - FROM BEAN TO BAR

**In the light of growing global environmental and resource crises, the transition to circular and sustainable systems is becoming increasingly urgent. In Vietnam, Helvetas is implementing innovative, regenerative approaches in the cocoa sector, creating a transferable model for sustainable, resilient agriculture.**

## The Concept of Circular Economy

A circular economy is a model that prioritizes regenerative systems over linear ones, aiming to reduce waste, retain the value of products and materials, and protect ecosystems. It promotes design and production practices that enable reuse, recycling, and natural regeneration—shifting away from the traditional “take-make-dispose” model.

The European Union (EU) has emerged as a global leader in this transition. Through its Circular Economy Action Plan under the European Green Deal, the EU seeks to drive circularity in production and consumption, particularly in key sectors like food, plastics, and packaging. It also places strong emphasis on sustainable value chains, consumer empowerment, and enabling policies.

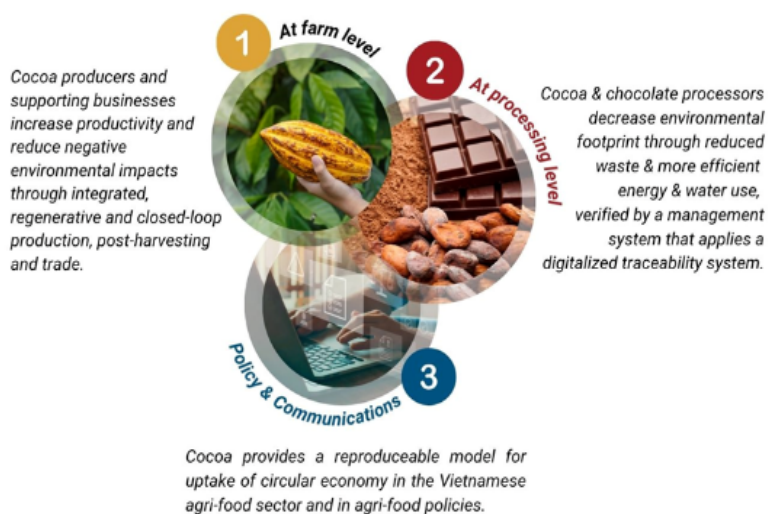
While circular economy is gaining ground globally, it remains relatively unfamiliar in Vietnam. Most producers and businesses are yet to adopt circular practices, and awareness of the concept is still limited. In this context, Helvetas Germany—together with the Community Development Centre (CDC) and with EU co-funding—is working to translate this concept into practical change, starting with the cocoa sector.

## From Bean to Bar: The cocoa Sector and a Circular Approach

Vietnam's cocoa sector, though modest in scale, presents strong potential for sustainable value creation. Cocoa beans from Vietnam are increasingly valued in global premium markets. Yet the sector faces multiple challenges: soil degradation, underutilization of by-products, reliance on chemical inputs, and inefficient packaging and processing practices.

The „Circular Economy Cocoa: From Bean to Bar“ (2022–2026) project was launched to pioneer systemic change in this sector. It targets 3,500 cocoa farmers and 500 workers in cocoa-related businesses, aiming to transition the entire cocoa value chain—from farm to final product—towards circular, regenerative practices.

Cocoa was chosen as a pilot sector for its manageable size and clear potential for impact. The project focuses on three key components:







### The Cocoa sector in Vietnam

The Project plays a pivotal role in fostering circular economy approach in Vietnam's cocoa sector. One of its key contributions lies in raising awareness and building a solid knowledge base among both public and private stakeholders. Through workshops, training sessions, and dissemination of practical resources, Helvetas Germany helps stakeholders understand the principles and benefits of circular economy practices, such as waste minimization, resource efficiency, and value chain integration. This foundational work is crucial in shaping mindsets and creating a shared vision for a more sustainable and resilient cocoa industry.

Secondly, the Project actively demonstrates the feasibility of circular economy solutions and technologies in real-world cocoa production settings. By piloting innovative practices - such as bio-composting cocoa husks, utilizing by-products for animal feed or organic fertilizers, developing cocoa-based biodegradable plastics, and introducing closed-loop irrigation and energy systems - the Project provides evidence-based models that local producers and processors can adopt. These demonstrations not only showcase practical benefits but also highlight cost-effectiveness and scalability, encouraging wider replication.

In parallel, Helvetas Germany supports governmental institutions in formulating and implementing enabling policies that promote green and sustainable agricultural practices. By engaging in policy dialogue, providing technical input, and facilitating public-private partnerships, Helvetas helps create a conducive environment for circular economy initiatives to flourish. These efforts contribute to aligning local agricultural development strategies with national sustainability goals and international commitments.

Finally, Helvetas Germany leverages its experience in the cocoa sector to promote opportunities for scaling up circular economy practices across other food sectors such as coconut, coffee, and cashew. By documenting lessons learned, sharing success stories, and facilitating cross-sectoral learning, the project serves as a model for integrating circular economy principles into broader agri-food systems. This not only enhances the sustainability of Vietnam's agricultural sector but also strengthens its competitiveness in the global market, particularly in meeting environmental and social standards of export destinations.



# WHAT WE DO

Helvetas implements development and humanitarian aid projects.

We ensure basic rights, create new perspectives, and strengthen good governance. We also provide technical advisory services, develop subject-specific expertise, and engage in political dialogue and lobbying.

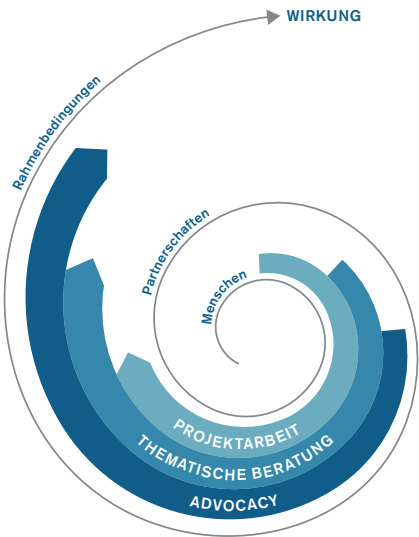


# DIVERSE COMMITMENT

In 2024 Helvetas Germany supported 16 Projects and Programs in different thematic areas in 11 countries.

## OVERVIEW PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS IN YEAR 2024

Continent/Country	Title	Funding/ Co-Funding
<b>Asia</b>		
Bangladesh	Reducing pollution and improving the ecology of the Sundarbans	BMZ
Kyrgyzstan	Greentour - Sustainable Tourism in Kyrgyzstan	EU
Laos	C4N - Connecting for Nutrition	EU
Lebanon	Food System Change	BMZ
Myanmar	Responsible Business Fund Plus	EU
Nepal	GRAPE Implementing Green Resilient Agricultural Productive Ecosystems	GIZ
Pakistan	Re-Food Resource Efficient Food Production in Pakistan	BMZ
Pakistan	SAF Food Production	Donations
Pakistan	Restore - Restoring shelter and livelihoods of flood affected vulnerable communities in Sindh	Donations
Pakistan	ARSA - Afghan Refugees Support Action	Donations
Tajikistan	TRIGGER - Towards Rural Inclusive Growth and Economic Resilience	GIZ
Uzbekistan	Support to economic reforms and sustainable economic development in regions of Uzbekitan	GIZ
Vietnam	Contribution to improved living conditions of banana producers and environmental protection in Northern Vietnam	BMZ
Vietnam	Circular Economy - From Bean to Bar	EU
Vietnam	Organic Spice Production	BMEL
<b>Latinamerica</b>		
Bolivia	Integration of young children and migrants in the city of Santa Cruz	Donations



## HOW WE MAKE AN EFFECT

Through projects, technical advice, and advocacy Helvetas initiates, promotes and guides systemic change.

Helvetas combines three mutually reinforcing intervention mechanisms: We implement development and humanitarian response projects; we provide technical advice and build thematic competences; and we engage in awareness-raising, policy dialogue, and advocacy. This is how we initiate, support, and influence systemic change that improves the lives of people in the short and long term, strengthens our partners, and fosters conducive frame conditions.



# USING RESOURCES SUSTAINABLY

Billions of people are born in countries where clean drinking water is scarce, where balanced nutrition is lacking, and where climate change threatens their livelihoods. Together with those affected and partner organizations, Helvetas Germany is developing solutions to improve these situations.

## Water and Resilience

In **Tajikistan**, water is central to economic and social development but faces growing challenges from climate change, outdated infrastructure, and inefficient use. Within the **TRIGGER project**, Helvetas Germany, together with GFA Consulting Group, strengthens integrated water resources management in the Zarafshon and Vakhsh river basins. The goal is to sustainably use water and increase agricultural productivity through improved water governance, efficient irrigation technologies such as drip and siphon irrigation, and targeted training. At the same time, river basin organizations and councils are established to enhance planning, implementation, and monitoring of measures. Climate-conscious water management fosters collaboration between the water and agriculture sectors, strengthening livelihoods, employment, and resilience in rural regions of Tajikistan. The project is funded by BMZ and implemented by GIZ.

## A Solidarity-Based Model for Food Security

**Lebanon** is in the midst of a deep crisis: economic collapse, political blockades, and the war at the end of 2024 have severely worsened food insecurity. Millions are affected, particularly low-income households and smallholder farmers. In response, Mada and Nation Station joined forces to implement the **project Food System Change**, developing an alternative, solidarity-based model that directly connects producers and consumers. Key measures include strengthening Nation Station's capacity through the expansion of its community kitchen, strategic planning, and technical support, as well as implementing a business model for the Souk el Mawsam market to improve smallholder market access. Simultaneously, 100 producers are trained in agroecological practices, supported by five demonstration plots to enhance productivity, resilience, and independence from imports. The project systematically promotes food sovereignty, fair markets, and sustainable production chains.

## A GOAL EXCEEDED

Helvetas set itself the goal of providing safe drinking water to one million people during its 2021–24 strategy period. We are very pleased that Helvetas, working together with local partners and with the dedicated support of numerous individuals and foundations, has handily exceeded this ambitious goal. In the past four years, we have provided access to water for 2,560,679 people. However, 2.2 billion people still lack access to safe drinking water worldwide, so this commitment must continue. Helvetas is regarded highly in many countries as an effective partner for the implementation of drinking water projects that closely involve local governments, populations and the private sector in an effort to ensure sustainability.

**2'560'679**

people have gained direct access to safe drinking water since 2021.

More about our working area Water, Food and Climate:  
[www.helvetas.de/en/what-we-do/our-topics/water-food-climate](http://www.helvetas.de/en/what-we-do/our-topics/water-food-climate)

Helvetas helps to achieve the following Agenda 2030 goals:

1

No  
overt



2

Zero  
hunger



6

Clean Water  
and sanitation



9

Industry,  
Innovation and  
Infrastructure



12

Responsible  
consumption and  
production



13

Climate  
action



17

Partnerships  
for the goals







### How has the situation in Lebanon developed since early 2024?

The situation has worsened dramatically: economic collapse, hyperinflation, political blockades, climate stress, and the war at the end of 2024 have pushed the country to the brink. Over 70% of the population now lives in multidimensional poverty. Food and basic services are scarce, and the agricultural sector is severely weakened: harvests have collapsed, and farmland and infrastructure—especially in Bekaa and the south—have been destroyed. Currently, 1.65 million people are in a hunger crisis, and acute food insecurity has doubled within a few months.

### How is the project responding?

We take a community-driven approach that provides immediate support while strengthening long-term structures. Mada assists smallholder farmers in Chouf in transitioning to agroecological methods—ensuring healthier, more resilient harvests and reducing dependence on expensive imports. Nation

Station connects producers and consumers through a community kitchen and the Souk el Mawsam market. Our solidarity model works as follows: revenues from catering and meal sales fund free, nutritious meals for families and children in need.

### What concrete results have been achieved so far?


The combination of sustainable agriculture, direct marketing, and a solidarity mechanism strengthens the local food chain. So far, 30 farmers have been trained on demonstration plots in agroecological practices such as composting, crop rotation, and efficient irrigation. These methods reduce costs, increase resilience, and promote sustainable food production. Our community kitchen in Beirut provides hundreds of people with warm, healthy meals weekly. The model has been successfully expanded to schools, ensuring children in disadvantaged neighborhoods are regularly fed. Through strategic investments and

targeted training, we have reduced operating costs and expanded income-generating activities. Our goal is to cover over 45% of ongoing costs independently—a key step toward financial sustainability..

### What overall impact does the project have on the community?

The project is contributing to re-shaping Lebanon's food system by building direct, fair links between producers and consumers. Farmers secure more viable livelihoods, consumers gain access to affordable and nutritious food, and vulnerable groups receive vital support. Crucially, the model is community-led, fostering resilience and reducing reliance on external aid. Despite delays and the disruptions of war, Mada and Nation Station have already surpassed several targets, showing that solidarity-based approaches can meet urgent needs while laying the foundation for long-term transformation towards food sovereignty in Lebanon.



A woman is shown from the chest up, pouring water from a large, weathered metal pot balanced on her head into a blue plastic bucket. She is wearing a dark red t-shirt and a patterned headscarf. The water is captured mid-pour, creating a dynamic splash. The background is a blurred outdoor setting with a light-colored wall.

**13'746**  
in Latin America

**238'363**  
in Asia and Eastern Europe

**322'731**  
in Africa

**574'840**  
people gained direct access to  
water from a newly built or  
rehabilitated source in 2024.

# YOUNG LEADERS DRIVING SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

Countless young people have very limited opportunities to participate in local decision-making processes. Weak structures of good governance and an increasingly restricted civic space make it difficult to effectively address growing challenges such as plastic pollution in the Sundarbans. Helvetas Germany is therefore committed to strengthening youth participation: by building local youth networks and working closely with communities, authorities, and other stakeholders, they promote stronger local environmental governance and advocate for a sustainable and inclusive future.

**380'149**  
People have been  
empowered to raise their  
voice and claim  
their rights since 2021.

## Youth for Governance

The project “Reducing Pollution and Improving the Ecology of the Sundarbans Mangrove Forests and their Zones of Influence in Bangladesh” aims to safeguard the world's largest mangrove ecosystem and the livelihoods of over 3 million people who depend on it. In response to rising plastic and polythene pollution in the Sundarbans Impact Zone, the project envisions empowering 530 youth and connect them through youth networks for leading the local actions to sensitize communities on the impact of pollution in the Sundarbans.

By promoting environmental education, youth-led community engagement, and advocacy, the initiative builds a strong network of change agents. These youth, as environmental champions, are working with fishermen and other resource users such as tour boat operators, market actors, students, and journalists to mobilize and engage them



in promoting responsible waste management especially the reduction of plastic and polythene use.

The project also fosters partnerships with local governments, NGOs, and the private sector to ensure a holistic and sustainable approach to protect the ecology of Sundarbans. Through interactive cultural tools, policy dialogue, and skill-building initiatives, the project aims to educate the local population and enhance environmental governance by enabling youth and community people to represent their interests in the protection of the Sundarbans ecosystem.



Helvetas helps to achieve the following Agenda 2023 goals:

- 5** Gender equality
- 10** Reduced inequalities
- 11** Sustainable cities and communities
- 16** Peace, justice and strong institutions

More about our working area  
Voice, Inclusion and Cohesion:  
[helvetas.org/governance](https://helvetas.org/governance)



## Restoring Civic Space – Protecting the Sundarbans

In the Sundarbans Impact Zone of Bangladesh, environmental degradation and shrinking civic spaces pose serious threats to both ecosystems and local communities. Weak governance structures, lack of systematic waste management, and limited citizen participation have made it increasingly difficult to tackle plastic pollution effectively.

### What are the crisis and key challenges facing local communities in the Sundarbans region?

The Sundarbans Impact Zone faces critical challenges from uncontrolled plastic and polythene pollution due to the absence of systematic waste management, weak policy enforcement, and low public awareness and civic participation. Waste is often dumped in water bodies or openly burned, harming biodiversity, human health, and livelihoods. Systematic waste management is absent in the local government level, while only six municipalities have very limited and inadequate systems. Earlier a co-management approach was initiated with involving community people for the protection of Sundarbans but currently that co-management structures are mostly inactive. While civil society, including youth groups, have lacks voice in decision-making, that further weakens local capacity to practice sustainable environmental governance. In the current political shift the whole local government system is not functioning properly that also impacted on the citizen-centric decision-making process.

### Why does the project focus on strengthening youth as civil society actors to address these environmental challenges?

Youth make up one-third of Bangladesh's population and have historically driven major social, political and civic movements, from the 1952 Language Movement to the 2024 Student-People's Uprising, or No-Cooperation Movement.

Despite this legacy, youth in the Sundarbans Impact Zone remain excluded from leadership and decision-making spaces. The National Youth Policy 2017 promotes youth engagement in environmental protection and civic participation. Recognizing their potential, the project aims to empower youth by strengthening their leadership skills and providing platforms for active participation, enabling them to lead community mobilization, advocate for pollution reduction, raise awareness, and promote sustainable solutions.

### What enabling spaces are required for strengthening local youth groups to address the challenges of plastic pollution in the Sundarbans Impact Zone?

Youth require opportunities to raise their voices and participate meaningfully in local decision-making processes, particularly in environmental governance. To strengthen local youth groups in addressing plastic pollution, it is essential to have inclusive, structured, and sustained platforms that empower them to organize, collaborate, and advocate for change. Mechanism for youth capacity-building in leadership, waste management, and community mobilization can create opportunity. Equally important is regular and institutionalized involvement in exchanges with local authorities, such as government administrations, co-management structures, local governments, and state and non-state actors, in order to legitimize the role of young people and ensure their active participation. Such supportive environments not only amplify the voices of young people, but also position them as key agents of change in environmental governance.

### How is the project contributing to engage youth groups meaningfully in governance and ensuring sustainability?

The project strengthens youth participation by establishing youth forums in all 17 sub-districts of the Sundarbans impact zone and creating a network with 530 members. The young people receive training in leadership, environmental protection, and local advocacy, and engage in dialogue with authorities, co-management bodies, market actors, and other relevant groups. As the voice of their communities, they bring local concerns into public hearings and consultations. Through close cooperation with local institutions, the project promotes their recognition as key actors for sustainable environmental governance and the long-term reduction of environmental pollution in the Sundarbans.

---

## A GOAL NOT ACHIEVED

In its 2021–24 strategy, Helvetas set itself the goal of supporting half a million people in raising their voices, claiming their rights and deepening their knowledge of governance, decentralization and democratization. However, increasing fragility, crises like the COVID-19 pandemic, extreme weather, authoritarian trends, and restrictions on citizens' rights made this goal difficult to reach. To protect partners and individuals, Helvetas works with sensitivity while donors shift priorities away from participation and human rights projects. Despite these challenges, promoting citizen participation and civil rights remains a core, cross-cutting focus in all Helvetas initiatives.

---





**215**  
in Latin America

**29'343**  
in Africa

**770'428**  
in Asia and  
Eastern Europe

**799'986**  
individuals have made informed  
decisions about work migration  
in 2024 following comprehensive  
counseling on safe migration.



# DIVERSIFYING OPPORTUNITIES

While agriculture remains a major source of employment in developing countries, sectors like tourism and sustainable trade are growing. Creating new perspectives means diversifying local economies, building skills, and expanding market access. Projects in Uzbekistan's Fergana Valley and Vietnam's Cao Bang show how targeted support can generate secure jobs, foster innovation, and protect cultural and natural heritage, ensuring women and men have attractive, safe, and future-oriented livelihoods.

## Tourism for Economic Development

Helvetas Germany and Mascontour GmbH are working to promote sustainable economic development in **Uzbekistan's Fergana Valley** through comprehensive tourism development initiatives. With its rich cultural, natural, and agricultural heritage, the region holds strong potential to strengthen its tourism sector, drive economic growth, and create employment opportunities. Implemented in cooperation with GIZ and other local and international partners, the project is part of a broader framework to boost the local economy while safeguarding local traditions and landscapes. By improving the skills of tourism service providers, diversifying the tourism offer, and enhancing promotional activities, the initiative aims to position the Fergana Valley as a distinctive and attractive destination for international visitors. It not only fosters economic growth but also promotes cultural exchange and sustainable development in the region.

## Sustainable Spice Production in Cao Bang

The **Spices Project in Cao Bang, Vietnam**, combines economic growth with ecological responsibility in one of the country's key cinnamon regions. Partnering with DACE (Vietnam) and Cha Dô (Germany), it tackles the impacts of high-density cinnamon monocultures—soil erosion, biodiversity loss, and agrochemical overuse—while securing local livelihoods. The project advances diversified, sustainable farming systems that boost biodiversity, reduce climate risks, and strengthen market resilience. With local authorities, forest areas are transformed into biozones and ecological corridors, restoring habitats, attracting pollinators, improving pest control, and capturing carbon. On 20 demonstration plots, farmers grow ginger, chili, garlic, lemongrass, and turmeric, while learning modern agroecology through hands-on training and the Mekong Farmers App. By linking farmers to high-value export markets, the project positions Cao Bang as a leader in climate-resilient, high-quality spice production—ensuring both nature and communities thrive.

## A GOAL NOT ACHIEVED

In its 2021–24 strategy, Helvetas aimed to provide 320,000 young people with access to hands-on vocational training. With 198,161 completing programs that support employment, small business creation, and income improvement, the numerical target was not fully met. Yet Helvetas' results-based approach for compensating training institutes has proven successful and has been adopted in Ethiopia by regional governments and major NGOs. Digital solutions have expanded access to training modules in Myanmar, Tanzania, and Bangladesh, while systemic changes in vocational education were initiated in Albania, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Nepal, Laos, and North Macedonia. As a result, many young people in partner countries now benefit from new vocational training opportunities.

**198'161**

women and men have attended a vocational education and training since 2021.



Helvetas helps to achieve the following Agenda 2023 goals:



More about our work area  
Skills, Jobs and Income:  
[helvetas.org/neueperspektiven](https://helvetas.org/neueperspektiven)

## Cao Bang – Addressing Root Causes for Sustainable Development

In the remote mountains of Cao Bang, Vietnam, smallholder farmers often face limited options—both economically and environmentally. The Organic Spice Project (OSP) is working to change that by introducing sustainable farming techniques, building skills, opening market opportunities, and restoring local ecosystems. We sat down with the project team to discuss the challenges, achievements, and vision for a sustainable spice value chain.

### Who is involved in the project?

OSP is a collaboration between Helvetas Germany, DACE, and Cha Do, supported by Germany's BMLEH. DACE leads local implementation, Helvetas provides technical assistance, and Cha Do connects farmers to high-value export markets. The project builds on the success of the Regional BioTrade initiative and benefits from long-standing cooperation in Cao Bang.

### What are the main challenges that the Organic Spice Project is addressing in Cao Bang?

High-density monoculture—particularly cinnamon—has contributed to soil erosion, organic matter depletion, and a decline in biodiversity. Overreliance on agrochemicals has further degraded ecosystems and jeopardized human health. On the socio-economic front, most farmers are ethnic minorities managing less than 0.8 ha of land, with limited crop diversity and high vulnerability to market and climate shocks. Organic practices are poorly understood and inconsistently applied. Advisory services, land-use planning, and market access are underdeveloped, posing risks to livelihoods and ecological resilience.

The OSP focuses on strengthening the organic value chain by supporting farmers in adopting agroecological practices, including composting with Effective Microorganisms, crop

rotation, and the use of local crops. It provides hands-on training, technical assistance, and access to inputs, while helping farmers meet international organic standards. DACE leads field implementation, while Cha Do provides market access support and guidance on quality requirements.

### What role do education and skills development play in the project's approach?

Education and capacity building are at the core of our strategy. Through hands-on training in composting, intercropping, and compliance with organic standards, farmers strengthen their technical expertise and practical skills. At the same time, digital tools such as the Mekong Farmers App provide continuous advisory services, allowing farmers to exchange knowledge within their communities and access tailored guidance whenever needed. This combination of field-based training and digital support creates a lasting impact on local farming practices.

### How does ecological restoration contribute to creating long-term opportunities?

By establishing biozones, planting trees, and promoting diversified farming systems, the project safeguards natural resources and regenerates landscapes. These efforts not only underpin sustainable harvests but also open possibilities, strengthen climate resilience, and reduce farmers' exposure to unpredictable market shifts.

### Looking back, how do you reflect on the project and the results achieved?

The project has made strong progress in promoting sustainable farming and restoring landscapes. Farmers tested new intercropping models on 22 demonstration plots, while almost 2,000 people received training in composting and crop rotation.

A mobile composting system improved access to organic inputs, and the Mekong Farmers App now supports over 1,200 farmers with digital advice. At the same time, biozones in Duc Long commune engaged more than 500 households in planting over 253,000 seedlings across 76 hectares. New nurseries for spices and native tree species were also established. Together, these steps strengthen livelihoods, regenerate ecosystems, and build long-term resilience.

### What is your vision for the future of these communities?

A thriving network of skilled, confident farmers who can earn a decent living from sustainable agriculture, maintain the unique qualities of Cao Bang's spices, and pass on both environmental stewardship and new opportunities to the next generation.

**“The training was highly relevant and practical, as the required materials are easily accessible. I plan to replicate this model within my commune to enable more farmers to learn and adopt sustainable composting practices,”**

Dam Thi Bang, leader of an organic ginger and chili production group in Lung Mun



Ms. Dam Thi Thiem from Hoa An Commune, Cao Bang Province, participated in a practical training on making organic compost from locally available materials, organized by the Organic Spice Growing Project on July 26–27, 2025. It was her first time learning about minimal tillage and composting techniques to improve soil health.

**“The training provided me with valuable new knowledge that I can apply to improve the soil quality of my family’s chili and ginger fields,”**  
Ms. Dam Thi Thiem, Hoa An Commune





# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

## BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS	31.12.2023 in EUR	31.12.2023 in EUR
<b>A Current Assets</b>		
I Receivables and Other Assets	564.906	447.718
II Cash in hand, checks, bank balances	4.148.426	1.439.152
<b>B Deferred Income</b>	0	0
<b>Assets</b>	<b>4.713.332</b>	<b>1.886.870</b>
<b>Equity and Liabilities</b>		
<b>A. Equity</b>		
I Subscribed Capital	25.000	25.000
II Revenue reserves (Earmarked reserves)	121.782	196.795
III Accumulated loss (Net profit)	58.813	28.549
<b>B. Special item for project funds</b>	35.069	0.00
<b>C. Provisions and accruals</b>		
Other provisions	49.794	42.237
<b>D. Liabilities</b>	4.422.874	1.594.289
<b>E. Deferred income and accrued expenses</b>	0	0
<b>Deferred income and accrued expenses</b>	<b>4.713.332</b>	<b>1.886.870</b>

SOURCE OF FUNDS



- Institutional Donors  
(EU, Federal Foreign Office, BMZ)
- Other  
(Foundations, Other Subsidies, Private Donations...)

USE OF FUNDS



- Country programs
- Administrative Office in Bonn



## PROFIT AND LOSS STATEMENT

INCOME	2024 in EUR	2023 in EUR
1. Subsidies	2.934.377	3.196.814
2. Other Operating Income	86.635	326.707
3. Donation Proceeds	6.501	3.562
4. Expenditure for Project Sponsorships	-2.404.257	-2.790.223
5. Personnel Costs	<b>-588.170</b>	<b>-581.429</b>
a) Wages and Salaries	-485.543	-478.487
b) Social Security Contributions	-102.628	-102.942
6. Amortisation of intangible assets of fixed assets and property, plant and equipment	867	0.00
7. Other Operating Costs	-79.018	-58.647
8. Other Interest and similar Income	50.00	<b>25.00</b>
<b>ANNUAL NET LOSS</b>	<b>44.749</b>	<b>96.802</b>
Profit carried forward	28.549	-118.426
Allocations to earmarked reserves	75.013	50.173
<b>ACCUMULATED LOSS (PY: net profit)</b>	<b>58.813</b>	<b>28.549</b>

### Revision

BDO AG, Bonn, has audited the financial accounting and the balance sheet and income statement for the financial year from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024. The audit did not lead to any objections.

The financial statements are presented here in EUR, rounded, without decimal places.

## SOURCE AND USE OF FUNDS STATEMENT RELATED TO THE TRANSPARENT CIVIL SOCIETY INITIATIVE COMMITMENT

Source of Funds in EUR	Ideational	Special Purpose Project Funding	Total
Donations Received	6.501	0	6.501
<b>Subtotal (income fundraising)</b>	<b>6.501</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>6.501</b>
Project Contributions			
- Private Grants	151.395	485.178	636.573
- Government Grants	0	2.297.804	2.297.804
Other Operating Income	0	86.685	86.685
<b>Subtotal (Income from service provided)</b>	<b>151.395</b>	<b>2.869.667</b>	<b>3.021.062</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>157.896</b>	<b>2.869.667</b>	<b>3.027.563</b>
Use of Funds in EUR			
Other Interest and similar Income	10,50	0	10,50
<b>Subtotal (Expense use of Funds)</b>	<b>10,50</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>10,50</b>
Expenses Project Funding	0	2.404.257	2.404.257
Expenses Wages and Salaries	410.714	177.456	588.170
Other Operating Expenses	58.403	0	58.403
<b>Subtotal (Expense from Services provided)</b>	<b>490.589</b>	<b>2.581.713</b>	<b>3.072.302</b>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>490.599</b>	<b>2.581.713</b>	<b>3.072.313</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-332.703</b>	<b>287.954</b>	<b>-44.749</b>

# COMMITTED AND OPEN-MINDED

As part of the Helvetas network, the Helvetas Germany team, together with 1,400 other employees worldwide, is committed to helping people live self-determined lives in dignity and security.

## HELVETAS GERMANY'S TEAM IN BONN



**Martin Koppa**  
Director Helvetas Germany



**Naja Christin Mayer**  
Programme Manager Grants



**Eva Schulte-Vennbur**  
Programme Manager Service Contracts



**Ulrike Menzenbach**  
Finance Manager



**Maja Zirojevic Bužo**  
Controller International Accounting



**Christina Hoffmann**  
Junior Programme Manager

## RELATED ORGANISATIONS AND ACTORS

The following organizations, individuals and institutions are considered related parties to Helvetas Germany:

ADT Project Consulting GmbH / AFC Consulting Group / AMBERO Consulting GmbH / Association of German Foundations / BENGO, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) / Culture for Peace (Berlin) / Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) / Engagement Global / European Union (EU) / Federal Foreign Office / FAKT Consult for Management, Training and Technologies / German Welthungerhilfe e.V. / Gemeinsam für Afrika e.V. / GFA Consulting Group / Helvetas Swiss Intercooperation / Helvetas USA Inc. / INVOLAS Institute for Vocational Education and Training, Labour Market and Social Policy / ICON Institute GmbH / Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (zivik-Programm) / International Centre for Migration Policy Management (ICMPD) / Partnership for Transparency e.V. / Stichting European Centre for Ecological and Agricultural Tourism (ECEAT) / WINS Consult



### Ensuring basic rights

#### Water, Food and Climate

In 2024 **2'973'440** women and men gained sustainable access to water, sanitation, proper hygiene, better nutrition and natural resources, or have benefited from larger harvests and improved climate resilience. Together with Helvetas, they installed solarpowered wells and latrines, built roads and bridges and learned important hygiene rules and new, climate-adapted cultivation methods..

### Creating new perspectives

#### Skills, jobs and income

In 2024 **508'735** young, mostly disadvantaged women and men gained access to education and vocational training, found a job, or started their own business with Helvetas' support. At the same time **9859** small and medium-sized enterprises have gained better access to markets, created jobs for disadvantaged people and begun to offer sustainable products and better services.

### Strengthening good governance

#### Voice, inclusion and cohesion

In 2024, with Helvetas support, **160'142** women and men learned techniques to better demand their right to basic public services and to resolve conflicts. Helvetas also worked with local authorities and partner organizations to counsel and support **799'986** women and men in planning their safe, responsible and profitable labor migration.

### Alleviating suffering

#### Humanitarian response

In 2024, Helvetas supported **426'722** people in distress meet their most pressing basic needs, gain access to basic, safe and dignified shelter and acquire new means of agricultural production. In its projects, Helvetas supported a total of **1'078'332** people in areas afflicted by natural disasters, crises and conflict in gaining access to water, sanitation, education, and re-training courses. Helvetas combines short-term emergency aid with longer-term measures to enable people to rebuild their livelihoods as swiftly as possible.



In Pakistan, Helvetas is committed to ensuring that children, especially girls, from poor families can return to school after COVID-19. Bisma Qaisar is very glad about this.

**4'869'026**  
people have been  
given a fair  
opportunity thanks  
to your support.

# FOREST CONSERVATION AND WATER KIOSKS

Billions of people are born in countries where clean drinking water is scarce, balanced nutrition is lacking, and climate change threatens their livelihoods. Together with those affected and with partner organizations, Helvetas is developing solutions to improve these situations.

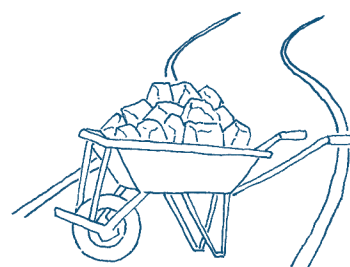


## A greener Tanzania

In Tanzania's semi-arid regions, monoculture farming and deforestation have depleted the soil. But the land is turning green – at the hands of women. In collaboration with Helvetas, 1,077 women received Certificates of Customary Right of Occupancy to a total of 2,408 hectares of land, which equates to almost 3,380 football fields. In 2024, 2,355 women learned how to regenerate their soil; 343 forest gardens were established and over 545,634 trees were planted. To strengthen their economic independence, the women formed savings groups, enabling them to start businesses and invest in agriculture.

## Factoring climate change

Climate change and its associated disasters can destroy hard-won, successful investments in production and infrastructure and push people back into poverty as a result. To prevent this, Helvetas reinforces people's climate resilience in all projects by analyzing climate risks, the results of which are systematically integrated into project planning. This enhances both the projects, sustainability and their overall impact. To monitor its progress, Helvetas has developed a "marker" for climate and disaster resilience. The initial tests are promising, and the results will be published in upcoming annual reports.



## Center for Competence

Labor-intensive construction projects such as roads can also benefit the local population during the construction phase, especially when women participate. This has been proven in Burkina Faso, where women invest the money they earned from road construction in their own businesses. Social cohesion in the community increases and people gain better access to healthcare, government offices and markets because of their new income and infrastructure. Helvetas has established a Center for Competence and Expertise to promote this method, which involves all stakeholders right from the planning stage – nationally, regionally and even globally.

Helvetas helps to achieve the following Agenda 2030 goals:

**1** No poverty



**2** Zero Hunger



**6** Clean water and sanitation



**9** Industry, innovation and infrastructure



**12** Responsible consumption and production



**13** Climate action



**17** Partnerships for the goals







«After just two years,  
our forest garden began  
yielding all year round.  
We have never eaten so  
healthily before.”.»

Jorge Ribera, San Borja, Bolivia

Depleted soils are forcing people in the Bolivian Amazon to clear more and more forest land to grow cassava or plantains to earn money and provide for themselves. Helvetas promotes community-based tree nurseries and trains experts who work with small-scale farming families to create forest gardens.

On Jorge and Carmen Ribera's plot, 18 different plant species grow that benefit each other and nourish the soil. The couple will never have to clear forest land again.



# BUILDING KNOWLEDGE SUSTAINABLE

**Public and private donors want projects they support to deliver clear and measurable benefits. Binding procedures are in place to ensure that neither people nor the environment suffer adverse impacts. Helvetas trains project managers worldwide on how to put these procedures into practice.**

For example, when building a dam, people affected by resettlement or land loss must be fairly compensated. And, before introducing a new variety of rice, its suitability for the expected climate must be assessed. New production methods must not lead to job losses, and newly cultivated land must not threaten biodiversity. While these measures may seem self-evident, experience shows that in development cooperation, environmental and social standards are sometimes not sufficiently upheld, and that safety precautions may be insufficient.

Countries and organizations applying for funding from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), a specialized agency of the UN, must therefore meet strict criteria relating to topics such as climate protection, gender equality, biodiversity, resource management, cultural heritage and health impacts. This constitutes a challenge for many project teams, which is why IFAD has commissioned Helvetas to train project managers across the globe who are applying for IFAD funding in implementing these procedures.

The trainings involve project managers as well as technical experts and government ministers. This helps spread awareness of the procedures all the way up to the most senior levels of decision-



Zira Mavunganidze, Climate and Environment Specialist for IFAD, training future trainers in Johannesburg.

makers. Helvetas goes beyond the bounds of conventional training. With the firm conviction that shared experience leads to the most effective kind of learning, Helvetas promotes "Communities of Practice." These networks help experts and project managers to exchange ideas regularly, share knowledge and reflect on their work together, across country and sector boundaries.

Helvetas trains independent trainers who conduct context-specific workshops to facilitate these knowledge exchanges and trainings. These trainers are familiar with the local language, culture, political

dynamics, history and potential of each region. This allows them to teach relevant, practical skills. To date, such trainings have been conducted in 28 countries. "The consultants have to be empathetic and able to inspire and motivate participants. And they have to be digitally skilled to create engaging online workshops," explains Kai Schrader, who oversees the IFAD mandate at Helvetas. Helvetas acts as a hub in this process, organizing the trainings, connecting stakeholders, mediating between different needs and taking limits into consideration.

Helvetas' work as part of this IFAD initiative has led to the emergence of a global network of experts committed to implementing environmental, social and climate protection standards in rural development, in full alignment with the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The newly trained consultants can also offer their expertise to institutions such as other UN agencies or the World Bank to help applicants meet social and environmental standards, for the benefit of both people and the planet.

---

**Knowledge is what we use in our work. Learning is how we increase or enhance our knowledge. Innovation is how we leverage knowledge and learning to significantly increase impact.**

---



# ACTING IN TIMES OF NEED

From wars in Ukraine and elsewhere to fragile contexts across the globe coping with floods, droughts and hurricanes, people's suffering often lasts longer than the media's coverage of such events. In 2024, generous donors and foundations helped hundreds of thousands of people in need to regain their footing and rebuild their homes and livelihoods.

## «Crises require flexibility»

Gang violence, hurricanes and earthquakes have all required the people of Haiti to be resilient. This is why Helvetas Haiti combines long-term development work with short-term and forwardlooking humanitarian efforts, a strategy known as the Nexus approach.

### Gansly Jean, how exactly does the Nexus approach work?

Humanitarian crises continue to occur in Haiti. The ongoing political unrest and violence, along with the threat of earthquakes, heavy rainfalls, floods and hurricanes – with all their consequences – continue to put lives at risk. Such crises make it harder to implement sustainable development measures, and they require flexibility, both from the population and from organizations such as Helvetas. Planning ahead remains crucial. From the very beginning of each project, we

ensure that communities are able to act in times of acute crisis to protect lives and livelihoods. In other words, people have to be resilient even in emergencies and be able to emerge from crises stronger than before. Whatever we do, we always keep one eye on the future.

### How does Helvetas Haiti bring this about?

By working together with partner organizations, local communities and authorities, we continuously assess risks and plan preventive measures. In the case of earthquakes or extreme weather events, for example, access to drinking water is always at risk. So, we ask, where is water access particularly vulnerable? This involves infrastructure as well as the legal and political frameworks that determine which institutions are responsible at the national, regional and local levels – and the manner of their involvement during emergencies, as well as the political improvements that are needed. Together, we plan coordination, communication and

response strategies for emergency situations. Disaster preparedness is essential, from civil protection protocols to the dry stone walls that prevent erosion and landslides. To avoid blind spots and empower women, we actively involve them in the risk management processes.

### One has to act quickly in emergencies. How are donors responding?

Thanks to our years of experience, we have pre-established procedures and tools that help us to respond to disasters and address the urgent needs of the population rapidly. This always happens in close coordination with our donors, such as SDC and foundations. It is essential to clarify with them whether we can reallocate approved project funds for emergency relief, or if additional funding might be available. Swiss donors are generally flexible in these situations.

### Helvetas helps to achieve the following Agenda 2030 goals:

1 No poverty



2 Zero Hunger



3 Good health and well-being



6 Clean water and sanitation



10 Reduced inequalities



Gansly Jean coordinates for Helvetasprojects in southeastern Haiti.



### A rapid response

Statistically speaking, the flooding in **Niger** in August 2024 was the most devastating in the last 50 years. Nearly 90,000 homes were destroyed, more than 840,000 people lost their belongings, and 304 people lost their lives. Helvetas, which has worked in Niger for the last 12 years, was able to distribute emergency kits in the city of Maradi in a short amount of time, in collaboration with SDC. These included water purification tablets, soap, buckets, water containers, sleeping mats, mosquito nets and blankets for over 24,000 people.

### Preventing child marriages

In Cox's Bazar, **Bangladesh**, over one million Rohingya people live in the world's largest refugee camp. Approximately half of them are children. Formal education is nonexistent in the camp. Many parents marry off their daughters at a young age, usually due to financial hardship. In addition to humanitarian aid, Helvetas organizes informational events to sensitize parents that child marriage violates children's rights and has serious consequences. Rohingya activists reached around 4,000 people with information on the topic through awareness-raising theater performances. Youth groups are furthering the awareness-raising work in the camp.

### Prevention works

Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) is an essential component of Helvetas' work in relation to climate change. The greater the preparedness, the less the damage during a disaster. Helvetas integrates prevention into project planning, for example, in **Laos** with dam projects, in **Moldova, Peru and Bolivia** with urban planning and water infrastructure, and in **Madagascar**, where drought-related migration movements are factored in. And in **Haiti**, entire villages maintain their dry-stone walls they built five years ago, which protect their fields from storm surges and heavy rains.



### Surviving droughts

In 2024, **Ethiopia** experienced its fourth consecutive major drought. Conflicts over water and grazing land have increased, particularly in the Wag-Hemra zone of the Amhara region, where the political situation remains tense. Helvetas assisted people in the initial months with cash, animal feed and vaccination campaigns for livestock, since these often represent people's only source of income. At the same time, affected people are learning climate-resilient farming methods to better withstand future droughts.



### After the fires

Mega-fires in **Bolivia** have destroyed more than 10 million hectares of forest and land, an area more than twice the size of Switzerland. They have also affected Helvetas' projects. The country team provided families in the project area with urgently needed drinking water. With rapid reforestation and the protection of watersheds, Helvetas ensures that Bolivia's population will continue to have access to water for their daily use and to irrigate their fields.

### Aid after hurricanes

In November, Hurricane Sara damaged 4,400 homes and 976 water conduits in **Honduras**. Helvetas provided 1,000 families with drinking water and hygiene kits and helped repair water supply. One month later, Cyclone Chido struck **Mozambique**, damaging or destroying 70,000 homes and the livelihoods of thousands of people. Helvetas assessed the local needs for all emergency aid organizations in one of the country's districts. It distributed 2,000 emergency kits and is now supporting the restoration of 35 water access points.

More about our Humanitarian Response:  
[helvetas.org/humanitarianresponse](https://helvetas.org/humanitarianresponse)





Rockets destroyed Oleh Konovalov's bookstore. With donations from Switzerland, he was able to reopen it. The Swiss book trade and the Swiss Book Centre cooperative, together with Helvetas, collected funds in a solidarity campaign for the repair of bookstores and printing shops and the furnishing of school shelters. With its partner organizations, Helvetas is providing financial grants to help business owners reopen their small businesses.

In this way, cafes, bakeries, plastering companies and others are creating jobs and strengthening the country's economic resilience.

«I had always dreamed of running a cozy, beautiful bookstore where people would be happy to meet.»

Oleh Konovalov, Charkiw, Ukraine



**2024** the Helvetas Network received generous donations adding up to **49**

**Mio.** Euro and provided services totaling **124 Mio.** Euro. This allowed

**1464** committed Helvetas-staff and about **1500** Partnerorganizations

worldwide to support **2,25 Mio.** women and **2,6 Mio.** men in

**35** countries to forge a life without poverty.

**Would you also like to enable poor and disadvantaged women and men to lift themselves out of poverty and create prospects for themselves?**

HELVETAS Intercooperation gGmbH

GLS Bank Bochum  
Konto: 40900 40900  
BLZ: 430 609 67  
IBAN: DE88 4306 0967 40900 40900  
BIC: GENODEM1GLS

HELVETAS Intercooperation gGmbH  
Charles-de-Gaulle-Str. 5  
53113 Bonn  
Germany  
Phone 0176 344 29 661  
Fax +49 228 926 50 99  
info@helvetas.de

