

## ANNUAL REPORT 2019



Helvetas Intercooperation gGmbH ('Helvetas Germany') was established on November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013. It has its registered office in Bonn and has been entered in the commercial register of the Bonn District Court under the registration number HRB 20460 on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013. Since the beginning of 2014, the company has been recognized as a non-profit organization by the tax authorities. The purpose of Helvetas 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.

### About Helvetas

Helvetas is an international network of independent affiliate member organizations 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 programs and adhere to a common strategy including defined working approaches and thematic areas of intervention.

### Development work on four continents

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 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).

### Strengthening the voice of the South

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.

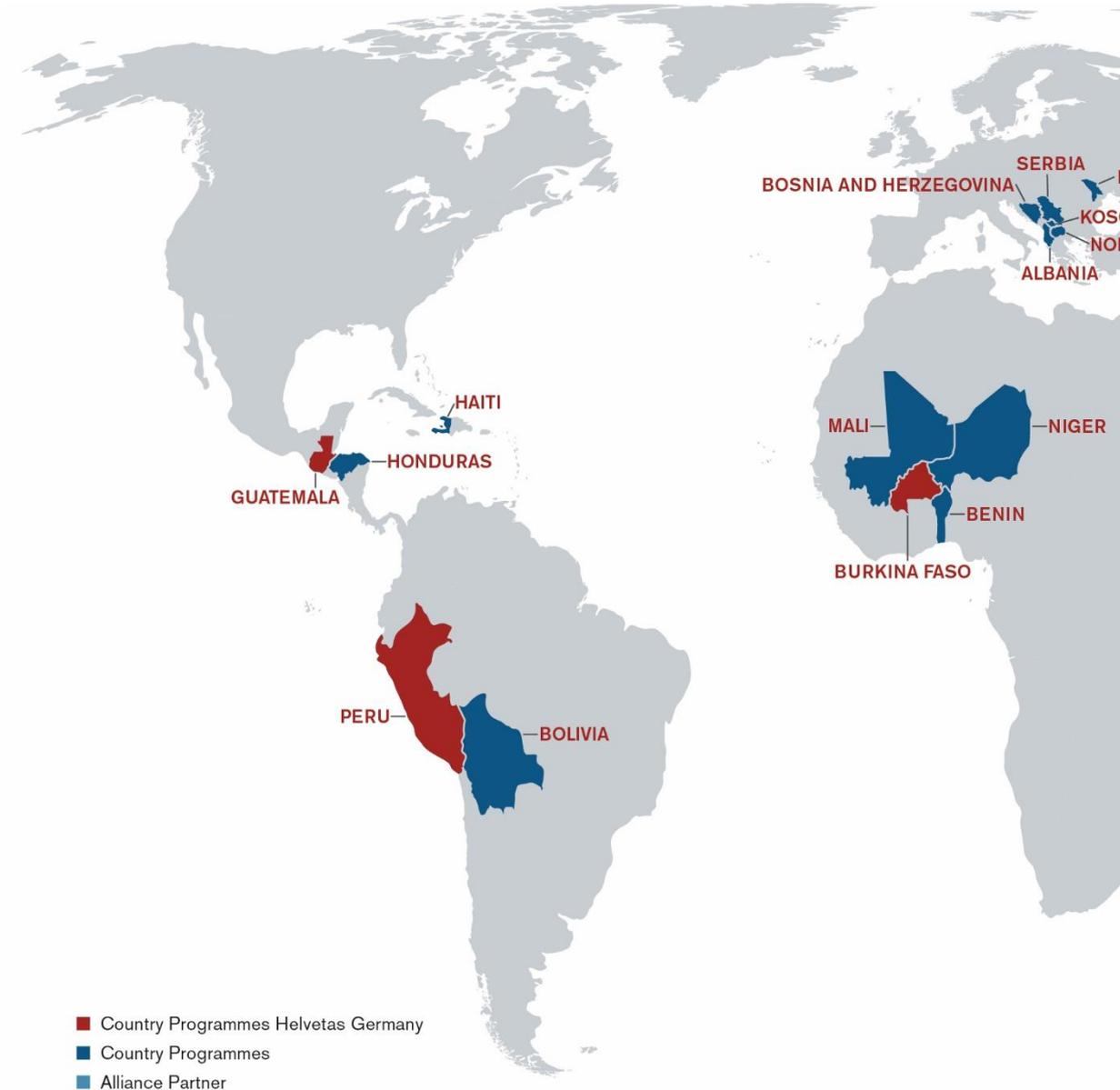


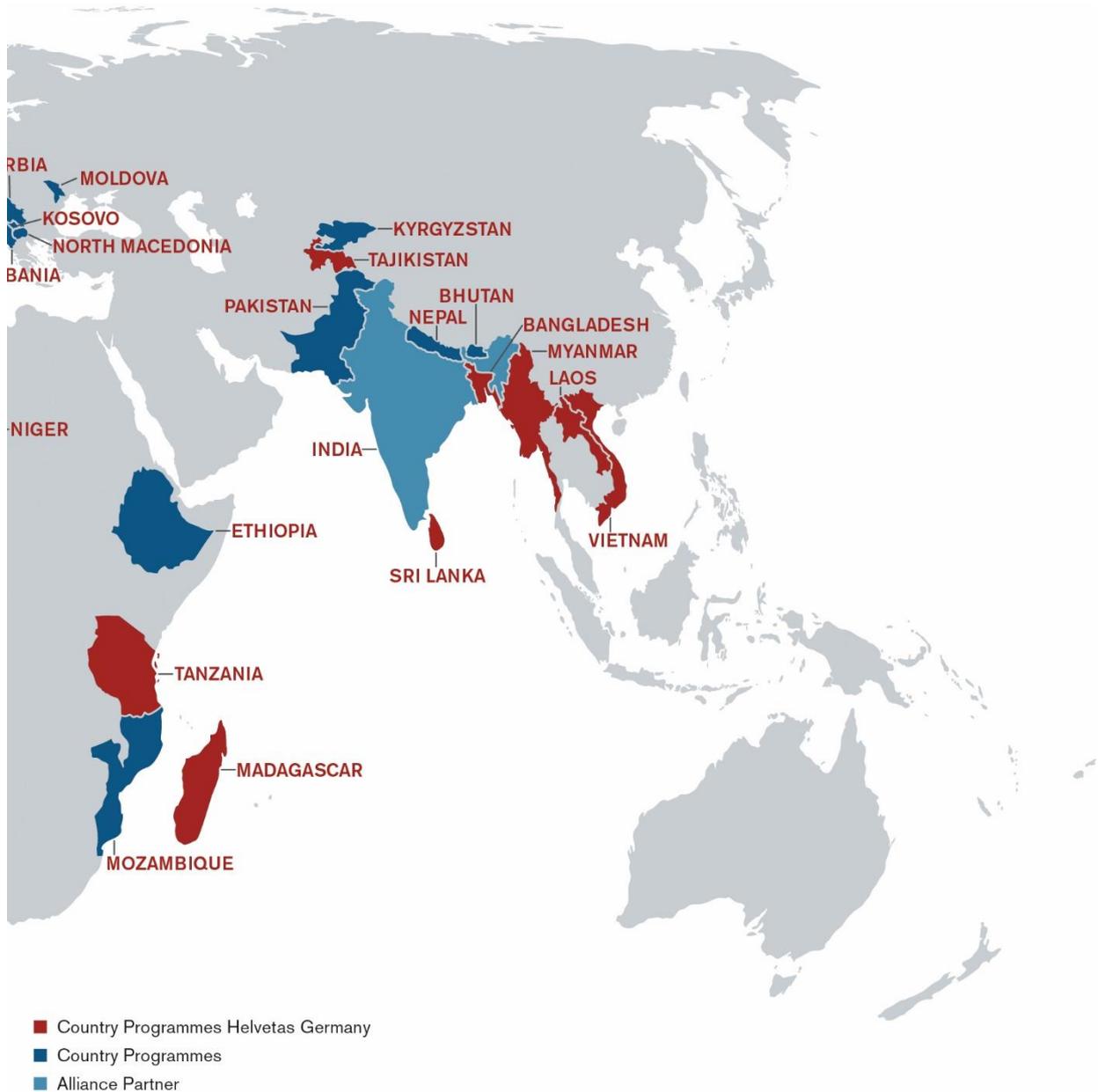
"Our vision is a just world where all people determine the course of their lives in dignity & security, using environmental resources in a sustainable manner."

## Organizational Structure

The supervisory board of Helvetas Germany is the shareholders' meeting. Director of Helvetas Germany is Martin Koppa. 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





## Projects 2019

In 2019, Helvetas Germany supported the country programs in Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Guatemala, Laos, Madagascar, Myanmar, Peru, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Sri Lanka and Vietnam with its projects and contracts. More projects are planned in various other program countries of the Helvetas network.

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## In Africa

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### Burkina Faso

#### – School Children as Agents of Change

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.



© Helvetas / Franca Rolatti

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 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 'United for Africa' ('Gemeinsam für Afrika').

### Madagascar

#### – Water: The Source of Life



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Many villagers in the north of Madagascar get their water from rivers or other natural sources, which are often polluted as almost all inhabitants defecate outdoors. This leads to a high infant mortality rate and health problems, which consequently have a negative effect on family income. Financed by the W.P. Schmitz Foundations on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Helvetas Germany and its local partner NGO Santatra worked together with the residents to tackle the problem of inadequate sanitary

infrastructure and hygiene practices in the region.

The measures in this project included the construction or renovation of five sanitary facilities at three schools and two health centers and the electrification of a health center with a solar energy system. Teachers and medical staff were trained in communicating the WASH hygiene messages and water treatment measures so that they could pass this on to the school children and patients on an ongoing basis. To ensure that not only the health stations and primary schools have access to the hygiene infrastructure, volunteers were trained to become bricklayers who, together with the families, built simple latrines in the villages.

## Tanzania

### – Women as Small-Scale Entrepreneurs (RIPOMA)

The increasing national and international demand for rice is seen in Tanzania as an opportunity for generating additional income, as rice is the second most important food after maize in terms of production and daily calorie intake. About 25% of the national rice production comes from the regions of Mbeya and Morogoro and the Tanzanian rice sub-sector is constantly growing.

Despite this growth potential, the development of the rice sector is hampered by several challenges, including dependence on rain due to a lack of adequate irrigation infrastructure, low productivity, high post-harvest losses, insufficient storage and processing capacity, and limited access to affordable finance and weak market links. As a result, 75% of the harvest cannot be processed.

To counter these challenges, our EU Ripoma project will help existing and new associations of female rice farmers to store rice in warehouses and establish links with traders to facilitate the timely availability of improved management of post-harvest losses at affordable prices. The Erbacher Foundation contributes with a generous donation to the project.



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## In Asia

### Bangladesh

#### – Strengthening the Civil Society

**“Previously, the citizens were unaware about tax. But this project helped to change the tax collection scenario of the Union Parishads. Now tax collection rate is much better than previous rate.”**

**Begum Rokeya,  
Executive Director of  
Sabalamby Unnyan Samity**

Helvetas Germany is strengthening the capacities of civil society organizations so that it is not only the local authorities and agencies that decide on important issues in Bangladesh. Increased cooperation and mutual respect between civil society organizations and local authorities is necessary so that important processes can be shaped together in the future.

Thanks to the financial support of the European Union, this project, which was completed in November 2019, focused especially on training women, people living in or threatened by poverty and other disadvantaged groups in financial planning and transparent decision-making, so that they can actively participate in change processes at the local level.

The project has provided capacity building training for 450 Citizens' Platforms (civil society organizations) and 50 Union Parishads (local governments) as well as regional and national exchange meetings.

## Lao PDR

### – CONNECT: Strengthening Civil Society Organizations

In our project CONNECT we are strengthening the capacities and conditions of CSOs for them to be able to act again more freely and for an effective and sustainable achievement of development goals. 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.

## Myanmar

### – Open History: Arts for Peace

Myanmar is one of the most ethnically diverse countries in the world. Since its independence, the country has experienced a complex series of conflicts which represent a fundamental challenge on the way to more peace, development and democracy. That is why Helvetas Germany, together with its partner organization 'Pansodan Gallery', is creating space for dialogue to promote peaceful coexistence.

With this project, funded by the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (ifa) on behalf of the Federal Foreign Office and by own resources, several participatory Open History exhibitions in various regions were organized in 2019. This format offered adults, young people and children from different ethnic and social backgrounds the opportunity to present their history and exchange views.

The documentation material of the exhibitions was made publicly accessible in a 'Virtual Museum'. In addition, photo and video competitions were organized to actively involve young people in the project. Following the successful completion of the first phase of the project in December 2019, Helvetas received follow-up funding from the ifa / Federal Foreign Office for a second phase from 2020 to 2021.



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## Myanmar

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



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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 the participation of local CSOs 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.

## Sri Lanka

### – For an inclusive and resilient democratic society

After the end of a civil war that lasted for more than 26 years, Sri Lanka is now in a process of democratization. However, the highly motivated society is facing obstacles such as recurrent conflicts due to radicalization and religious extremism.

In the wake of the presidential elections in November 2019, the five-month project 'Lankan Youth Civic Activism Network' (Lankan Youth CAN) aimed to develop the capacity of young people and voters in five districts of Sri Lanka to act as active citizens and to strengthen their understanding of and participation in democratic processes and a pluralistic society.



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Young people from all ethnic-religious groups in the country were brought together and strengthened as promoters of pluralism, democratic principles and civic participation in the project financed by the zivik support program of the Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen (ifa).

After the first phase of the project ended in December 2019, the two-year follow-up project 'Lankan Youth CAN II', funded by zivik, follows in 2020.

## Tajikistan

### – Improved Nutrition and Health for Rural Families

The country of Tajikistan, despite constant improvements in recent years, suffers from the highest malnutrition rates in Central Asia. The Rasht Valley, where this project is implemented, is particularly hard hit by food insecurity due to its political and infrastructural isolation. Insufficient and one-sided agricultural production, political and geographical isolation and lack of commercial alternatives have resulted in food insecurity.



With this project we want to improve sustainable food and nutrition security together with our Alliance2015 partner Welthungerhilfe 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 Jirgatol 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. Particularly extremely disadvantaged families who will get assigned new farmland will profit from the project.

Following the successful completion of the project, a two-year follow-up project with Welthungerhilfe and the local partner organization Fikodor was started in November 2019 which focuses on children and women. With this project Helvetas aims to strengthen capacity at household level and health and hygiene practices and to strengthen public health facilities and diversified agricultural practices.

## Tajikistan

### – Improving the well-being of labor migrants and their families

Due to low prospects of earning an income at home, Tajik men and increasingly women set their hopes on employment abroad, which puts them however at greater risk of forced labor as well as exploitation and the violation of their economic and social rights. It is therefore important to provide access to information for potential labor migrants and their families, if possible before they leave the country, to give them the opportunity to make an informed choice.

By providing legal advice, easily accessible and practical information and awareness-raising campaigns, this project contributes to improved living conditions of Tajik migrants and their families in the Sughd region. The focus lies on the long-term improvement of well-being of young prospective and returning migrants and the families left behind in Tajikistan, since the challenges and risks of migration are exacerbated for these groups. The project is financed by the Silk Routes Facility, a component of the EU project 'Improving Migration Management in the Silk Routes Countries', which is implemented by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD).

## Vietnam

### – BioTrade



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.

## In Latin America

### Guatemala

#### – Better Access to Water in the Highlands (GIGAM)

As services in the municipalities of the Márquense highlands are still limited due to weak organizational management, lack of coordination, participation and articulation, we want to change this situation together with our local partner ADIMAM. Together, we want to improve access to water, secure the functionality of infrastructure and new governance models. As such, our project GIGAM will strengthen governance structures of municipal services within the water sector in the Altiplano Márquense.



Following two dimensions will be considered: (i) organizational and institutional management of services based on public needs; and (ii) the responsibility of local governments to comply with principles of integrity, transparency and accountability at the community and municipal levels. We want to strengthen the participation of community organizations and municipal governments in the inclusive management of urban and rural water services in the Altiplano de San Marcos in a transparent way. This project is financed by the European Union.

**Peru**

**– Dialogue on counteracting climate change**

The Peruvian Ministry of Environment (MINAM) has launched a series of participatory, multi-stage, multi-stakeholder initiatives to contribute to the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs). Funded through the European Union, Helvetas supported MINAM in the implementation of these initiatives in a project that was completed in February 2019.

Together with MINAM, we promoted dialogue on climate change and the development of joint mechanisms, processes and actions in order to combat, but also to achieve a better adaptation to climate change.

Among the concrete goals pursued by the project were the consolidation of strategic alliances between the various actors, the contribution to the creation of an informed, critical mass, the consistent involvement of key actors in the implementation of NDCs, and the optimization of the management of climate-related initiatives.

**Peru**

**– Legislation for the environment**

Plastics in the sea, river and sea waste and other similar pollutants have a negative impact on the environment as well as on certain economic sectors and human health.

During the five-month EU-funded project "Apoyo a la elaboración de la propuesta de reglamento para la Ley de plásticos en Peru", the Peruvian Ministry of the Environment (MINAM) was advised and supported in developing a law to reduce the negative impacts of plastics. The regulations of the plastics law were discussed at multi-stakeholder meetings and a first draft was developed.

**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



## Financial Statements 2019, Audit Report

BDO AG, Bonn, has audited the financial statements as well as the profit and loss account for the year 2019 and approved them without reservation.

### Profit and Loss Statement 01.01.2019 - 31.12.2019

<b>LOSS AND PROFIT STATEMENT for the period from 1 January to 31 December 2019</b> <b>HELVETAS Intercooperation gGmbH, Bonn</b>			
	€	Financial year €	Previous year €
1. Subsidies		2,347,712.02	1,537,182.54
2. Sales revenues		0.00	5,642.45
3. Other operating income		448,143.65	273,000.48
4. Donation proceeds		31,595.29	28,340.77
5. Expenditure for project sponsorships		1,892,313.04-	1,300,507.20-
6. Personnel costs			
a) Wages and salaries	408,142.66-		380,309.20-
b) Social security contributions and expenditure for old age pensions and benefits	<u>84,076.59-</u>	492,219.25-	<u>81,881.43-</u> 462,190.63-
- of which for old age pensions € 0.00 (€ 3,417.60)			
7. Amortisation of intangible assets of fixed assets and property, plant and equipment		1,219.40-	0.00
8. Other operating costs		102,918.38-	79,909.78-
9. Other interest and similar income		<u>67.59</u>	<u>47.47</u>
10. Annual net profit		338,848.48	1,606.10
11. Loss carried forward		3,105.19-	
12. Transfers to earmarked reserves		<u>300,000.00-</u>	
13. Net profit		35,743.29	

## Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2019

### ASSETS

	Financial year €	Previous year €
<b>A. Current assets</b>		
I. Receivables and other assets Other assets - of which due from shareholders € 135,037.38 (€ 36,280.84)	642,049.92	491,997.55
II. Cash in hand, cheques, bank balances	1,301,398.88	518,528.54
<b>B. Prepayments and accrued income</b>	198.02	145.00
	<u>1,943,646.82</u>	<u>1,010,671.09</u>

### EQUITY AND LIABILITIES

	Financial year €	Previous year €
<b>A. Equity</b>		
I. Subscribed capital	25,000.00	25,000.00
II. Revenue reserves		
Earmarked reserves	300,000.00	0.00
III. Loss carried forward	0.00	4,711.29-
IV. Annual net profit	0.00	1,606.10
V. Net profit	35,743.29	0.00
<b>B. Special item for project funds</b>	288,526.56	239,819.90
<b>C. Provisions and accruals</b>		
Other provisions	37,362.32	28,550.00
<b>D. Liabilities</b>		
1. Liabilities owed to financial institutions	569.80	0.00
2. Liabilities owed to shareholders	186,668.80	29,836.55
3. Other liabilities	949,776.05	690,569.83
	<u>1,137,014.65</u>	<u>720,406.38</u>
-of which from taxes € 3,425.02 (€ 2,985.59) -of which within the scope of social security € 843.98 (€ 809.78)		
<b>E. Deferred income and accrued expenses</b>	120,000.00	0.00
	<u>1,943,646.82</u>	<u>1,010,671.09</u>

## Source and Use of Funds Statement related to the Transparent Civil Society Initiative Commitment

	Ideational	Special Purpose	
		Project Funding	Total
	€	€	€
<b>Source of Funds</b>			
Donations Received	<u>31.595,29</u>	<u>0,00</u>	<u>31.595,29</u>
Subtotal (income fund raising)	31.595,29	0,00	31.595,29
Project Contributions			
- Private Grants	446.809,00	613.349,88	1.060.158,88
- Government Grants		1.287.553,14	1.287.553,14
Other operating income	543,93	447.599,72	448.143,65
Other interest and similar income	<u>0,00</u>	<u>67,59</u>	<u>67,59</u>
Subtotal (income from services provided)	<u>447.352,93</u>	<u>2.348.570,33</u>	<u>2.795.923,26</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>478.948,22</u></b>	<b><u>2.348.570,33</u></b>	<b><u>2.827.518,55</u></b>
<b>Use of Funds</b>			
Expenses forwarded donations	<u>30.683,29</u>	<u>0,00</u>	<u>30.683,29</u>
Subtotal (expense use of funds)	30.683,29	0,00	30.683,29
Expenses project funding	0,00	1.892.313,04	1.892.313,04
Expenses wages and salaries	157.011,37	335.207,88	492.219,25
Other operating expenses	<u>69.430,63</u>	<u>4.023,86</u>	<u>73.454,49</u>
Subtotal (Expense from the provision service)	<u>226.442,00</u>	<u>2.231.544,78</u>	<u>2.457.986,78</u>
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b><u>257.125,29</u></b>	<b><u>2.231.544,78</u></b>	<b><u>2.488.670,07</u></b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b><u>221.822,93</u></b>	<b><u>117.025,55</u></b>	<b><u>338.848,48</u></b>
<b>Allocation to reserves</b>			
Allocation to earmarked reserves	<u>300.000,00</u>	<u>0,00</u>	<u>300.000,00</u>
<b>Total allocation to reserves</b>	<b><u>300.000,00</u></b>	<b><u>0,00</u></b>	<b><u>300.000,00</u></b>
	<b><u>-78.177,07</u></b>	<b><u>117.025,55</u></b>	<b><u>38.848,48</u></b>

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## Outlook for Helvetas Germany

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Helvetas Germany has now been active for 6 ½ years. The organization has used this time efficiently to establish itself in the German development community. Today the organization implements projects in Africa, Asia and Latin America on behalf of the European Union, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), German foundations and the International Center for Migration Policy Development. In 2019 Helvetas Germany was able to almost double its portfolio. The main challenge for 2020 will be to ensure that the new projects are adequately developed.

Helvetas Germany remains open to synergies and meaningful cooperation with other organizations that share the same goals. It is a member of "Gemeinsam für Afrika" and the Association of German Foundations ("Verband Deutscher Stiftungen").

Thank you very much for your interest in our work!

Bonn, in July 2020



Martin Koppa  
Director