

ANNUAL REPORT

2021



HELVETAS



**WHAT
MAKES WOMEN
UNBEATABLE?**

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.

“We want our children to have the choice we didn’t have – to be able to study and find a good job.”



Marignoré Sabi Titori,
cotton producer,
Benin

“I completed the 16-week-training with an award. I am happy to have attended a course that jump-started my career as developer.”



Angela Shegani,
newly trained software developer,
Albania

“We were told that we women count for less. Many women do not know that we have the same rights as men.”



Clemencia López Cabrera,
member of the local development council,
Guatemala

FAIR OPPORTUNITIES
make women unbeatable, and skills development plays a major part in creating those opportunities. Earning an income of their own makes women financially independent and reinforces their role in society. Everyone needs a fair opportunity to be able to determine their own future.

© Simon B. Opladen; Cover photo: © Ricardo Franco

Eniana Kasapi, trainee in food trade, Albania

Cover photo: Nilza Tina de Paulo, trainee in metal works, Mozambique





© Helvetas Bangladesh

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INNOVATION AGAINST INEQUALITY

Hunger and wars endanger and destroy people's chances in life. Development is necessary because progress and prosperity are the fertile ground for peace. Helvetas is committed to fair opportunities for all.

Innovation pays

Only a few years back, we were pleased that the Millennium Development Goals were being met in many parts of the world. Poverty was declining and so was child mortality. Now those rates are rising again, and hunger, poverty and distress are increasing, with the war in Ukraine making matters worse. A far greater effort than before is needed to meet the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development goals. It requires innovative organizations, such as Helvetas, which assist and strengthen people's position with an eye on the future. With your support, young people in cities are earning an income, women are managing their finances with new apps, farmers are increasing their yields using climate-resistant seed, and municipalities are improving their services. With these lines, I bid farewell as President convinced that Helvetas is a strong partner, a solidly positioned organization that initiates positive change – and provides rapid humanitarian aid in situations of greatest need, as is currently the case in Ukraine. Many thanks for your trust. Your financial support and commitment to our common cause enable us to work for fair life chances so that people affected by poverty, war and disasters can shape their lives in a self-determined way.

Therese Frösch, President



Therese Frösch, President



Melchior Lengsfeld, Executive Director

Inequality threatens progress

For many years we felt optimistic about development as people's lives around the world improved from year to year. Now, though, it seems as if the world is coming apart at the seams. People worldwide are fighting for peace, justice and equal rights – but also simply for their own survival. Coronavirus and wars are threatening our health, food security and basic education, as well as weakening the economy and increasing inequality. In the past year alone, the combined fortunes of the world's 2,755 billionaires have increased by five trillion Swiss francs, while at the same time 160 million people who had just lifted themselves out of poverty have been pushed back into it. Inequality imperils social

peace. Where poverty reigns, conflict is often not far away, be it over rare public goods such as water and land, or over political domination. Resentment boils up in fast-expanding cities, and among young people without any job prospects. Disasters, conflicts, climate change and now the war in Ukraine are wrecking people's opportunities in life. Without opportunities, however, there is no social cohesion. Development is indispensable because it offers fertile ground for peace, as does peace for development. Thank you for contributing to create new prospects for disadvantaged people.

Melchior Lengsfeld, Executive Director

WHY DOES DEMOCRACY FLOURISH IN THE OPEN AIR?

Services can be improved by taking planning out of the office and to the people. As part of the Sharique project in Bangladesh, municipal authorities now carry out some of their work in public, accounting for their work and expenditure, project plans and budgets. They debate priorities with voters and have tripled spending on concerns of women and for the most disadvantaged people.

POVERTY OR PROSPERITY IS A MATTER OF CHANCE

For every one of us, where we are born is our single greatest chance in life. Where we are born determines our opportunities later in life. The promise of equal opportunities for all is the greatest broken promise of today's world.

Every child has the right to a healthy life. But, worldwide, 450 million children have no access to safe drinking water. Their chance for healthy development and a good education is thus hampered from the start. An environment's social and political context determines the opportunities and obstacles in a person's life – no matter where you are born in the world.

According to research by World Bank economist Branko Milanovic, more than 50 percent of a person's income can be explained by their country of birth, and 20 percent by their family background. In other words, prosperity is only minimally related to individual performance and personal responsibility. Prosperity depends primarily on geographical and family origin. Thirst for knowledge, ideas and talent play a subordinate role. They only come into play when

Fair opportunities must not be left to chance People need fair opportunities if they are to escape from poverty. Equal opportunities begin with basic needs being met. Clean drinking water, healthy food, and protection from the effects of climate change are necessary preconditions for people to shape their future without being crushed by the hardships of daily life.

Giving people fair opportunities also requires schools, vocational training and job prospects that allow people to earn a secure income. This in turn provides women and men with the opportunity to build a life for themselves and look after their families.

Last but not least, having a fair chance in life means being protected from discrimination and persecution, and being heard. If you have a voice, you can change and shape your environment.

someone is given the chance to develop them. Or, as Napoleon summarized, "Ability is nothing without opportunity."

A child in Switzerland will get a promising start in life, thanks to the country's reliable healthcare system, educational opportunities, economic situation and welfare provisions, as well as its stable political location in the center of Europe and the possibilities to influence policy through direct democracy. Poverty exists in Switzerland, too – not every child enjoys the same preconditions. Even here, a child's early opportunities are affected by where she grows up, her parents' educational background and migration story, income and inheritance, health and gender, and the child's name and religion.

Fair chances to fight poverty

In many parts of the world, however, children simply do not have these fundamental advantages at birth and in early life. It is an accident of birth that people in Switzerland only have to turn on the tap to satisfy our thirst, while up until November 2021 Madina Muhuthage (p. 19) had to draw water for her children from a dirty hole in the ground.

It was an accident of birth that made it impossible for Sundar Thapa from Nepal to receive any vocational training. Although he was able to attend school, he could not learn a trade because of his parents' poverty. Now he sells cheap wares from his hawker's tray to bus passengers in Kathmandu, and has neither a regular income nor any form of social security. He regrets never having had a chance to forge a more secure future for himself and his family.

Gender is another factor that affects the course of a person's life. The World Bank estimates that, on average, women have only three-quarters of the legal



© Narendra Shrestha

Sundar Thapa selling cheap wares on the streets of Kathmandu. He regrets not having had a chance to get a vocational training.

rights that men enjoy. That "on average" is misleading, though. Only ten countries in the world guarantee women precisely the same rights as men; Switzerland is not one of them, because women are disadvantaged by childcare and pension arrangements. Billions of women were born by chance in countries where

157,998
girls and boys got their chance to go to school in 2021 thanks to Helvetas.

they have fewer rights than men, and where social realities impede them from exercising those rights. Such is the case of Clemencia López Cabrera from Guatemala, who for a long time believed people around her when they said that women and their opinions counted for less.

A secure future in a world worth living in

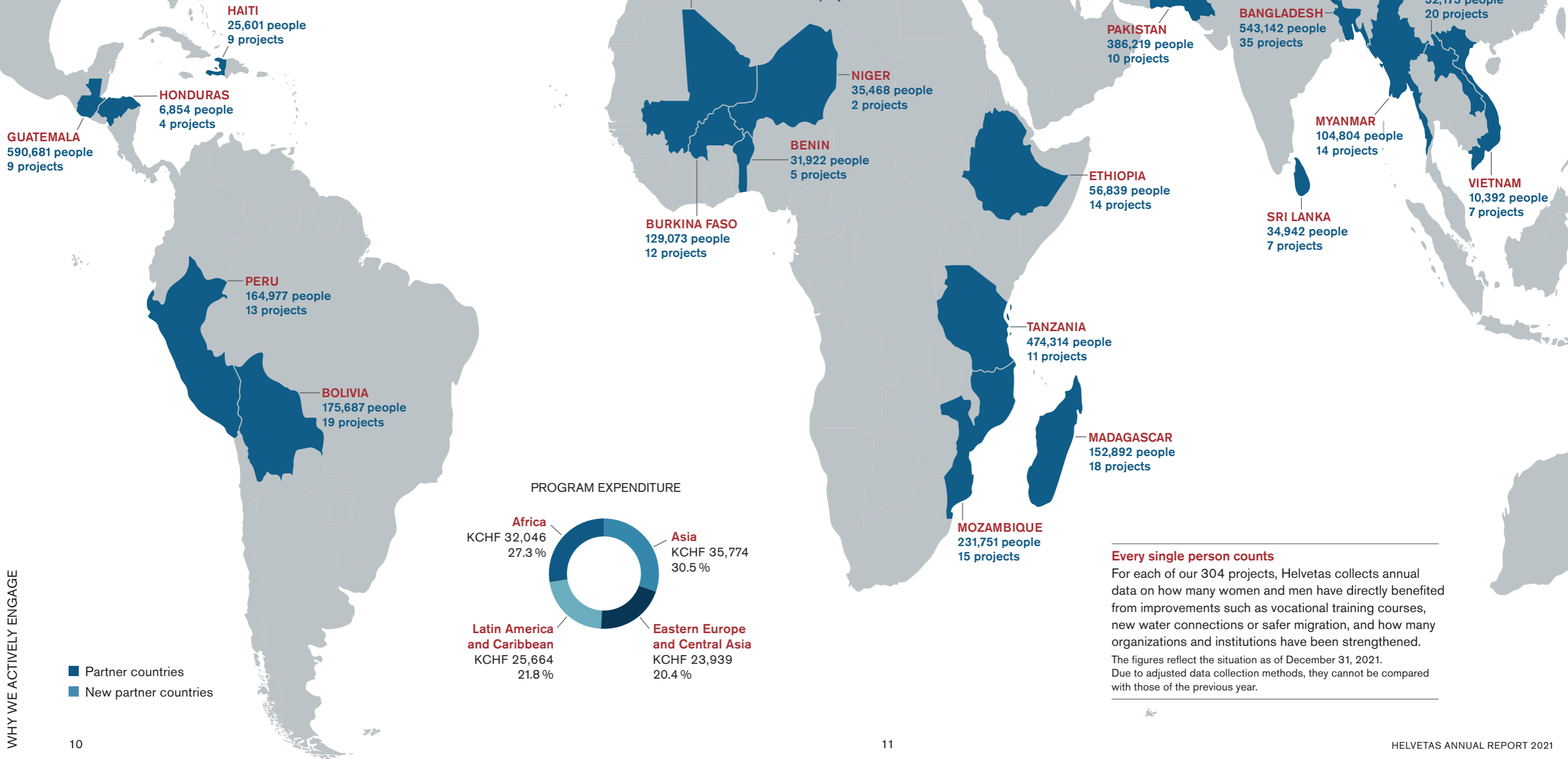
Regardless of where we happened to be born, we all share the same values and the same heartfelt concerns. These include the need for autonomy and self-deter-

mination, the longing for security and recognition, and the desire and concern that our own children should have a secure future in a world worth living in.

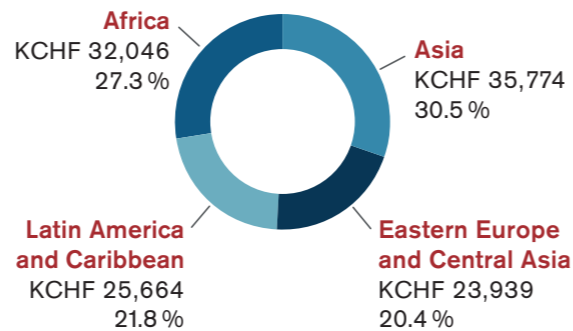
Every human being deserves a fair chance to fulfill his or her potential. That's why ending poverty depends on achieving equal opportunities. Where we are born may be a matter of chance, but we can have an impact on whether someone drinks clean water, goes to school, sees a doctor, votes, and can train for a job and find one. That is what Helvetas is committed to. Helvetas creates fair opportunities so that more people in developing countries can live self-determined and independent lives – no matter where and under what circumstances they were born.

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.



PROGRAM EXPENDITURE



Every single person counts

For each of our 304 projects, Helvetas collects annual data on how many women and men have directly benefited from improvements such as vocational training courses, new water connections or safer migration, and how many organizations and institutions have been strengthened.

The figures reflect the situation as of December 31, 2021. Due to adjusted data collection methods, they cannot be compared with those of the previous year.

EMPOWERING WOMEN THROUGH MARKET DEVELOPMENT

Many farming families in Guatemala cannot grow enough to feed themselves properly. Although women do the bulk of the work, they have no say in the decision-making. Helvetas is promoting access to markets, which creates economic opportunities – particularly for women.

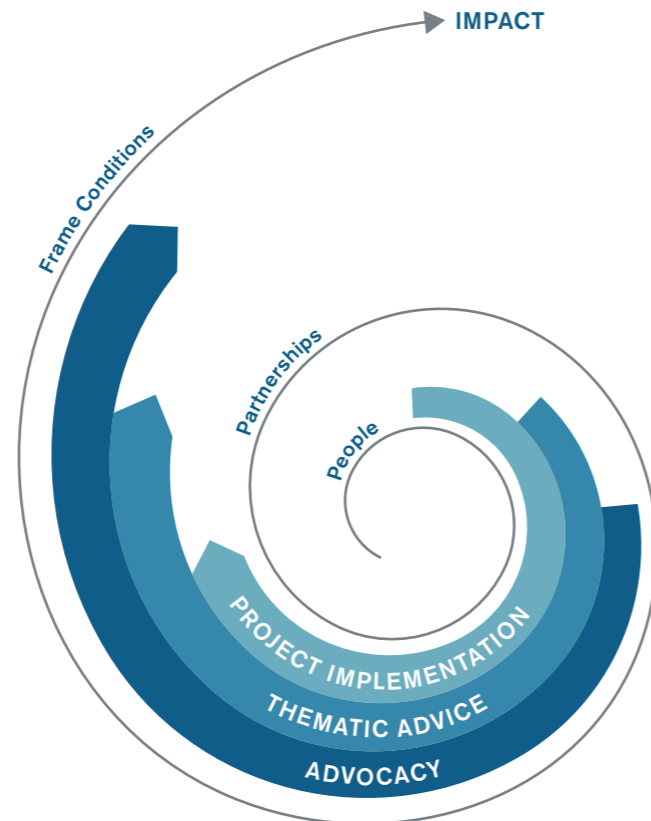
In most Maya families in the western highlands of Guatemala it is the women and girls who are responsible for childcare and household chores, along with most of the work in the fields. And yet they still cannot get ahead in life. The only place they can sell their small and irregular crops is on local markets, and the prices are correspondingly low. Larger buyers expect predictable volumes of standardized quality according to a fixed schedule.

Prodert is a Helvetas project to strengthen the small-farmer economy in five rural provinces in the western highlands. The project encourages women smallholders to form groups and increase the productivity of their crop and livestock production. The second stage involves linking up these groups so that they can jointly negotiate with buyers and attain better prices. Finally, these networks become formal cooperatives so that they can also supply large-scale buyers and benefit from economies of scale. This is a process that strengthens women economically and socially.

Evelyn Caniz is one of these women. After hearing about the project, Evelyn seized her chance and started producing eggs, even though it wasn't easy to raise her share of the seed capital, which was a condition for taking part. She and other women received training in poultry farming. They learned to organize, negotiate and stand up for themselves as well as acquiring leadership skills. "There were many things we didn't understand at the beginning, for example what a network was," Evelyn Caniz says. "Now we're swamped with requests. Various organizations have invited us to teach them about our success."

The women are advised, trained and supported by strong partners such as local authorities, ministries, educational institutions, seed suppliers, bulk buyers,

Systemic change
Instead of setting up parallel structures that won't last, Helvetas forges links among existing actors in Guatemala. Locally embedded organizations build the capacity of women's producer groups, accompany their merger into larger networks and cooperatives, and then put them in contact with suppliers of seed, feed and auxiliary products. They receive support to exhibit at fairs and to develop long-term, fair commercial relationships with bulk buyers. Everyone involved is passing on what they have learned.



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



© Eje Agronegocios Prodert

Evelyn Caniz (center) with her colleagues during contract negotiations to establish a cooperative.

savings and loan institutions, and development organizations. Helvetas places special emphasis on environmentally friendly production methods and climate resilience. Over 27,000 women and men are benefiting from these changes which were initiated with the support of the Fédération Genevoise de Coopération (FGC), the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) and the program contribution from SDC.

"We've made great economic progress thanks to our newly acquired leadership skills," Evelyn Caniz says. "Our plans have become reality and we've established our own brand, Doña Huevo. It brings in more than 200,000 quetzals (23,500 CHF) per month or over three million quetzals per year. We're proud of our results, and now we're millionaires! We're currently close to signing a major deal and a very good one."

Evelyn Caniz is president of a cooperative that produces and markets eggs, honey, tomatoes, potatoes and chicken and pig feed. She represents the concerns of smallholder women farmers in the Economic Development Committee of the District Council as well as in the Provincial Development Council, and advises other cooperatives.

The women used to have to beg their husbands for every penny, Evelyn tells us. Nowadays the men work for their wives' businesses, which allows the women to attend courses and develop their knowledge. Evelyn's partner also does a share of the housework now – another important aspect of the project. Because there can only be fair opportunities for all when everyone enjoys the same rights and has the same responsibilities.

"We have learned that if we believe in our project, support one another and work hard together as a team very positive results are possible and, above all, so is a future," Evelyn Caniz says, adding: "We're committed to continuing on this path because we want development for our community, for the women and for our young people."

WHAT MAKES TOMATOES NO LONGER SCARED OF HEIGHTS?

Pressure is growing on water resources in Bolivia. As farmers and mining companies argue over access, climate change is turning water into a precious commodity. As part of an SDC project Helvetas is helping the authorities in two river basins to draw up a fair water management plan and ensure that 10,000 families in this part of the high Andes are not forgotten and can improve their living conditions – including with greenhouses that allow tomatoes to ripen even many meters above sea level.

© Mauricio Panozo

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.



Ensuring basic rights

Water, food and climate

In 2021 **3,303,121** women and men gained sustainable access to water, sanitation, good hygiene, better nutrition or natural resources and benefited from higher yields or improved climate resilience. They worked with Helvetas to install pumping wells and latrines as well as learning important hygiene principles and new, climate-adaptive farming techniques.

Creating new perspectives

Skills, jobs and income

In 2021 **643,690** young and mostly disadvantaged women and men gained access to education and vocational training, found a job or started their own business with Helvetas' support. Over the same period, **14,651** small and medium-sized enterprises improved their access to markets and created jobs for disadvantaged people, while also offering sustainable products and better services.

Strengthening good governance

Voice, inclusion and cohesion

In 2021 **93,071** women and men have learned to claim their rights to basic public services or to transform local conflicts, with support from Helvetas. Over the same period, Helvetas cooperated with authorities and partner organizations to help **588,299** women and men plan their labor migration safely, responsibly, and profitably.

Alleviating suffering

Humanitarian response

In 2021 Helvetas supported **205,407** people after disasters such as the earthquake in Haiti, during the coronavirus crisis in Nepal, and such as the Rohingya refugees in the world's largest refugee camp in Bangladesh. Helvetas combines rapid short-term humanitarian aid with long-term development cooperation so that people quickly have the chance to rebuild their daily lives and create prospects for the future.



Mortuj Ali from Bangladesh has funded a small business with his rickshaw.

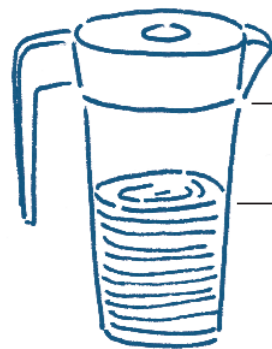
4,833,588 people had a fair opportunity to lift themselves out of poverty with your support.

CLIMATE MIGRATION AND BIODIVERSITY

Millions of people are born in countries without safe drinking water, where food for a balanced diet is scarce and where they are poorly prepared to cope with climate change. We are grateful for your support and your commitment to giving these people a fair chance of improving their situation.

Our goal for 2021–24:

1 million people have gained direct access to safe drinking water



Goal 2024

2021 result: **592,070** people

Important basics of hygiene

Only 25% of people in the Menabe region of **Madagascar** have access to clean water, and the sanitation situation is extremely precarious. In cooperation with ONE Drop and the Prince Albert II of Monaco Foundation, Helvetas promotes hygiene and environmental awareness among 69,000 people to ensure that the new water system is maintained in the long term and natural resources are conserved. People learn to adapt to climate change and prepare themselves for natural disasters. Additionally, new jobs in the environmental sector strengthen the role of women.



Finance app for savings groups

People who have no chance of opening a bank account often form savings groups. This is true for farmers in **Tanzania** who are optimizing their horticultural production to improve their income and diet. The members of over 500 savings groups involved in a Helvetas project can now use an app to make deposits, grant loans and pay interest, thus simplifying control and saving them time. The horticultural project, by the way, was awarded third prize by the UN and the government during the national commemoration of World Food Day because it contributes to reaching the second goal of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development – Zero hunger.

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

“We now have clean water that doesn’t make us sick.”

Madina Muhuthage, market vendor, Mozambique

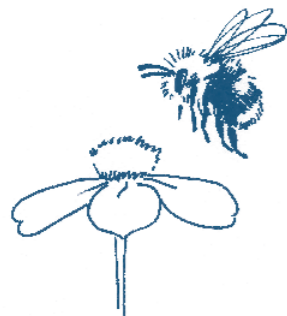


Every evening, when Madina Muhuthage lays her head to sleep, the last thought that crosses her mind is: “What will I feed my children tomorrow?” There is very little to eat where the young woman lives, especially in the dry season. For her whole life she has had to fetch water from a hole in the ground far from her home. That all ended in November 2021 when a new water system was inaugurated in her village. Now water comes flowing out of a tap near her house and she is delighted to have both clean water and more time for her other activities, one of which is baking bread and selling it on the local market.



Protection against erosion

Disaster preparedness is a matter of life and death in **Haiti**. The soils there tend to erode with the tiniest drop of rain, causing landslides and burying people and their crops. With support from Helvetas local people have built hundreds of meters of walls, including drystone walls, to protect their houses and fields. Two tropical storms struck in 2021, but the protected areas emerged unscathed.



Saving biodiversity

The biodiversity of the Bregalnica river basin in **North Macedonia** can only be protected if local people do not depend on overexploiting the natural environment for their livelihood. This is ensured by an SDC project that was initially implemented by Helvetas and is now supported by a local organization. One particular success was the classification of part of the region as a nature conservation area. Farmers, foresters, scientists, countryside planners and politicians are now working to establish a natural park based on the Swiss model that encompasses both ecotourism and local, natural products.

“Organizing a campaign from scratch was an unexplored path for all of us”

Because of an outdated national law, municipalities in **Kyrgyzstan** didn't use to be allowed to finance repairs to decaying irrigation canals. Farmers started a campaign that eventually resulted in a new national law. How? Jyldyz Abdyllaeva explains.

Why did Helvetas support this advocacy process?

Irrigated agriculture is one of the mainstays of farming livelihoods in southern Kyrgyzstan. However, access to irrigation is unreliable, and farmers suffer huge harvest losses which bring with them severe financial risks for their families. Through its Irrigation Water Integrity Project (IWIP) Helvetas supported a local initiative of civil society, affected farmers and local authorities to resolve this problem. The process of advocating for a new law and having it approved by the government, the parliament and the president was a unique experience for us.

What were the challenges?

Organizing a campaign from scratch was new for all of us, but the problem was very acute. Since there was no appropriate stakeholder who would own the campaign, we established an Initiative Group consisting of representatives of farmers and local authorities as well as other partners. We were well trained and guided by experts from Helvetas. The result was a successful bottom-up campaign during which we learned what a campaign like this requires – patience, facts and a knowledge of political processes.

We are proud to have set the first example in Kyrgyzstan that bottom-up advocacy works and that the effort is worth it!

What is the impact of the success?

The new law will apply to the whole country as irrigation problems are systemic and have been observed nationwide. The success of this courageous Initiative Group will benefit farmers all over Kyrgyzstan. The legislation will finally allow local authorities to take on responsibility for local irrigation service provision and infrastructure and invest in it. We expect that the reform will be of great benefit to the affected farmers.



Jyldyz Abdyllaeva is Manager of the Irrigation Water Integrity Project (IWIP) for Helvetas.

More about our working area Water, Food and Climate:
helvetas.org/basicrights

691,765
farmers, fishers, woodland owners and animal breeders started applying sustainable methods in 2021 thanks to Helvetas.



CHALLENGES WE FACED IN 2021

Helvetas has been working with the private sector for a long time and promotes local businesses. They create jobs and can offer sustainable services such as repairs to water pipes or agricultural advice. However, more and more projects are now implemented with larger companies. To make sure that there is a solid basis for these partnerships, the new Human Rights Due Diligence Tool developed by Helvetas assesses these companies for responsible conduct with regards to human rights violations, in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Open data for health

Globally, a quarter of all health facilities have no water supply, putting patients and staff at risk. Information gaps prevent the responsible persons and institutions from properly prioritizing investments for water, sanitation and hygiene services, including infrastructure, maintenance and behavior change. The organization Global Water Challenge aims to close this gap with a publicly accessible digital platform. The WASH Health Facility Data Exchange (WHdx) platform is being developed by renowned institutions such as the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and Emory University – with the support of WASH specialists such as Helvetas.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP AND CREDITWORTHINESS

All of us rely on getting a solid basic education so that we can later learn a profession; we also depend on businesses creating jobs. Many children, however, grow up in countries where their chances of attending school and finding a job are slim. We are grateful for your help to ensure that fair opportunities are not a matter of chance.

Urban entrepreneurship

In Sucre, the capital of **Bolivia**, Helvetas has brought together people from the private sector, academia, the authorities and youth organizations in order to strengthen start-up companies. One of the outcomes of this process is the Fundación ACTÍVATE, an agency where young entrepreneurs can get help, ask questions and attend courses. They have also done some joint advocacy, and there is a new law to stimulate local businesses.

Our goal for 2021–24:

320,000
women and men have attended a vocational education and training



2021 result:
46,115 people

Goal 2024

“A vision becomes a reality”

The goal of the Naafa project is to boost employment and entrepreneurship for young people in urban, peri-urban and rural parts of **Burkina Faso**. It uses an innovative approach called “life project”.

What lies behind the idea of the “life project”?

Let’s take a young man who never had the chance to attend school. The project enables him to analyze his skills, his capabilities, his situation and his environment and also what he’d like to do in life. This all helps him to work out his own “life project” – his vision of his future. That might be, to keep chickens.

What are the advantages of this approach?

The guidance it provides, and social and economic integration. That is

because the young man will discuss his project with his family and his community to gain their support and consult with them about what resources he needs for his life project. This may be land that his village provides for his chicken coop. After this, the project will provide personalized theoretical and practical training as well as ongoing mentoring as he implements his project.

Are there challenges in this approach?

The approach is new to young people, but once they have understood the concept, they are highly motivated. The parental support element is also essential. Implementing the project is a demanding process, but it benefits everyone.



Modibo Ouedraogo coordinates Jobs, Youth and Income for Helvetas Burkina Faso.

More about our working area Skills, Jobs and Income:
helvetas.org/newperspectives

“A client in Hanoi has just ordered ten kilos of medicinal herbs. I can sell them for a lot of money now in the off season.”

Linh Trang, a producer of medicinal herbs, Vietnam



After a sheltered upbringing, Linh Trang had to work hard for her parents-in-law after getting married. It took much persuasion to convince her husband to allow her to attend a Helvetas course on medicinal herbs. Now she is the main breadwinner in the family, multiplying their income by more than a factor of six. She is passing on her knowledge to other women so that they too can have a chance of becoming independent businesswomen.

An idea takes off

Group work instead of frontal instruction, interactive lessons, school gardens instead of theoretical plant science: In **Tanzania**, Helvetas is working with the teachers’ union to improve primary school teaching. In professional development courses, teachers expand their pedagogical knowledge, develop participatory model lessons, practice team teaching, and pass on their experiences to colleagues. The model is gaining traction: Tanzanian education authorities want to continue it, and the Dar es Salaam University College of Education, together with universities in Kenya and Zambia, is in the process of testing it for secondary schools.

Loans at last

Agriculture has enormous potential, but climate change is making it harder and harder for farmers to cultivate their fields. Helvetas is helping young people in **Mali** to change their attitudes to agriculture and see the opportunities it can offer. One of the major problems farmers face is the lack of access to credits. Cooperatives are especially reliant on cash to be able to purchase produce from their members and sell it on at a profit. Helvetas has now managed to arrange banking for the cooperatives and give them access to funding.

Green construction sector

With support from Helvetas and Bern University of Applied Sciences, **Bhutan** has developed a new curriculum for vocational training in the construction sector, with the aim of improving its energy efficiency. Meanwhile, the relevant ministry has been developing political strategies with Helvetas to embed the necessary core skills in the vocational training system and facilitate the transition to a greener economy.

PEACEBUILDING AND UNDOCUMENTED MIGRANTS

Billions of people are born in countries where there is limited access to basic public services, where they have to seek jobs elsewhere as economic migrants or have been displaced by war and conflict. Thank you for helping to give these people a voice.

Recognition from the UN Secretary-General

In 2021 Helvetas Mali convinced UN Secretary-General António Guterres' peace-building fund to finance one of its projects. Building on its experiences in other fragile situations and its conflict-sensitive approach, Helvetas wants to help communities in Mali prevent conflicts over land and other resources in the Sahel. The idea is to draft clear rules and agree on them. A crucial factor in obtaining this funding was Helvetas' track record for cooperating with local organizations, stakeholders, state agencies and the private sector.

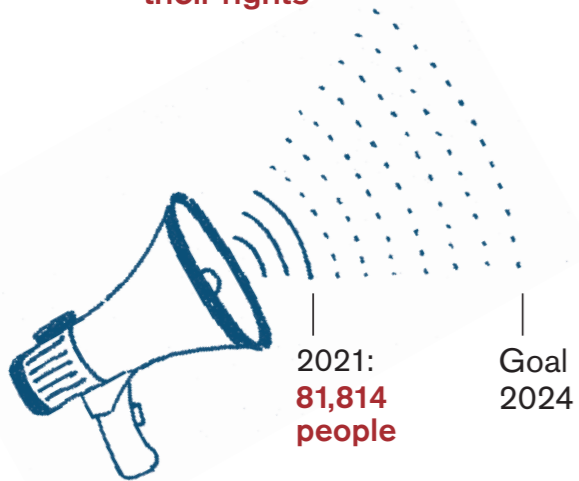


Urban development

Switzerland has been supporting Bosnia and Herzegovina's transition to a socially oriented, inclusive market economy and a decentralized, democratic system since 1996. On behalf of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (Seco), Helvetas is working jointly with ETH Zurich and Zurich city council to help implement an urban transformation project in the capital, Sarajevo. Its aim is to introduce a more transparent and participative urban and regional development planning system that contributes to long-term economic growth. The project also aims at making the city more climate resilient and more attractive.

Our goal for 2021–24:

500,000 people have been empowered to raise their voice and claim their rights



Helvetas helps to achieve the following Agenda 2030 goals:

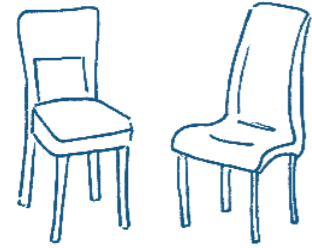
- 5** Gender equality
- 10** Reduced inequalities
- 11** Sustainable cities and communities
- 16** Peace, justice and strong institutions

“Girls keep being taken from public schools and put in religious schools. I don't think that's good.”

Dilbora Irisova, school pupil, Kyrgyzstan

Dilbora Irisova lives in Aravan on the Silk Road. Unfortunately, trade and goods are not the only things the small town attracts. More and more often, radical Islamic preachers are coming to the area to recruit young people as fighters for Islamic State (IS). In the past year alone, 300 young women and men have left for the war in Syria. Helvetas is leading a project to improve young people's self-esteem, strengthen their position in society, and create job prospects so that they can stand up to violent extremism.





11,257

people learned in 2021 to identify and address the causes of conflict in their communities and to change the situation.

Legal assistance

It started as an experiment and ended as a success. Helvetas explored in Lao PDR if, and how, gender-based violence can be discussed in public, whether traditional perceptions can be changed, and how best to provide legal assistance to women (and men) affected by violence. 4,665 women and 3,449 men were sensitized, 162 women and 23 men received legal support, and 205 judges, police officers and prosecutors were trained to handle cases. Procedural issues were also clarified, to facilitate access to justice.

Migration as an exit strategy

More and more people in Bangladesh set out to find possibilities of earning an income in nearby towns or faraway cities because higher sea levels are raising the salinity of soils and water. Studies show that migration is an increasingly common climate-adaptation strategy. The problem is that many people don't know their rights, so Helvetas is helping them to choose safe and profitable options and also harness new technologies to forge a viable future at home.

“Use the participatory power of digital tools”

Helvetas works with local governments, civil society and citizens to ensure that local decision-making is collaborative, inclusive and sustainable. Helvetas is developing a new governance program to strengthen its engagement on these issues.

Craig Hatcher, why is Helvetas' commitment to governance so important?

Governance is about ensuring everyone has a voice in shaping their own future. We do this by empowering women, men, youth, migrants and indigenous persons and strengthening civil society organizations to actively engage in local decision-making. A community might prioritize funding for a new school over fixing a road, for example. At the same time, we support national, regional and local governments in fostering inclusive decision-making processes and delivering services for all, leaving no one behind.

How are you going to ensure innovation?

During the pandemic some council meetings moved from town hall to online. That provided new opportunities for citizens to participate. The participatory power of such digital tools needs to be harnessed more. Then there is urbanization. Job opportunities are pulling migrants from rural areas to cities. This urban growth poses challenges in providing basic services such as water and sanitation for everyone. Helvetas looks for ways to ensure that rapid urbanization benefits everyone, especially the poor and marginalized.

Governance is a very abstract concept.

Yes, it sounds intangible – it's working on processes, on changing behaviors, attitudes and ways of collaborating with the citizens. In addition, governments are often perceived as bureaucratic and some-

times corrupt. But our experience shows that the willingness of local authorities to improve their services is high, if only they are given the necessary knowledge and tools and the population gets involved. Only this will have long-lasting success.



Craig Hatcher is an advisor on governance for Helvetas.

Would you like to learn more about Helvetas' new governance program? Contact craig.hatcher@helvetas.org



© EMAYI

Silvia Alejo Oyola, Bolivia

Harnessing the potential of the diaspora

Helvetas' longstanding experience in the Western Balkans and recent studies in Eastern Partnership countries have confirmed the enormous potential of working with the diaspora to contribute to development in their countries of origin. RECONOMY is a 12-country program funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency and implemented by Helvetas to strengthen green and inclusive economies and regional cooperation. It also aims to identify the barriers to diaspora engagement, and ways of tapping into this under-exploited potential.

Standing up to hate

On behalf of the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund, Helvetas distributes money to civil society organizations in Sri Lanka that work with and for disadvantaged young people to prevent violent extremism and political radicalization. The goal is for young people to learn to engage in a dialogue with local authorities and the security forces and to be open-minded towards people from other religions or ethnic groups. The project also stimulates critical thinking and mediation skills in conflict situations, and counters hate speech and fake news through targeted campaigns.

CHALLENGES WE FACED IN 2021

People who are forced to live without official papers often have no access to education, health-care and a secure job, nor are they allowed to purchase property. In many places they cannot open a bank account or get a mobile phone without papers. Helvetas wanted to provide financial support to women and men in Nepal who had lost their income due to Covid. Since many of the most disadvantaged people Helvetas works with have no official ID, the money could only be paid once their municipalities had issued them the requisite documents. People need papers to claim their rights and get access to essential services. Again and again, this hinders Helvetas' work.

SEEDS AND ACCOMMODATION

No one gets to choose whether he or she is born in Switzerland or in earthquake-prone Haiti, in crumbling Lebanon, in Covid-ravaged Nepal or as a Rohingya in Myanmar. Thank you for supporting people in distress and helping them to create new prospects for themselves. Fair opportunities must not be left to chance.



The second wave of coronavirus

During the second wave of coronavirus in **Nepal**, Helvetas staff reported patients fighting for air, a shortage of medicine and large numbers of people suffering great hardship. Helvetas distributed first-aid kits containing masks, soap, disinfectant, thermometers and chlorine solution. Health-care facilities were provided with infrared thermometers, oxygen measuring devices and personal protective equipment. In addition, 1,250 families received money as short-term emergency funds to cover their most essential needs.

Food for Beirut

Lebanon has long been in an economic hole, but its troubles have deepened since the devastating explosion in Beirut's port in 2020. Inflation has risen to horrendous levels and food has become virtually unaffordable. Helvetas is working with farmers to supply healthy food to some of the city's most disadvantaged residents. It is supporting farming families to produce more with natural inputs, and social businesses to sell the products to people in particular need.



Affordable disinfectant

Disinfectant was in short supply during the coronavirus pandemic in **Mozambique**, which meant that prices soared and some health centers went without. With funding from SDC and advice from Helvetas, a domestic social enterprise produces medical alcohol from the waste from sugarcane production and perishable cashew apples. Not only does this make disinfectant available, it also generates additional income for small-holder families.

Helvetas helps to achieve the following Agenda 2030 goals:



“But then my husband died from Covid-19. I found myself alone with three children in a foreign country, with a broken heart.”

Aixa Cayupare Dasilva, doctor, refugee and widow, Peru

The salaries Aixa Cayupare and her husband Jorge earned as doctors in Venezuela were not sufficient to feed their family. So they undertook the dangerous journey to Peru, where Jorge found work as a doctor and Aixa a job working in a pharmacy. When Jorge died, Aixa was faced with the ruins of the dream they had shared – jobless because she had to look after the children and without any papers to prove they were her own. Helvetas was able to provide legal and financial assistance to Aixa and many other migrants thanks to donations from Swiss Solidarity. “Helvetas helped me at a time of immense loneliness,” she says.

“People are in need”

In 2017 hundreds of thousands of Rohingya fled from Myanmar to **Bangladesh**, where they now live in the world’s largest refugee camp. In close cooperation with UN organizations, the government, and other NGOs, Helvetas is trying to make their lives as bearable as possible. Insights from Kamlesh Vyas, humanitarian coordinator in Cox’s Bazar.

The international community is still in Humanitarian Response mode and so is Helvetas despite the Rohingya having moved to Cox’s Bazar four years ago. Why? The short answer is: because they are in need. The longer answer is: a sustainable solution to the problem is difficult as there are multi-layered challenges. There is the humanitarian side: 1,000,000 plus people, their daily needs and protection. Then there is the political side: negotiations for a solution keep failing, while the Rohingya are suffering. They are restricted in their movements, cannot generate income and have nothing to live on. We can’t just leave them in that situation.

Looking back at 2021, what did Helvetas do?

Our joint Disaster Risk Reduction activities together with the communities and national partner NGOs were very important. There have been fires, flash floods and other disasters. We have fully trained 500 volunteers, both Rohingya and locals, who intervene, inform and raise awareness about how to behave if a fire breaks out, during downpours, and on Covid-19 protective measures. These volunteers evacuated 5,000 people before the floods, saving many lives. Helvetas, after all, is in charge of five camps with around 150,000 people on behalf of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

How can the Rohingya be helped?

We used donations from Swiss Solidarity to support the Rohingya and the host community to set up vertical gardens in the limited space available. This gives women a chance to grow nutritious food. We train local service providers who in turn train the Rohingya to do this. This has encouraged interaction within communities and has built trust. We also helped the government to put up isolation tents for people with Covid-19 and made people aware of vaccination opportunities.

What was the biggest of the many challenges in 2021?

The lockdown situation, which was only lifted in August. We weren’t able to move, and we knew how great the misery was. Eventually we were able to coordinate relief by organizing WhatsApp meetings and training sessions on mobile phones. Rohingya refugees aren’t allowed to have mobile phones but some of our volunteers are from the host communities and so they could act as intermediaries. We built up a strong working relationship with the Bangladesh government and were one of the first organizations allowed back into the camps after the lockdown.



Kamlesh Vyas is Helvetas’ Regional Humanitarian Coordinator for Asia and is based in Cox’s Bazar.

More about our Humanitarian Response: helvetas.org/humanitarianresponse

CHALLENGES WE FACED IN 2021

Take Myanmar for example. In 2021 the military seized power over the young democratic state again, and the security situation has been precarious ever since. The humanitarian situation is deteriorating, with three million people in need of humanitarian aid. Helvetas was forced to adapt its activities but continues to train young people and support internally displaced people and unemployed factory workers. Helvetas is working in difficult circumstances to maintain access to those affected, working in accordance with human rights principles and international law to alleviate civilian suffering.



Rohingya refugee camp in Cox’s Bazar, Bangladesh

© Patrick Rohr

More than emergency accommodation

In August 2021 the earth shook in southern **Haiti**, damaging or destroying over 100,000 homes, 266 schools and 25 health centers. Helvetas swiftly freed up funds to provide emergency accommodation and hygiene sets containing toothbrushes, soap, sanitary napkins and water purification tablets. Earthquake victims received psychological support, and people were paid for helping with the clean-up operation. As the local market continued to function properly, there was no food distribution. Helvetas has been operating in Haiti for almost 40 years in the very region that was hit. This meant it could respond rapidly and pragmatically despite political instability and a precarious security situation.

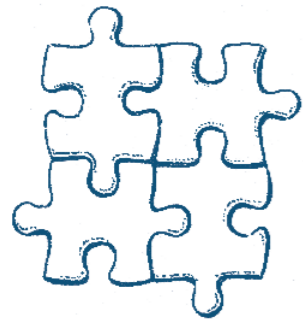


Seed against need

Covid, lockdowns and then flooding: **Pakistan’s** tourism industry was severely damaged by coronavirus. Many workers lost their jobs and had no prospect of finding another one, leaving them without any money for food. Helvetas used donations from Swiss Solidarity to provide protective equipment to 317 hotels and also distributed seed so that struggling families could grow vegetables on their land. The result: 454 new kitchen gardens were planted in an incredibly short space of time.

MULTIPLIERS AND ADVOCACY

The world needs people who recognize interconnections and show solidarity so that the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development can unfold their full power and every person has a fair chance at a self-determined life. This requires constant information sharing.



Looking to the future with Alliance Sud

Alliance Sud is a think-and-do tank formed by Swiss aid organizations and has recently been incorporated as a formal association. Helvetas' managing director, Melchior Lengsfeld, was closely involved in the restructuring process carried out in 2021. The platform pools knowledge about Swiss foreign, trade, climate and tax policy, and advocates for a coordinated policy framework to tackle structural disadvantages for people living in the Global South. Helvetas supports the development policy work of Alliance Sud because a coherent trade, climate and tax policy is one of Switzerland's greatest levers for global poverty reduction.

“We want to embed sustainability in everyday life”

Educational work is essential if young people are to understand the interconnections between global issues. Their actions influence the course of the world just as much as those of older generations, as Anna van der Ploeg explains in the interview below. Helvetas works closely with students to achieve this.

How does Helvetas establish contacts with universities and students?

One of the best ways of getting a foot in the door is our traveling exhibition “GLOBAL HAPPINESS: What do we need to be happy?” We offer it in poster format for student events. Students get interested, it pricks their curiosity, and they start discussing things. Bern University of Teacher Training is currently developing an online learning module on the same subject. The idea is that students who engage with questions of happiness and sustainability can convey this enthusiasm later as teachers. They are important multipliers.

Why is it useful for an NGO like Helvetas to work with Swiss students?

Today's students are tomorrow's influencers. We want to raise their awareness, draw their attention to inequalities and point out

possible solutions. At the same time, students also bring with them an amazing amount of knowledge and commitment. Together we have a chance to embed sustainability in everyday life, because that is the most important factor for moving towards a better world.

What does that mean in practice?

We are for example on the steering committee of the national centre for student engagement, “Focus Sustainability”. We're working with WWF and the Impact Hub to engage with student leaders who are currently trying to set up a knowledge center about sustainable projects. This will enable us to disseminate our expertise on topics such as climate justice, project management and communications, forge links with the Global South, help students to successfully initiate their sustainability projects – and bring benefits to people in the South.



Anna van der Ploeg is in charge of educational work for Helvetas.

RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND PROGRESS

Helvetas is convinced that experiences are there to be shared so we can learn from them and better achieve our goals. One instrument for doing this is carefully facilitated knowledge exchange between all the stakeholders.

We have eight years left to meet the goals of the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs). Given that over 800 million people worldwide go hungry and populations are rising in several regions of the world, every government needs to focus on rural development. The priority must be livelihoods and strategies to cope with the consequences of climate change.

United for greater impact

Achieving the SDGs calls not only for greater commitment but also greater efficiency. There is an incredible abundance of data and information around the world that could be used for this purpose, but all too often it is neglected. As part of AVANTI, an initiative of the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), Helvetas is building the capacity of agriculture ministries in 17 countries to make the most of their knowledge and exchange information with civil society organizations and the private sector.

The idea behind this is that if institutions and organizations share their data and interpret it from their different perspectives, they will be more likely to figure out whether measures that have been implemented – e.g. for combating malnutrition or strengthening women's economic position – actually have the desired impact. If this is not the case, then they can adapt their strategies and policies to make sure



There needs to be support for rural development if we are to reach the UN's SDGs.

that rural development fulfils its potential.

The initiative addresses the beginning of a very long impact chain. Experts and specialists from Helvetas and Itad, one of its partner organizations, carefully facilitate this process, which acts as a kind of “synchronizing” of knowledge. As many actors as possible are brought together around one table with the objective of helping agriculture ministries to break out of their traditional thinking patterns and to cooperate with all the different actors involved in rural development. They all use a specially developed tool and process to identify and analyze weaknesses. The next step is then to draw on this analysis to develop and implement

practical improvements. The experiences in Ghana, Peru, Laos and Samoa have been promising.

AVANTI makes the conclusions from 17 countries available worldwide in order to stimulate further learning. The studies highlight trends and general bottlenecks as well as tried-and-tested practices. There is a growing need for these kinds of mediated multi-stakeholder arrangements as they can improve information exchange for the planning of projects, programs, strategies and policies in complex contexts.

For further information see avantiagriculture.org

WHO HAS A SAY WITH THE SAW?



Young women and men are never short of plans for their own futures, but they are short of opportunities to realize those plans. Helvetas has come up with an answer to the problem of high youth unemployment in Mozambique. Short training courses for sought-after jobs prepare young people for the world of work. As the case of Neuza Yacussa (pictured) shows, there is great demand for trained staff. The company she trained with immediately took her on as an instructor.

© Ricardo Franco

GENEROSITY AND SPEED

The 2021 financial statement shows an increase in revenue to CHF 150.3 million thanks to an extraordinarily high level of donations of almost CHF 39 million. Total expenditure for the year amounted to CHF 144.3 million. Some projects were deferred, and CHF 3.7 million in earmarked donations was therefore transferred to the respective funds. A financial result of CHF 2.0 million also contributed to a positive annual result of CHF 4.3 million.

Financial management during disasters and for humanitarian aid

Disasters and crises require different financial management than long-term development cooperation. Following the 2015 earthquake in Nepal, the flight of Rohingya refugees to Bangladesh in 2017 or the current war in Ukraine, speed and flexibility were and are the highest priority. Nevertheless, transactions must always obey the same principles of security, quality and transparency. Helvetas staff have the necessary experience and skills, and we are continually building our capacity and further improving our procedures to ensure that funding is always used as planned, even in unstable circumstances and emergency situations.

Financial audit

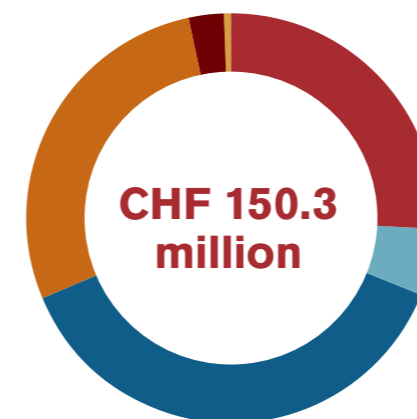
KPMG audited the accounts and financial statements and approved these May 14, 2022. Their audit report and the complete 2021 financial report can be viewed at the offices of Helvetas, Weinbergstrasse 22a, 8001 Zurich and downloaded in German from our website helvetas.org/finanzbericht

The financial statements are presented in CHF thousand (KCHF). Due to the selected number format, there may be rounding differences between individual amounts and totals.

BALANCE SHEET

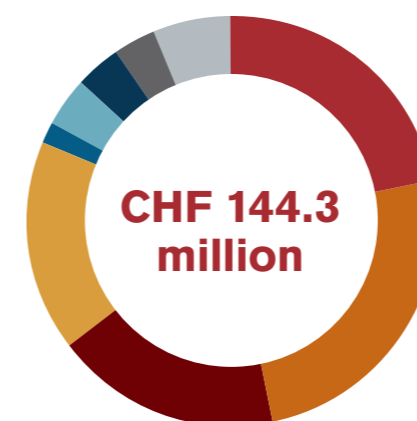
ASSETS	31.12.2021 in KCHF	31.12.2020 in KCHF
Cash and cash equivalents	43,717	38,541
Marketable securities	20,573	18,518
Receivables	5,545	4,978
Net assets in project countries	14,918	16,368
Prepayments and accrued income	13,679	10,707
Current assets	98,433	89,112
Investments in financial assets	41	46
Tangible fixed assets	475	665
Intangible assets	1,268	712
Fixed assets	1,784	1,423
Assets	100,217	90,535
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable	4,899	3,600
Accrued liabilities	52,778	52,297
Current liabilities	57,677	55,897
Long-term provisions	165	240
Long-term liabilities	165	240
Liabilities	57,842	56,137
Restricted fund capital	9,612	5,940
Liabilities incl. fund capital	67,453	62,076
Elaborated unrestricted capital	13,145	13,341
Elaborated restricted capital	19,618	15,118
Organizational capital	32,763	28,459
Liabilities	100,217	90,535

SOURCE OF FUNDS



- Income from fundraising 25.9%
- Program contribution SDC 5.3%
- Mandates SDC 37.6%
- Project funding organizations 27.9%
- Income advisory services 3%
- Other operating income 0.3%

USE OF FUNDS



- Africa 22.2%
- Asia 24.8%
- Latin America 17.8%
- Eastern Europe and Central Asia 16.6%
- Program coordination and support 1.7%
- Expenditures advisory services 3.9%
- Expenditures projects Switzerland 3.7%
- Head Office 3.3%
- Fundraising 6%

STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS

INCOME	2021 in KCHF	2020 in KCHF
Membership fees	2,344	2,250
Donation from the public	35,187	33,338
Legacies	1,446	1,068
Income from fundraising	38,976	36,656
Program contribution SDC	8,000	10,330
Mandates SDC	56,405	56,567
Project funding from organizations	41,892	34,123
Income from advisory services	4,502	3,617
Income from Fair Trade		1,203
Other operating income	507	394
Income from services provided	111,306	106,233
Income	150,282	142,889
EXPENDITURE		
Africa	-32,046	-32,328
Asia	-35,774	-34,685
Latin America	-25,664	-22,017
Eastern Europe and Central Asia	-23,939	-20,621
Program coordination and support	-2,520	-2,300
Expenditures on international programs	-119,944	-111,951
Expenditure on advisory services	-5,596	-5,355
Expenditure on projects in Switzerland	-5,284	-4,963
Expenditure on Fair Trade		-1,468
Head Office	-4,808	-4,796
Fundraising	-8,643	-8,527
Head Office and fundraising	-13,450	-13,323
Expenditure from services delivered	-144,274	-137,060
Operating profit/loss	6,008	5,829
Financial result	2,038	688
Other result	-70	-20
Result before change in funds capital	7,977	6,497
Change in funds capital	-3,672	-2,891
Annual result before allocation to organizational capital	4,304	3,606
Allocations/utilizations		
- Free capital	1,004	1,406
- Fund for value fluctuation of marketable securities	500	
- Strategy Acceleration fund	1,800	1,200
- Social fund	1,000	1,000

COMMITTED AND OPEN-MINDED

Helvetas is a politically and denominationally neutral association, supported by over 100,000 members, benefactors and donors as well as regional volunteer groups. Board members work on an unpaid basis and support Helvetas with generous private donations.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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Peter Niggli, Vice President, Zurich, journalist, author, expert in international development, since 2015

Jörg Frieden, Fribourg, Dr. oec. publ., Development Economist, President of the Board of SIFEM, since 2018

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Angelo Gnädinger, Geneva, lic. jur., former General Director of the ICRC (2002–2010), since 2019



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Jean-Philippe Jutzi, Verbier VS/Lausanne VD, journalist, former dipl. advisor to the FDFA, communications consultant, since 2020

Erna Karrer-Rüedi, Zurich, Dr. sc. nat. ETH, environmental scientist, GM/Co-Founder Eos Entrepreneur Foundation, since 2019



André Lüthi, Bern, tourism expert, President of the Board and CEO Globetrotter Group, Resigned June 2021

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Dominique Schmid, Ostermundigen BE, lic. rer. pol. MBA/EMBA, independent consultant and Board member in several companies, since Sept. 2021

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Ueli Winzenried, Bern, Betr. oec. HWV, Business consultant Burkhalter Attorneys in Bern/Zurich, since 2019

The **General Assembly**, the organization's highest body, meets once a year. It elects the members of the Board of Directors and determines the mission statement.

The **Board of Directors**, the highest executive body, is responsible for the organization's strategy and for approving the annual budget.

MANAGEMENT BOARD



Melchior Lengsfeld, Executive Director*

Remo Gesù, Deputy Director/ Joint Head of International Programs*

Annette Kolff, Joint Head of International Programs*

Rupa Mukerji, Joint Head of Advisory Services*

Esther Haldimann, Joint Head of Advisory Services



Stefan Stolle, Head of Marketing and Communications*

Erich Wigger, Head of Finance and Services*

*Formal member of the board

The **Management Board** is responsible for planning, implementing, and supervising the projects, programs, and actions within Switzerland and abroad.

Potential conflicts of interest of members of the Board of Directors and the Management Board are listed in the financial report.

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Sibel Arslan, Basel, lic. iur., National Councilor

Marina Carobbio Guscetti, Lumino TI, Dr. med. FMH, States Councilor

Mario Fehr, Zurich, lic. iur., Member of the government of the Canton of Zurich

Claudia Friedl, St. Gallen, Dr. sc. nat. ETH, National Councilor

Martin Landolt, Näfels GL, Swiss Business Economist HWV, National Councilor



Lisa Mazzone, Genf, lic. ès lettres, States Councilor

Tiana Moser, Zurich, lic.phil. I, National Councilor

Laurent Wehrli, Glion, lic. ès lettres, National Councilor

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS

All organizations with which Helvetas has signed a framework agreement or on whose boards Helvetas has a seat are listed. Alliance2015, The Hague • Alliance Sud (Swiss Alliance of Development Organizations), Bern • Alliance for Water Stewardship, North Berwick, Scotland • Alliance against arms exports to civil war countries, Zurich • Asga Pensionskasse Genossenschaft, St. Gallen • Center for Rural Economy Development CRED, Hanoi, Vietnam • cinfo, Biel • End Water Poverty Coalition, London • HELVETAS Intercooperation gGmbH, Bonn • Helvetas USA Inc., Minneapolis • Knowledge Management for Development KM4DEV, Zurich • Max Havelaar-Stiftung, Basel • Millennium Water Alliance, Washington DC, USA • Personalvorsorgestiftung der HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation, Zurich • Plattform Schweizer NGOs • Skat Consulting and Skat Foundation, St. Gallen • Swiss Fair Trade, Basel • Swiss Forum for Skills Development and International Cooperation FoBBIZ, Zurich • Swiss NGO DRR Platform, Lucerne • Swiss Platform for peacebuilding KOFF/Swisspace, Bern • Swiss Water Partnership, Zurich • Swiss Water & Sanitation NGO Consortium, Zurich

“WE SHARE THE SAME GOALS”

What if hurricanes keep destroying livelihoods or there is no opportunity to develop job skills? The foundation WIR TEILEN: Fastenopfer Liechtenstein is creating the right conditions for people to take their lives into their own hands in Haiti and Burkina Faso. The foundation is one of many Helvetas partners who are generating fair opportunities for disadvantaged people.

“We want economically and socially disadvantaged people to be able to live their lives in dignity and security,” says Werner Meier, the chair of the board of WIR TEILEN. “We want a fair world in which everyone can shape their lives the way they would like. In other words, we share the same goals as Helvetas.” WIR TEILEN has been working with Helvetas since 2010. The Liechtenstein-based foundation has supported 16 projects in that time, nine of them focusing on access to water and sanitation. The money comes mainly from donations during Lent “and shows the people of Liechtenstein’s solidarity with disadvantaged people around the world”. It is Helvetas’ many decades of experience that WIR TEILEN appreciates: “Knowing that there are local staff in the field, providing expert assistance to the projects, builds trust. We have repeatedly seen for ourselves that the projects are well designed, and communication is clear, open and transparent,” says Werner Meier. WIR TEILEN is currently reinforcing disaster preparedness in Haiti and promoting young entrepreneurs in Burkina Faso. For the foundation it is important to be able to prove to donors that their money really does reach the right place and benefit the right people. Equally important is the awareness-raising work Helvetas does through exhibitions such as “GLOBAL HAPPINESS: What do we need to be happy?”, which has also visited Liechtenstein. “Helvetas has a good way of helping the public to understand striking information. They highlight a sorry state of affairs but also what we can do about it.”



Werner Meier is chair of the board of WIR TEILEN: Fastenopfer Liechtenstein.



Emilie Sirim Sombie from Burkina Faso helps young people to realize their plans in life (p 22).

HOW 100 DOLLARS BECOMES 500
As donors, benefactors, businesses, foundations, cantons and municipalities, you enabled 4.83 million women and men to fight hunger and poverty and chart a pathway towards a self-determined life. Thanks to your support we are able to apply for additional funds from public funding agencies such as Swiss Solidarity, SDC or the EU. Some funders require us to provide a certain amount from our own funds before they will finance projects. On average, every franc donated is multiplied by five, meaning that 100 dollars becomes 500.

WE THANK ALL DONORS, FUNDERS, CLIENTS AND PARTNERS

SDC, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation

Project and program contributions

Cantons, Cities and Municipalities

FEDEVACO, Fédération vaudoise de coopération

FGC, Fédération genevoise de coopération

Canton of Aargau, Canton of Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Canton of Basel-Landschaft, Canton of Basel-Stadt, Canton of Graubünden, Canton of Lucerne, Canton of Schaffhausen, Canton of St. Gallen, Canton of Ticino, Canton of Thurgau, Canton of Vaud, Canton of Zurich, Republic and Canton of Geneva

Aarau, Gemeinsame Entwicklungszusammenarbeit Adliswil (Protestant congregation of Sihltal, Roman Catholic congregation and City of Adliswil), Baar, Geneva, Maur ZH, Muri bei Bern, Münsingen, Niederwil AG, Stabio, Therwil, Zollikon, Zug, Zurich

Foundations, associations and other NPOs

Albert Jenny Stiftung

Alfred Richterich Stiftung

Bridges to Prosperity

Büchi Foundation

C&A Foundation

Catholic congregation

St. Theresia

CHARISMA Stiftung für nachhaltige Entwicklung

Charity Foundation New Flower in Africa

charity:water

Cordama Foundation

DRINK & DONATE

Eckenstein-Geigy-Stiftung

ESPERANZA – kooperative Hilfe gegen Armut

Ferster-Stiftung

fight4sight

Fondation Agnès Delachaux

Fondation Assistance Internationale – FAI

Fondation Johann et Luzia Grässli

Fondation Loom

Fondation Megguy et Charlotte Renard

Fondation Philanthropique Famille Sandoz

Fondation SMARTPEACE

Fondation Tibetania

Fondazione Vidar Suisse

FOSIT, Federazione delle ONG della Svizzera italiana

Foundation for the Third Millennium

GAIN, Global Aid Network

GDMA Stiftung

Gebauer Stiftung

Gemeinnützige Stiftung

Accentus

Gemeinnützige Stiftung

Symphasis

Green Leaves Education

Foundation

Happel Foundation

Happel Stiftung

Von Duhn Stiftung

Werner und Helga Degen Stiftung

WIR TEILEN: Fastenopfer Liechtenstein

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Andor Holding AG

AutoForm Engineering GmbH

Avance AG

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VERLINGUE LTD

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ACDI/VOCA

ACTED

ADA, Austrian Development Agency

AECID, Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo

AFD, Agence Française de Développement

ARE, Federal Office for Spatial Development

Ayuda en Acción

BMZ, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany

Cardno Emerging Markets (UK) Ltd

CESVI – cooperazione e sviluppo

info, Center for Information, Counselling and Training for Professions relating to International Cooperation

Confédération Nationale des Organisations Paysannes (CNOP), Mali

CRS, Catholic Relief Services

DANIDA, Danish International Development Agency

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia

ECHO, EU

Enabel, Belgian Development Agency

ETH Zurich

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

EuropeAid, EU

FAO, Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations

FCG, Fundación para la Conservación de Recursos Naturales y Ambiente en Guatemala

FINNIDA, Finnish International Development Agency

FOAG, Federal Office for Agriculture

Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office – GOV.UK

German Federal Foreign Office

GFA Consulting Group GmbH

“The Büchi Foundation supports innovative projects that promote the ability of individuals and communities to determine the course of their own lives and development. Helvetas has been our partner for many years and stands out in its strong and sustainable cooperation with local partners.”

Büchi Foundation

Hilti Foundation

IFI International Foundation

Laguna Foundation

Laudes Foundation

LED, Liechtenstein Development Service

Leopold Bachmann Stiftung

MariaMarina Foundation

Medicor Foundation

One Drop Foundation

Projektgruppe Schlatt

Protestant congregation of Belp

Protestant congregation of Küsnacht

Rosa und Bernhard Merz-Stiftung

Solafrica

Solaqua Foundation

Stiftung Corymbo

Stiftung Mercator Schweiz

Stiftung Temperatio

Stiftung VIVES

Swiss Solidarity

The Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition

Tsadik Foundation

U.W. Linsi Stiftung

UK Online Giving Foundation

Ursula Zindel-Hilti Foundation

UTIL Stiftung

Viva con Agua de St. Pauli e.V.

Viva con Agua Switzerland

Volkart Stiftung

Azienda acqua potabile Città di Locarno

Aziende Industriali di Lugano SA (AIL)

Bachema AG

Calora GmbH

Frei + Krauer AG

Gebana AG

Geberit International AG

Geberit Distribution AG

Globetrotter Tours AG

GroupConsulter AG

JAG Jakob Ltd

Lindt & Sprüngli (International) AG

Loterie Romande

Piguet Hôtel Des Ventes SA

PINI Group

Pratohaus AG

Reismühle Brunnen/Nutrex

Ricola AG

SERV Swiss Export Risk Insurance

SIGE

Sopra Steria AG

Swan Analytische Instrumente AG

“Swan is proud of the 20-year partnership with Helvetas. Together we have provided access to clean water for over 14,000 people. Helvetas’ holistic and sustainable approach has proved that we chose the right aid organization.”

Lukas Staub, Group CSO, Swan Analytical Instruments AG

THANK YOU

GIZ, German Agency for International Cooperation
 Government of the Netherlands, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 Government of Finland
 Government of Nepal
 Handicap International
 HLC, Horizontal Learning Centre, NILG, Bangladesh
 ICCO, Interchurch Organisation for Development
 IFAD, International Fund for Agricultural Development
 IFOAM, Organics International
 Institut für Auslandsbeziehungen ifa, Germany
 INTEGRATION Consulting Group
 International Centre for Migration Policy Management ICMPD
 IOM, International Organization for Migration
 ISW, International Secretariat for Water, Canada
 Itad Limited, Great Britain
 KEK-CDC AG
 Medair
 myclimate
 Netherlands Enterprise Agency
 NORAD, Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation
 Norwegian Trust Fund
 OCHA, UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
 Office des routes, Burundi
 People in Need
 Plan Binacional de Desarrollo de la Region Fronteriza Peru – Ecuador
 Red Institutos Técnicos Comunicaciones, Honduras
 RESET Plus Innovation Fund, Ethiopia
 SECO, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs
 SIDA, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
 SNV
 Solidar Suisse
 Stockholm Environment Institute
 Swiss Water & Sanitation Consortium
 Swiss Water Partnership
 Swisscontact
 TTU, Tanzania Teachers' Union
 UNDP, UN Development Programme
 UNEP, UN Environment Programme
 UNHCR, UN Refugee Agency
 UNICEF
 United Purpose
 University of Bern

University of Zurich
 UNOPS
 USAID, U.S. Agency for International Development
 USDOS, U.S. Department of State
 VECO Vredeseilanden
 WHH, Deutsche Welthungerhilfe e.V.
 World Bank
 WFP, World Food Programme
 WWF USA
 WWF

Partnerships, Alliances and Networks

AFC, Agriculture and Finance Consultants GmbH
 AGUASAN Community of Practice
 Alliance for Water Stewardship
 Alliance Sud
 Alliance2015 (ACTED, Ayuda en Acción, CESVI, CONCERN worldwide, HELVETAS, HIVOS, People in Need, Welthungerhilfe)
 Allianz gegen Waffenexporte in Bürgerkriegsländer

“FAI has supported Helvetas since 2009 because they are a well-qualified and reliable partner. We have been working together since 2017 to help strengthen civil society in Laos, foster dialogue with the authorities and ensure that young people drive growth in the country.”

Stefania Mancini, vice-president, Fondation Assistance Internationale – FAI

Beam Exchange
 Better Cotton Initiative
 CARITAS Schweiz
 CGAP, Consultative Group to Support the Poor
 CIVICUS
 Conflict Sensitivity Community Hub
 Conservation International Foundation
 CSO Partnership for Development Effectiveness
 DCED, Donor committee on enterprise development
 DDLGN, Democratisation, Decentralisation and Local Governance Network
 e+i Employment & Income Network
 Eawag
 ECEAT, European Centre for Eco Agro Tourism
 fairjourney
 Fastenopfer
 FANRPAN, Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources Policy

Analysis Network
 FOEN, Federal Office for the Environment
 FiBL, Research Institute of Organic Agriculture
 FoBBIZ, Swiss Forum for Skills Development and International Cooperation
 GCF, Green Climate Fund
 Gemeinsam für Afrika Netzwerk
 GFRAS, Global Forum for Rural Advisory Services
 GIIN, Global Impact Investing Network
 GNDR, Global Network of Civil Society Organisations for Disaster Reduction
 HAFL, School of Agricultural, Forest and Food Sciences
 HEKS, Swiss Church Aid
 ICAC, International Cotton Advisory Committee
 ILC, International Land Coalition
 ISEAL
 IUCN, International Union for Conservation of Nature
 Klimaallianz Schweiz
 KM4DEV

KOFF The Swiss platform for peacebuilding
 LOGIN Asia
 Max Havelaar Switzerland
 Millennium Water Alliance
 Nairobi Work Program, UNFCCC
 NGO-Plattform Menschenrechte Schweiz
 NIRAS A/S
 PEDRR, Partnership for Environment and Disaster Risk Reduction
 PHZH, Zurich University of Teacher Education
 Platform Agenda 2030
 PROVIA, Global Programme of Research on Climate Change Vulnerability, Impacts and Adaptation
 RAIN Foundation
 REC, Réseau Suisse Éducation et Coopération Internationale
 ReCAP, Research for Community Access Partnership
 RésEAU
 RRI, Rights and Resources Initiative

RWSN, Rural Water Supply Network
 Save the Children
 SDC Agriculture and Food Security Network
 SDC Climate Change & Environment Network
 SDC Disaster Risk Reduction Network
 SDC Gender Equality Network
 SEEP Network
 SEVAL, Swiss Evaluation Society
 SFIAR, Swiss Forum for International Agricultural Research
 SFRAS, Swiss Forum for Rural Advisory Services
 SFUVET, Swiss Federal University for Vocational Education and Training
 skat Swiss Resource Centre and Consultancies for Development
 SOS Kinderdorf International
 South Pole
 SPTF, Social Performance Task Force
 SSF, Swiss Sustainable Finance
 Sustainable Rice Platform
 Swiss Fair Trade
 Swiss Coalition for Corporate Justice
 Swiss KM Thinktable
 Swiss NGO DRR Platform
 Swiss NGO Platform
 Swiss Platform for Sustainable Cocoa
 Swiss Red Cross
 Swisspeace
 Terre des Hommes
 Textile Exchange
 The Household Water Treatment and Safe Storage Network
 UNFCCC, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
 UNGC, UN Global Compact
 Value Chain Capacity Building Network
 VUKA! Coalition for Civic Action
 WASH Agenda for Change
 Women in Development Europe+
 ZHAW, Zurich University of Applied Sciences

The list includes institutional donors and clients (from CHF 5,000 upwards) as well as partners.

“This used to be desert. I could count the people on the hillside. Today, all I see is trees. At most I can hear the people still”

Jean Jacob Fleurilus,
 owner of a tree nursery, Haiti



Would you like to help poor and disadvantaged women and men escape from poverty and create good future prospects for themselves?

Account for donations:
 80-3130-4, Zurich;
 Helvetas is ZEW0 accredited.



In **2021**, thanks to a wave of solidarity, Helvetas received almost **39 million**

Swiss francs in donations and other income totaling **111 million** francs. This allowed

1,400 committed Helvetas staff about **900** partner organizations world-

wide to help **2.6 million** women and **2.2 million** men in **33** countries

forge a life without poverty.

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