

# Annual Report 2022



hoffnungszeichen  
sign of hope

**Cover photo**

Karamoja in northeastern Uganda is one of the most under-developed regions in the country. The people there are poor – drought and conflict over water, land and livestock mean the region is gripped by famine. The woman in the cover photo is a beneficiary of the aid provided by our mobile clinic in Kosike and lives near the village of Chemakeny.

# Annual Report 2022

Sign of Hope

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Klaus Stieglitz (Vice Chairperson)

**Volunteer Supervisory Board:**  
Manfred Steiner (Chairperson),  
Stefan Daub (Vice Chairperson),  
Pastor Wilhelm Olschewski,  
Pastor Sibylle Giersiepen

## Foreword

The reporting year 2022 was dominated by the suffering that was unleashed by the war in Ukraine. Our duty of care applies just as much to the people on our doorstep in Europe as it does to all those who need our help around the world.



Manfred Steiner  
Chairperson of  
the Volunteer  
Supervisory Board

The long-awaited removal of restrictions applied in response to the coronavirus pandemic gave us strength and hope. We urgently need both, because with the invasion of Ukraine by Russia in February 2022, in violation of international law, one of the most fundamental catastrophes of humanity is suddenly very close to our door: war. The war and all its cruelty and human suffering have caught up with us in our longed-for "normality". We are feeling its enormous impact in our projects all over the world. Let us not forget the many other humanitarian crises that are receiving less media attention because of the war – the situation of the people in Yemen or Bangladesh, for instance. Yet time and again there are also those wonderful moments in our work that give us courage: when a paralysed boy in South Sudan is given a special bicycle so that he can attend school, when young women in Uganda or Kenya give birth safely under medical supervision, or when a family in Armenia is given their "starter sheep" for their own small livestock farm.

Your continued trust in our work, dear donors, provides the foundation for everything we can achieve across the globe – here in Europe as well as on distant continents. We therefore hope that this annual report will inform you about our combined efforts to help those in need around the world and that you will continue to stand alongside us with your gifts, prayers and support.

## 40 years of striving for more human dignity

Sign of Hope has been helping the oppressed and exploited around the world for the past four decades. In this interview with Reimund Reubelt and Klaus Stieglitz, we look back on the reporting year 2022 and talk about the changing of the guard on the association's board.

**Mr Reubelt, you have helped to build Sign of Hope over the decades and are now, in the 40th year of the association's existence, taking your well-deserved retirement. How do you look back on those years?**

**Reubelt:** *I look back on what I have achieved with some nostalgia, but above all with great gratitude. With the help of its many loyal supporters, Sign of Hope has been able to help oppressed and exploited people around the world for the last 40 years.*

**When and why did you start working for Sign of Hope?**

**Reubelt:** *I decided on 20 December 1993 to embark on a journey for and with Sign of Hope. I was strengthened in this decision by a certain bible quotation: "Rescue those being led away to death; hold back those staggering toward slaughter. If you say, 'But we knew nothing about this,' does not he who weighs the heart perceive it?" (Proverbs 24:11-12). This passage, which was hung on the wall of my office,*

*was a source of strength for me for almost 29 years, especially when I had to make some difficult decisions.*

**You have had numerous encounters with a wide variety of people during your time at Sign of Hope. Is there one encounter in particular that has stuck in your memory?**

**Reubelt:** *In South Sudan, I had many conversations with people who were fleeing their homes. One encounter with a man in the village of Nyamlell left a lasting impression on me. He said to me: "We are dying here in South Sudan. We have become used to this suffering. What we have not got used to is the feeling that the world has forgotten us." His words are etched into my mind to this day.*

**What motivated you to keep going, especially in difficult times? What role did your faith play in this?**

**Reubelt:** *My faith has always made me want to be pro-life. I am aware that although we cannot save the world, we can*



Reimund Reubelt  
Chairperson





**Appointment of a Managing Director**

In April 1994, the Honorary Board of Directors hired Managing Director Reimund Reubelt and instructed him to build up the organisation in a professional manner, both financially and in terms of personnel, in order to carry out the work stipulated in the articles of association to a high standard. By the end of the calendar year, the associated had already taken on five employees who were working in fundraising, donor management, human rights and aid project management and in the field of humanitarian aid and development cooperation.

at least help a lot of people and in doing so "serve life". I have also felt a deep sense of purpose in my work for Sign of Hope from the very beginning. This sense of purpose has given me fresh motivation every day.

**What do you hope the future will bring for Sign of Hope?**

**Reubelt:** I hope that our many supporters will continue to place their trust in Sign of Hope in the future. One factor that will guarantee this is my long-time colleague on the Executive Board, Klaus Stieglitz, who took over my role as Chairperson on 1 March 2023. He is ably assisted by Miriam Schütze as Vice Chairperson. I wish both of them and the entire Sign of Hope team God's continued blessing and every success for the future.

**Mr Stieglitz, having looked back through Mr Reubelt's eyes, let's now look forward. What is next for you as the Chairperson of Sign of Hope?**

**Stieglitz:** We want to continue to assist oppressed and exploited people in the spirit of our mission: "We reach out our hands, so that people can stand tall." Our ongoing and future activities can be divided into three different areas: human rights work, humanitarian assistance and development cooperation. In the field of human rights work, for example, we are committed to advocating for uniform supply chain legislation. This would commit large companies to comply with internationally recognised human rights and environmental standards and to take responsibility along their supply chains. However, this legislation urgently needs to be tightened up, even at the European level.

**What plans do you have in the field of development cooperation?**

**Stieglitz:** As far as development cooperation is concerned, we have framed our goals in the context of the United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As such, we are committed to fighting poverty and hunger, promoting peace and justice, improving health and well-being and providing clean water and sanitation. We run various projects for each of

Initial research on environmental pollution from the oil industry in southern Sudan began in 2008.



these areas. A good example of this is our clinic in Uganda. There, we are not only concerned with providing health care for thousands of people, but also with combating hunger and providing access to clean water. This one project therefore combines several of our focuses.

**What was the biggest challenge for Sign of Hope last year?**

**Stieglitz:** In 2022, we were profoundly affected by the war in Ukraine in particular. We have been working on the ground with various project partners since the beginning of the war. We also opened our own office in Ukraine in 2022. We help internally displaced people in particular to ensure that their most basic needs are met in a humane way, as well as by arranging psychotherapy treatment for them.

**How do you cope with the reality that you cannot help everyone?**

**Stieglitz:** "Nurture life wherever you encounter it" – I always remind myself of this quotation by Hildegard of Bingen. For me, there is a very deep meaning behind it. We cannot help everyone with our projects, but we make our contribution and fulfil our responsibility before God and humankind. That is motivation for being satisfied with what you achieve, for seeing hope.

**You yourself visited Ukraine recently. What impressions did you come away with?**

**Stieglitz:** The stories of the people I met during a visit to Ukraine really struck home and touched me personally. Many Ukrainians had to leave behind the lives they had built up over decades in the space of a few days. They have also lost family members and friends. We will continue to stand by the people of Ukraine and those in need around the world and give them hope.



Klaus Stieglitz  
Vice Chairperson

You can read the full interview here on our website





## Who we are

Sign of Hope employees have been travelling around the world for 40 years to alleviate hardship, provide aid and support the persecuted. We see ourselves as a bridge that connects the love of our supporters in this part of the world and the people living in crisis-hit areas and disadvantaged regions.

Sign of Hope is a bearer of the **Donation Certificate** awarded by the German Charities Council. The German Charities Council is an umbrella organisation for fund-raising charitable organisations. The Donation Certificate, which was first awarded in 2017, certifies that the holder handles money entrusted to it responsibly and transparently.



**Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V.** is a faith-based Christian organisation dedicated to human rights, humanitarian assistance and development cooperation. Helping the oppressed and exploited all over the world is at the heart of what we do. Drawing on Christian belief for our values and our motivation, Sign of Hope is guided by the principles of compassion, loving one's neighbour and solidarity.

The association was founded in 1983 as CSI Deutschland e.V. in Bonn. Ten years later, we relocated our headquarters to Singen (Hohentwiel). Following the end of a collaboration with CSI International, in 1999 the Members' Meeting gave the association the name it bears today and a new appearance. The Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. was founded in 2007. In 2013 Hoffnungszeichen e.V. moved into the premises of the Sign of Hope Foundation in Konstanz.

Sign of Hope has been a member of the German Donation Council since 1997 and was one of the first sponsors when the Donation Certificate was introduced

in 2017. We have been part of the umbrella organisation "Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid NGOs" (VENRO) since 2013.

We are moreover one of the signatories to the voluntary declaration of the Transparent Civil Society Initiative and have consultative status with the United Nations.

Sign of Hope is recognised by the tax office in Konstanz as a not-for-profit and charitable organisation. Donations and bequests to Sign of Hope are therefore fully tax exempt and deductible.



You can find the articles and mission statement of Hoffnungszeichen e.V. at [www.sign-of-hope.org](http://www.sign-of-hope.org). You can read about the Sign of Hope Foundation on pages 44–45.

## What we do

Whether it means providing food for the hungry, emergency shelter for earthquake victims, seeds and tools for smallholders, vocational training for women, textbooks for schoolchildren or organising protests for persecuted Christians, the work we do is wide-ranging and focused.

Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. stands up for people whose rights are under threat or being violated, provides humanitarian assistance in the form of disaster relief and emergency aid and is committed to sustainable development cooperation. Satisfying the basic human requirements for food, water, healthcare and shelter are core elements of our work.

One of the regions where we are especially active is central East Africa. Particular emphasis was placed in the reporting year on South Sudan, where Sign of Hope has been working since 1994, and Uganda, where a life-saving health station is run by Sign of Hope in the particularly poor and neglected east of the country.

### Human rights work

Sign of Hope is committed to upholding human rights. We regularly initiate protest campaigns and appeals and manage practical projects in various countries. We are in consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

### Humanitarian assistance

By providing short-term disaster relief, Sign of Hope quickly and efficiently ensures the survival of victims of famines and natural catastrophes – for example in the aftermath of devastating floods. As part of this short- and medium-term emergency relief, we assist people in priority crisis- and war-afflicted countries.

### Development cooperation

In this field of activity we aim to effect structural changes that will support better living conditions through capacity building. We collaborate with local partners and members of staff on the ground, working together to help them achieve sustainable project goals.



Read more about our focus areas on pages 16–17.





*“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”*  
 Matthew 25:40  
 (Sign of Hope’s guiding verse)

## How we help

Streamlined work processes, a network of trustworthy partners and comprehensive monitoring mechanisms: Providing aid to individuals requires careful planning and diligence. This is why our work is effective and efficient, and focussed entirely around our donors and aid recipients.

God created and loves us all, and every person has their dignity. The needs of the individuals who receive the aid we deliver are therefore at the heart of our work. We interact with both the participants of our projects and our donors as equals, treating them with respect, appreciation and tolerance. The main pillars of our work are trust, neutrality and tolerance.

We have been involved in trusting collaborations with a number of different partner organisations for several years now with a view to achieving our goals. Aside from this, we also initiate and carry out projects using solely our own resources. However, crisis situations and the causes of structural poverty are becoming ever more complex. Handling projects professionally is all the more important in order to maintain high standards of quality and to constantly improve our work, from planning and implementation to monitoring and evaluation.

In practical terms, Sign of Hope works in line with internationally recognised principles of humanitarian assistance and development cooperation, such as the Core Humanitarian Standard, the standards of the Sphere Project, the VENRO Code and the principles of the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement. Self-imposed guidelines and external auditing bodies moreover ensure the transparency, safety and quality of our work.

Wide-ranging partner networks, such as EU Cord – a network of European Christian non-governmental organisations – act as lobby groups and vital sources of information at the same time.

**VENRO** is the umbrella organisation of non-governmental organisations in Germany. The goals that we share include eradicating global poverty, implementing human rights and conserving natural resources.



More on the quality standards, supervisory bodies and internal guidelines can be found at [www.sign-of-hope.org](http://www.sign-of-hope.org).



Ukraine – Emergency relief for displaced persons and people living in rural areas



Kenya – special food for malnourished children



Yemen – humanitarian assistance for IDPs



South Sudan – school meals for pupils



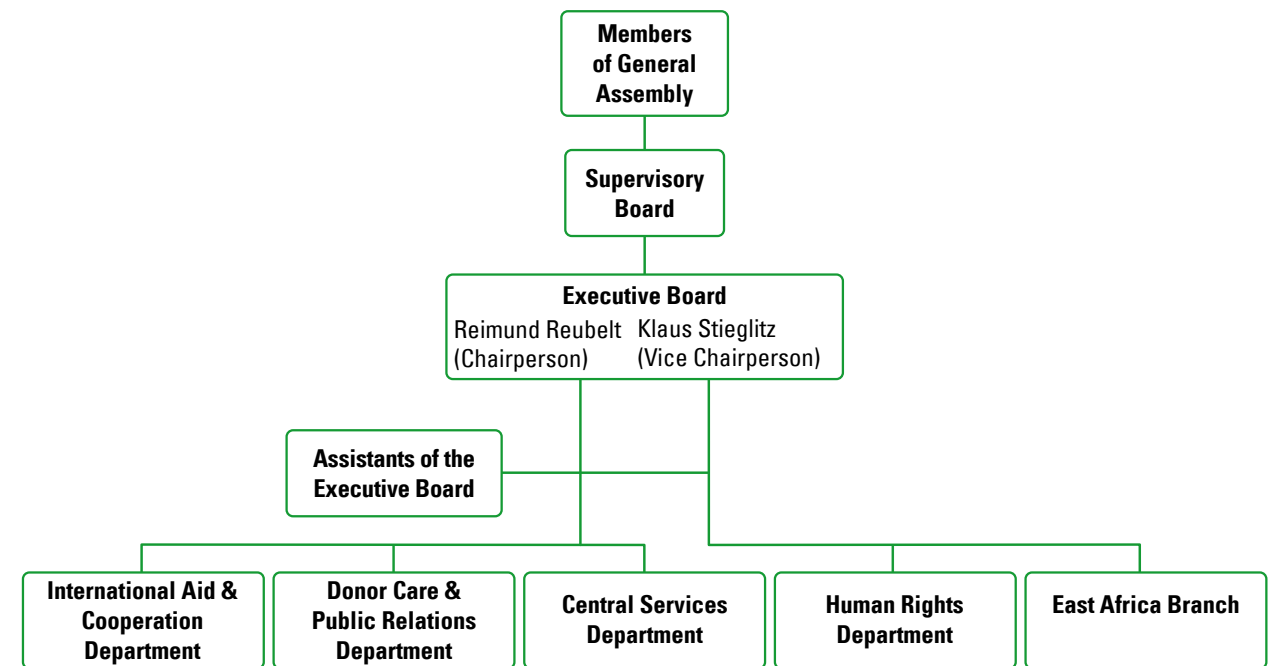
Armenia – escaping poverty through livestock farming





# Organisation and structure

As a registered association, Sign of Hope is legally, organisationally and financially independent. The people in the individual organisational units work either full-time or on a voluntary basis.



Sign of Hope has a total of 45 salaried employees in Germany at the end of fiscal year 2022:

- 42 in Konstanz, including three dual university students, one working student and one intern
- Three in our office in Berlin

In addition, we employ a total of 45 people in Africa, including 13 in Kenya, 27 in Uganda, three in Ethiopia and two employees who work in several African countries. We have two project-based staff working for us in Armenia and four in Ukraine.

The association has 26 honorary members, including the four honorary members of the Supervisory Board.

Human rights, humanitarian assistance and development cooperation have a direct influence on the structure of the association. However, no section of the organisation works by itself – each is supported in their functions by the other departments.

In addition to the main offices in Konstanz, over the years Sign of Hope has also established its own structures in Eastern Europe and particularly in East Africa. Our staff in Yerevan (Armenia), Nairobi (Kenya) and Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) implement and manage projects

in their respective regions. In particular, our numerous missions in central Eastern Africa are coordinated from Nairobi, including the construction and running of a health centre in Uganda.

As well as the members of staff who are directly involved with the projects, we also have employees working in administration, accounting, public relations and donor liaison departments in Nairobi and Konstanz in particular.



Head of Departments (from left to right): Marcel Kipping, Dr. Vincenzo Martella, Miriam Schütze, Robert Osborne



Supervisory Board (from left to right): Manfred Steiner, Stefan Daub, Pastor Wilhelm Olschewski, Pastor Sibylle Giersiepen

Full-time Executive Board (from left to right): Chairperson Reimund Reubelt and Vice Chairperson and Head of the Human Rights Department Klaus Stieglitz

### Committees

Alongside the purpose of the association, Sign of Hope's articles also set out its committees:

The **General Assembly** usually gathers once a year and decides upon alterations to the articles of association and deals with questions of fundamental significance. The volunteer members are also responsible for appointing and removing members of the supervisory and executive boards and for appointing a Certified Accountant.

The full-time **Executive Board** manages the business of the association within the framework of the articles and the decisions taken by the association's other committees. It consists of the Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson.

The voluntary **Supervisory Board** is composed of up to five members and is responsible for the strategic management and monitoring of the executive board. As stipulated by the articles of association, the annual Certified Accountant's report is delivered to the supervisory board.



## Transparency and communication

We are acutely aware that your trust underpins all our work. In order to do justice to it, we rely on high standards of quality and open communication.

### Acting responsibly

Making effective, efficient and careful use of the donations that are entrusted to us is our top priority. A range of internal mechanisms and guidelines, as well as compliance with strict external policies are intended to ensure this. Adherence to these standards is monitored by an independent Certified Accountant, who also examines our accounts and finances. Our approach is endorsed, for instance, by the Donation Certificate awarded by the German Charities Council (Deutscher Spendenrat).

Sign of Hope is a signatory of the Transparent Civil Society Initiative and as such discloses information relating to the ten key criteria for transparency. Our membership of VENRO also underlines our commitment to transparency and organisation management. Last but not least, the Konstanz Tax Office recognises our activities as charitable.

### Publicity for a good cause

In addition to federal institutions, companies and foundations, we also count many private donors among our sponsors. We need professional fundraising in order to realise our association's objectives. We use this fundraising to prepare relevant information and make it accessible to donors as well as interested parties – for example with our monthly magazine or this annual report.\*

Printed appeals for donations are a particularly effective method of gaining new donors for our projects. Our website [www.hoffnungszeichen.de](http://www.hoffnungszeichen.de) provides further information. We also reach out to our supporters via email newsletters, social media and online forums, often featuring film reports from our ongoing projects.

Sign of Hope is happy to support school classes and congregations with collection campaigns. We will also gladly give presentations about our work at trade fairs, lectures and other events. Birth-

\* The measures described there show how we can make use of donations. We endeavour to use donations for the purpose for which they were given. Should this no longer be possible or necessary, they will be used for another purpose in accordance with the statutes of Sign of Hope.



The team from the Certified Public Accountant WISTA AG have inspected Sign of Hope's annual financial statement for 2022.

days, anniversaries and weddings also represent an opportunity for gathering donations.

We use our press work to draw attention to specific grievances and highlight our concerns.

### What matters most to us

Sign of Hope implements organisational and secure technical measures to protect donor data. Donor addresses are solely used for our own purposes. Personal data are processed in strict compliance with the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation and this process is supervised by an external data protection officer.

Sign of Hope is very mindful of costs in all its publicity activities. Fundraising activities are compensated irrespective of the degree of success. Staff members are remunerated in line with the Labour Agreement (TVöD). We do not approach prospective donors in the street or at their front door.

Our ethical guidelines are based on codes of conduct and regulations set out by VENRO and the German Fundraising Association. When we report on and promote our work, we never forget how much we value and esteem those who receive our help and those who donate to us.

### Allocation of resources for the Fiscal Year 2022 (Expenses in millions of euros)

Work to realise the articles of association	12.13
- Project work	9.20
- Campaigns and public relations work	0.97
- Human resources and amortisation	1.95
Administrative and advertising expenses	1.36
- Publicity	0.79
- Administration	0.56
Total	13.49

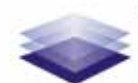
**89.9 % statutory work**  
 68.2 % project work  
 7.2 % campaigns and public relations work  
 14.5 % human resources and amortisation

**10.1 % Administrative and advertising expenses**  
 5.9 % publicity  
 4.2 % administration



More information can be found at:

- [www.spendenrat.de](http://www.spendenrat.de)
- [www.fundraisingverband.de](http://www.fundraisingverband.de)
- [www.venro.org](http://www.venro.org)
- [www.sign-of-hope/transparency](http://www.sign-of-hope/transparency)



Initiative  
Transparente  
Zivilgesellschaft





## Focus areas

In order to achieve its goals of providing aid in the short-term, achieving change in the long-term and satisfying basic human needs, Sign of Hope projects concentrate on seven priority issues.



### Food

We make sure that people in desperate situations have access to sufficient food. We help them to supply themselves with food and supply seeds, tools and – when necessary – food rations.



### Healthcare

People continue to die from diseases that are actually easily treatable. In many of its projects Sign of Hope ensures access to healthcare and provides information about disease prevention.



### Human Rights

Sign of Hope exerts selective influence to improve the human rights situation around the world. We provide information about abuses and put pressure on those responsible.



Floods, earthquakes, conflict, famine – there is often a need for immediate provision of aid. To deliver this, we collaborate with partners on the ground who know what those affected require most urgently, such as clean drinking water, hygiene products or emergency shelter.



Poverty affects millions of people worldwide. Sign of Hope assists them in improving their lives through their own efforts, for example by creating income opportunities.



In many countries, it is principally the poorest in society who have either no or limited access to clean water. Sign of Hope helps by building drinking water wells, reservoirs and basic sanitary facilities and by providing hygiene education.



Education is important in overcoming poverty and being able to determine the course of one's own life. We facilitate access to educational programmes even in the remotest of regions.



### Emergency Aid & Disaster Relief



### Combating Poverty



### Water



### Education & Social Issues



# Project countries around the world

Sign of Hope e.V. is active all over the world in various different ways. On the following pages you can find out more about our priority countries in central East Africa as well as our other project countries and the work that we do there.







# Our work in figures

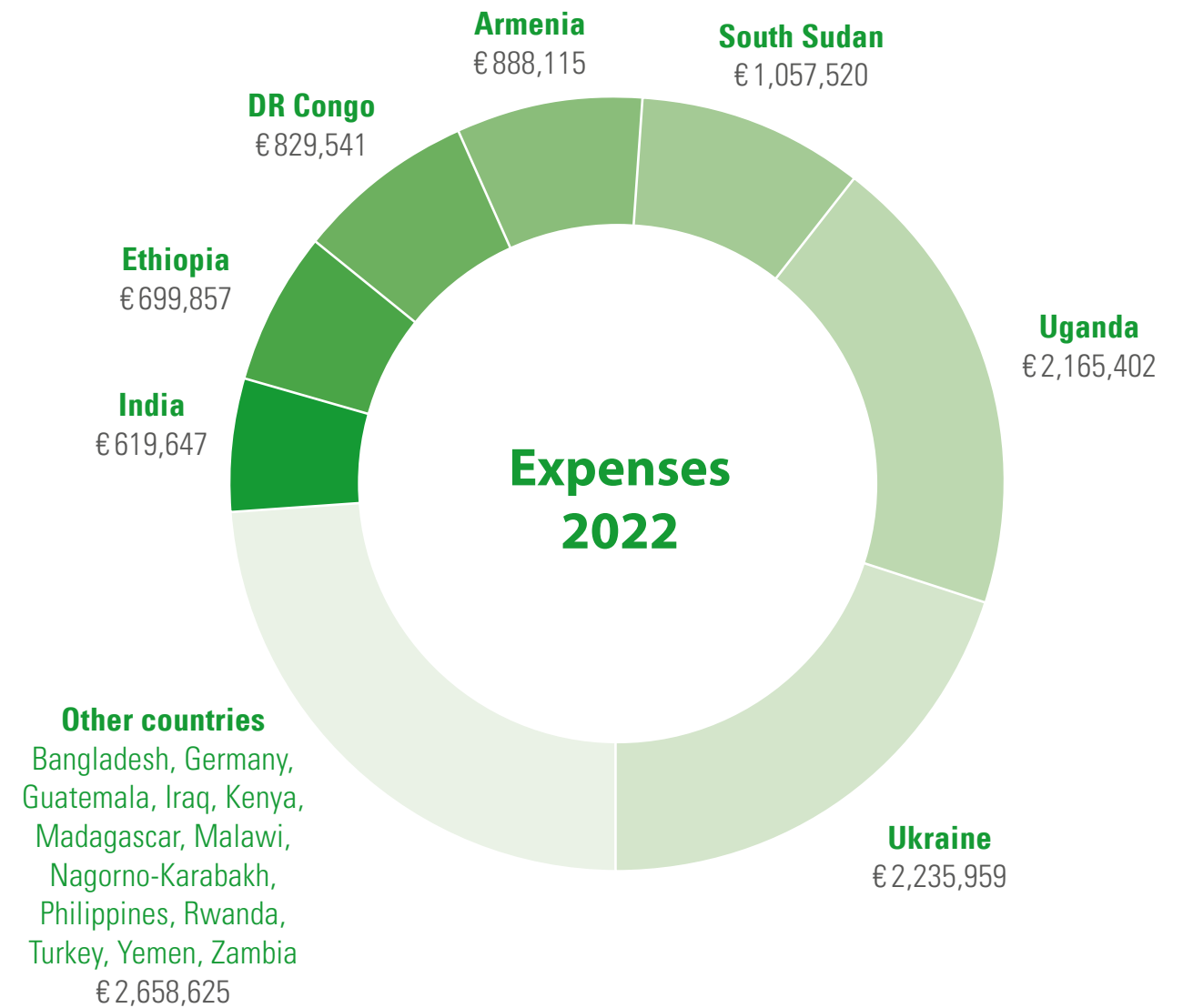
Below is a representation of the costs from the reporting year 2022 for statutory activities. Countries in which Sign of Hope ran projects are listed in detail.

Country	Expenses	Focus areas*	People reached
Armenia	€888,115		7,432
Bangladesh	€591,300		18,708
DR Congo	€829,541		127,905
Ethiopia	€699,857		137,564
Germany	€36,787		43
Guatemala	€110,493		5,839
India	€619,647		77,040
Iraq	€75,887		4,544
Kenya	€527,712		28,750
Madagascar	€24,613		40,435
Malawi	€575,330		40,950
Nagorno-Karabakh	€56,550		750
Rwanda	€278,897		60,135
South Sudan	€1,057,520		23,184
The Philippines	€14,215		5,723
Turkey	€96,002		460
Uganda	€2,165,402		176,056
Ukraine	€2,235,959		73,272
Yemen	€137,505		1,511
Zambia	€133,334		325,000
<b>Total project countries</b>	<b>€11,154,666</b>		<b>1,155,301</b>
Other project allocations and, if applicable, donations in kind	€56,673		
Campaigns and public relations work	€919,049 **		
<b>Total</b>	<b>€12,130,388</b>		

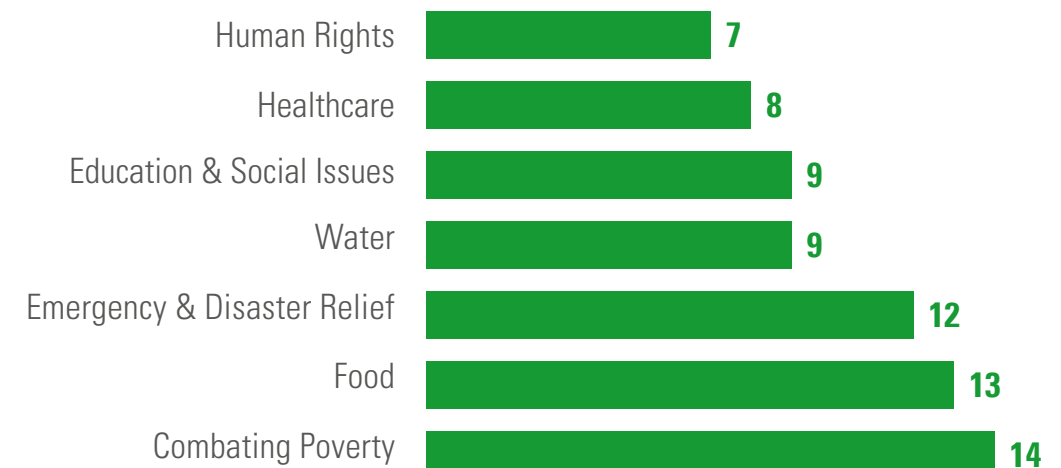
\*Core focuses



\*\* Petition campaigns on human rights cases in Afghanistan, Bahrain, China, Ecuador, Eritrea, Iran, Myanmar, Nigeria, Pakistan, Qatar, Republic of Niger, Tajikistan, Ukraine/Russia, USA



## Number of project countries per focus area in 2022





# Ukraine:

## In the hardship of war

The Russian war of aggression triggered the largest movement of refugees since the Second World War. Millions of people lost their livelihoods.

### Ukraine



**Inhabitants:** 43.5 million  
**HDI\*:** 74 (0.773)

The conflict between Russia and Ukraine erupted in 2014.

On 24 February 2022, Russia's all-out assault on its Eastern European neighbour began.

- As of March 2023, the confirmed civilian death toll from the war so far is 8,400.
- By September 2022, more than 7 million people had been internally displaced and there were more than 7.5 million refugees in Europe.



#### Aid for war children

Millions of people have fled their homes to other locations in Ukraine or are persevering in their homes under the most difficult circumstances. One of our projects enabled us to help families with children in exceptional need. Our partner organisation on the ground, Spasibo, supported the project with our aid and donations provided by BILD hilft e.V. The "A Heart for Children" project supported a total of 260 families over several months by providing special food and baby food, hygiene products and medicines, among other things.

Many children and young people were deprived of their social environment, ripped from their roots and traumatised by being forced to flee or being bombed. This is why, in collaboration with our local partner Insha Osvita, we offered psychosocial support for a total of 23 traumatised young people in the cities of Chernivtsi and Ivano-Frankivsk in the form of an art project. Under expert supervision, the young people were able to reflect on their experience of war and displacement, talk to each other and receive therapeutic support.

#### How we helped:

**Activities:** Distribution of aid, psychological counselling, cash vouchers, construction of emergency shelters

**Expenses:** €2,235,959

**Number of projects:** 9

**Number of people reached:** 73,272

**Project partners:** Spasibo, GAiN (Global Aid Network), GCEK (Greek Catholic Eparchy of Kosice), Insha Osvita, PIN (People in Need) Slovakia, New Way, Metalab, Age Concern Ukraine (Turbota pro Litnih v Ukraini/TLU), Starlife Odessa

**Co-financing:** German Federal Foreign Office, BILD hilft e. V. "A Heart for Children"

**Donations in kind:** SCHIESSER GmbH

**What we achieved:** 23 young people received therapeutic counselling. 260 families were provided with food, hygiene products and medicine.

**Outlook:** The projects are part of a wider aid programme; they started in the reporting year 2022 and some will continue in 2023.



#### Support for the elderly

Older people often hold out in traumatic and difficult conditions in their war-ravaged homes. In the knowledge that many older people also live alone, we trained 24 local caregivers in conjunction with our local project partners and with funding from the German Federal Foreign Office, who regularly visited 144 people in need of assistance. Twelve specially trained social workers provided assistance to 72 senior citizens with shopping, cleaning, washing, cooking and administrative matters. This project therefore provided skills and employment in addition to direct assistance for older members of the local population. The wide range of psychosocial support also included the distribution of 1,000 specially designed diaries to help those affected cope with their experiences of the war. Two psychologists have also been working with severely traumatised people in local hospitals and psychiatric institutions.

**What we achieved:** 24 caregivers were trained, two psychologists and 12 social workers were employed, 1,000 diaries were distributed and 216 people in need of help were supported with managing their daily lives.

**Outlook:** These projects are also part of a large-scale aid programme that started in 2022 and will be continued.

#### \*The Human Development Index

– HDI for short – is a prosperity indicator for countries. It takes into account the income per capita, life expectancy or the number of years spent at school. Each country was given an HDI ranking in 2021 (out of a total of 191 countries).





## Uganda: Combating famine and disease

It is often difficult for the inhabitants of rural regions to access medical care. Malnutrition is common. We are providing support to people here through famine relief and by running a clinic.

### Uganda



**Inhabitants:** 46.2 million  
**HDI:** 159 (0.525)

Despite its economic growth, Uganda is one of the poorest countries in the world. The country's development is being threatened by climate change.

- More than 3,000 deaths from starvation were reported in two of the districts in the Karamoja region up to August 2022.
- Just 56% of the population has access to clean drinking water.



#### Healthcare provision at our clinic

Malnutrition, a high HIV infection rate, poor hygiene and high susceptibility to diseases are part of everyday life for many people in the Amudat district in north-eastern Uganda. Almost half of the population has no access to clean drinking water. The distances that must be travelled to reach clean water supplies are too far for many people. Sign of Hope runs a clinic in the village of Kosike in cooperation with its project partner, the Diocese of Moroto. This enables around 20,000 people in the surrounding area to access basic medical care. Patients with injuries and illnesses are treated both as outpatients and as inpatients. A "travelling health clinic" also delivers medical care to remote villages around Kosike. The health centre also offers a nutritional programme for malnourished children, nutrition classes for mothers, medical care for pregnant women, obstetric care and an immunisation programme. Farm animals and model gardens are used to impart knowledge about high-yield agriculture in order to boost standards of nutrition for local people.

#### How we helped:

**Activities:** Basic health care provision in rural areas, distribution of food and aid, training in farming methods, construction of water reservoirs and wells, construction of latrines and sanitation facilities, microfinance opportunities, climate change analysis, assistance in registering land rights, training in conflict resolution

**Expenses:** €2,165,402

**Number of projects:** 12

**Number of people reached:** 176,056

**Project partners:** AAC, Caritas Moroto, Diocese of Kotido, Diocese of Moroto, Matany Hospital, SOCADIDO

**Co-financing:** German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, EKFS, FIDA

**What we achieved:** A total of 10,005 patients were treated in the year under review.

**Outlook:** The clinic is continuing to function well.



#### Food aid for famine victims

"We have almost nothing to eat," explains Maria Nawal, whose two-year-old daughter is being treated for malnutrition at the Karinga health centre. "If we are lucky, we have something to eat once a day. Usually cassava and tomatoes. We grow vegetables, but there is no rain. A lot of the crops are dying from drought." We distributed food to vulnerable people in the villages of Karinga, Kotido, Moroto and Kosike in the arid Karamoja region, which is plagued by conflicts over water and livestock. Our local project partners, including the Catholic community of Karinga, operate outpatient clinics, mobile clinics, care centres and schools at their premises, and our aid also supports this important structural work. This is the main means by which we combat widespread malnutrition. Malnourished children, elderly people, orphans, people with disabilities and tuberculosis patients are the main beneficiaries of this project.

**What we achieved:** We delivered aid supplies to a total of 255 households in November 2021 and to a further 115 households in May 2022.

**Outlook:** The project is ongoing.

Find out more about our aid project in Uganda in our magazine programme







## South Sudan: School education & food security

Educational projects, complemented by medical care and food aid, bring stability and hope to the crisis-ridden everyday lives of many South Sudanese.

### Republic of South Sudan



- Inhabitants:** 11.5 million  
**HDI:** 185 (0.385)  
South Sudan is considered a “failed state.” Armed conflicts and the effects of climate change are destabilising the country.
- The illiteracy rate is one of the highest in the world.
  - One child in 10 dies before reaching the age of 5.

#### How we helped:

**Activities:** School meals, preparation for humanitarian emergencies, expansion and improvement of school infrastructure, psychosocial care, improvement of educational opportunities, promotion of gender equality and inclusion, capacity building of local government authorities, satellite research and warning app development on drinking water pollution by the oil industry, distribution of medicines, food and hygiene items to mentally ill and vulnerable prisoners, provision of aid supplies and food

**Expenses:** €1,057,520  
**Number of projects:** 11  
**Number of people reached:** 23,184  
**Project partners:** Diocese of Rumbek, DoR, Catholic Diocese of Tombura Yambi, Loreto Rumbek, Sisters of Charity Rumbek, UNIDOR  
**Co-financing:** German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, Skala-Initiative, Sternstunden e. V.

#### Education as a beacon of hope

An estimated 2.8 million children – 70% of school-age children – are not in school in South Sudan, with girls being particularly affected. The illiteracy rate was 65.5% in 2020, one of the highest in the world. Working together with the Catholic Diocese of Rumbek and with the support of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, we have been implementing a large-scale education project for around 8,000 children and young people in and around Rumbek since 2019. It comprises the construction and renovation of twelve school buildings, psychosocial care for traumatised children, access to education for children with physical disabilities, empowering girls, continuing education for teachers, vocational training opportunities and the construction of wells. This is how we safeguard the human rights of thousands of school children to food, education, water and hygiene.

**What we achieved:** In the year under review, the cancellations and shutdowns caused earlier by the coronavirus pandemic were mainly compensated for by redoubling many of our educational activities.

**Outlook:** The education project is being expanded to other regions and schools. Doing so will enable us to reach almost 16,000 people through this initiative.



#### School meals as an incentive to attend school

Around 10,000 people live in the village of Maker Kuei, just northwest of Rumbek. The religious sisters of the Loreto School in Maker Kuei offer school meals in order to encourage as many children as possible to attend school and to convince their parents to allow them to do so. Around 1,200 primary school children, 340 boarders as well as the teachers are given beans or posho, a cereal porridge made from maize flour, every day. The school lunches encourage lots of children to go to school. For many of them, it is often the only meal of the day. 200 people, many of them women, were also given the opportunity to work in the gardens of the Loreto Sisters. In return, they are given food to feed their families (the Food for Work programme). Locally grown vegetables such as muluchiya (like spinach), tomatoes, sukuma wiki (collard greens), okra and pumpkin are both used in the school meals and for distributing to the women who work in the gardens.

**What we achieved:** School meals for the approximately 1,200 primary school pupils and 340 boarding school pupils as well as the staff were provided as usual in the year under review. Our Food for Work initiative benefited 200 households.

**Outlook:** The provision of school meals will continue in the upcoming reporting year.

Find out more about our aid project in South Sudan in our magazine programme







## Ethiopia

### Civil war causes hunger and suffering

The bloody fighting in the Tigray region was accompanied by food blockades, human rights violations and the collapse of the health system. Our aid reached thousands of internally displaced people.

#### Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



- Inhabitants: 113.6 million  
HDI: 173 (0.498)
- The rural regions of Ethiopia in particular are afflicted by major shortages. The Tigray conflict added to the misery.
- About 500,000 people were estimated to have been killed in the Tigray conflict by the end of 2022.
  - A fragile peace agreement is in place.



#### Survival aid for internally displaced persons

4.5 million people have already fled their homes in the Tigray region since the outbreak of fighting between the Ethiopian government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF) in November 2020, which lasted until February 2022. The conflict in northern Ethiopia brought with it suffering and hunger. Well over nine million people were dependent on food aid in the year under review. We have been assisting IDPs in the Afar and Amhara regions alongside our partner organisations, the Ethiopian Catholic Church and the Afar Pastoralist Development Association (APDA). In addition to hygiene products, kitchen utensils and sleeping mats, the recipients were principally given essential foodstuffs to stave off acute hunger. Among the recipients of our aid were Tigist and her four children, who had walked more than 300 kilometres over 10 days in order to escape the fighting. 3.5 million people fled their home region of Amhara alone, where the fighting spilled over from Tigray.

#### How we helped:

**Activities:** Agricultural training in improved farming methods, distribution of aid supplies such as food, water and hygiene products, preparation for humanitarian emergencies, encouraging agriculture, climate change adaptations

**Expenses:** €699,857

**Number of projects:** 9

**Number of people reached:** 137,56

**Project partners:** APDA, CEHRO, ECC-SDCO-AA, ECC-SDCOS, SCORE

**Co-financing:** German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, GIZ, Skala-Initiative

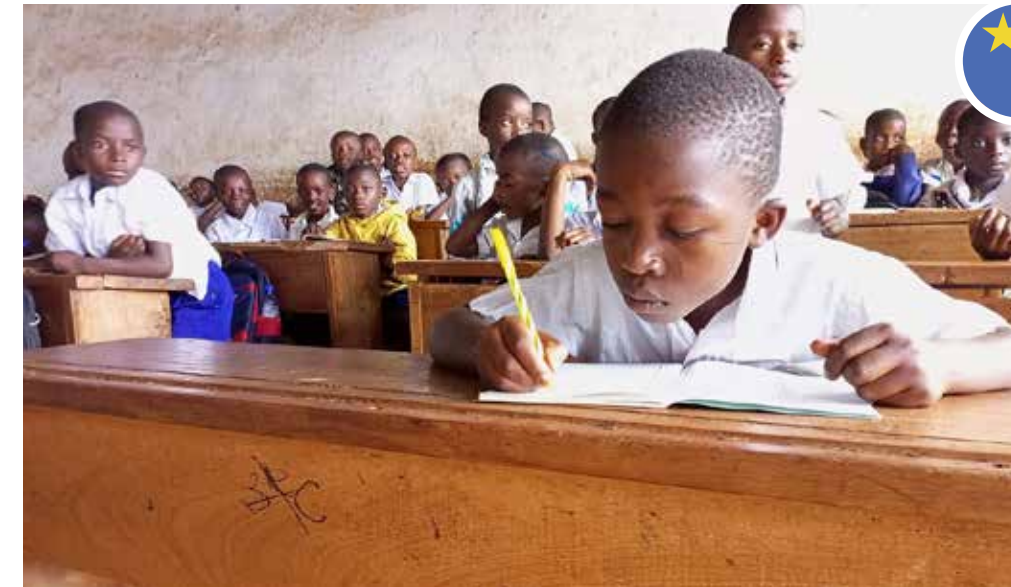
**What we achieved:** We were able to support almost 1,200 households of internally displaced persons.

**Outlook:** The project has come to an end.

## DR Congo

### Funding, food, education

The country is one of the most resource-rich in the world. Nevertheless, it is one of the poorest countries on the planet due to exploitation, corruption and many years of war. Our support creates opportunities for the future.



#### Democratic Republic Of Congo

- Inhabitants: 108.4 million  
HDI: 175 (0.479)
- The DR Congo is the second largest country in Africa in terms of land area and the fourth most populous with 100 million inhabitants.
- Subsistence farming is the norm in most rural regions.
  - The country's social welfare system is one of the worst in the world.

#### How we helped:

**Activities:** Agricultural training in improved farming methods, advocacy for street children, schooling and education, school meals, provision of medicines, clothing, hygiene products, renovation of two centres for street children, psychological counselling and legal aid for suspected juvenile delinquents, socio-economic integration and psychological counselling for girls at risk.

**Expenses:** €829,541

**Number of projects:** 7

**Number of people reached:** 127,905

**Project partners:** HPP Congo, PEDER

**Co-financing:** German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, Cents for Help, Sternstunden e. V.

#### Offering children a future

An estimated 10,000 children live on the streets in the city of Bukavu. We have been supporting the aid programme for street children run by our partner PEDER (Diocese of Bukavu) for the last 15 years. Our co-workers offer the boys and girls legal and psychosocial counselling, assist their families and support the children in a total of four centres by providing childcare, food, accommodation, medical assistance as well as schooling and vocational training.

**What we achieved:** In the year under review, 620 children received daily meals, 480 children benefited from psychosocial counselling, 80 children were reintegrated into mainstream schools and 70 into vocational training.

**Outlook:** The project has been very successful and will be continued.

#### Countering hunger through agriculture

The Dongo region in Sud-Ubangi province is one of the areas most affected by malnutrition in the country. This is why Sign of Hope and its partner HPP-Congo have launched the "Farmers' Club-Dongo" project with a focus on agriculture and nutrition. The project involves men and women working together in groups to cultivate vegetable gardens. An additional nutrition programme helps malnourished children regain their strength.

**What we achieved:** In the year under review, 4,000 households were given assistance with growing food and taking it to market. 400 severely malnourished children were enrolled in a nutrition programme.

**Outlook:** It is a long-term project and will be continued.





## Armenia: Small country, big problems

Armenia is struggling to recover from the earthquake and the aftermath of war. Helping families living in poverty is as much a part of our work as improving long-term incomes.

### Republic of Armenia



- Inhabitants: 3.0 million  
HDI: 81 (0.759)  
The armed conflict with Azerbaijan continues to have a detrimental effect on Armenia's economic development.
- Industry is underdeveloped.
  - Livestock farming and agriculture are widespread.
  - The unemployment rate was around 15% in 2021.



#### Support in the heart of winter

Many families in northern Armenia live in abject poverty. Every year, before the onset of winter and again towards the end of the cold season when supplies are running low, we distribute food parcels containing cooking oil, flour, salt, pasta and tinned meat, as well as detergent and soap, to the people in need in Shirak Province. The items are purchased in the region and packed by local volunteers. The recipients are destitute families, single elderly people and people with disabilities.

**What we achieved:** Aid supplies were handed out to 150 families and individuals at each distribution.

**Outlook:** This aid project will continue to be part of our ongoing work.

#### How we helped:

**Activities:** Distribution of sheep, provision of food, winter aid, training in climate-appropriate agricultural methods, educational support for young adults  
**Expenses:** €888,115  
**Number of projects:** 4  
**Number of people reached:** 7,432  
**Project partners:** Development Principles, Green Lane  
**Co-financing:** German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development

#### Sheep farming to boost income

Raising livestock is a viable livelihood option in the underdeveloped province of Shirak. Farmers, the elderly and the socially disadvantaged each receive five sheep as part of this livestock raising project. The sheep enable the families to support themselves and generate income from the sale of wool and dairy products. The project is designed to be "self-expanding": the first three lambs are given to another family so that the number of recipients grows.

**What we achieved:** 30 families received five sheep each in the year under review.

**Outlook:** The project is ongoing – more households will be given the opportunity to escape poverty.

## Nagorno-Karabakh: An uncertain future

The war that began in autumn 2020 was accompanied by the loss of the Arzakh region and has worsened the situation of the people in Nagorno-Karabakh.



### Nagorno-Karabakh (Republic of Arzakh)

- Inhabitants: 10.4 million  
HDI: 88 (0.745) (Azerbaijan)  
The Nagorno-Karabakh region belongs to Azerbaijan under international law. The populace is suffering from the dispute between Armenia and Azerbaijan.
- Azerbaijan brought some areas of Nagorno-Karabakh back under its control.
  - The "Republic of Arzakh" is not internationally recognised.

#### Food aid eases everyday hardship

The recurring conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh keeps many people mired in poverty. Families with sick children, such as the Khachatryan family, have a particularly difficult time. Two of their sons suffer from cerebral palsy and are confined to wheelchairs. Even with child welfare and support for the two paralysed sons, on many days there is often only enough money left for a crust of bread. We helped particularly vulnerable families such as the Khachatryans and elderly people by providing food parcels containing basic food items such as lentils, flour and canned food in this project, which has now been running for several years. This support eases the strain on many of the recipient families as they go about their difficult daily lives.

**What we achieved:** In the year under review, 150 single elderly people, orphans and impoverished families each received food parcels as part of two distribution campaigns.

**Outlook:** Owing to the unpredictable political developments in the conflict over Nagorno-Karabakh, distributions of food in the next reporting year will initially be given to refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh in Armenia. The project is ongoing.

#### How we helped:

**Activities:** Delivery of food parcels, winter aid  
**Expenses:** €56,550  
**Number of projects:** 1  
**Number of people reached:** 750





## Republic of Kenya



Inhabitants: 55.8 million  
HDI: 143 (0.575)



### How we helped:

**Activities:** Preparing for humanitarian emergencies, distribution of food parcels, medicine and water, creation of new sources of income, health care provision with a mobile clinic

**Expenses:** €527,712

**Number of projects:** 9

**Number of people reached:** 28,750

**Project partners:** Caritas Marsabit, DDO, EACHRights, Marsabit Health Department, MIDP, PISP

**Co-financing:** German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, Skala-Initiative, WASH Network

### Mobile clinic on the road

The lack of access to medical care is a problem for the nomadic tribes in Marsabit in northern Kenya, who continue to suffer from poverty. A six-person medical team travels to 89 remote villages in the Dukana and Illeret regions several times a month in an all-terrain vehicle packed with medical supplies.

› The mobile clinics reach around 7,000 people in the surrounding area. The aid project has been designed to last several years and will be continued.

## Rwanda



Inhabitants: 13.1 million  
HDI: 160 (0.534)



### How we helped:

**Activities:** Construction of wells and latrines, hygiene education, socio-economic integration of people with albinism

**Expenses:** €278,897

**Number of projects:** 3

**Number of people reached:** 60,135

**Project partners:** ARDE, IDA, Hand in Hand for Development

**Co-financing:** German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development

### Support for people with disorders

Rwanda is home to around 12,000 people with the pigmentary disorder albinism; they are often discriminated against, persecuted and even killed.

› Access to health care and justice and inclusion in society are elements of the multi-year project aimed at 60 people affected by the disease. The first signs of success can be seen in the increasing awareness of the disorder in the community. Those affected also receive practical support such as sun protection creams.

## Yemen



Inhabitants: 30.9 million  
HDI: 179 (0.455)



### Hope despite the misery of war

More than 16 million people in Yemen need access to clean drinking water and sanitation. 17 million people were affected by food insecurity at the end of 2022.

› 110 refugee families were given food vouchers and hygiene packages over the course of several months. 30 families will also be provided with latrines as part of the multi-year project. 20 people, most of them women, are receiving vocational training; another 20 are being given livestock in combination with training in animal husbandry.

### How we helped:

**Activities:** Distribution of food and hygiene products, provision of livestock, construction of latrines, support for vocational training

**Expenses:** €137,505

**Number of projects:** 2

**Number of people reached:** 1,511

**Project partners:** RDP

## Republic of India



Inhabitants: 1.39 billion  
HDI: 131 (0.633)



### Future-oriented agriculture

The farming livelihoods of the inhabitants of the Sundarban Islands depend on the threatened and fragile ecosystem of the mangrove coast. In this multi-year project, people are being educated about sustainable and efficient agriculture, aquaculture management and how to diversify their produce. Sections of coastline are being reforested to strengthen natural flood protection.

› 2,000 households (a total of 6,960 people) in 32 villages are taking part in the measures.

### How we helped:

**Activities:** Safeguarding livelihoods through climate-adapted agriculture, empowering indigenous women

**Expenses:** €619,647

**Number of projects:** 2

**Number of people reached:** 77,040

**Project partners:** DRCSC, LRRM, Jadavpur University



## People's Republic of Bangladesh



Inhabitants: 165.6 million  
HDI: 133 (0.661)



### How we helped:

**Activities:** Preparedness for humanitarian emergencies, aid distribution, livelihood and food security  
**Expenses:** €591,300  
**Number of projects:** 4  
**Number of people reached:** 18,708  
**Project partners:** Faith in Action, KOINONIA  
**Co-financing:** German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, BILD Hilft e. V. "A Heart for Children", SKala-Initiative

### Aid for flood victims

Heavy monsoon rains caused severe flooding in Bangladesh in June 2022. Approximately 7.2 million people in the seven north-eastern districts were affected.

› 500 families were given food, water purification tablets, soap and hygiene wipes through our partner KOINONIA. The project focused on households headed by women, as well as pregnant and breast-feeding women, older people and people with disabilities.



## Republic of Malawi



Inhabitants: 13.1 million  
HDI: 160 (0.534)



### How we helped:

**Activities:** Training in improved sustainable farming methods, supporting food and income security, strengthening the self-reliance of smallholder farmers against climate change.  
**Expenses:** €575,330  
**Number of projects:** 3  
**Number of people reached:** 40,950  
**Project partners:** CADECOM, CICOD  
**Co-financing:** German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development

### Surviving climate change

Climate change-related weather extremes such as droughts and floods are putting strain on the ability of people in Malawi to feed themselves. We are supporting farming families with agricultural projects so that they can prepare themselves for the consequences of climate change.

› The long-term project will benefit 3,000 smallholders and their families. A total of 30 farmer schools are teaching improved cultivation methods and sharing knowledge about sustainable forest, water and land use.





# Balance sheet

issued 30 September 2022

Assets	30.09.2022	30.09.2021
	EUR	EUR
<b>A. Fixed assets</b>		
I. Intangible assets Concessions acquired against payment, commercial proprietary rights and similar rights and assets such as licenses for such rights and assets	180,803.00	224,651.00
II. Tangible assets Other facilities, fixtures and fittings	297,384.00	304,488.00
<b>B. Current Assets</b>		
I. Inventories Raw materials and supplies	4,981.48	4,981.48
II. Accounts receivable and other assets Other assets	23,645.05	19,993.32
III. Cash assets, bank balance at Federal Bank, credit balances at financial institutions and cheques	6,636,406.30	5,338,519.25
<b>C. Accruals and deferred income items</b>	147,533.39	238,460.03
	<b>7,290,753.22</b>	<b>6,131,093.08</b>

Liabilities	30.09.2022	30.09.2021
	EUR	EUR
<b>A. Equity capital</b>		
I. Reserve assets Free reserves (§ 62 Revenue Code (AO))	5,523,895.85	4,329,561.89
II. Retained earnings	0.00	0.00
<b>B. Unspent donations</b>		
1. Donations as yet unspent on statutory work	577,122.89	256,830.80
2. Long-term donations	592,647.42	729,506.34
	<b>1,169,770.31</b>	<b>986,337.14</b>
<b>C. Provisions</b>		
Other provisions	230,018.38	207,149.90
<b>D. Liabilities</b>		
1. Liabilities from as yet unused donations for specific purposes	149,475.55	535,735.71
2. Trade payables	123,938.89	38,407.76
3. Other liabilities	93,654.24	33,900.68
	<b>367,068.68</b>	<b>608,044.15</b>
	<b>7,290,753.22</b>	<b>6,131,093.08</b>

# Explanatory note to the financial statement

## General information

The association's fiscal year (FY) relates to the period between 1 October 2021 and 30 September 2022. The annual financial statement issued on 30 September 2022 was drawn up in accordance with the accounting standards of the German Commercial Code (HGB Section 264 et seqq.), those of the Institute of Public Auditors (IDW) and the relevant provisions of the General Fiscal Law (AO) for charitable organisations. The stricter regulations for so-called smaller capital companies as set out in Section 267 HGB were voluntarily applied. The profit and loss account was prepared on the basis of the cost of sales method (Section 275 Para. 3 HGB). The structure was adapted to the particular needs of fundraising organisations as set out in Statement IDW-RS-HFA 21. Further details of the profit and loss statement were added in a multi-division accounting statement. This was done in accordance with the provisions of the German Charities Council, of which the association is a member.

In line with the approach used in previous years, the revenue recognition looked at more than just the use of donations in accordance with statutory purposes. Instead, non-purpose-specific donations received in previous years were counted as income and added to the free reserves. This creation of reserves was done with the aim of ensuring the association's institutional capacity to fulfil the aims set out in the articles of association and to balance out periodic variations in revenue.

## Accounting and evaluation methods

The balance sheet and profit and loss statement were drawn up in accordance with the accounting and valuation provisions of Sections 246 et seqq. and 252 et seqq. of the HGB. The structure conforms with the provisions of Sections 265 and 266 of the HGB.

Tangible fixed assets are valued at acquisition or production cost and are subject to scheduled depreciation. The straight-line depreciation on depreciable tangible fixed assets is calculated based on the asset depreciation range of the objects of between three and 13 years. Assets with a value of up to €952 were written off immediately. Receivables and other fixed assets are stated at their nominal value or lower fair values determined at the accounting date. Other provisions account for all apparent risks and uncertain liabilities up to the accounting date and until the creation of the balance statement. They are measured based on anticipated use. The liabilities are reported in the balance sheet at their settlement value. Receivables and liabilities in foreign currencies were recorded in principle with the exchange rate used when the payment was converted or with the monthly average exchange rate. Losses resulting from changes in the exchange rate by the reporting date were taken into consideration. Bank liabilities, cash assets and bank liabilities in foreign currencies were converted at the reporting date using the mean spot exchange rate.

## Balance sheet: Explanatory notes and significant changes

### Assets - fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are valued at acquisition or production cost less scheduled depreciation. Straight-line depreciation is calculated on the basis of an asset depreciation range of three to four years. This relates to acquired and depreciated software.

The tangible assets relate to depreciated fixtures and office equipment in our premises in Konstanz, Berlin, Kosike (Uganda) and Nairobi (Kenya).

### Assets - liquid assets

As well as liquid assets (bank and cash balances), this also includes deposits and health insurance claims. The raw materials and supplies are medicines for our clinic in Kosike (Uganda).

### Assets - deferred income

This asset includes prepaid invoices amounting to €33,000, which are to be assigned to the following year. The accrual of the buildings at our clinic in Kosike (Uganda) currently amounts to €115,000.

### Liabilities and equity - equity capital

1.194 million € were added from the income to the free reserves, €473,000 of which came from legacies in accordance with Section 62 (3) No. 1 of the Revenue Code (AO) and €721,000 came from general and specific donations in accordance with Section 62 (1) No. 3 AO, with a maximum limit of 10% of their overall amount.

### Liabilities and equity - unspent donations

Despite allocating donations from previous years to projects in the form of liabilities (€149,000) as a result of the use of funds accounting statement, the total amount of as yet unused donations in accordance with the statutes has increased thanks to the large number of donations received. The fixed assets are predominantly made up of longer-term donations.

### Liabilities and equity - provisions

This item comprises provisions for the 13th month's salary (pro rata), storage costs, closing and audit costs, holiday and travel days not yet taken as well as overtime worked and other provisions.

### Liabilities and equity - liabilities

The liabilities from unused earmarked donations were reduced this year. Accounts payable trade are liabilities for payments to suppliers and service providers that had not been settled at the accounting date. Other liabilities mainly included liabilities for wage and church tax in Germany and liabilities to donors and project partners.

## Income statement: Explanatory notes and significant changes

### Revenues

The composition of the revenues from donations amounting to €14,246,000 can be viewed on page 39. The significant increase in donations received by a total of €2,989,000 is the result of growth in every category of donations. Individual donations, including bequests, continue to represent the largest share of donations. The income from donations (€14,629,000) is then calculated from the sum of the donations received and the use of donations as per the articles of association from the previous year (+ €801,000) less the donations that could not be spent in this fiscal year (- €599,000).

### Expenses from fulfilling the aims laid out in the articles of association

The project expenses for humanitarian assistance, development cooperation work and human rights work performed with a view to fulfilling the aims in the articles of association amount to €8,365,000. The personnel costs required to achieve this rose by €289,000 to €1,832,000. This covers not only the costs of project workers in the International Aid and Cooperation Department, but also the costs of personnel who performed pro rata services in line with the articles of association. With the exception of a share of administrative costs, the expenses for our employees in the East Africa Branch are included in the expenses for fulfilling our articles of association, as they mainly supervise our own projects on site. Depreciations stem from equipping the office in Nairobi, two vehicles that are used in Northern Kenya and Uganda, and the buildings and equipment at our clinic in Kosike. The expenses of €977,000 arising from the generation of information for donors result particularly from the intensive human rights work in South Sudan (contamination of groundwater due to oil extraction). The remaining expenses are indirect costs that were accrued in Germany for

project management and report generation and were then attributed to the projects, e.g. travel and seminar costs for the projects.

### Administrative expenses

Personnel costs barely increased compared to the previous year. All employees in Germany are paid in line with the Labour Agreement (TVöD) All members of staff who travel in crisis regions and war zones moreover receive a special monthly allowance of approx. €134. The salaries of the two full-time chairpersons were determined in this reporting year according to salary groups 15Ü and 15, and resulted in a gross annual income for the Board of Directors including allowances (amounting to 10.5% of the base salary) of €220,000. Costs for work performed both in line with the articles of association and irrespective of them were split from the rest of the personnel costs for each employee in Konstanz. The average number of staff members in Germany was 39.3. The number of working hours in a week for a full-time member of staff was 40. Other administrative expenses principally include software costs, consultancy fees for data protection and fire safety and auditing costs for the annual financial statement.

## Allocation of pay grades to job titles as per the Labour Agreement (TVöD-VKA)

Pay grade	Job title
E15 Ü Z*	Chairperson
E15 Z*	Vice Chairperson
E14	Head of Department
E13	Head of Department
E12	Deputy Head of Department/Team Leader/Senior Consultant
E11	Deputy Head of Depart./Team Leader/Consultant/Policy Officer
E10	Consultant/Country Consultant/Assistant to the Board
E9 a/b/c	Project Coordinator/Specialist Manager/Assistant to the Board
E8	Project administrator/Specialist
E7	Assistant/Project Assistant/Specialist Employee
E6	Team Assistant/Specialist Employee
E5	Specialist Employee

Z\* = Executive Board bonus of 10.5% of basic salary

### Publicity expenses

The income statement drawn up against the German Charities Council guidelines only includes marketing costs – in other words solely the costs for direct appeals for donations in our magazines, supplements, mailings and other publicity campaigns. The total expenses increased by €17,000 compared with the previous year to €794,000. The allocation shows the high weighting given to mailings in the current circumstances. The result of the non-profit department amounted to €1,138,000, which is €151,000 more than the previous year. Other sources of revenue principally comprised cash discounts, income from differences in rates and reimbursed continued pay. The consequent annual result for the FY 2022, amounting to €1,194,000, was transferred to the free reserves. As was the case last year, the breakdown by origin of other sources of revenue and expenses requested by the German Charities Council makes it clear that more than 99% of our overall income stemmed from our intangible activities.

### Details of changes to administrative costs set out by the German Charities Council

The administrative costs coefficient – the ratio of publicity and administrative expenses to the total expenses – is 10.11 % (compared with 13.17 % the year before). See page 15 for more details.

\* Most recent notice of exemption dated 01.09.2022 under tax no. 09041/07891.

**Independent auditor's report**

Attn Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V.:

**Audit opinions**

We have audited the annual financial statements of Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. Konstanz, comprising the balance sheet dated 30.09.2022 and the profit and loss statement for the fiscal year from 01.10.2021 to 30.09.2022, and the appendix. In addition, we have audited the management report of Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. for the fiscal year from 01.10.2021 to 30.09.2022.

**In our opinion, based on the findings of our audit,**

- The attached annual financial statements comply in all material respects with German commercial law provisions applicable to all merchants.
- The attached management report as a whole provides an accurate picture of the foundation's position. In all material respects, this management report is consistent with the annual financial statements, complies with the German statutory provisions applicable to all merchants under commercial law and appropriately highlights the opportunities and risks of future development.

In accordance with section 322 (3) sentence 1 of the German Commercial Code, we declare that our audit has not led to any objections to the correctness of the annual financial statements and the management report.

**Basis of the audit opinions**

We conducted our audit of the annual financial statements and the management report in accordance with § 317 German Commercial Code and German generally accepted standards for the audit of financial statements promulgated by the Institute of Public Auditors (IDW). Our responsibility under these rules and principles is further described in the section "Auditor's responsibility for the audit of the annual financial statements and the management report" of our audit opinion. We are independent of the Foundation in accordance with German commercial law and professional regulations and have fulfilled our other German professional obligations in accordance with these requirements. We consider that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and suitable to serve as the basis for our audit opinions on the annual financial statements and the management report.

**Responsibility of the legal representatives for the annual financial statement and the management report**

The legal representatives are responsible for preparing the annual financial statements in accordance with German commercial law as applicable to all merchants in all material respects. In addition, the legal representatives are responsible for internal controlling, which they have determined as necessary based on the German principles of proper accounting, in order to facilitate the compilation of an annual financial statement that is free from material misrepresentations, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the annual financial statement, the legal representatives are responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue its activities. Furthermore, they have the responsibility to disclose any matters relating to continuing operations as and where appropriate. They are moreover responsible for accounting for the continuation of the Foundation's activities based on the accounting principle, but for factual or legal circumstances.

Furthermore, the legal representatives are responsible for preparing the management report, which as a whole provides an accurate picture of the Foundation's position and is consistent with the annual financial statements in all material respects, complies with German legal requirements and suitably presents the opportunities and risks of future development. In addition, the legal representatives are responsible for the precautions and measures (systems) they deem necessary to permit preparing a management report in accordance with the applicable German legal requirements and for providing sufficient and suitable evidence for the statements in the management report.

**Responsibility of the auditor for the audit of the annual financial statements and management report**

Our objective is to obtain reasonable assurance whether the annual financial statements as a whole are free from material misrepresentations, whether intentional or unintentional, and whether the management report as a whole provides an accurate picture of the company's position and is consistent, in all material respects, with the annual financial statements and the findings of our audit, complies with German legal requirements and presents fairly the opportunities and risks of future development, and to express an opinion that includes our audit opinion on the annual financial statements and the management report.

Sufficient assurance is a high level of certainty, but not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with § 317 HGB [German Commercial Code] and German generally accepted standards for the audit of financial statements promulgated by the Institute of Public Auditors (IDW) will always reveal a material misrepresentation. Misrepresentations could result from violations or inaccuracies and are considered material when they could reasonably be expected to affect, individually or in aggregate, the economic decisions of users made based on these financial statements and management report.

**We exercise due diligence during the audit and maintain a critical attitude.**

Moreover, we identify and evaluate the risks of material misrepresentations, whether intentional or not, of the annual financial statements and management report, plan and perform audit procedures in response to those risks, and obtain audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinions. The risk that material misrepresentations are not detected is greater for violations than for inaccuracies, as violations may involve fraudulent collusion, falsification, intentional incompleteness, misleading reports, or the overriding of internal controls.

we gain an understanding of the internal control system relevant to the audit of the annual financial statements and of the procedures and measures relevant to the audit of the management report to plan audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of those systems within the Foundation.

we evaluate the appropriateness of the accounting policies used by the legal representatives and the reasonableness of the estimates and related disclosures presented by the legal representatives.

we draw conclusions about the appropriateness of the accounting principle applied by the legal representatives for the continuation of the Foundation's operations and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether there is any material uncertainty in connection with events or circumstances that could cast significant doubt on the Foundation's ability to continue operations. Should we conclude that there is a material uncertainty, we are required to draw attention in our audit opinion to the related disclosures in the annual financial statements and management report or, should such disclosures prove inappropriate, to modify our respective audit opinion. We draw our conclusions based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our audit opinion. Future events or circumstances may, however, result in the Foundation no longer being able to continue its charitable activities.

we assess the consistency of the management report with the annual financial statements, its legal compliance and the overall picture of the Foundation's position conveyed.

we perform audit procedures on the forward-looking statements in the management report as presented by the legal representatives. Based on sufficient and suitable audit evidence, we particularly verify the significant assumptions on which the future-oriented statements of the legal representatives are based and assess the proper derivation of the future-oriented statements from these assumptions. We do not express an independent opinion on the forward-looking statements or the underlying assumptions. There is a significant unavoidable risk that future events will differ considerably from the forward-looking statements.

We discuss with those responsible for monitoring, among other things, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant findings of the audit, including any shortcomings in the internal control system that we identify during our audit.

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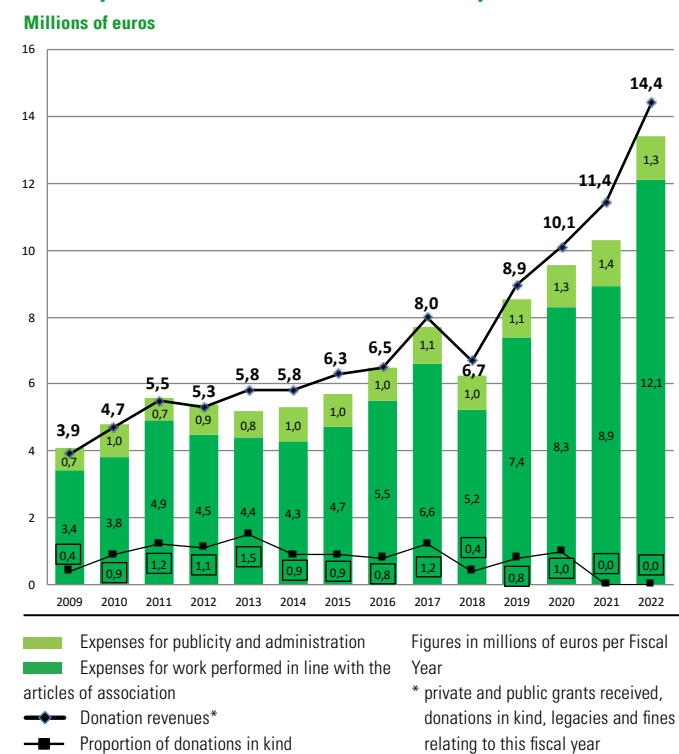
  
 (Th. Rondot)  
 Certified Accountant

  
 (H.-J. Philipp)  
 Certified Accountant




Mannheim,  
27 January 2023

**Development of donation revenues and expenses**



**Donation revenues**

	Fiscal Year	
	2022	2021
	EUR	EUR
Cash donations (monetary donations without bequests)	7,777,804.43	7,239,568.20
+ Public sector funds	5,219,104.03	2,799,570.76
+ Private sector funds	954,205.86	963,600.41
+ Fines	1,150.00	1,300.00
+ Legacy gifts	473,454.21	432,291.81
+ Donations in kind	0.00	0.00
<b>= Donations received during the fiscal year</b>	<b>14,425,718.53</b>	<b>11,436,331.18</b>
+ used earmarked donations from the previous year	801,459.07	788,638.78
- unused donations from the current year	-598,632.08	-942,336.20
<b>= Donation revenue (income from donations)</b>	<b>14,628,545.52</b>	<b>11,282,633.76</b>

**Funds on-lent to partner organisations**

Fiscal Year 2022 (from 01.10.2021 to 30.09.2022) All figures given in euros

Country	Project partners:	amount in
Armenia	Alyona Zeytunyan	36,000.00
	Green Lane	245,908.76
	Development Principles	83,333.65
	Vigen Aghanikyan	20,000.00
Bangladesh	KOINONIA	259,406.51
	Faith in Action	167,637.00
DR Congo	Humana People to People Congo	345,580.00
	Soeurs de Santa Gemma V/C	224,854.44
	Diocese of Bukavu	55,000.00
Ethiopia	Catholic Church Admin Ethiopia	94,479.57
	ECC-SDC	115,659.23
	APDA Afar Pastoralist Development	174,600.30
	Support for Sustainable Development	49,709.45
	ECC-SDCOAdB	20,000.00
	Consortium of Ethiopian Human	10,000.00
Guatemala	FUNDAP	68,763.00
India	Development Research Communication	539,849.39
Iraq	Amal Organization for Relief and	25,000.00
	Assyrian Aid Society	10,000.00
	Al Hub Wa Al Salam Iraqi Globally	25,000.00
Kenya	MID-P	164,889.00
	Diocese of Marsabit	25,000.00
	PISP Cordaid	12,500.00
	The East African Centre For HRT	10,000.00
Madagascar	Ny Tanintsika	20,000.00
Malawi	ECM Progressio/CADECOM	284,058.57
	Circle for Integrated Community Dev	162,416.00
Nagorno-Karabakh	Vigen Aghanikyan	40,000.00
Rwanda	Arde/Kubaho	181,959.09
	IDA-Rwanda	10,000.00
	HAND IN HAND FOR DEVELOPMENT	14,000.00
South Sudan	Loreto Primary School	90,399.00
	Diocese of Tombura-Yambio	10,000.00
	Diocese of Rumbek	236,342.19
	Aptech Africa Co. Ltd.	110,781.72
	Universal Intervention and Dev. Org	65,000.00
The Philippines	United Church of Christ in the	10,000.00
Turkey	Kuryakos Ergün	51,200.00
Uganda	SOCADIDO	960,212.95
	Caritas Moroto Diocese	186,617.58
	Diocese of Moroto	95,000.00
	St. Kizito Hospital Matany	15,000.00
	Franciscan Brothers East Africa	85,229.00
	Justice & Peace Desk	9,309.20
Ukraine	Global Aid Network GAIN USA	20,000.00
	Clovek v ohrozeni	554,340.00
	Greek Catholic Eparchy of Kosice	183,840.00
	Spasibo	170,805.00
	Greek Catholic Eparchy of Mukachevo	15,000.00
	Ukrainian Charity Turbuta Pro	15,000.00
	Insha Osvita	231,000.00
	NGO MetaLab	150,000.00
	New Way	193,815.00
MGCE	154,320.00	
Yemen	Relief and Development Peer	80,000.00
Zimbabwe	Development Aid from People to	72,723.00
<b>Total amount of funds forwarded to partner organisations</b>		<b>7,261,538.60</b>



# Multi-division accounting

for the fiscal year from 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022

**Attribution of income and expenses from the fiscal year by division and function/sector in accordance with the principles of the German Charities Council**

All figures given in euros		Fulfilment of statutory aims / voluntary sector / economic activity for purpose-related activities										
Designation	Profit and loss account total	Indirect activities					Direct activities			Purpose-related activities (including Executive Board)	Total statutory activities	Asset management
		Total amount Indirect voluntary activities / Projects	Statutory educational/public relations activities	of which humanitarian assistance and development cooperation	of which human rights	Executive Board / Management	Publicity for donations	Subtotal direct activities				
1. Donations received during the fiscal year	14,425,718.53	14,425,718.53	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2. Use of donations received in previous years	801,459.07	801,459.07	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
3. Unspent donations from the fiscal year	-598,632.08	-598,632.08	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>4. Income from use of donations in the fiscal year / Sum of revenues from voluntary sector</b>	<b>14,628,545.52</b>	<b>14,628,545.52</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Expenses from fulfilling the aims laid out in the articles of association</b>												
5 a) Project payments	-8,364,509.44	-8,364,509.44	0	-8,135,697.65	-228,811.79	0	0	0	0	0	-8,364,509.44	0
5 b) Personnel expenses	-1,832,395.83	-1,832,395.83	0	-1,616,279.40	-216,116.43	0	0	0	0	0	-1,832,395.83	0
5 c) Depreciations	-120,315.12	-120,315.12	0	-98,896.64	-21,418.48	0	0	0	0	0	-120,315.12	0
5 d) Information for donors	-977,497.69	0	-977,497.69	-807,668.14	-169,829.55	0	0	0	0	0	-977,497.69	0
5 e) Other expenses from fulfilling the aims laid out in the articles of association	-835,670.14	-835,670.14	0	-722,935.39	-112,734.75	0	0	0	0	0	-835,670.14	0
<b>5. Overall costs of projects and statutory activities</b>	<b>-12,130,388.22</b>	<b>-11,152,890.53</b>	<b>-977,497.69</b>	<b>-11,381,477.22</b>	<b>-748,911.00</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-12,130,388.22</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Administrative expenses</b>												
6 a) Personnel expenses	-346,086.35	0	0	0	0	-346,086.35	0	-346,086.35	0	0	0	0
6 b) Depreciations	-16,436.08	0	0	0	0	-16,436.08	0	-16,436.08	0	0	0	0
6 c) Occupancy costs	-30,594.83	0	0	0	0	-30,594.83	0	-30,594.83	0	0	0	0
6 d) Other administrative expenses	-172,860.89	0	0	0	0	-172,860.89	0	-172,860.89	0	0	0	0
<b>6. Total administrative expenses Konstanz/Africa</b>	<b>-565,978.15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-565,978.15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-565,978.15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Publicity expenses</b>												
7 a) Personnel expenses	-168,220.30	0	0	0	0	0	-168,220.30	-168,220.30	0	0	0	0
7 b) Depreciations	-32,757.96	0	0	0	0	0	-32,757.96	-32,757.96	0	0	0	0
7 c) Magazine	-64,523.91	0	0	0	0	0	-64,523.91	-64,523.91	0	0	0	0
7 d) Direct mailings	-222,191.16	0	0	0	0	0	-222,191.16	-222,191.16	0	0	0	0
7 e) Supplements	-108,570.16	0	0	0	0	0	-108,570.16	-108,570.16	0	0	0	0
7 f) Other printing and shipping	-145,470.79	0	0	0	0	0	-145,470.79	-145,470.79	0	0	0	0
7 g) Other publicity expenses	-52,553.18	0	0	0	0	0	-52,553.18	-52,553.18	0	0	0	0
<b>7. Total publicity expenses</b>	<b>-794,287.46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-794,287.46</b>	<b>-794,287.46</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>-13,490,653.83</b>	<b>-11,152,890.53</b>	<b>-977,497.69</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-1,360,265.61</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
8. Other operating revenues	60,839.35	55,167.47	0	0	0	1,142.70	4,529.18	5,671.88	0	0	0	0
9. Other interest and related income	43.61	0.00	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	43.61
10. Interest and related expenditure	-4,440.69	0	0	0	0	-4,440.69	0	-4,440.69	0	0	0	0
<b>Annual net earnings / Net loss for the year</b>	<b>1,194,333.96</b>	<b>3,530,822.46</b>	<b>-977,497.69</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-569,276.14</b>	<b>-789,758.28</b>	<b>-1,359,034.42</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-12,130,388.22</b>	<b>43.61</b>	<b>43.61</b>
Total revenues (in euros)	<b>14,689,428.48</b>	14,683,712.99	0	0	0	-3,297.99	4,529.18	<b>1,231.19</b>	0	0	0	43.61
Income (%)	100.00%	99.96%	0%	0%	0%	-0.02%	0.03%	<b>0.01%</b>	0%	0%	0%	0%
Total expenses (in euros)	<b>-13,495,094.52</b>	11,152,890.53	977,497.69	0	0	570,418.84	794,287.46	<b>1,364,706.30</b>	0	12,130,388.22	0	0
Total expenses (%)	100.00%	-82.64%	-7.24%	0%	0%	-4.23%	-5.89%	<b>-10.11%</b>	0%	-89.89%	0%	0%

Note:  
 "As requested, as part of our audit we evaluated adherence with the voluntary commitment declaration in accordance with the principles of the German Charities Council in so far as this relates to the accounting of Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. Our audit did not result in any findings that in our estimation would represent a breach of the voluntary commitment declaration in so far as this relates to the accounting of Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V."

WISTA AG  
 Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft  
 Steuerberatungsgesellschaft  
 Mannheim, 27 January 2023  
 Ro/Ph/GM

# Outlook & strategy

## The goals of our article-related work

Satisfying the fundamental human requirements for food, drink and safety is the key objective of our work. In line with our mission statement, the regional emphasis of our activities is focussed on central East Africa, and on Uganda, Northern Kenya and Ethiopia in particular. Our human rights and aid projects are planned and implemented from the perspective of our global social responsibility.

The goal is to use our personnel on the ground to design projects as effectively as possible and to make efficient use of the funds available to us. We successively build up and expand our fields of activity, namely human rights, humanitarian assistance and development cooperation, in each new region that we start work in. Our activities also focus on such matters as nutrition, health, water, combating poverty, education and social issues.

As part of our human rights work, in South Sudan we will continue to give attention to the 600,000 people whose health is gravely threatened by the improper disposal of waste by the oil industry, and in particular by the toxic, contaminated groundwater that this has produced. Sign of Hope is maintaining its efforts to make the perpetrators of this human and environmental catastrophe take responsibility for their actions.

We will also continue to engage in other countries where human rights, especially religious freedom, are violated or where people are deprived of their dignity through exploitation, and we will also make use of our UN consultative status in this regard.

## Financial and personnel planning

The finances for on-going projects and for carrying out planned investments are principally guaranteed for the planning period of the next five years by private donations, grants from institutional and public donors as well as interest and other revenues.

The reserves will be entirely covered by liquid assets. The moderate build-up of reserves is intended to enable the association to continue as a viable entity should risks result in a negative change in income. We will set aside roughly one third of our liquid assets as an emergency and catastrophe reserve as "free reserves". Sign of Hope endeavours to invest its liquid assets in line with ethical guidelines and the basic principle of "security over return". We are making plans for our income to increase continuously over the next five years and for our expenses to rise accordingly, which will principally go towards the work we do in line with our articles of association and thus towards helping destitute people in the hardest-hit countries.

We are planning to increase the number of personnel in our Human Rights, International Aid, Partnerships and Human Resources divisions. Furthermore, a new logistics position that we are going to create will further the quality of our statutory activities in particular.

The number of employees in Africa gradually increased from 39 to 50 in the course of the 2022 fiscal year following the launch of our internally run health station in Uganda and the further expansion of our activities in Kenya and Ethiopia.

We are trying to keep the proportion of our overall expenses made up of administrative and publicity costs to an appropriate level of less than 18%.

## Planning the finances for the fiscal years 2023 to 2027 according to the definition of the German Charities Council

Income in millions of euros	Fiscal year				
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Individual financial donations	7.50	8.10	8.60	9.50	10.00
Public financial donations	4.40	4.20	4.45	4.60	5.00
Institutional donors/foundations/NGOs	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.55	1.60
Donations in kind	0.45	0.40	0.30	0.30	0.00
Other sources of revenue	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
<b>Total revenues</b>	<b>13.60</b>	<b>14.05</b>	<b>14.80</b>	<b>16.00</b>	<b>16.65</b>

Expenses in millions of euros	Fiscal year				
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Project work/work to fulfil aims of articles of association	11.50	12.00	12.50	13.00	13.50
Administration	0.95	1.00	1.00	1.05	1.05
Publicity/donor liaison	1.00	1.05	1.10	1.15	1.20
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>13.45</b>	<b>14.05</b>	<b>14.60</b>	<b>15.20</b>	<b>15.75</b>
<b>Proportion of administrative and publicity costs in overall expenditure in %</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>14.6</b>	<b>14.4</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>14.3</b>

Liquid assets in millions of euros	Fiscal year				
	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027
Liquid assets	4.15	4.15	4.35	5.15	6.05

## Opportunities and risks

Our own high-quality projects, e.g. in Uganda and Northern Kenya, and the development projects run by our local partner organisations in Armenia, Bangladesh, Ethiopia, DR Congo, India, Iraq, Malawi, Nagorno-Karabakh, South Sudan, Uganda and Yemen will open up opportunities for us to increase our revenues in the following fiscal year through both public financing and grants from other institutions. Our commitment to human rights in South Sudan and our strategic refocussing in Africa present the opportunity to improve public awareness and thereby to open up access to new donors.

Uncertainties surrounding the economic and financial situation, especially in the post-pandemic period, pose a risk both in relation to the provision of funds by institutional and public donors and in terms of individual donations.

Ever since its separation from the Republic of Sudan on 9 July 2011, South Sudan, world's youngest state, has become more and more repressive and authoritarian. Corruption and recurrent conflicts are visible signs of a failing state.

We will therefore monitor human rights violations and instances of exploitation that seriously damage the health of people in the oil fields of South Sudan due to industrial pollution caused by improper waste disposal all the more closely and continue to condemn the behaviour of the polluter Petronas. The disputes with oil companies and their business partners that arise in this context will continue to pose noteworthy risks in the future. The necessary continuous logistical supply of the health organisations that we support with food, medicines and medical equipment can be delayed or occasionally even suspended by the weather (in the rainy season), by the risk of violence on the transport route or by theft. In order to minimise this risk, long planning periods must be taken into account.

Sign of Hope operates in target countries where corruption is often widespread. Corrupt behaviour on the part of state institutions, project partners or our own employees can cause material and immaterial damage to Sign of Hope. We counter this risk with a consistent approach in line with our anti-corruption policy.

Our employees themselves may also pose risks for Sign of Hope. People make mistakes and, for medical personnel in particular, mistakes can have serious consequences. We try to counteract this risk through quality assurance measures.

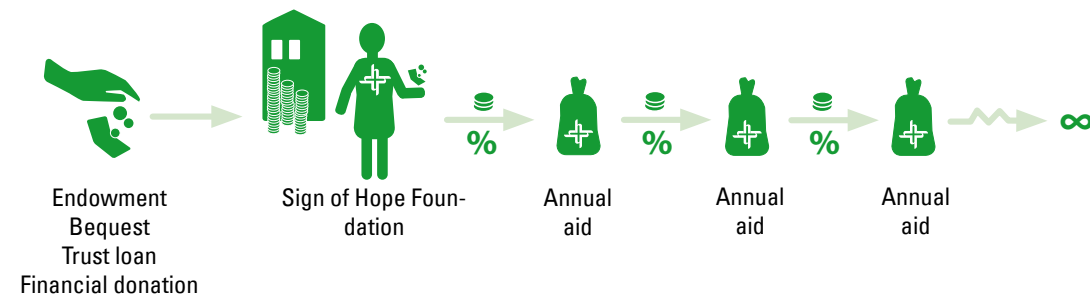
There is also the risk that staff members on the ground may act without authorisation and thereby cause Sign of Hope material or immaterial harm. We endeavour to counter this risk with our comprehensive rules of conduct (guidelines). Line management responsibility and our internal monitoring system allow us to ensure compliance with these rules.

Our wealth of experience and long-serving members of staff in Africa mean we can prevent many risks from arising.



These pages contain a summary of the management report from the annual financial statement. The executive board's complete management report and other important information, as well as guidelines referred to elsewhere, can be viewed at [www.sign-of-hope.org](http://www.sign-of-hope.org).





## Help us by becoming a donor

The Sign of Hope Foundation, which was established in 2007, offers you a way of providing lasting support to people in need – even beyond your lifetime.

Many donors are keen to contribute their own capital on a long-term basis to help overcome hardship and poverty. This wish is fulfilled by the Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. foundation. This is because, unlike a non-profit association, a foundation enables donations, endowments or real estate to be invested with lasting effect. Property assets allow the income from rental income or interest to be used on behalf of their donors for generations to come. The foundation established by Sign of Hope does not employ its own staff and is supported by the association as regards personnel and finances.

### Revenues for a good cause

Rent revenues, donations and interest income allow the foundation to deliver aid to destitute people year after year. These funds meant six projects across four different countries were supported in the fiscal year. The projects in the women's centre and the kindergarten in Nzara in South Sudan were continued. In Kenya, we provided care to par-

ticularly vulnerable elderly people to mitigate the effects of the ongoing drought. The project aimed at refugee children and young people there was also continued. In Ethiopia, we were able to provide school meals for 300 school children in a primary school in Kechene. In the Indian city of Kolkata, the Foundation was able to strengthen the rights of children living in slums and provide them with medical care.

### Become a donor

By giving an endowment to the basic assets, you can increase the foundation's revenues and make a long-term contribution to helping people in hardship. With a trust loan, you will be leaving a sum to the Foundation for a contractually agreed period of time – you are donating on approval, as it were. A bequest or a legacy can also add financial or material assets to the foundation's capital – this allows you to provide lasting help for those in need beyond your own lifetime.



A large part of the endowment fund was invested in an office building in Konstanz in 2011. Hoffnungszeichen e.V. is one of the tenants.

The Sign of Hope Foundation is a member of the **Association of German Foundations**, which represents the interests of more than 24,000 German foundations. With 4,800 members, it is the largest association of foundations in Europe.



### Balance sheet issued on 30 September 2022

Assets	30.09.2022 €	30.09.2021 €
<b>A. Fixed assets</b>		
<b>I. Intangible assets</b>		
1. Concessions acquired against payment, commercial proprietary rights and similar rights and assets such as licenses for such rights and assets	5,144.00	0.00
<b>I. Tangible assets</b>		
1. Land, rights similar to land rights and buildings, including structures on third-party land	934,099.00	962,260.00
2. Technical systems and machines	4.00	4.00
3. Other systems and business equipment	5,661.00	2,550.00
	<b>939,764.00</b>	<b>964,814.00</b>
<b>II. Financial assets</b>		
1. Investment securities	60,148.00	100,000.00
<b>B. Current Assets</b>		
<b>I. Receivables and other assets</b>		
1. Account receivables from deliveries and services	0.00	16.26
2. Other assets	15,677.07	17,192.45
<b>III. Cash assets, bank balance at Federal Bank, credit balances at financial institutions and cheques</b>	15,677.07	17,208.71
	<b>809,560.75</b>	<b>582,540.21</b>
<b>C. Accruals and deferred income items</b>	232.86	0.00
	<b>1,830,526.68</b>	<b>1,664,562.92</b>


### Profit and loss statement For the fiscal year 1 October 2021 to 30 September 2022

	2022 Euros	2021 Euros
1. Grants received in the fiscal year	64,734.42	72,067.35
2. Use of grants received in previous years	28,804.76	13,135.57
3. As yet unused donations and similar grants	-43,299.18	-34,963.42
<b>4. Income from use of donations in the fiscal year</b>	<b>50,240.00</b>	<b>50,239.50</b>
<b>5. Leasing and rental revenues</b>	<b>164,441.35</b>	<b>162,186.01</b>
6. Expenses from fulfilling the aims of the articles of association: project costs	-50,240.00	-50,239.50
7. Manufacturing costs for realising income from renting and leasing	-105,885.17	-163,951.28
<b>8. Gross profit on sales</b>	<b>58,556.18</b>	<b>-1,765.27</b>
9. General administration costs	-13,413.58	-11,117.43
	45,142.60	-12,882.70
10. Other operating revenue	941.83	3,222.63
11. Other interest and related income	254.47	165.67
12. Interest and related expenditure	-72.38	0.00
<b>13. Result after tax</b>	<b>46,266.52</b>	<b>-9,494.40</b>
14. Other taxes	-1,408.68	-1,408.68
<b>15. Annual result</b>	<b>44,857.84</b>	<b>-10,903.08</b>
16. III. Account carried forward for previous year	-139,932.17	-129,029.09
17. Account carried forward	-95,074.33	-139,932.17

	30.09.2022 €	30.09.2021 €
<b>A. Equity capital</b>		
<b>I. Endowment capital</b>	1,627,146.89	1,487,938.17
<b>II. Free reserves as per Section 62 Para. 1 No. 3 AO</b>	43,959.26	43,959.26
<b>III. Account carried forward</b>	95,074.33-	139,932.17-
<b>B. Extraordinary items from donations and similar grants</b>	38,058.51	28,534.76
<b>C. Provisions</b>		
1. Tax liabilities	0.00	2.37
2. Other provisions	21,400.00	31,900.00
	<b>21,400.00</b>	<b>31,902.37</b>
<b>D. Liabilities</b>		
1. Liabilities to credit institutions - of which with a remaining term of up to one year €2,702.15 (€0)	2,702.15	0.00
2. Accounts payable from deliveries and services - of which with a remaining term of up to one year 9,741.85 (13,777.26)	9,741.85	13,777.26
3. Donor loans - of which with a remaining term of up to one year €11,250.00 (€2,500.00) - of which with a remaining term longer than 5 years €60,000.00	161,250.00	175,000.00
4. Other liabilities - of which from taxes 0.00 € (370.90) - of which with a remaining term of up to one year €14,965.97 (€16,442.61)	14,965.97	16,442.61
5. Liabilities from as yet unused donations for specific purposes Donations	5,299.38	6,428.66
	<b>193,959.35</b>	<b>211,648.53</b>
<b>E. Accruals and deferred income items</b>	1,077.00	512.00
	<b>1,830,526.68</b>	<b>1,664,562.92</b>

**The Sign of Hope Foundation**  
... was founded in 2007 and is an incorporated foundation in civil law based in Konstanz.

Voluntary Board of Directors:	Reimund Reubelt (Chairman of the Board) Klaus Stieglitz (Deputy Chairman)
Voluntary Supervisory Board:	Ute Felgenhauer-Laier (Chairwoman) Manfred Steiner (Deputy Chairman) Stefan Daub
Foundation supervisory authority:	Regional Council of Freiburg (File no. 14-2214.8)
Non-profit status:	Notice of exemption dated 05.07.2022 (Konstanz Tax Office, tax no. 09041/20443)
Account for donations and endowments:	DE36 6602 0500 0008 7240 00 (Bank für Sozialwirtschaft)

 More information about the Sign of Hope Foundation can be found at: [www.hoffnungszeichen-stiftung.de](http://www.hoffnungszeichen-stiftung.de)





# We say thank you!

By joining forces with our **31,447 donors** we were able to achieve the following:



**91**  
supported projects\*



**19**  
petitions conducted



**20**  
project countries \*



**14.4 million**  
received in donations



**1.1 million**  
people reached

**Donation account:  
DE72 5206 0410 0000 0019 10**

\* incl. training projects for disaster relief operations





*“Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.”*

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*Matthew 25:40*

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### **Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V.**

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