

Annual Report 2024



hoffnungszeichen
sign of hope

We say thank you!

By joining forces with our **27,128 donors**
we were able to achieve the following:



81

supported
projects



21

petitions
conducted



19

project countries



15.9 million

received in donations



1.5 million

people reached

Donation account:
DE72 5206 0410 0000 0019 10

Annual Report 2024

Sign of Hope

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Legal notice

Publisher:

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Typeset: www.julodesign.de

Images: Sign of Hope,
unless otherwise indicated.

Donation account:

IBAN: DE72 5206 0410 0000 0019 10
BIC: GENODEF1EK1 · EB Kassel



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Miriam Schütze (Vice Chairperson)

Volunteer supervisory board:

Manfred Steiner (Chairman),
Stefan Daub (Deputy Chairman),
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Ute Felgenhauer-Laier

Foreword

If we are to continue to tackle problems with courage, we must also reflect on our successes. The past year brought with it many obstacles – and yet there were still many joyful moments.



Manfred Steiner
Chairman of the
Volunteer Supervisory
Board

Were there really reasons to celebrate in this eventful, challenging reporting year of 2024? Of course there were! Our organisation – our “Sign of Hope” for people in need all over the world – celebrated its 40th anniversary. Two more anniversaries demonstrated just how beneficial our combined efforts can be: our health centre in Kosike, Uganda, celebrated the fifth anniversary of its opening and the attached children’s ward its first. There were two other equally significant milestones: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which was adopted in December 1948, and the democratic Basic Law of the Federal Republic of Germany, adopted in May 1949, both celebrated their 75th anniversaries. The effectiveness of our commitment to human rights is demonstrated by the successes that we are able to report time and again: and Yemeni refugee Abdul-Baqi Saeed Abdo, who lives in Egypt and on whose behalf we appealed for support in our protests, were both acquitted of their charges and released from prison.

‘Celebrating is one thing – but celebrating and having enough to eat is something quite different.’ We can take this pragmatic statement from one of the residents of what is known as the ‘leprosy village’ of Malou in South Sudan to heart. Indeed, our achievements and successes, big and small, should always be celebrated. However, we should not forget that our collective endeavours must continue. The devastating war in Ukraine, the expulsion of the entire Armenian population from Nagorno-Karabakh, floods in Armenia and South Sudan, devastating drought in East Africa and famine in Yemen – we must ‘stay on the ball’ and continue to work to support people around the world. We would like to thank you for supporting us in our endeavours.

Our annual report is intended to inform, inspire and encourage you on our journey together. If you have any questions, ideas or suggestions, we look forward to discussing them with you. Let us continue on this path together. I, for one, am looking forward to it.

Sign of Hope has been providing emergency aid to people affected by the war in Ukraine since it first broke out. These aid measures are supported by German Federal Foreign Office, among other organisations.



“Let us be a bridge of love every day.”

In this interview, Klaus Stieglitz, the Chairperson of Sign of Hope, takes stock of the past year. He talks about formative experiences, his personal sources of strength and the meaning of solidarity in the context of international aid.

Mr Stieglitz, as the Chairperson of Sign of Hope e.V., it is traditional for you to provide a review of the past reporting year. What new insights and experiences have you gained recently?

Stieglitz: Here at Sign of Hope, we can be a bridge of love every day, a bridge between those who give in Germany and the recipients of the donated aid in our target countries. The solidarity of those who give and the gratitude of those who receive is an almost indescribably beautiful thing to behold.

Was there a special moment this year that moved you personally?

Stieglitz: There were many such moments. As we were leaving the Hoffnungszeichen hospital ward, an elderly man died and almost at the same time a newborn baby was born one room away. This reminded me once again of the proximity between life and death and how fragile this gift from God that we call 'life' really is.

What has given you comfort and strength in these challenging times?

Stieglitz: I feel as Dietrich Bonhoeffer once said: 'Wonderfully sheltered by good forces'; I can sense the Holy Spirit when people meet each other in devotion. That is a great gift. I also have the support of my family, who always encourage me in what I do and how I feel. The many and varied talents of my colleagues at Sign of Hope also remind me every day that I am not alone."

What valuable insights have you gained from difficult situations?

Stieglitz: In our daily morning prayer, we read from the Holy Scriptures based on the 'Appointments with God' reading plan. I often find inspiration here that helps me in specific situations in my professional life. Luke 9:62 has become very important to me.



This passage tells me: "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God." Trusting in God is the foundation that allows me to move forward with my work with optimism and hope.

If you had to summarise the year 2024 in three words, what would they be?

Stieglitz: Solidarity – Love – Hope

What are your thoughts on the new 2025 reporting year?

Stieglitz: I look forward with joy and hope to being able to meet the people we work for and the people who make our work possible with their donations.

And I am sustained by the hope that our children can live in a world in which their birthplace no longer determines whether they will live with dignity.

Klaus Stieglitz visiting the project in Kosike (Uganda) – The Sign of Hope board helps out at the mobile clinic.



Klaus Stieglitz
Chairperson

Who we are

Sign of Hope has been committed to alleviating hardship, providing aid and assisting the persecuted for the past 40 years. 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 e.V. is a faith-based Christian organisation dedicated to human rights, humanitarian assistance and development cooperation. Our work focusses on delivering aid worldwide to victims of oppression and exploitation. 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. Following the termination of a co-operation with CSI-International, the General Meeting in 1999 gave the association its current name Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. and a new image.

The **Sign of Hope Foundation** was established in 2007. The organisation moved into the premises of the Hoffnungszeichen Foundation in Constance in 2013.

Our mission: "We reach out our hands, so that people can stand tall." Sign of Hope sees itself as a bridge of love and creates a connection between those who give and those who receive.

Our donors and the staff at Sign of Hope join forces to extend a hand to people in need and distress. This enables those in need to lift themselves up by their own efforts and look to the future with their heads held high in hope.

Our vision: A future in which the place of birth no longer determines a life in dignity. Where someone is born still often determines a person's chances in life. Anyone born in the slums of Nairobi or in rural areas of South Sudan has a much lower chance of a life of social and material prosperity than a person born in the global North. This fact is the most fundamental expression of global social injustice.

Sign of Hope has been a member of the German Donation Council (Deutscher Spendenrat e.V.) since 1997 and was one of the first sponsors of the umbrella organisation when the Donation Certificate was introduced in 2017. We have been part of the umbrella organisation "Association of German Development and Humanitarian assistance NGOs" (VENRO) since 2013.

We are also a signatory to the declaration of commitment to the Transparent Civil Society Initiative. Sign of Hope also has United Nations Consultative Status.

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 Sign of Hope at www.hoffnungszeichen.de. You can read about the Sign of Hope Foundation on page 30.



What we do

Whether it be food for the starving, emergency shelters for earthquake victims, protest campaigns for persecuted Christians, support for smallholder farmers or education for women and children, our work around the world helps people to help themselves.

Sign of Hope is committed to a future where birthplace no longer determines whether a person lives a dignified life.

Our work focuses primarily on the African continent, particularly in East Africa. In this reporting year, our focus was on South Sudan, where Sign of Hope has been active since 1994, as well as our health projects in Uganda and Kenya. We also stepped up our activities in countries such as Ukraine and Armenia.

Human rights work

As part of our human rights work, we initiate regular protest campaigns and calls for prayer and deliver relevant projects in a range of countries. Sign of Hope is also once again involved in the United Nations Human Rights Council this year.

Humanitarian assistance

Through short-term disaster relief, Sign of Hope works to safeguard the livelihoods of victims of hunger, violence and natural disasters. We provide short and medium-term emergency aid to people in countries affected by wars and crises around the world.

Development cooperation

The aim of helping people to help themselves is to bring about structural change and in so doing create more dignified living conditions. Sign of Hope works with local partners and employees on the ground to help people achieve project goals that are geared towards sustainability.



Read more about our core focuses on pages 14–15.

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 makes our work effective and efficient.

Further information on the organisations of which Sign of Hope is a member can be found on p. 12

God created and loves us all, and every person has their dignity. This is why our work centres on treating the needs and boosting the abilities of people affected by disasters and crises. We treat both the participants in our project and our donors as equals – 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. Emergencies and the causes of structural poverty are becoming increasingly complex. In order to achieve high levels of quality and to continue to improve our work, it is important to ensure that everything is handled professionally, from planning to implementation to the monitoring and evaluation of our projects.

Sign of Hope aligns itself with internationally recognised principles of humanitarian assistance and development cooperation, for ex-

ample, the Core Humanitarian Standard, the standards of the Sphere Project and the codes of VENRO and 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.

*“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)

We support projects in India and Bangladesh that focus specifically on women. They are taught sustainable farming methods, gain self-confidence and assume responsibilities in their communities.



More on the quality standards, supervisory bodies and internal guidelines can be found at www.hoffnungszeichen.de.





South Sudan – Food aid for internally displaced persons



Yemen – Livestock farming opens up new opportunities



Armenia – Aid packages to combat winter hardship



Uganda – Medical care at our clinic



Ukraine – Support for those affected by the war

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 had a total of 49 salaried employees in Germany at the end of the fiscal year 2024:

- 42 in Constance, including two dual university students, one working student and one intern
- Seven in our office in Berlin

In addition, we employ five employees in Ukraine, a total of 52 people in Africa, of which 21 are based in Kenya, 25 in Uganda, four in Ethiopia and two employees who work in several African countries. We have two project-based staff members working for us in Armenia.

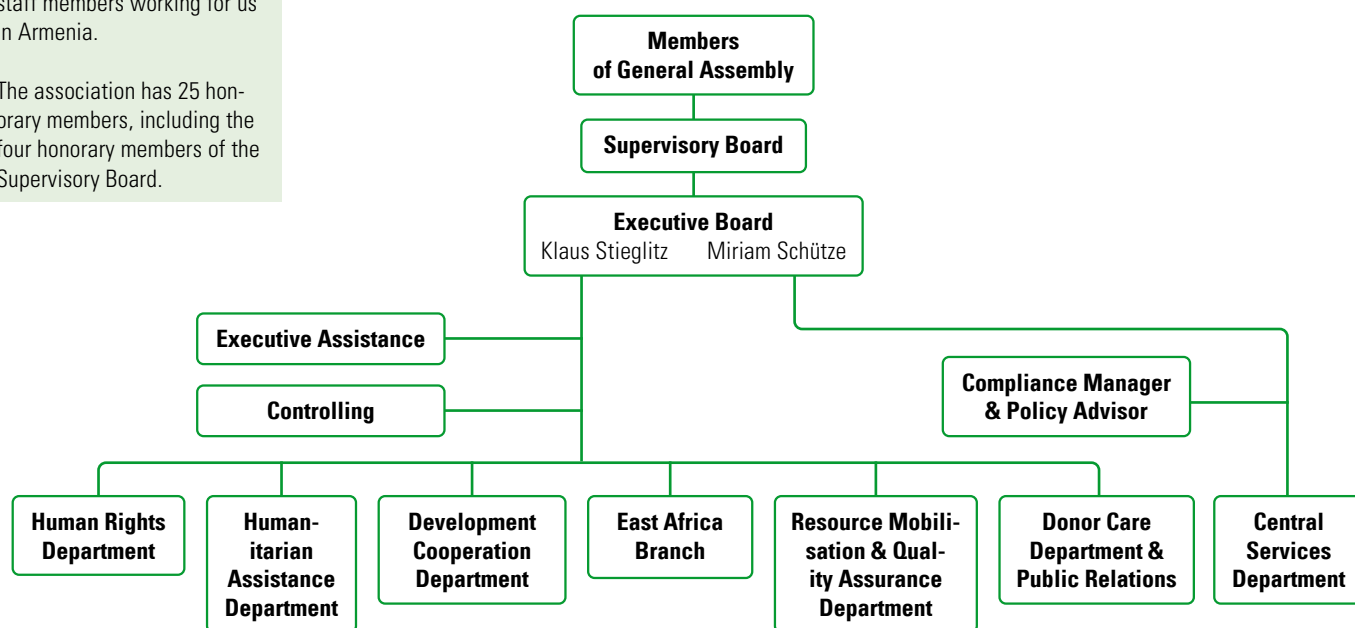
The association has 25 honorary members, including the four honorary members of the Supervisory Board.

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. The employees based in Uzhgorod (Ukraine), Yerevan (Armenia), Nairobi (Kenya) and Addis Ababa (Ethiopia) are

responsible for coordinating and implementing projects in their respective regions. In particular, our numerous missions in East 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.



You can find out more about the Sign of Hope team here:



Alongside the purpose of the association, Sign of Hope's articles also set out its **decision-making structures**:

The **General Meeting** 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 decision-making bodies. 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

Ensuring that the donations entrusted to us are used carefully is our top priority. A range of internal mechanisms and guidelines, as well as compliance with strict external policies are intended to ensure this. An independent certified accountant monitors compliance with these standards. Our approach is endorsed, for instance, by the Donation Certificate awarded by the German Charities Council (Deutscher Spendenrat).

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. We also reach out to our supporters via email newsletters and social media – often with 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. Birthdays, 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).

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.

Further information about transparency can be found on pages 12–13.

Allocation of resources for the Fiscal Year 2024

(expenses in millions of euros according to the German Charities Council)

Work to realise the articles of association	14.76
- Project work	11.24
- Campaigns and public relations work	0.97
- Human resources and amortisation	2.55
Administrative and advertising expenses	1.63
- Publicity	0.85
- Administration	0.78
Total	16.39

90% statutory work:

68.6% project work
5.9% campaigns and public relations work
15.5% human resources and amortisation

10% administrative and advertising expenses:

5.2% advertising
4.8% administration



Our memberships

Our membership of organizations and our networks provide fundamental support when it comes to sharing knowledge, exchanging ideas and continuous development.

Our network

Sign of Hope is involved in various initiatives that enable it to address concerns that are important to the general public. Reciprocal sharing of knowledge enables us to work more efficiently.

- German Federal Foreign Office (GFFO, quality profile)
- German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ, sponsor assessments)
- European Humanitarian assistance and Civil Protection Office (ECHO, Framework Partnership Certificate)
- Deutscher Fundraising Verband e.V. (German Fundraising Association) (DFRV)
- Deutscher Spendenrat e.V. (German Charities Council) (DSR)
- EU-CORD Network (European Christian Organisations for Relief and Development)
- Gemeinwohl-Ökonomie Deutschland e.V. (Economy for the Common Good)
- Initiative Lieferkettengesetz (Supply Chain Act Initiative)
- Sponsoring Organisation Transparency Initiative Civil society
- Humanitarian assistance Coordination Committee
- United Nations/UN consultative status ECOSOC
- WASH Network
- VENRO – Association of German Development and Humanitarian assistance Non-Governmental Organisations

German Donations Council (DSR):

Sign of Hope has been a member of the DSR since 1997. The umbrella organisation of charitable organisations that collect donations is committed to ensuring the maximum possible transparency, efficiency and sustainability in

dealing with donations. Sign of Hope was one of the first organisations to be awarded the DSR's Donation Certificate. Members undertake to disclose their structures, projects and finances to the German Donations Council and the public on an annual basis in a transparent, verifiable and understandable manner. They have their finances audited by certified accountants. The results are published on an annual basis.

Economy for the Common Good (GWÖ):

Sign of Hope was awarded the GWÖ certificate for sustainable management for the 2019 reporting year. The organisation uses 20 indicators to reveal how it takes sustainable responsibility for society and the environment in various value categories along the entire value chain.

Transparent Civil Society Initiative (ITZ):

Sign of Hope has been a signatory to the ITZ since August 2015 and thereby commits to making specific relevant information accessible to the public. This includes the articles of association, the names of key decision-makers and information on the source of funds, how funds are used and personnel structure.

UN consultative status:

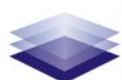
Our expertise is also in demand at the United Nations: thanks to our consultative status at ECOSOC, Sign of Hope can influence discussions and decisions through submissions, publications and events.

VENRO:

VENRO, the umbrella organisation of German development and humanitarian non-governmental organisations, and its members pursue the following shared goals, among others: overcoming global poverty, promoting human rights and preserving natural resources.



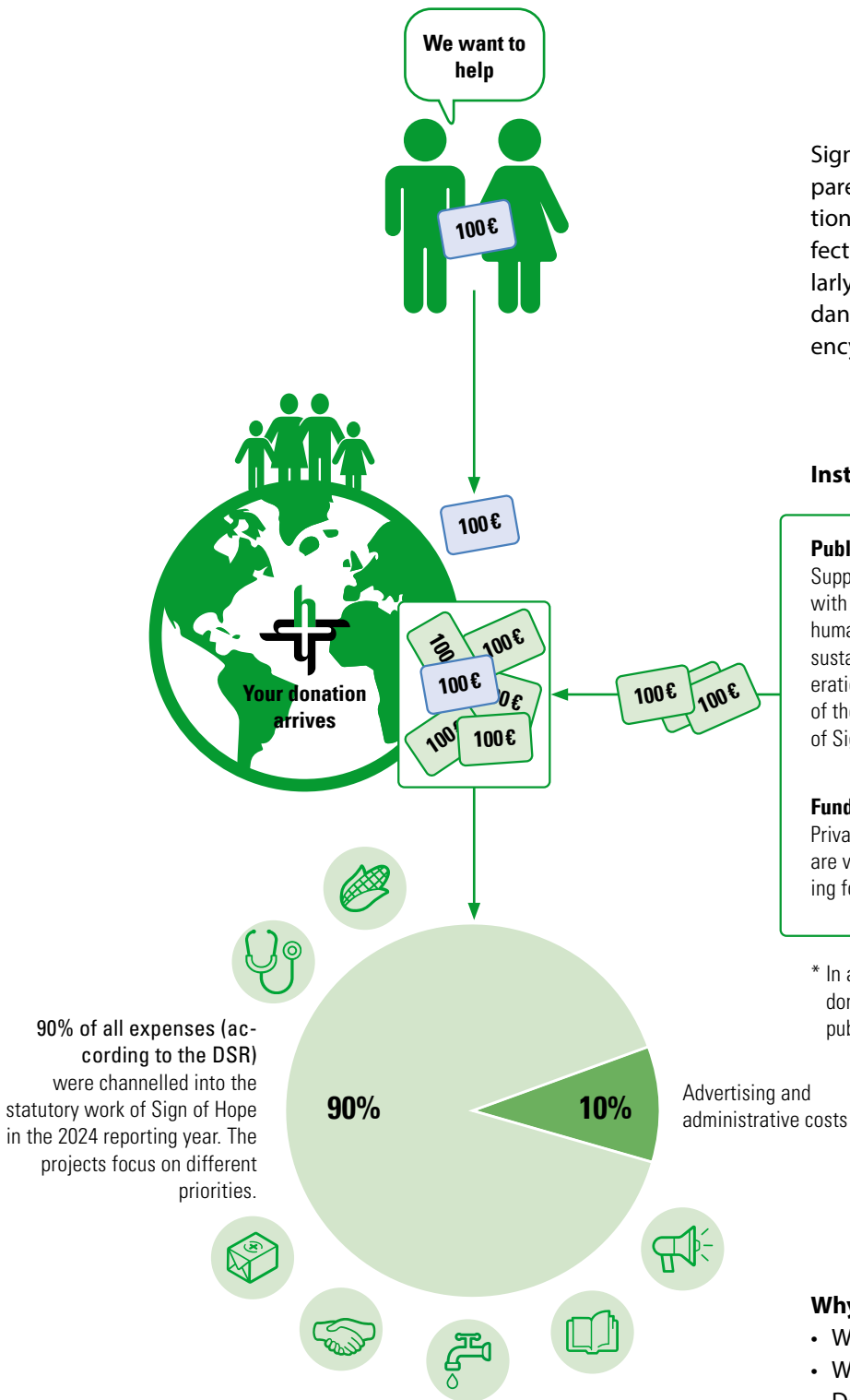
Further information can be found here:



Initiative
Transparente
Zivilgesellschaft



How your donations are used

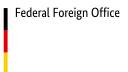


Sign of Hope places great importance on transparency in the handling of the funds and donations entrusted to us. We use our resources effectively and sparingly. External bodies regularly check that Sign of Hope is acting in accordance with the guidelines to ensure transparency and boost our donors' confidence in us.

Institutional donors *

Public sector sponsors

Support from state institutions with a wide reach makes humanitarian assistance and sustainable development cooperation possible. It is also proof of the quality and effectiveness of Sign of Hope's projects.



giz Deutsche Gesellschaft
für Internationale
Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Funding organisations

Private foundations, associations and organisations are valuable partners and important sources of funding for Sign of Hope.

* In addition to the use of Sign of Hope's own funds, your donation is multiplied by the financial support from public sector donors.

Why you can trust Sign of Hope

- We carry the DSR donation seal
- We are a member of the German Donation Council
- We work with verifiable transparency
- We are audited by independent auditing firms

We say thank you!





CARITAS MARSABIT

Core focuses

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 help people who suffer from food insecurity by supplying them with food and providing them with the seeds and tools they require in order to grow food.



Healthcare

People continue to die from preventable diseases. Sign of Hope provides healthcare as part of various projects and provides information on disease prevention. Mental health, for example through trauma counselling, is another aspect of the help we provide.



Human rights

Sign of Hope is committed to improving the human rights situation worldwide. We provide information about grievances in our projects and exert pressure on those responsible with our petitions.



Emergency and disaster relief

In crisis situations, for example those resulting from natural disasters such as earthquakes or floods, immediate assistance is often required. We work with local partners who understand the urgent needs of those affected. These include clean drinking water, hygiene products and emergency shelters.



Combating poverty

Poverty affects millions of people worldwide. Sign of Hope helps them to improve their lives through their own efforts, for instance by creating income opportunities.



Water

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 & social issues

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.



Our operations in figures

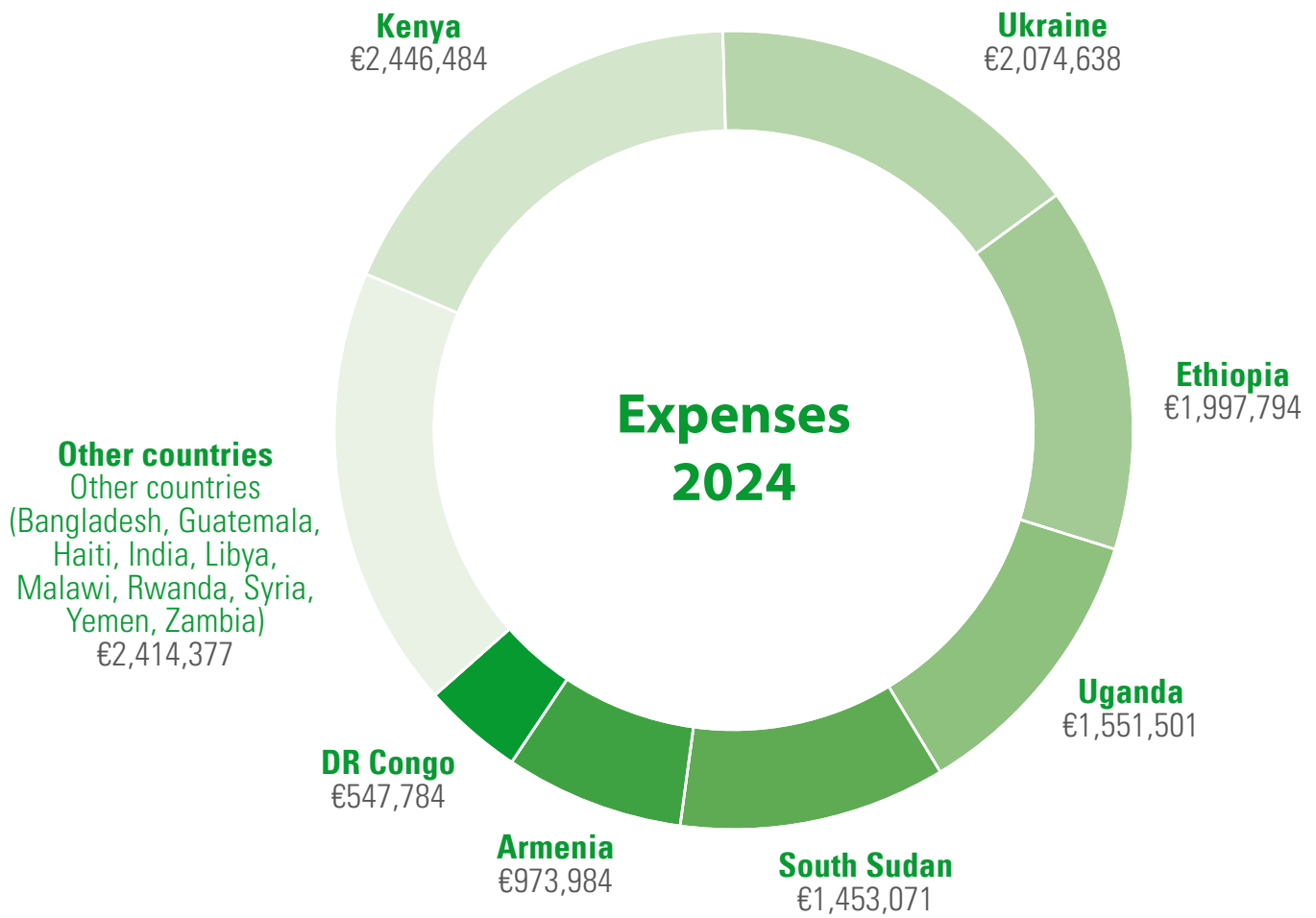
Below is a representation of the costs from the reporting year 2024 for statutory activities. Countries in which Sign of Hope ran projects are listed in detail.

Country	Expenses	Core focuses*	Number of people reached:
 Armenia	€973,984.49	   	14,892
 Ethiopia	€1,997,794.24	      	322,739
 Bangladesh	€423,325.65	    	85,892
 DR Congo	€547,784.06	    	69,773
 Georgia	€0		13
 Guatemala	€86,637.60	    	15,000
 Haiti	€65,684.94	 	5,760
 India	€532,529.12	    	83,254
 Yemen	€189,346.25	    	5,700
 Kenya	€2,446,483.53	      	96,932
 Libya	€27,355.06		1,940
 Malawi	€465,797.53	 	16,700
 Mozambique	€0	 	800
 Rwanda	€352,713.33	 	88,927
 Zambia	€137,136.48	  	300,000
 South Sudan	€1,453,070.71	    	77,620
 Syria	€133,850.76		1,602
 Uganda	€1,551,501.25	     	249,800
 Ukraine	€2,074,637.62	  	91,414
Total project countries	€13,459,632.62		1,528,758
Other project allocations and, if applicable, donations in kind	€338,521.10		
Campaigns and public relations work **	€965,663.20		
Total	€14,763,816.92		

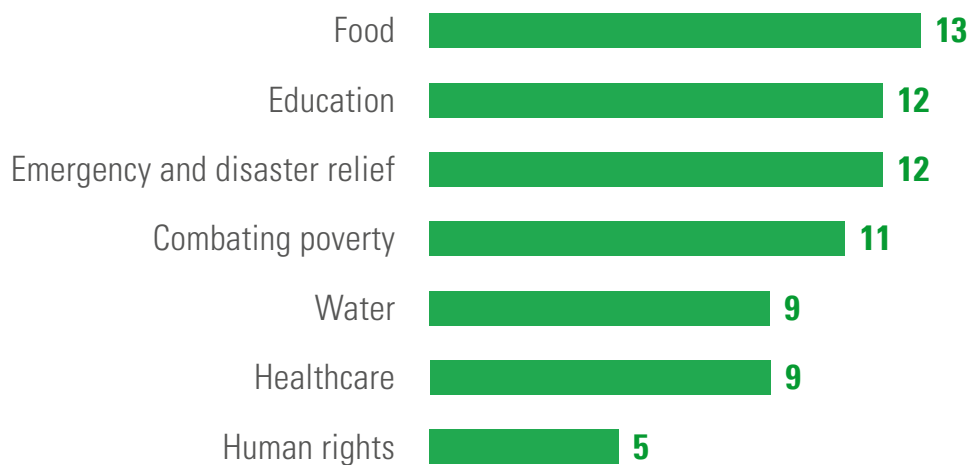
*Core focuses:

 Combating Poverty  Education & social issues  Healthcare  department  Food  Emergency and disaster relief  Water

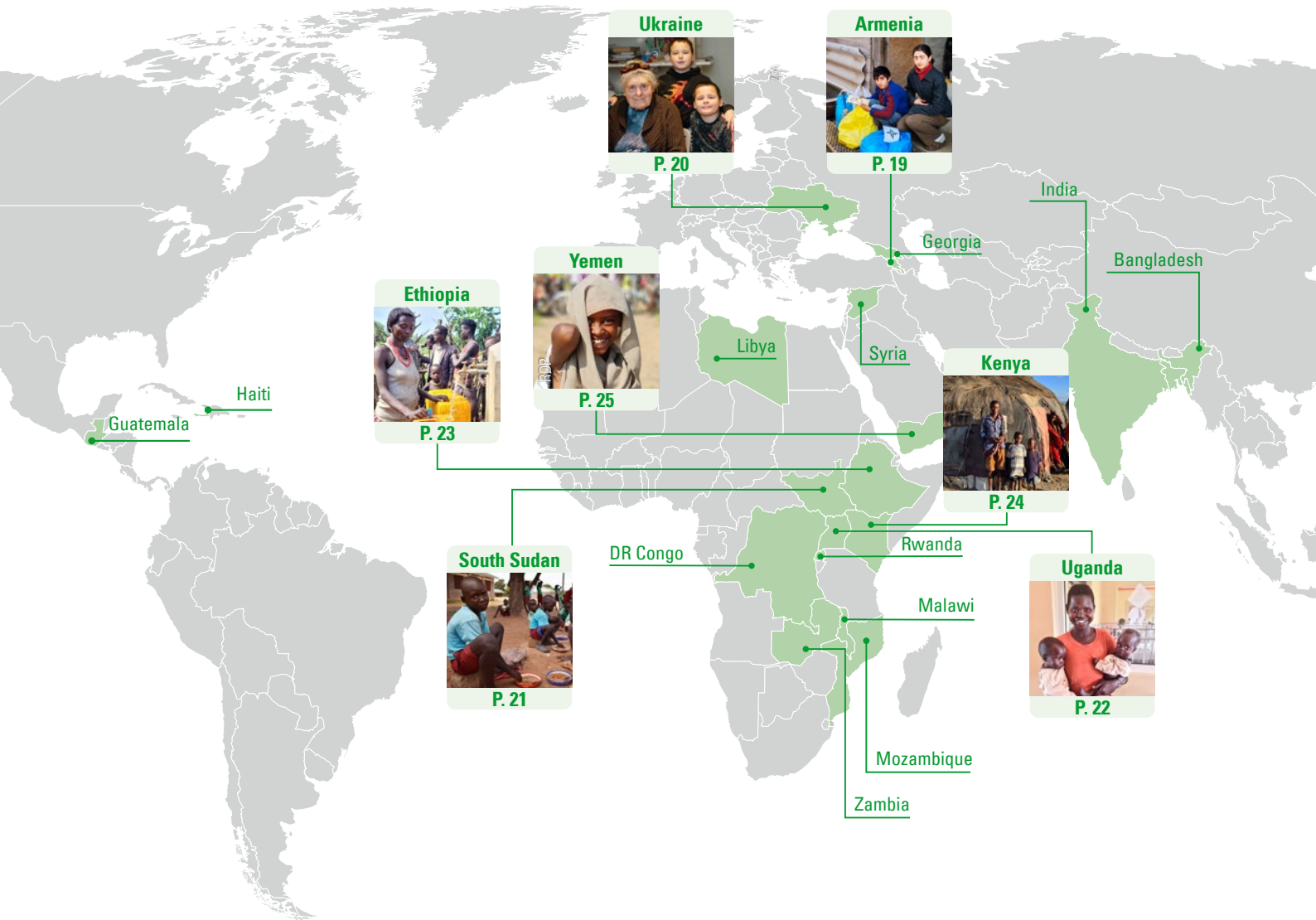
** Petition campaigns on human rights cases in Afghanistan, Algeria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Colombia, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Haiti, Iran, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Pakistan, Sudan, USA, Venezuela, worldwide



Number of project countries per thematic area in 2024



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.

Armenia:

Livestock breeding inspires hope

In Armenia, we offer both emergency aid and sustainable approaches to help people in poverty. This includes food distributions as well as income-generating programmes.



Armenia

Inhabitants: 2.9 million

A significant proportion of the population lives below the poverty line, especially in rural areas where job opportunities and infrastructure are inadequate.

- Armenia has achieved major reform successes in development and human rights.
- The consequences of the war over Nagorno-Karabakh pose major problems for the country.

Routes out of poverty

Our livestock breeding programmes offer long-term assistance to families in need in Armenia. In this reporting year, 16 families in the Shirak province were each given five sheep and ten families were given a dairy cow – as well as veterinary care and feed. Milk and wool improve nutrition and provide additional income. The first lambs and calves are given to other families, creating a cycle of solidarity.

Our tried-and-tested winter aid programme in Shirak was continued, with 300 vulnerable households, including many elderly people, receiving basic foodstuffs and hygiene products.

In conjunction with our partner organisation 'Green Lane', we trained 360 small farmers in the provinces of Tawush, Lori and Shirak in climate-smart agricultural methods. They work together in cooperatives to boost their food production and the marketing of their products.

Around 101,000 people fled from Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia in the aftermath of the Azerbaijani offensive in autumn 2023. We worked with various project partners to help 6,560 refugees and host communities in

four provinces with accommodation and winter aid. Traumatized children were given psychosocial support in summer camps.

Another project supported women and young adults in setting up their own business models – including start-up financing for greater economic independence.

What we achieved: 26 families were given support through livestock breeding projects. In two distributions, 150 families each received food assistance. 360 smallholder families took part in an agricultural project. 6,560 people were given aid in the wake of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Outlook: The project to provide psychological support for traumatized children has been concluded. All other projects continued in the 2025 reporting year or were implemented as follow-up projects.

How we helped:

Activities:



Expenditure: € 973,984.49

Number of projects: 8

Number of people reached: 14,892

Project partners: Acted, Development Principles, Fund for Armenian Relief, Green Lane

Co-financing: Federal Foreign Office, German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development



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



Ukraine: A yearning for peace

The war in Ukraine following Russia's invasion in violation of international law has developed into a protracted and bitter conflict. Sign of Hope is helping those affected by the conflict.

Ukraine*

Inhabitants: 38.4 million

We have been supporting thousands of people in Ukraine in various ways since the start of the Russian war of aggression.

- According to the United Nations, the war had claimed at least 12,456 Ukrainian civilian lives by the end of 2024.
- More than 3.5 million people are displaced within the country.



Helping where the need is greatest

Russia began its large-scale war against Ukraine in February 2022. Thanks to funding from the Federal Foreign Office, Sign of Hope was able to continue its extensive aid programme in the reporting year, which is specifically geared towards the most urgent needs of internally displaced persons and particularly vulnerable population groups.

As part of our distribution of emergency aid in Ukraine, 6,303 people were given support in the form of cash or food vouchers. In Ukraine, we assisted 1,345 people in dire need with cash payments during the winter months, often for food or medication. In Moldova, our partner organisation AVE COPIII distributed food vouchers to 3,403 locals and refugees. A total of 26,565 people in Ukraine benefited from winter-proof accommodation, aid supplies and fuel. For example, 410 internally displaced persons were given accommodation in Ivano-Frankivsk by MetaLab, with a particular focus on people with disabilities. Around 23,500 people were given hygiene packs or wood briquettes for the cold season. A further 239 people were able to make their accommodation winter-proof with cash aid for urgently needed repairs.

We were also actively involved in providing psychosocial support: 1,542 people in Ukraine and Slovakia took part in mental health programmes, including 700 children in Ukraine and 782 refugee children in Slovakia, who took part in language and care programmes with psychosocial support.

Aid delivered by Sign of Hope in Ukraine has reached more than 136,500 people since the beginning of the war.

What we achieved: The individual measures mentioned here as part of the projects funded by the Federal Foreign Office alone reached 34,410 people.**

Outlook: The project involving four local partners and the Federal Foreign Office began at the end of the reporting year and will run for two years, until June 2026.

How we helped:

Activities:



Expenditure: € 2,074,637

Number of projects: 2

Number of people reached: 34,410

Project partners: AVE COPIII, CFSSS, GCEK, MetaLab, New Way, Spasibo, Vona Hub, ZOA

Co-financing:

Federal Foreign Office



You can find out more about our aid programme in Ukraine by visiting our website



* The aid also reached people in need in Slovakia and Moldova.

** The aid measures mentioned in the text are only a selection and therefore not a complete list.

South Sudan: Helping where the need is greatest

The people of South Sudan need help on every level. Our projects focus on where that need is most urgent. Our main concerns are education, medical support and emergency aid.



South Sudan

Inhabitants: 13.6 million

The youngest state in the world is considered “failed” – but the population is not giving up hope for a better future.

- Around 1.65 million South Sudanese children were undernourished in the reporting year.
- Approximately 70% of children in South Sudan do not regularly attend school.

Extensive support

The education deficit in South Sudan is alarming. The Loreto School in Maker Kuei provides education for around 2,300 children and combats hunger with school meals. We also support 2,200 children in the diocese of Tombura-Yambio with regular meals. The “Education creates a future” project launched in 2019 in the states of Lakes and Warrap has been extended until autumn 2025. It comprises constructing and repairing school buildings and wells, access to education for traumatised children, continued professional development for teachers and vocational training.

The Rumbek diocesan clinic and a nutrition programme run by the Sisters of Charity are providing life-saving help to combat malnutrition. Almost half of the South Sudanese population was affected by food insecurity or acute hunger in the reporting year. In Achuar (Diocese of Rumbek), we distributed food aid several times to internally displaced persons in the aftermath of floods.

It is estimated that around 200,000 people in South Sudan suffer from severe mental disorders. Many are ‘detained for their own safety’ in prisons because there are no treatment options. With our support, patients in the Rumbek Detention Centre received medical assistance, essential supplies and personalised medication, while staff were trained in diagnosis and treatment.

Leprosy is still stigmatised in South Sudan. In the ‘leprosy village’ of Malou, 243 affected people were provided with food and basic necessities every two months in the reporting year.

What we achieved: Our education and school meal projects benefitted around 20,500 students and teachers. 221 patients with mental illnesses in Rumbek Detention Centre received help. Around 150 children are currently being treated in the Sisters of Charity’s nutrition programme in Rumbek.

Outlook: Long-term nutrition and education projects are being continued and emergency aid measures have been completed.

How we helped:

Activities:



Expenditure: € 1,453,070.71

Number of projects: 9

Number of people reached: 77,620

Project partners: Diocese of Rumbek, Diocese of Rumbek Primary Health Care Centre, Loreto Rumbek, Sisters of Charity, Catholic Diocese of Tombura

Co-financing: German Federal Foreign Office, German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, Sternstunden e. V.



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



Uganda: Supporting the weakest

Rapid population growth, the purchase of farmland by investors and irregular wet and dry seasons are increasingly causing people to lose their livelihoods.

Uganda



Inhabitants: 50.8 million

Through our projects, we help people when they are in immediate need – be it hunger, illness or land disputes.

- Medical care is extremely inadequate, especially in rural areas.
- According to United Nations estimates, 29 % of all children under the age of five were chronically malnourished in the reporting year.



How we helped:

Activities:



Expenditure: € 1,551,501

Number of projects: 8

Number of people reached: 249,800

Project partners: Caritas Moroto, Diocese of Moroto, Land Desk Catholic Diocese of Moroto, SOCADIDO

Co-financing:

German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development, EKFS, FIDA



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



Survival aid and legal assistance

The Karamoja region is one of the poorest in the country. The hunger crisis there is being exacerbated by climate change and local conflicts. 300 households in the villages of Nakapiripirit, Namalu and Amudat received food parcels from us. A life-saving nutrition programme for severely malnourished children was also set up at the health centre in Kosike in 2019. Around 1,400 children were helped between 2021 and the beginning of 2024.

A large extension was added to the inpatient department in the reporting year. As a result, 24 additional beds are now available specifically for children who are admitted as part of the nutrition programme. Thanks to the expansion, sick and malnourished children can now be treated separately.

Land disputes caused by business investments are also problematic for many village communities. Together with the diocese of Moroto, we supported several village communities with legal information and in establishing recognised forms of administration in order to combine customary rights and modern land rights.

What we achieved: Approx. 1,500 malnourished people received food aid. The new children's ward was opened at the Kosike Health Centre. 7,165 households were given legal advice.

Outlook: The food distributions will be continued in times of famine. The clinic will continue to operate.

Ethiopia:

Aid for those in greatest need

Ethiopia is one of the least developed countries in the world. The economic situation is poor and results in widespread poverty, especially in rural areas.



Ethiopia

Inhabitants: 118.5 million

Despite the settlement of the Tigray conflict at the end of 2022, the situation in parts of the Tigray region and in the border areas with the neighbouring regions of Amhara and Afar remains tense.

- In Ethiopia, the rainy seasons have failed to materialise every year since the end of 2020.
- Two million people were displaced from their homes during armed conflicts.

Food and water

Many families in southern Ethiopia were particularly affected by the consequences of the severe drought in the reporting year. Nevertheless, many people here are also suffering from the indirect consequences of the nationwide instability and the challenges posed by climate change. The armed conflicts in Tigray primarily affected the north of the country.

The United Nations estimates that more than 5 million people suffered from hunger during this period. Sign of Hope provided food aid to 1,500 families in the southern district of Borana in cooperation with our local partner organisation Spiritan Community Outreach Ethiopia (SCORE) and with financial support from the German Federal Foreign Office. We also provided people with seeds that can be grown even in a changing climate and animal feed, among other things.

Our project partner, the Ethiopian Catholic Church, provided 70 internally displaced households in northern Adigrat that were affected by illness, shortages and hunger with around 130 euros per family to buy food.

Our long-standing Ethiopian partner organisation APDA (Afar Pastoralist Development Association) helped the people in the Afar region to implement sustainable solutions for water storage and extraction, such as collecting rainwater and building wells and boreholes as a reliable source of water for families and their livestock. We are supporting APDA in providing families with animal feed, veterinary care and training in sustainable animal husbandry.

What we achieved: Around 1,600 families were given food, seeds, animal feed or water supplies depending on their needs.

Outlook: Some projects are being continued, others have been completed.

How we helped:

Activities:



Expenditure: € 1,997,794.24

Number of projects: 12

Number of people reached: 322,739

Project partners: APDA, CEHRO, ECC-SDCO, ECC-SDCOS, SCORE, SSD

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



You can find out more about our aid programme in Ethiopia on our website



Kenya: Overcoming challenges

Kenya is seen as a pillar of stability in a very conflict-ridden region. However, there are major regional and social differences in terms of development. We are providing help in the north of the country, where the need is particularly great.

Kenya



Inhabitants: 58.0 million

Climate change is causing long periods of drought, which are often followed by heavy rainfall and flooding.

- The infant mortality rate in 2024 was 40 per 1,000 children.
- Life expectancy in 2024 was around 64 years.



Preparing for the future

Extreme weather is robbing people in northern Kenya of their livelihoods. As a result, many families are at risk of hunger; children in particular are often affected by malnutrition. Our mobile clinics – an off-road vehicle equipped with medical equipment and specialist staff that regularly visits villages – are the only form of medical assistance available to many people in the Illeret and Dukana regions. More than 1,600 malnourished children were treated in Illeret. In Dukana, the mobile clinic reached around 1,500 families.

As part of a multi-country project, more than 76,000 people in Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan were provided with a wide range of assistance, including agricultural training, supplies of seeds and tools, repairs to wells and measures to prepare for future emergencies. A total of 9,000 households, predominantly women, benefited from a project in which villagers from Saku, Laisamis and North Horr received specialised agricultural training in difficult farming conditions. 70 families were given access to drinking water through the construction of a well.

We support local civil society human rights initiatives to enable people to live in dignity, even in remote areas. The recommendations of the United Nations, which we communicate to these initiatives through workshops, help in this process. A total of 635 people participated.

What we achieved: More than 100,000 people have been reached in the various projects to improve healthcare provision, nutrition, income generation and human rights.

Outlook: The projects are being continued as required. The projects supported by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) will continue to operate.

How we helped:

Activities:



Expenditure: € 2,446,483.53

Number of projects: 11

Number of people reached: 96,932

Project partners: Caritas Marsabit, Diocese of Lodwar, EACHRights, HAART, Koinonia, MID-P

Co-financing: German Federal Foreign Office, German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development



You can find out more about our aid programme in Kenya on our website



Yemen:

The forgotten disaster

More than a third of the Yemeni population was undernourished in 2024. Our aid has enabled people to escape hunger and dependency.



Yemen

Inhabitants: 32.5 million
Yemen is one of the least developed countries in the world. There is no longer a unified nation state, which is an obstacle to reform.

- Around 4.5 million people in Yemen were internally displaced in the reporting year
- More than 20 million people were dependent on humanitarian assistance in 2024.

Hope in the midst of suffering

One of the world's least publicised humanitarian disasters is taking place in Yemen. Ongoing conflicts, the threat of a famine catastrophe and the consequences of climate change are driving countless families to the brink of survival. Children are particularly vulnerable – they urgently need protection and humanitarian assistance.

Our long-standing, trusted regional partner Relief and Development Peer Foundation (RDP) carried out monthly food or food voucher distributions to 210 households, constructed 30 latrines and distributed hygiene kits to 110 households in the governorate of Al-Hudaida in the reporting year. This meant that basic human needs for food and hygiene were met, especially in refugee camps.

Sheep were distributed to 35 households: Two ewes and a ram form the basis for starting their own small livestock farm. The animals are well adapted to the barren conditions and only need a small amount of pasture as well as concentrated feed, which is provided initially as part of the project. They provide milk and wool.

Furthermore, 35 people took part in vocational training that included initial training – for example as car mechanics. These vocational training programmes will enable them to establish their own livelihoods.

What we achieved: Food security and access to sanitary facilities for more than 1,400 people.

Outlook: The cooperation with our long-standing local partner will continue.

How we helped:

Activities:



Expenditure: € 189,346.25

Number of projects: 2

Number of people reached: 5,700

Project partners: RDP

Co-financing:

Sternstunden e. V.



You can find out more about our aid programme in Yemen on our website



Financial statement

issued 30 September 2024

Assets

	30.09.2024	30.09.2023
	EUR	EUR
A. Fixed assets		
I. Intangible assets		
Concessions acquired against payment, commercial proprietary rights and similar rights and assets such as licenses for such rights and assets	114,565.00	136,235.00
II. Tangible assets		
Other facilities, fixtures and fittings	320,740.99	372,818.00
B. Current Assets		
I. Inventories		
Raw materials and supplies	4,981.48	4,981.48
II. Accounts receivable and other assets		
Other assets	53,784.60	21,141.60
II.I. Cash assets, bank balance at Federal Bank, credit balances at financial institutions and cheques	5,202,681.11	5,341,556.26
C. Accruals and deferred income items	39,813.43	99,917.11
	5,736,566.61	5,976,649.45

Liabilities

	30.09.2024	30.09.2023
	EUR	EUR
A. Equity capital		
I. Reserve assets		
Free reserves (§ 62 Revenue Code (AO))	3,535,219.93	3,855,945.19
II. Retained earnings	0.00	0.00
B. Unspent donations		
1. Donations as yet unspent on statutory work	331,023.56	391,011.53
2. Long-term donations	435,224.00	578,626.71
	766,247.56	969,638.24
C. Provisions		
Other provisions	953,119.29	852,592.02
D. Liabilities		
1. Liabilities from as yet unused donations for specific purposes	45,153.37	27,628.04
2. Trade payables	390,330.18	240,093.39
3. Other liabilities	46,496.28	30,752.57
	481,979.83	298,474.00
	5,736,566.61	5,976,649.45

Explanatory note to the financial statement

General information

The association's financial year runs from 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024. The annual financial statements as of 30 September 2024 were prepared in accordance with the accounting regulations of the German Commercial Code (Sections 264 et seq. HGB) and the German Fiscal Code (AO) for non-profit organisations. The stricter requirements for smaller corporations (Section 267 HGB) were voluntarily taken into account. The profit and loss statement is prepared in accordance with the cost of sales method (Section 275 (3) HGB) and is adapted to the needs of organisations financed by donations (IDW-RS-HFA 21). A detailed multi-division statement was also prepared in accordance with the requirements of the German Donations Council. As in previous years, donations not earmarked for a specific purpose were in some cases recognised as income and allocated to the free reserves in order to ensure organisational efficiency and compensate for fluctuations in income.

Accounting and evaluation methods

The balance sheet and income statement are prepared in accordance with the accounting and valuation regulations of Sections 246 et seq. and 252 et seq. HGB. The structure is based on Sections 265 and 266 of the HGB. Tangible fixed assets are valued at acquisition or production cost less scheduled depreciation. Straight-line amortisation is based on the depreciation range of three to 13 years. Assets with a value of up to €1,190 were written off immediately. Receivables and other fixed assets are stated at their nominal value or lower fair value. Provisions cover all recognisable risks and obligations as at the balance sheet date and are measured based on the expected drawdown. Liabilities are reported at their settlement amount. Foreign currency holdings are generally valued at the rate on the date of entry or at the monthly average rate. Bank liabilities and assets in foreign currencies are converted at the mean spot exchange rate on the balance sheet date.

Balance sheet: Explanatory notes and significant changes

Assets – fixed assets

Intangible assets are reported at cost less scheduled amortisation and amortised on a straight-line basis over three to four years (e.g. acquired IT

programs). Includes the scheduled depreciation of business and office equipment at the Constance, Berlin, Kosike (Uganda), Nairobi (Kenya) and Uzhhorod (Ukraine) locations.

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 €40,000, which are to be assigned to the following year. The buildings of our clinic in Kosike (Uganda) were fully depreciated and now have a book value of €1.

Liabilities and equity – equity capital

In this fiscal year, €321,000 was utilised from the free reserves in accordance with Section 62 (1) No. 3 AO.

Liabilities and equity – unspent donations

Donations from previous years were allocated to projects in the form of liabilities totalling €45,000 based on the statement of appropriation of funds. The total amount of donations not yet used in accordance with the articles of association has decreased slightly as a result of a planned reduction in liquidity. The fixed assets are predominantly made up of longer-term donations.

Liabilities and equity – provisions

This item contains provisions for the 13th month's salary (pro rata), storage costs, acquisition and auditing costs, as yet unused days of holiday and travel and performed overtime.

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 lia-

bilities to donors and project partners. Income statement: Explanatory notes and significant changes.

Revenues

The composition of the revenues from donations amounting to €15,863,000 can be viewed on page 29. The reduction in donations received by a total of €2.773 million is due to a drop in public funds and a slight decline in individual donations. Individual donations, including bequests, continue to account for a large proportion of donations. The income from donations (€16,048,000) 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 (+ €271,000) less the donations that could not be spent in this fiscal year (-€85,000).

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 amount to €9,916,000. Personnel costs increased by €200,000 to €2.445 million, including costs for project staff and staff with pro rata benefits for statutory work. The expenses for our East Africa Branch employees are largely project-related, as they mainly manage their own local projects. Depreciation relates to office equipment in Nairobi, a vehicle for northern Kenya and buildings and equipment at the clinic in Kosike. Expenses for donor information amounted to €966,000 and serve to promote the charity's aims both among existing donors and the general public. Other expenses include indirect project costs, in particular travel and seminar costs for project support and reporting.

Administrative expenses

Personnel expenses in the administrative division increased by €47,000 compared to the previous year. German employees are paid in accordance with the Labour Agreement (TVöD-VKA) pay scale, including a special allowance of €190 gross per month for travelling to crisis and war zones. The two full-time Chairpersons were paid in accordance with remuneration groups 15Ü and 15, including a Board bonus of 10.5% on the basic salary. The total annual gross income of the Executive Board came to €255,000. Of the personnel costs, costs for statutory and non-statutory work were allocated pro rata per employee. The average number of employees in Germany was 50.8, with a full-time employee working 40 hours per week. Other administrative expenses primarily include IT costs, data protection and fire protection consulting as well as auditing costs for the annual financial statements.

Publicity expenses

Pure marketing costs, consisting of expenses for appeals for donations in magazines, inserts, mailings and advertising campaigns, fell by €21,000 to €846,000. A large proportion of these are email campaigns for specific events. The result of all non-material activities amounted to -€344,000, which corresponds to an improvement of €1,323,000 compared to the previous year. Other income stems primarily from cash discount income, exchange rate differences and reimbursed continued salary payments. The net loss for 2024 of €-321,000 was offset from free reserves. As in the previous year, more than 99% of income came from non-material activities, as shown by the breakdown required by the German Donations Council. Information on advertising and administrative costs. The administrative costs coefficient – the ratio of the sum of advertising and administrative expenses to total expenses (as defined by the German Charities Council) – is 9.96% (previous year 8.04%); of which advertising expenses made up 5.16% (4.20%) and administrative expenses 4.80% (3.84%). Cf. p. 11 (= Transp. & Comm.).

Profit and loss statement (P&L)

from 1 October 2023 to 30 September 2024

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

Designation	Fiscal year 2024	Previous year 2023
1. Donations received during the fiscal year	15,862,511.10	18,635,834.01
2. Use of donations received in previous years	270,831.15	379,328.08
3. Unspent donations from the fiscal year	-84,965.80	-57,348.50
4. Income from use of donations in the fiscal year	16,048,376.45	18,957,813.59
5. Expenses from fulfilling the aims laid out in the articles of association		
a) Project payments	-9,916,451.33	-13,930,173.04
b) Personnel costs	-2,444,948.43	-2,245,101.14
c) Depreciations	-112,836.06	-96,051.68
d) Information for donors	-965,663.20	-968,003.63
e) Other expenses from fulfilling the aims laid out in the articles of association	-1,323,917.90	-1,753,884.88
	-14,763,816.92	-18,993,214.37
6. Administrative expenses		
a) Personnel expenses	-543,014.48	-495,592.04
b) Depreciations	-15,987.62	-18,965.79
c) Occupancy costs	-39,034.47	-33,756.16
d) Other administrative expenses	-184,279.97	-215,924.11
	-782,316.54	-764,238.10
7. Publicity expenses		
a) Personnel expenses	-201,971.03	-199,679.73
b) Depreciations	-32,247.00	-30,935.90
c) Magazine	-56,431.89	-57,134.48
d) Direct mailings	-219,941.33	-285,359.15
e) Supplements	-110,040.33	-94,999.72
f) Other printing and shipping	-171,615.84	-152,928.21
g) Other publicity expenses	-53,963.25	-45,951.73
	-846,210.67	-866,988.92
8. Result of non-material activities	-343,967.68	-1,666,627.80
9. Other operating revenue	26,756.37	27,309.59
10. Other interest and related income	1,190.01	509.71
11. Interest and related expenditure	4,703.96	29,142.16
Carry forward	-320,725.26	-1,667,950.66
12. Net loss for the year	320,725.26	1,667,950.66
13. Income from the release of reserves from statutory reserves	320,725.26	1,667,950.66
14. Retained earnings	0.00	0.00

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."

Management report of the Executive

Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. is a faith-based Christian organisation dedicated to human rights, humanitarian assistance and development cooperation. Based in Constance, Hoffnungszeichen is committed to helping oppressed and exploited people around the world. Hoffnungszeichen acts in accordance with its mission: "We reach out our hands, so that people can stand tall" The charity actively pursues its primary goal: "to create a future where birthplace no longer determines a life in dignity"

Annual report

During the reporting year, we carried out a total of 81 projects in 19 countries in our statutory areas of human rights work, humanitarian assistance and development cooperation. In the reporting year, we provided humanitarian assistance, were involved in development cooperation or human rights work in the following countries: Armenia, Bangladesh, DR Congo, Georgia, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Kenya, Libya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Syria, Uganda, Ukraine, Zambia, Yemen. We have systematically expanded our project activities in East Africa on an ongoing basis. The bush clinic in Kosike, Uganda, is fully operational. In Northern Kenya, we are driving forward health programmes (including mobile clinics). Owing to Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine, we have channelled a large proportion of our financial and human resources into emergency aid for Ukraine.

In this reporting year, we continued to develop our planning processes at both the operational and financial levels. The strategic plan was revised and expanded and the tactical and operational plans at unit level were adjusted accordingly. These plans form the basis for the target agreements with the managers at Sign of Hope.

Planning the finances for the fiscal years 2025 to 2029 according to the definition of the German Charities Council.

Income in millions of euros	Fiscal year				
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Individual financial donations	6.95	7.06	7.37	7.74	8.28
Public financial donations	8.37	7.70	7.75	8.40	8.70
Institutional donors/foundations/NGOs	0.64	0.80	0.85	1.00	1.30
Donations in kind	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Other sources of revenue	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05	0.05
Total revenues	16.01	15.61	16.02	17.19	18.33

Expenses in millions of euros	Fiscal year				
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Project work/work to fulfil aims of articles of association	13.34	12.21	12.52	13.29	14.08
Administration	1.00	1.05	1.05	1.10	1.10
Publicity/donor liaison	2.22	2.35	2.45	2.55	2.65
Total expenses	16.56	15.61	16.02	16.94	17.83
Proportion of administrative and publicity costs in overall expenditure in %	19.4	21.8	21.8	21.5	21.0

Liquid assets in millions of euros	Fiscal year				
	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Liquid assets	4.41	41.41	4.41	4.66	5.16

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 Division
E13	Head of Division
E12	Deputy Head of Division/Team Leader/Senior Consultant
E11	Deputy Head of Division/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



On this page you will find a summary of the Management Report prepared by the Executive Board. The full report and further information can be found at: www.hoffnungszeichen.de

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 30.09.2024 and the income statement for the fiscal year from 01.10.2023 to 30.09.2024, and the appendix. In addition, we have audited the management report of Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. for the fiscal year from 01.10.2023 to 30.09.2024.

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 provides a true and fair view of the opportunities and risks relating to the 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 of the 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 further professional duties in accordance with the relevant provisions of German law. 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.



Mannheim, 5 March 2025

WISTA AG
Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft
Steuerberatungsgesellschaft

(Th. Rondot)
Certified
Accountant



(H.-J. Philipp)
Certified
Accountant



WISTA AG

Donation revenues

	Fiscal year	
	2024	2023
	EUR	EUR
Cash donations (monetary donations without bequests)	6,697,717.35	7,420,921.51
+ Public sector funds	8,412,038.77	10,575,154.69
+ Private sector funds	730,013.23	386,741.79
+ Fines	0.00	350.00
+ Legacy gifts	22,741.75	252,666.02
+ Donations in kind	0.00	0.00
= Donations received during the fiscal year	15,862,511.10	18,635,834.01
+ used earmarked donations from the previous year	270,831.15	379,328.08
- unused donations from the current year	-84,965.80	-57,348.50
= Donation revenue (income from donations)	16,048,376.45	18,957,813.59

Funds forwarded to partner organisations

Fiscal Year 2024 (from 01.10.2023 to 30.09.2024)

All figures given in euros

Country	Project partners:	amount in
Armenia	Development Principles	123,374.69
	Fund for Armenian Relief	30,000.00
	Green Lane	241,187.31
Ethiopia	APDA Afar Pastoralis Development	275,356.99
	Catholic Church Admin Ethiopia	655,817.34
	Consortium of Ethiopian Human Rights Organizations CEROH	15,300.00
	ECC-SDC	15,528.97
	ECC-SDCOAdB	425,712.22
	Ethiopian Catholic Church	23,109.75
	Support for Sustainable Development	95,766.29
Bangladesh	Bangladesh Nazarene Mission	130,505.84
	KOINONIA	138,534.54
Guatemala	FUNDAP	46,777.79
Haiti	SOIL	25,428.47
India	Development Research Communication	403,558.70
	Lokamata Rani Rashmoni Mission	33,679.00
	WATCH	9,992.00
Yemen	Relief and Development Peer	125,000.00
Kenya	Aberdare Mobile Limited	59,072.72
	Catholic Diocese of Marsabit	609,028.17
	Diocese of Lodwar (DoL)	47,317.48
	MID-P	508,718.34
DR Congo	Diocese of Bukavu	20,000.00
	Humana People to People Congo	332,259.00
	Soeurs de Santa Gemma V/C	74,963.45
Libya	CESVI Fondazione Onlus	20,000.00
Malawi	Circle for Integrated Community Dev	135,490.42
	ECM Progressio/CADECOM	89,544.30
	Episcopal Conference of Malawi	15,000.00
Rwanda	Arde/Kubaho	256,058.90
Zambia	Catholic Diocese of Livingstone	7,750.00
	Development Aid from People to People in Zambia DAPP EC	35,927.17
South Sudan	Catholic Diocese of Tombura-Yambio	7,000.00
	Diocese of Rumbek	748,022.75
	Loreto Rumbek	307,238.16
Syria	Amal Organization for Relief and Development	45,000.00
Uganda	Adraa Agriculture College	10,000.00
	Caritas Moroto Diocese	91,106.99
	Diocese of Moroto	52,510.00
	SOCADIDO	690,422.38
Ukraine	AO AVE COPIII	40,000.00
	CF Stabilization Support Services	38,862.25
	Greek Catholic Eparchy of Kosice	93,000.00
	Individual Entrepreneur	20,484.00
	New Way	121,303.90
	NGO MetaLab	124,135.00
	Red Rose	201,492.00
	Vona Hub	13,000.00
ZOA	755,000.00	
Total amount of funds forwarded to partner organisations		8,384,337.28

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.



A large part of the endowment fund was invested in an office building in Konstanz in 2013. 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 25,000 German foundations. With 4,600 members, it is the largest association of foundations in Europe.



Whether it's a traditional donation, an endowment, bequeathing a property to the foundation, for example, or a legacy for the benefit of the Hoffnungszeichen Foundation, as a donor, your commitment and your gift can have an impact far beyond your own lifetime.

Charitable donations have a lasting effect

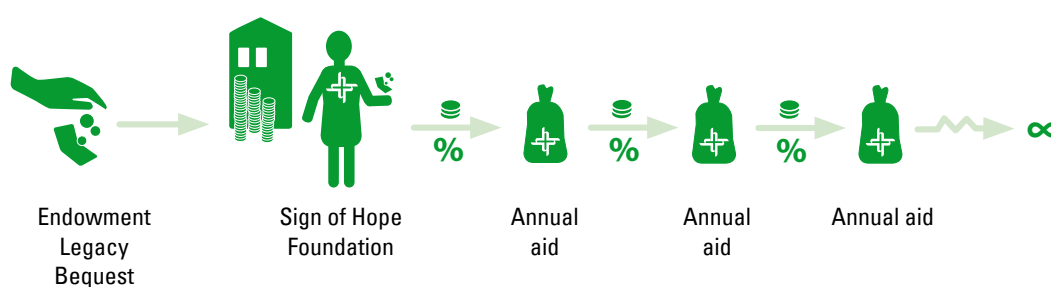
The endowments and properties contributed to the Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope Foundation are permanently held as part of the foundation's core assets. The Foundation has capital totalling €1.67 million, a large part of which was invested in a commercial property in Constance in 2013. Hoffnungszeichen e.V. is one of the tenants. The earnings from interest and rental income safeguard our charitable work in the long term – including for future generations.

Donating helps – our Foundation projects in 2024

The Foundation uses its proceeds to support people in need every year. Five projects were supported in the reporting period: providing 620 street children in Bukavu (DR Congo) with hot meals every day, providing clean drinking water in Rwanda, improving healthcare in Mashonaland/East (Zimbabwe), promoting climate-resilient water management in Jangipara GP (India) and installing water tanks for families in Dakuna (Ethiopia).

Endowing has its advantages

Donations to the Foundation are tax-deductible up to 20% of annual income. Endowments to the asset pool can be claimed for up to 1 million euros over ten years. Inheritances and legacies are tax-free and are channelled entirely into Sign of Hope's charitable work.



The Sign of Hope Foundation

... was founded in 2007 and is an incorporated foundation in civil law based in Konstanz.

Voluntary Board of Directors:	Klaus Stieglitz (Chairperson), Miriam Schütze (Vice Chairperson)
Voluntary Supervisory Board:	Ute Felgenhauer-Laier (Chairperson.), Manfred Steiner (Vice Chairperson), Stefan Daub
Foundation supervisory authority:	Regional Council of Freiburg (File no. 14-2214.8)
Non-profit status:	Notice of exemption dated 13.05.2025 (Konstanz Tax Office, tax no. 09041/20443)
Account for donations & endowments:	DE82 3702 0500 0008 7240 00 (Bank für Sozialwirtschaft)



The Foundation's balance sheet total

The Foundation's annual financial statements, including the balance sheet, income statement, management report of the Executive Board and certified accountant's report, are available online.

More information about the Sign of Hope Foundation can be found at: www.hoffnungszeichen.de/engagieren/stiften





**We would like to express our heartfelt thanks
to all donors, partners, public donors,
institutions, foundations, associations and
companies for what we achieved together in the
2024 reporting year!**