SIGN OF HOPE

Annual Report 2025



hoffnungszeichen
sign of hope

We say thank you!

By joining forces with our **28,901 donors** we were able to achieve the following:

18
project countries

1.4 Mio.
peopled helped

61
projects supported

23
petitions conducted

14.9 Mio.
donation revenue

Donation account:
DE72 5206 0410 0000 0019 10













Annual Report 2025

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Legal notice

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

Foreword by the Chairman of the Supervisory Board

Every year, we reach hundreds of thousands of people in the regions where we operate around the world with our effective emergency and development relief, helping to ease despair and foster hope.



Manfred Steiner
Chairman of
the Volunteer
Supervisory Board

One of the most striking images I saw in 2025 from our projects around the world was that of a boy in Ukraine. He had made a dove in a workshop on coping with war trauma. We all recognise the symbol of the "white dove of peace", but this dove had black feathers, some of which were stained with blood, and tears were streaming from its eyes. What must this boy have been through? How much grief and despair weighs on this child's soul? And is it not impossible not to feel that same despair yourself when you see this pain?

"When hope awakens, despair goes to sleep," says one Asian proverb. Wherever people are in despair, it is our duty to provide hope and tangible assistance, and I am very grateful that, together with you, we were once again able to fulfil this duty on many levels during the 2025 reporting year. Whether it was the ever-expanding operations of the health centre in Kosike, Uganda, support for earthquake victims in Myanmar, assistance for impoverished families in Armenia or Yemen, support for schoolchildren in South Sudan, victims of human rights abuses in Afghanistan, Iran or Burkina Faso, and, last but not least, the children affected by the war in Ukraine, we were there and still are! We provide aid, we listen, we help people through their pain, trauma and despair.

The holy year of the Year of Grace observed by the Roman Catholic Church, which has been celebrated every 25 years for many centuries, called on believers of all denominations, through its theme for 2025, to be 'pilgrims of hope'.

With your support, dear readers, we have been able to spread hope throughout the world. Our annual report is our way of bearing witness to this and encouraging one another to continue on this pilgrimage. Please continue to support us with your gifts, your prayers, your praise, your constructive criticism, your kind thoughts, your suggestions and your quiet support.



Sign of Hope works with the German Federal Foreign Office to support a wide-ranging aid project across seven administrative districts. Mykola made this injured bird as part of the psychosocial support programme for traumatised children in Ukraine.

Interview with Klaus Stieglitz

How can we give shape to hope in times of crisis? Klaus Stieglitz, Chairperson of Sign of Hope, has a straightforward answer.

Mr Stieglitz, looking back on the 2025 reporting year, do you see more hope or resignation?
Always hope! Even though the current global situation feels as though, in many parts of the world, nothing is moving forward at all. I feel the same as many other people. I too have the impression that in many places things are actually going backwards. The major conflicts of our time, the threats to democratic structures, the challenges posed by climate change – all of these require us to have courage. But if we see ourselves as one global human family and show solidarity with our fellow human beings, then, despite everything, I am not afraid.



Klaus Stieglitz during a project visit to Kosike (Uganda) – the Sign of Hope board helps out on the ground.

Is that what you call hope?
Yes, of course! As a Christian, I see hope as closely linked to faith and love. When I hope that good things will come to pass, I also want the next step to be working to make them happen. God has no hands other than our own. We are therefore urged to take proactive action, inspired by hope. And that is exactly what we do with our projects at Sign of Hope. Hand in hand with our donors. This approach is yielding very tangible results.

You say that through these projects you give shape to hope. How can that be achieved?
Hope is our starting point, if you like. From there, we want to set an example. We do that through our projects. Take Uganda, for example, where our health station in Kosike is celebrating its fifth anniversary. At this facility, our staff fight day in, day out to save our patients' lives. In Armenia, people who have lived in poverty and dependency for decades are now earning their first stable livelihood by starting a sheep farm. I am also thinking of South Sudan, where a large-scale, multi-year project is providing education and training to thousands of children and young people. In our fight for human rights, we have taken on the oil industry, which is contaminating the drinking water of 600,000 people. I am thinking of Kenya, where we're practising climate-adapted and sustainable agriculture with 9,000 households. Please feel free to browse through the rest of the annual report – and join us in celebrating our successes, both big and small.

So do you look to the future with optimism, despite all the crises?
With optimism and hope. I am confident that, as a global community of people, we will manage to look out for one another. Giving up wouldn't help anyone in that situation. Martin Luther is said to have remarked that even if he knew the world were to end tomorrow, he would still plant an apple tree today. Even back in Luther's day, people were thinking about the end of the world – and they had been doing so before that, and continued to do so afterwards. However, it was those who did not give up, who took action even when the situation seemed hopeless, and who achieved goals that seemed utopian, who truly transformed and improved people's everyday lives. And let's be honest – our goals aren't that out of reach. A dignified life for all people, in an environment that is protected and preserved for those who come after us – this is no utopia, but the natural consequence of our responsibility before God and humankind.



Klaus Stieglitz,
Chairperson

Who we are

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.



Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. is a faith-based Christian organisation dedicated to human rights, humanitarian aid 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. The **Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope Foundation** was established in 2007. The organisation moved into the premises of the Sign of Hope Foundation in Konstanz 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 goal: To create a future in which a birthplace no longer determines whether they can live 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 Donations Council since 1997 and was one of the first organisations to receive the Donation Certificate when it 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 also a signatory to the declaration of commitment of the Transparent Civil Society Initiative. Sign of Hope also holds consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council.

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

We are committed to a future in which where a person was born no longer determines whether they can live a dignified life. We are working towards this goal through our activities in the fields of human rights, humanitarian aid and development cooperation.

Our work focuses primarily on the African continent, particularly in East-Central Africa. In this reporting year, our focus was on South Sudan, where Sign of Hope has been active since 1994, and our health centres 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 have launched regular protests and calls for prayer, and we are active in various countries. Sign of Hope is also once again involved in the United Nations Human Rights Council this year.

Humanitarian aid
In 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.

You can find out more about our core focuses on **pp. 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 is what makes our work effective.

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 to help us achieve 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 aid and development cooperation, for example, 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.

A wide range of partner networks serve both as advocacy bodies and as indispensable sources of information; one example is EU-CORD, a network of European Christian non-governmental organisations.

"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



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



1



3



2



4

1. Food distribution in Uganda.
2. In Ethiopia, we support refugee families who are at risk of illness, deprivation and hunger.
3. In Syria, we provide food aid to families.
4. In South Sudan, we are working with the Sisters of Charity, among others, to improve the food situation in the country.

Organisation and structure

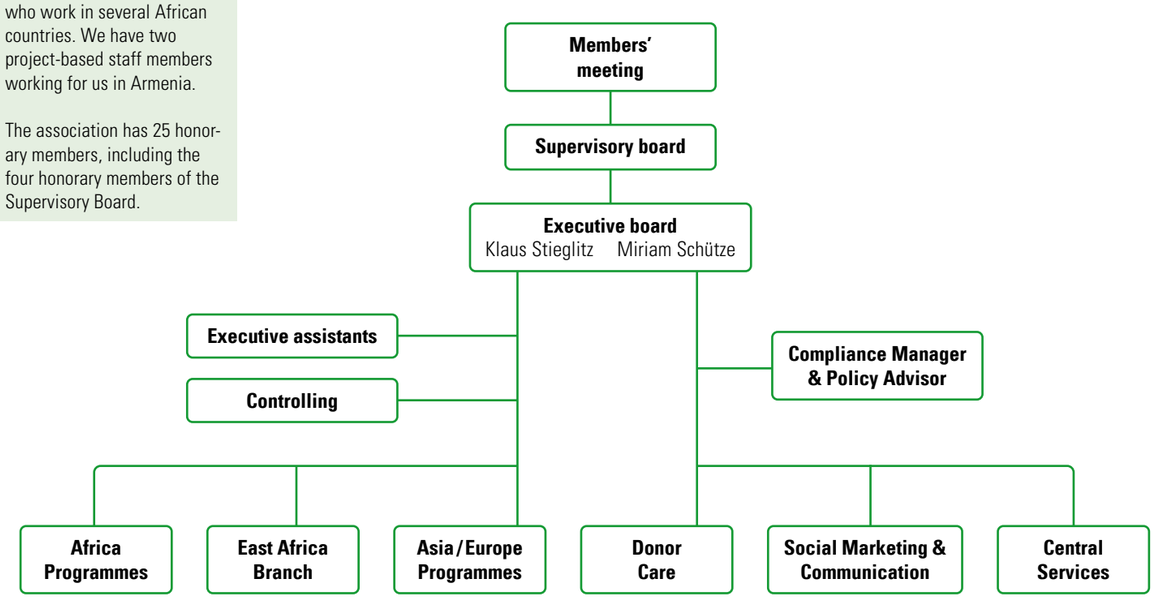
As a registered association, Sign of Hope is legally, organisationally and financially independent. The people in the individual organisational units work either full-time or on a voluntary basis.

Sign of Hope had a total of 44 salaried employees in Germany at the end of the 2025 reporting year:
- 37 in Konstanz, including two dual university students and one intern
- Seven in our office in Berlin

In addition, we employ five employees in Ukraine, a total of 42 people in Africa, of which 12 are based in Kenya, 25 in Uganda, three 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.

The areas of human rights, humanitarian aid and development cooperation are handled by our operational units, which are organised on a regional basis. 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 central Eastern Africa are coordinated from Nairobi, including the construction and running of a health centre in Uganda.
In addition to those directly involved in the projects, specialists work in Nairobi and, in particular, in Konstanz in fields such as administrative support, central services (including HR administration and financial accounting), donor relations, and social marketing and communications.



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 **committees**:

The **Members' 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 committees. It comprises 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.

89.4 %
statutory work
65.4 % in project work
7.3 % in campaigns and public relations work
16.7 % in human resources and amortisation

Administrative and advertising expenses
5.8 % in advertising
4.8 % in administration



Allocation of resources for the 2025 fiscal year (Expenses in millions of euros)

Work to realise the articles of association	**13.94**
- Project work	10.20
- Campaigns and public relations work	1.14
- Human resources and amortisation	2.60
Administrative and advertising expenses	**1.65**
- Publicity	0.90
- Administration	0.75
Total	**15.59**

Our memberships

Our memberships and our network are fundamental supports 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 (AA, quality profile)
- German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ, sponsor assessments)
- European Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Office (ECHO, Framework Partnership Certificate)
- German Fundraising Association (DFRV)
- German Donations Council (DSR)
- EU-CORD Network (European Christian Organisations for Relief and Development)
- Economy for the Common Good
- Supply Chain Act Initiative
- Sponsors of the Transparent Civil Society Initiative
- Humanitarian Aid Coordination Committee
- United Nations / UN consultative status ECOSOC
- WASH Network
- VENRO – Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid 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
In 2024, Sign of Hope was awarded the Economy for the Common Good's (GWÖ) attestation for the second time, this time for the 2022 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:
Sign of Hope has been a signatory to the Transparent Civil Society Initiative (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, discussions 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 about our memberships can be found at: www.hoffnungszeichen.de/ueber-uns/netzwerk

How your donations are used

Your donations enable us to implement life-changing projects on an ongoing basis and to support people in need.

Sign of Hope sets great store by transparency in how it deals with 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.

Why you can trust Sign of Hope

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



Institutional donors *

Public sector donors
Support from government institutions with a wide reach helps make humanitarian aid and sustainable development cooperation happen. It is also proof of the quality and effectiveness of Sign of Hope's projects.

100 € 100 €

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

giz Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH

Auswärtiges Amt

Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung

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

Your donation arrives

89.4 % of all expenses (according to the DSR) were channelled into the statutory work of Sign of Hope in the 2025 reporting year. The projects focussed on a variety of priorities.

We say thank you!

More detailed information about our core focuses can be found on pp. 14 – 15.

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.



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.

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.

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.

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.



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.

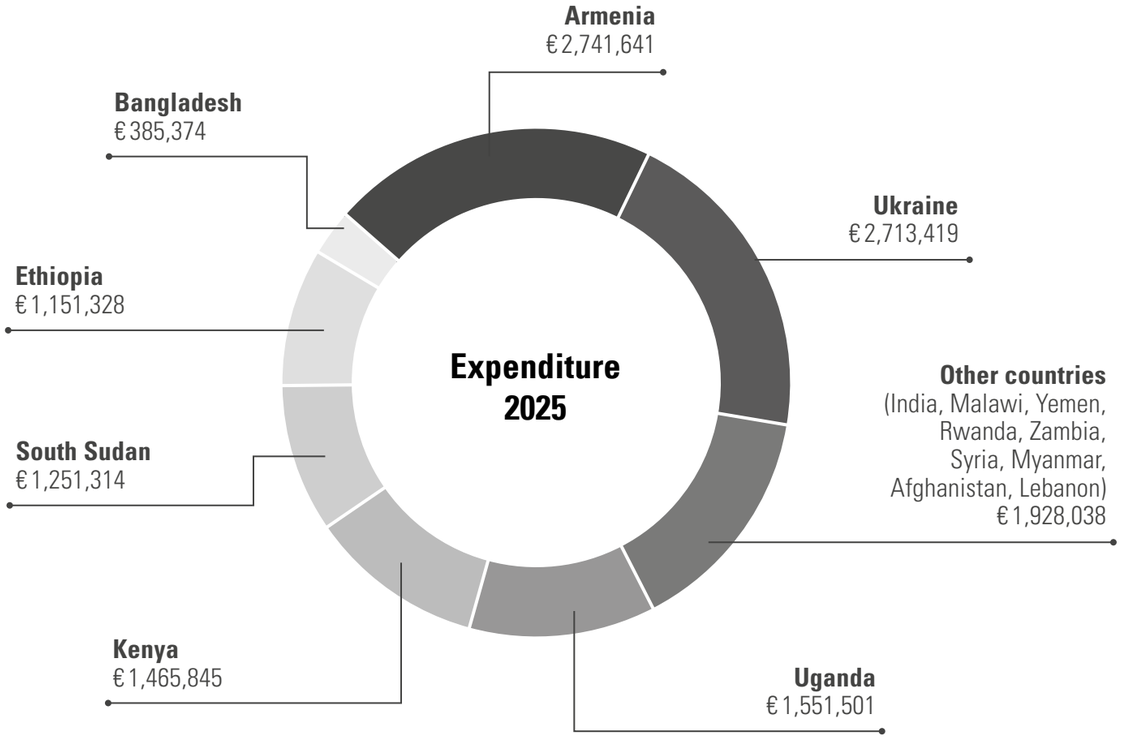
Emergency and disaster relief
In crisis situations, for example those resulting from natural disasters such as earthquakes or floods, immediate assistance is often required. We work with local partners who understand the urgent needs of those affected. These include clean drinking water, hygiene products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

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.

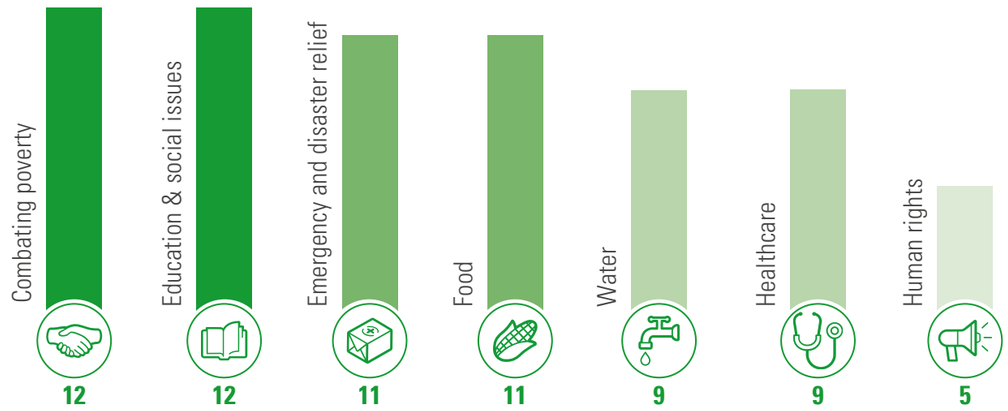
Our activities in figures

The countries in which Sign of Hope ran projects in 2025 involving expenditure in line with our statutory purposes are listed in detail.

Country	Expenditure	Core focuses*	Peopled helped***
Afghanistan	€ 34,650.51		2,100
Armenia	€ 2,741,641.03		9,331
Ethiopia	€ 1,151,328.31		192,969
Bangladesh	€ 385,374.19		9,263
DR Congo	€ 165,422.81		28,200
Haiti	€ 25,428.47		5,500
India	€ 342,579.38		4,800
Yemen	€ 100,000.00		2,804
Kenya	€ 1,465,845.61		143,844
Lebanon	€ 28,039.65		500
Malawi	€ 351,469.62		8,750
Myanmar	€ 84,035.42		705
Rwanda	€ 256,965.13		4,702
Zambia	€ 198,180.00		25,000
South Sudan	€ 1,251,314.15		20,542
Syria	€ 187,341.88		4,280
Uganda	€ 1,551,501.25		115,685
Ukraine	€ 2,713,419.64		71,553
Total across all project countries	**€ 13,034,537.05**		**650,528**
Other project contributions, including donations in kind	€ 188,536.59		
Campaigns and publicrelations work **	€ 561,406.70		
Total	**€ 13,784,480.34**		



Number of project countries per thematic area in 2025



*Core focuses

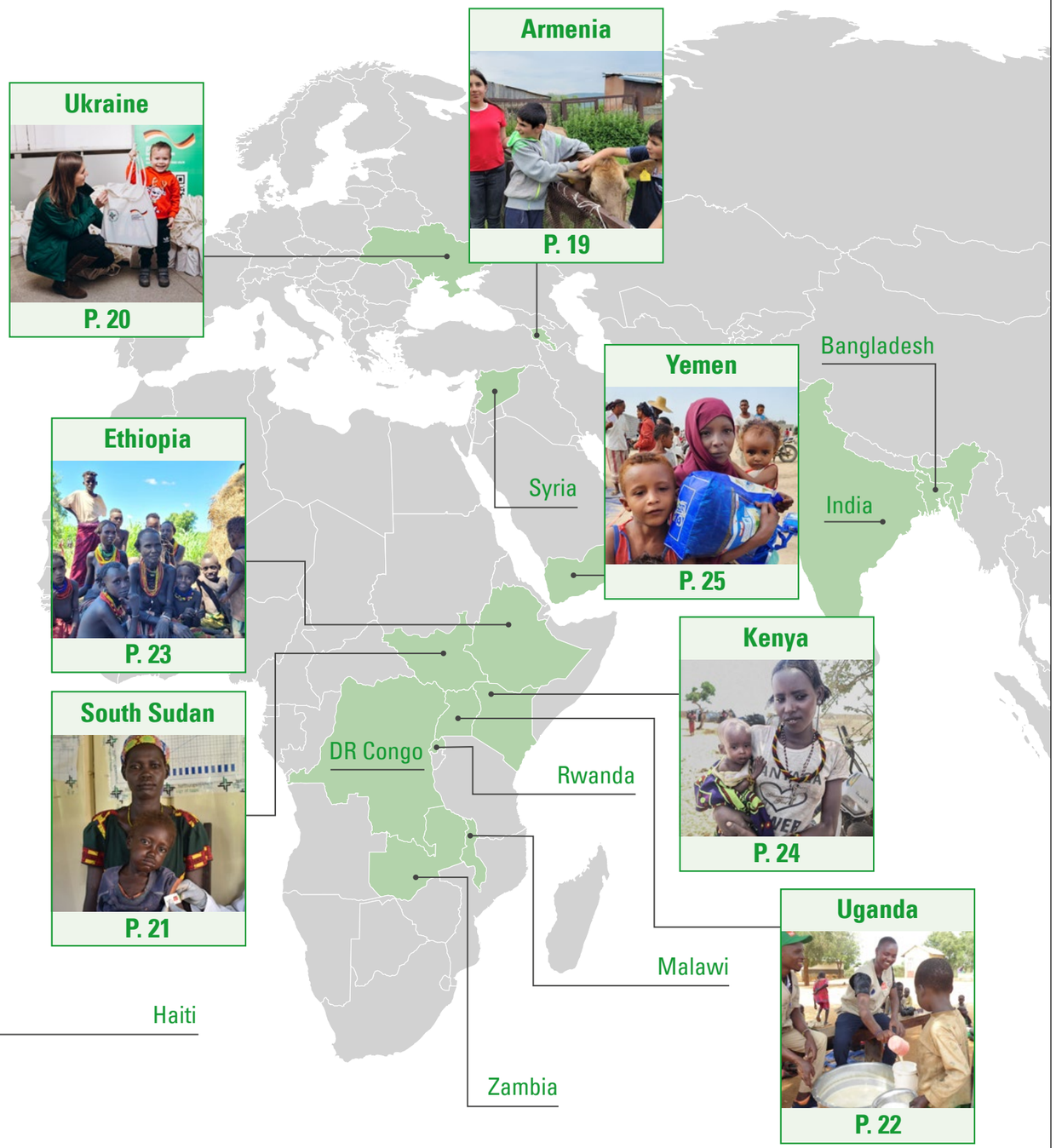
Combating poverty · Education & social issues · Healthcare · Human rights · Food · Emergency & disaster relief · Water

** Petition campaigns on human rights cases in Afghanistan, Egypt, Angola, Burkina Faso, Georgia, Indonesia, Iran, Yemen, Colombia, Mexico, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, South Sudan, Venezuela

*** These are the people who were directly involved in our projects.

Project countries around the world

Sign of Hope e.V. is active all over the world in various different ways. Find out more about our focus countries and the work on the ground on the following pages.



Hope for a fresh start

We work on both emergency aid and sustainable projects to offer people new opportunities. As well as providing food and essential supplies, we also focus on income generation.



Armenia

Inhabitants: 2.9 Mio.
The country is making efforts to implement reforms and modernise its economy. Unresolved conflicts and social inequality continue to shape the country's development.

- One fifth of the population lives below the national poverty line.
- About 40 % of people are not covered by social protection.

Creating long-term prospects

In northern Armenia, poverty is widespread, mainly due to a lack of income sources. Our livestock breeding programmes offer long-term assistance to families in need in Armenia. In the reporting year, eleven families in the province of Schirak received five sheep each and nine families one cow each, including veterinary care and feed for the first winter. Milk and wool improve nutrition and provide additional income. The first lambs and calves are given to other families, creating a cycle of solidarity.

To ease the greatest hardship in the cold season, we supported particularly vulnerable families and older people living alone in Schirak with food parcels. 300 households, including many older people, received staple foods and hygiene items.

After the Azerbaijani offensive in autumn 2023, around 100,000 people fled from Nagorno-Karabakh to Armenia. These often traumatic experiences of flight leave physical and psychological scars and accompany the displaced as they make a new start. Together with various project partners, we supported around 8,000 displaced people and host communities in four eastern Armenian provinces by providing or renovating shelters, supplying essentials and delivering winter assistance, including the distribution of heating briquettes. Traumatised children and adults received psychosocial support, integration assistance, and therapy and protection services.

In the remote provinces, women and young people in particular have little chance of finding suitable employment. The lack of training opportunities and knowledge of the latest economic developments means that very few new business ideas or self-employed ventures emerge. A new three-year project is supporting women and young adults in developing their own business models, including start-up funding to increase economic independence.

What we achieved: 20 families received support through livestock breeding projects. In two distributions, 150 families each received food assistance. Around 8,000 people were supported in response to the consequences of the Nagorno-Karabakh conflict.

Outlook: Apart from one project, which has been completed, all other projects will still be ongoing in the 2026 reporting year or will be continued through follow-on projects.

How we helped:
Activities:
Expenditure:
€2,741,641.03
Number of projects: 8
People reached: 9,220
Project partners: Green Lane (Armenia), Development Principles, Alyona Zeytunyan, FAR, Acted Armenia, Vigen Aghanikyan
Co-financing: German Federal Foreign Office, German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development

Find out more about our assistance in Armenia in our magazine programme

Supported during wartime

The Russian war of aggression against Ukraine, which began in February 2022, has become a war of attrition, further exacerbating hardship and misery. We are operating directly in the country to support the victims of war.

Ukraine



Inhabitants: 37.8 Mio.
Shortly after the start of the war, Sign of Hope opened an operations base in Ukraine and began working with local partner organisations.

- 12.7 million people in the country are in need of humanitarian assistance.
- More than 250,000 buildings (residential and infrastructure) have already been destroyed since the start of the war.

Comprehensive assistance on many levels
In February 2022, Russia launched its war of aggression against Ukraine. In the 2025 reporting year, thanks to funding from the German Federal Foreign Office, Sign of Hope was able to continue the aid programme it launched in 2022. It is specifically geared towards the most urgent needs of internally displaced people and focuses on particularly vulnerable population groups.
A total of 2,513 people were assisted through the provision or renovation of winterised shelters and the distribution of repair and heating materials. The partner organisations in these projects were Charity Foundation Stabilization Support Services (CF SSS), MetaLab and New Way.
1,230 people received cash assistance from us to meet their most urgent individual needs (e.g. food or medicines), as well as for rapid, temporary accommodation in housing after their own homes had been destroyed.
Following experiences of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), we provide care and support through therapy camps for war-traumatised children, discussion groups and workshops. In the area of psychosocial support, we enabled a total of 4,255 people to take advantage of mental health services. With our project partner VONA Hub, we supported 135 social service staff with training on measures to combat SGBV.
Through our partner CF SSS, 1,147 internally displaced persons were provided with legal advice with regard to the war situation and on matters such as family law, property law and documentation requirements.
Also in conjunction with CF SSS, we were able to provide a total of 8,413 households (22,964 people) in remote areas with access to showers and laundry facilities. With our support, our partner New Way also organised the delivery of drinking water by lorry, reaching 5,742 people. New Way's activities also included repairs to destroyed water infrastructure, which benefited 33,567 people in the reporting year.

What we achieved: Since the start of the war, aid has reached a total of more than 208,000 people. The individual measures mentioned here helped 71,553 people during the reporting year.

Outlook: The project launched in 2024 with local partners and the German Federal Foreign Office will continue until June 2026.

How we helped:
Activities:
Expenditure: €2,713,419.64
Number of projects: 1
People reached: 71,553
Project partners: CFSSS, Vona Hub, MetaLab, New Way
Co-financing: German Federal Foreign Office

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

Helping in crises and giving hope

South Sudan continues to face political instability, conflict and humanitarian challenges. Our work therefore covers many different areas, including emergency aid, peacebuilding and sustainability.

South Sudan



Inhabitants: 13.6 Mio.
In South Sudan, basic needs such as education, health, nutrition and peace are not yet ensured for everyone. This is exactly where our work comes in.

- Around 70 % of the population depend on humanitarian assistance.
- 99 out of 1,000 children die before their 5th birthday.

Emergency relief and sustainability
The Diocese of Rumbek clinic and a nutrition programme run by the Sisters of Charity supported 124 malnourished children in the reporting year. People with mental illness, HIV / AIDS and leprosy patients, as well as older people, were also cared for.
1.4 million people were victims of flooding in the summer of 2024. We supported 230 households and, in a second operation conducted jointly with Sternstunden, 260 households in the village of Achuar with food distributions. Together with the Catholic Diocese of Rumbek, we distributed food, blankets, mosquito nets, soap and clothing every two months to people affected by leprosy (143 people).
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, 119 patients in Rumbek prison received medical care, relief supplies and medicines on several occasions, while staff were trained in diagnosis and treatment.
Launched in 2019, the education project "Education Creates the Future" in the states of Lakes and Warrap, which we are implementing together with the Diocese of Rumbek with funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, includes the construction and renovation of school buildings and wells, access to education for traumatised children, teacher training and vocational training. In the reporting year, 15,704 children, adolescents and teachers benefited directly, and a total of 556,000 people overall. We support the Loreto School in Maker Kuei in partnership with Sternstunden. 1,200 primary school children and adolescents, and 120 girls at the secondary boarding school, were provided with meals for 18 months as part of the project. Also in cooperation with the Loreto Sisters, 825 adolescents and young adults in Lakes State received training and further training; the project also includes promoting women in leadership positions as well as trauma recovery and peacebuilding activities.

What we achieved: More than 20,000 people were directly and 560,000 indirectly involved in the activities of our projects.

Outlook: Long-term nutrition and education projects will be continued; new measures are planned. Emergency relief measures have been completed.

How we helped:
Activities:
Expenditure:
€1,251,314.15
Number of projects: 7
People reached: 20,542
Project partners: Diocese of Rumbek, Loreto Sisters Rumbek, Sisters of Charity
Co-financing: 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

Help for the sick and hungry

The previously stable rainy and dry seasons are becoming increasingly erratic. Crop failures are increasing, leading to undersupply and food shortages.

Uganda



Inhabitants: 48 Mio.
69 % of the population lives in rural areas, often with inadequate access to essential infrastructure and healthcare. This is where we come in.

- 39 out of 1,000 children die before their fifth birthday.
- Between 20 – 40 % of the population are undernourished.

Medical, legal and food assistance
Climatic changes and local conflicts are causes of ongoing food insecurity in the northern Ugandan region of Karamoja. Our team in Uganda carries out humanitarian food distributions twice a year to 300 particularly vulnerable and needy households each time.
The Kosike Health Centre opened by Sign of Hope in November 2019, funded by the Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation, serves as a point of contact for around 8,500 people each year. In addition to medical treatment, including antenatal and postnatal care and obstetric services for 280 pregnant women and around 4,500 children under five in the reporting year, it also offers a nutrition programme for malnourished children. Very severe cases are treated in a newly created special ward. The four beds provided in this separate room are reserved for children who face a very long and intensive course of treatment and sometimes require care for up to three months. The affected children are often not only malnourished, but also suffer, for example, from anaemia or malaria. Cared for in isolation from other patients, they are protected from further infections whilst in their often life-threatening condition. 140 healthcare staff received training and professional development. By the end of 2025, three satellite sites had also been established in hard-to-reach parts of the project area, which aim to reach at least 12,000 people each year. A fully equipped ambulance was put into service.
Due to commercial investments, village communities are often confronted with land rights disputes, which they are ill- equipped to handle because of limited legal knowledge. 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: At the Kosike Health Centre, around 8,500 people were reached in the reporting year with health-promoting, preventative and curative interventions. Approx. 1,500 undernourished people received food assistance.

Outlook: The food distributions will be continued in times of famine. Clinic operations will continue. The land rights project has been completed.

How we helped:
Activities:

Expenditure:
€ 1,551,501.25
Number of projects: 6
People reached: 115,685
Project partners:
SOCADIDO, Diocese of Moroto, Land Desk Catholic Diocese of Moroto, St Andrews School Lotome, SoH Uganda
Co-financing:
German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation, EKFS, SoH

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

Strengthening self-help, preserving peace

While economic growth is evident in the major cities, many rural areas remain underdeveloped. We therefore work, among other things, to improve agricultural income opportunities for the population.

Ethiopia



Inhabitants: 135.5 Mio.
In Ethiopia, over a third of the population lives below the poverty line. The civil war in the north, droughts and flooding are all weakening development.

- Approx. 20 % of the population are undernourished.
- 60 % of those in employment work in agriculture.

Help on many levels
Even though the civil war in northern Ethiopia was officially declared over at the beginning of 2023, the situation remains very tense. The conflict not only claimed more than 600,000 lives but also displaced millions, many of whom still live in refugee camps today. In addition, climate change is hitting the country particularly hard, with ever more frequent droughts, floods and water shortages. The healthcare system is overstretched. Daily life, especially for the rural population, is marked by poverty. In the Tigray region, local armed conflicts, undersupply of essential items and hunger prevail. Together with the Ethiopian Catholic Church, we supported 253 refugee families in Adigrat who were particularly affected by illness, deprivation and hunger with food supplies. In July 2025, 350 houses in Badda (Afar region) and the local market burned down. We supported 205 households in rebuilding their homes with traditional mats made by the community itself. 33 families received food assistance for three months. A project run jointly with our partner Amen Ethiopia aims to promote peace. By training 60 youth leaders and establishing ten peace clubs in schools that offer projects and training, we promote social and peaceful coexistence among young people. In conjunction with our local partner organisation SCORE and with financial support from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Sign of Hope is helping particularly vulnerable households in Borana district to set up small livestock breeding operations and also offers training in animal husbandry and climate-resilient agriculture. This improved the nutritional situation of around 11,700 people. In the conflict- and drought-affected areas of Afar, families fight for survival every day. Our long-standing project partner APDA (Afar Pastoralist Development Association) supplied 83 households affected by deprivation and hunger with flour and sugar for two months.

What we achieved: Large sections of the population benefited from support and training in livestock breeding and climate-resilient agriculture. The measures of our peacebuilding project reached around 50,000 people directly and indirectly.

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

How we helped:
Activities:

Expenditure:
€ 1,151,328.31
Number of projects: 14
People reached: 192,969
Project partners: SCORE, CEHRO, APDA, SSD, AMEN Ethiopia, ECC-SDCOS, ECC-SDCO Adigrat, AA
Co-financing: German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, GIZ, German Federal Foreign Office

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

Securing livelihoods for the future

Kenya's democracy is considered consolidated, and its economy relatively stable. But there are still major shortcomings, above all in the north of the country. The effects of climate change are undoing many achievements.

Kenya



Inhabitants: 57.5 Mio.
Our assistance in the areas of health, nutrition, water supply and agriculture benefits people in the under-developed north of the country.

- 36.8 % of the population are considered undernourished.
- Around 46 % of people in Kenya make their living from agriculture.

Staying healthy, securing livelihoods

Extreme weather is robbing people in northern Kenya of their livelihoods. In a cross-border project run jointly with our project partner Caritas Marsabit, we enabled 6,989 people in Kenya, Ethiopia and South Sudan in the reporting year to access, among other things, agricultural training, the provision of seeds and tools, and the rehabilitation of wells.

A total of 9,000 households in Saku, Laisamis and North Horr (45,000 people) received agricultural training in a project funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The training covered, for example, climate-resilient vegetable-growing methods, sowing, plant protection, irrigation and marketing strategies. Our project partner Caritas Marsabit is also involved in this.

In the Isiolo region, with BMZ funding, we helped young people to build new, climate-adapted and sustainable sources of income. Our local project partner MID-P reached 9,715 people directly in the reporting year. Around 70,000 people benefited from the project's wider impact.

At the Illeret health centre, we improved medical care and nutrition for 900 pregnant and breastfeeding mothers, 770 newborns and infants under one year, and 1,000 children under five. Measures included health and nutrition campaigns, staff training, the provision of specialised food, the distribution of chickens to mothers' groups, the renovation of the health centre in Illeret, the establishment of a water supply at the health centre in Sieslicho, building up stocks of medicines and medical supplies, and improving diagnostic capacity at the Illeret health centre.

Our mobile clinics – four-wheel-drive vehicles with medical equipment and specialist staff that regularly visit villages – are the only available medical assistance for many people in the Illeret and Dukana regions. As a result, around 6,000 people received basic medical care in the reporting year.

What we achieved: Approximately 200,000 people were reached directly and indirectly across the various projects to improve health, nutrition, climate-resilient agriculture and income generation.

Outlook: Depending on need, the projects will be continued or will evolve into follow-on projects.

How we helped:
Activities:

Expenditure:
€ 1,465,845.61
Number of projects: 7
People reached: 143,844
Project partners: Caritas Marsabit, Diocese of Lodwar, MID-P
Co-financing: German Federal Foreign Office, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development

Find out more about our assistance in Kenya on our website

Alleviating hunger, enabling education

The country's food and energy supplies, as well as its health and education systems, have largely collapsed. Our projects help people escape hardship and dependency.

Republic of Yemen



Inhabitants: 41.8 Mio.
We support families in need in Yemen through a range of initiatives, helping them to become self-reliant, access education and cope with day-to-day life.

- About half of all children under five suffer from acute malnutrition.
- Around 32 % of the population work in agriculture.

Education as a path out of dependency

According to the United Nations, Yemen is facing one of the worst humanitarian crises in the world. The armed conflict, which has been ongoing since 2015, has significantly exacerbated the situation in the country, which was already critical. Due to the current conflict, according to recent figures from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, more than 21.6 of the roughly 34 million inhabitants are dependent on humanitarian aid, over half of them children. More than 17 million people do not have enough to eat. Around 4.7 million people have been displaced from their homes and are living as internally displaced persons in other parts of the country.

We have been supporting people in Yemen through a wide range of initiatives since 2017. The project in the current reporting year, funded by Sternstunden, supported our long-standing partner Relief and Development Peer Foundation (RDP) in assisting families in Bajil District (Al Hudaydah Governorate). The well-being of malnourished or otherwise vulnerable children was a particular focus. Children are in particular need of support and encouragement so that they have the opportunity to learn. A good education can break the cycle of poverty. But this can only work if their families are not hungry and have an income. Food was therefore provided to around 2,100 people to alleviate acute hardship and ensure they had enough to eat. To help improve their incomes and self-sufficiency in the long term, 20 households were provided with livestock together with training, vaccinations, a shed and feed for the initial period. Two vocational training programmes were also offered, primarily for girls and women, with the aim of creating safe spaces for them and strengthening their economic resources. A school was also refurbished. 250 children were given learning materials (exercise books, pens, school bags, etc.). School meals were served to the pupils during school hours.

What we achieved: The project reached a total of 2,804 people, secured livelihoods and enabled many children to attend school regularly.

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

How we helped:
Activities:

Expenditure:
€ 100,000.00
Number of projects: 2
People reached: 2,804
Project partners: RDP
Co-financing: Sternstunden e.V.

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

Financial statement

as of 30 September 2025

Assets

	30.09.2025 EUR	30.09.2024 EUR
A. Fixed assets		
I.a Intangible assets Concessions acquired against payment, commercial proprietary rights and similar rights and assets such as licenses for such rights and assets	55,911.00	114,565.00
II. Tangible assets Other facilities, fixtures and fittings	237,642.99	320,740.99
B. Current Assets		
I. Inventories Raw materials and supplies	4,981.48	4,981.48
II. Accounts receivable and other assets Other assets	482,750.03	53,784.60
II.I. Cash assets, bank balance at Federal Bank, credit balances at financial institutions and cheques	4,128,820.03	5,202,681.11
C. Accruals and deferred income items	28,843.59	39,813.43
	4,937,949.12	**5,736,566.61**

Liabilities

	30.09.2025 EUR	30.09.2024 EUR
A. Equity capital		
I. Reserve assets Free reserves (§ 62 Revenue Code (AO))	3,088,722.75	3,535,219.93
II. Retained earnings	0.00	0.00
B. Unspent donations		
1. Donations as yet unspent on statutory work	319,053.72	331,023.56
2. Long-term donations	293,472.00	435,224.00
	612,525.72	**766,247.56**
C. Provisions		
Other provisions	1,084,759.21	953,119.29
D. Liabilities		
1. Liabilities from as yet unused donations for specific purposes	5,978.50	45,153.37
2. Trade payables	71,871.72	390,330.18
3. Other liabilities	74,091.22	46,496.28
	151,941.44	**481,979.83**
	4,937,949.12	**5,736,566.61**

Explanatory note to the financial statement

General information

The association's fiscal year runs from 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025. The annual financial statements as of 30 September 2025 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.

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 19 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 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 recorded at cost less scheduled depreciation and are depreciated on a straight-line basis over three to four years (e.g. purchased computer software). Includes the scheduled depreciation of business and office equipment at the Konstanz, 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 € 28,000, which are to be assigned to the following year. The buildings at our clinic in Kosike (Uganda) have been fully written off and now have a carrying amount of € 1.

Liabilities and equity – equity capital
In this fiscal year, € 446,000 were used from the free reserves under 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 € 6,000 based on the statement of expenditure. The total amount of donations not yet spent in accordance with the Articles of Association has decreased slightly. 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 liabilities to donors and project partners.

Income statement: Explanations and material changes

Revenues
The composition of donation income totalling € 14,904 is shown on p. 29. The reduction in donations received by a total of € 959,000 is the result of a decline in public donations. Individual donations, including bequests, continue to account for a large proportion of donations. The income from donations (€ 15,097,000) 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 (+ € 237,000) less the donations that could not be spent in this fiscal year (- € 44,000).

Expenditure to fulfil the statutory purposes
Expenditure on humanitarian aid, development cooperation and human rights work amounts to € 8,896,000. Staff costs rose by € 46,000 to € 2,491,000, including costs for project staff and staff with prorated services for statutory work. Expenditure for staff of the East Africa Branch is largely project-related, as they mainly oversee their own on-site projects. Depreciation relates to office equipment in Nairobi, a vehicle for northern Kenya and buildings and equipment at the clinic in Kosike. Expenditure on donor information amounts to € 1,141,000 and serves to promote the association's objectives both among existing donors and in the wider public. Other expenses include indirect project costs, in particular travel and seminar costs for project support and reporting.

Administrative expenses
Administrative staff costs fell by € 25,000 compared with the previous year. German employees are remunerated according to the TVöD-VKA pay scale, including a special allowance of € 190 gross per month for travel 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 Executive Board's total annual gross remuneration amounted to € 257,000. A portion of staff costs per employee was allocated to charitable and non-charitable activities. The average number of employees in Germany was 45.5, 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 expenditure on donation appeals in magazines, inserts, mailings and advertising campaigns, increased by € 50,000 to € 896,000. A large proportion of these are mailings relating to topical events. The result of the charitable segment amounted to – € 446,000, a change of € 119,000 compared with the previous year. Other income stems primarily from cash discount income, exchange rate differences and reimbursed continued salary payments. The 2024 annual result of – € 446,000 was offset by 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. 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 10.57 % (previous year 9.9 %); of which advertising expenses made up 5.75 % (5.16 %) and administrative expenses 4.82 % (4.80 %).

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."

Profit and loss statement (P&L)

from 1 October 2024 to 30 September 2025

Allocation of the income and expenses of the fiscal year by segments and functions / areas in accordance with the principles of the German Donations Council

Item description	Fiscal Year 2025 EUR	Previous year 2024 EUR
1. Donations received during the fiscal year	14,903,870.94	15,862,511.10
2. Use of donations received in previous years	236,821.80	270,831.15
3. Unspent donations from the fiscal year	-43,925.09	-84,965.80
4. Income from use of donations in the fiscal year	**15,096,767.65**	**16,048,376.45**
5. Expenses from fulfilling the aims laid out in the articles of association		
a) Project payments	-8,895,844.14	-9,916,451.33
b) Personnel costs	-2,491,008.57	-2,444,948.43
c) Depreciations	-106,400.60	-112,836.06
d) Information for donors	-1,140,725.12	-965,663.20
e) Other expenses from fulfilling the aims laid out in the articles of association	**-1,304,427.36**	**-1,323,917.90**
	-13,938,405.79	**-14,763,816.92**
6. Administrative expenses		
a) Personnel expenses	-518,494.04	-543,014.48
b) Depreciations	-13,694.18	-15,987.62
c) Occupancy costs	-40,293.20	-39,034.47
d) Other administrative expenses	-153,207.82	-184,279.97
	-725,689.24	**-782,316.54**
7. Publicity expenses		
a) Personnel expenses	-199,087.36	-201,971.03
b) Depreciations	-32,157.41	-32,247.00
c) Magazine	-53,765.07	-56,431.89
d) Direct mailings	-284,826.52	-219,941.33
e) Supplements	-118,029.68	-110,040.33
f) Other printing and postage	-155,679.98	-171,615.84
g) Other publicity expenses	-52,558.41	-53,963.25
	-896,104.43	**-846,210.67**
8. Result of non-material activities	**-463,431.81**	**-343,967.68**
9. Other operating revenue	38,841.45	26,756.37
10. Other interest and related income	3,005.19	1,190.01
11. Interest and related expenditure	24,912.01	4,703.96
Carry forward	**-446,497.18**	**-320,725.26**
12. Net loss for the year	**446,497.18**	**320,725.26**
13. Income from the release of reserves from statutory reserves	446,497.18	320,725.26
14. Retained earnings	**0.00**	**0.00**

Management report of the Executive Board

Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope is a Christian-motivated organisation for human rights, humanitarian aid and development cooperation. Based in Konstanz, Sign of Hope is committed to helping oppressed and exploited people around the world. Sign of Hope acts in accordance with its mission: "we extend a hand to help people lift themselves up." The charity actively pursues its primary goal: "to create a future in which where a person is born no longer determines whether they can live a dignified life."

Annual report

During the reporting year, we carried out a total of 61 projects in 18 countries in our statutory areas of human rights work, humanitarian aid and development cooperation. In the reporting year, we provided humanitarian aid, were involved in development cooperation or human rights work in the following countries: Armenia, Bangladesh, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Georgia, Haiti, India, Kenya, Libya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Syria, Uganda, Ukraine, Yemen, Zambia. We have systematically expanded our project activities in central East Africa on an ongoing basis. The health station in Kosike, Uganda, is fully operational. We are driving forward health programmes in northern Kenya (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 the reporting year, the structure of the operational departments was changed from a sectoral to a regional structure in order to optimise workflows, avoid redundancies and pool expertise. The Human Rights, Humanitarian Aid, Development Cooperation, and Resource Mobilisation & Quality Assurance departments were transferred into the Africa Programmes and Europe / Asia Programmes departments. Focusing on our core countries of Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya and South Sudan entails a medium-term withdrawal from some of our previous countries of operation, such as DR Congo. To this end, exit strategies were developed in collaboration with local partners, which reflect our organisation's responsibility towards the target groups living there.

On this page you will find a summary of the Executive Board's management report. You can find the full report and further information on our website.

Financial planning, fiscal years 2026 to 2030

according to the definition of the German Charities Council.

	Fiscal year				
Income in millions of euros	**2026**	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**	**2030**
Individual financial donations	7.07	7.21	7.43	7.80	8.27
Public financial donations	6.25	6.41	6.48	6.55	6.82
Institutional donors/foundations/NGOs	0.80	0.85	1.00	1.30	1.50
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	**14.17**	**14.52**	**14.96**	**15.70**	**16.64**

	Fiscal year				
Expenses in millions of euros	**2026**	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**	**2030**
Project work / statutory purposes	11.27	11.52	12.01	12.55	12.59
Administration	0.95	0.95	1.00	1.05	1.10
Advertising / donor support	1.95	2.05	2.20	2.35	2.45
Total expenses	**14.17**	**14.52**	**15.21**	**15.95**	**16.14**
Proportion of administrative and publicity costs in overall expenditure in %	**20.5**	**20.7**	**21.0**	**21.3**	**22.0**

	Fiscal year				
Liquid assets in millions of euros	**2026**	**2027**	**2028**	**2029**	**2030**
Liquid assets	4.32	4.32	4.57	4.82	5.32

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

Donation revenues

	Fiscal Year 2025 in EUR	Previous year 2024 EUR
Cash donations (monetary donations without bequests)	7,131,379.50	6,697,717.35
+ Public sector funds	7,043,178.24	8,412,038.77
+ Private sector funds	642,698.53	730,013.23
+ Fines	0.00	0.00
+ Legacy gifts	82,275.67	22,741.75
+ Donations in kind	4,339.00	0.00
= Donations received during the fiscal year	**14,903,870.94**	**15,862,511.10**
+ used earmarked donations from the previous year	236,821.80	270,831.15
- unused donations from the current year	-43,925.09	-84,965.80
= Donation revenue (income from donations)	**15,096,767.65**	**16,048,376.45**

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 30.09.2025 and the income statement for the fiscal year from 01.10.2024 to 30.09.2025, and the appendix. We have also audited the management report of Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope e.V. for the fiscal year from 01.10.2024 to 30.09.2025.

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.

Pursuant to Section 322 (3) sentence 1 HGB, we declare that our audit has not led to any objections to the proper presentation of the 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 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.

Funds on-lent to partner organisations

Fiscal year 2025 (from 01/10/2024 to 30/09/2025)

Country	Project partners:	Amount in EUR
Armenia	Development Principles	453,953.42
	Fund for Armenian Relief	667,911.49
	Acted Armenia	701,495.00
	Green Lane	34,470.90
Afghanistan	Partner Humedica	20,000.00
Ethiopia	Afar Pastoralist Development Association	73,671.11
	Catholic Church Admin Ethiopia	489,977.01
	ECC-SDCOAdB	206,335.49
	Ethiopian Catholic Church	20,000.00
	Amen Ethiopia	15,849.00
Bangladesh	Bangladesh Nazarene Mission	66,540.96
	KOINONIA	213,105.38
India	Development Research Communication and Services Centre (DRCSC)	142,697.41
	Lokamata Rani Rashmoni Mission	30,463.00
Yemen	Relief and Development Peer	214,769.70
Kenya	Caritas Marsabit	287,825.21
	Diocese of Lodwar (DoL)	100,965.48
	MID-P	471,365.73
DR Congo	SRS Santa Gemma Entfants Rue 3 Peder	17,032.00
Lebanon	Developmental Action without Borders NABA'A	15,000.00
Malawi	Circle for Integrated Community Development	147,040.74
	ECM Progressio / CADECOM	95,855.51
Myanmar	Better Burma	20,000.00
Rwanda	Arde/Kubaho	181,197.09
Zambia	Catholic Diocese of Livingstone	23,574.20
	Development Aid from People to People in Zambia DAPP EC	8,557.75
South Sudan	Diocese of Rumbek	373,715.37
	Loreto Rumbek	415,005.34
Syria	Amal Organization for Relief and Development	150,450.00
Uganda	St. Andrew's Secondary School Lotome	14,000.35
	Diocese of Moroto	15,153.00
	SOCADIDO	336,598.56
Ukraine	CF Stabilization Support Services	398,000.00
	CF The Right to Protection	10,000.00
	British Camp SP.zo.o.	85,321.24
	New Way	654,280.00
	NGO MetaLab	210,000.00
	Red Rose	384,730.50
	Vona Hub	57,199.63
Total amount of funds forwarded to partner organisations		**7,824,107.57**

WISTA AG
Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft
Steuerberatungsgesellschaft
23 January 2026


WISTA AG

Th. Rondot
Public Auditor


WISTA AG

H.-J. Philipp
Public Auditor

Make a difference as a benefactor

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.



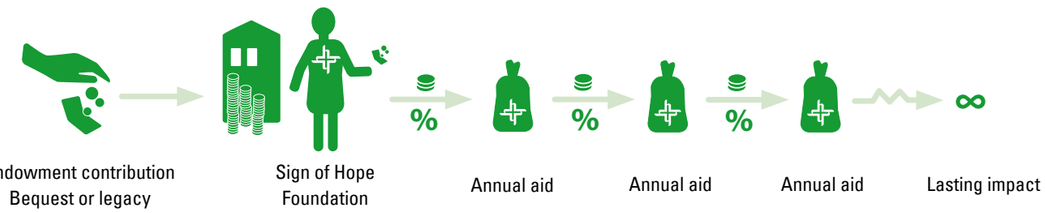
A large proportion of the foundation's assets is invested in this office building in Konstanz. The association is one of the tenants.

Whether with a donation, an endowment contribution, a legacy in favour of the Sign of Hope Foundation or by bequeathing a property, as a benefactor, your commitment has an impact far beyond your own lifetime.

Charitable donations have a lasting effect
All endowment contributions and properties contributed to the Hoffnungszeichen | Sign of Hope Foundation are permanently invested in the endowment capital, which cannot be dissolved. The foundation capital amounts to € 1.75 million and consists largely of a commercial property in Konstanz on Lake Constance, where Sign of Hope is also one of the tenants. The income from the foundation's assets, from rental income and interest, secures the charitable projects in the long term, entirely in the spirit of the benefactors.

Endowments help – our 2025 foundation project
With the foundation's income, the Sign of Hope Foundation supports people in need year after year. During the reporting period, a project in Kenya helped families to secure income and food despite droughts and adverse conditions. Women and young people received start-up capital to set up small businesses, such as poultry farming. Livestock keepers learned how to make their animals and grazing land more resilient to climate change.

Endowing has its advantages
Donations to the foundation are tax-deductible up to 20 % of annual income. Endowment contributions to the capital fund can be claimed over ten years up to € 1 million. Bequests and legacies are tax-free and are invested in full in the foundation's projects.



Endowment contribution
Bequest or legacy

Sign of Hope Foundation

Annual aid

Annual aid

Annual aid

Lasting impact

Foundation balance sheet 2025
The foundation's annual financial statements, including the balance sheet, P&L, management report by the Executive Board and the auditors' report are available at:
www.hoffnungszeichen-stiftung.de

The Sign of Hope Foundation
- Incorporated foundation under civil law with its registered office in Konstanz.
- Member of the Association of German Foundations (Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen e.V.), which represents the interests of its more than 3,000 member foundations.

Bundesverband Deutscher Stiftungen

Voluntary Board of Directors:	Klaus Stieglitz (Chairperson), Miriam Schütze (Vice Chairperson)
Honorary Supervisory Board:	Ute Felgenhauer-Laier (Chairperson), Manfred Steiner (Vice Chair), Stefan Daub
Supervisory authority:	Regional Council of Freiburg (ref. 14-2214.8)
Non-profit status:	Notice of exemption dated 24/04/2025 (Konstanz tax office, tax no. 09041/20443)
Account for donations & endowments:	DE82 3702 0500 0008 7240 00 (SozialBank, BFSWDE33XXX)



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1. In Ethiopia, we support refugee families, among others, with food supplies.
2. In Uganda we help by distributing food.
3. The support of our donors enables us to distribute sheep in Armenia.
4. There we support families in our livestock projects with animal feed and veterinary care.



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Thank you!

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 2025 reporting year!