



# ACTIVITY REPORT

OCTOBER 2020 - SEPTEMBER 2021

HOPE'87 WORLDWIDE

[www.hope87.at](http://www.hope87.at)**IMPRESSUM**

This Activity Report gives account of the work of the non-profit organization HOPE'87 in the period October 2020 to September 2021.

HOPE'87 supports youth training and youth employment projects as well as humanitarian aid according to the "Code of Conduct for International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement and NGOs in Disaster Relief".

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# INTRODUCTION

Dear Readers,

To say that the past 12 months have been extremely difficult and that it has taken a Herculean effort to keep HOPE'87 on track is really only to outline how all organisations and companies around the world have fared.

Our deepest sympathy is with the bereaved families of the many who died far too early from COVID-19, our thoughts are with the sick and those in need, especially in the developing countries where the health systems still need to catch up and where the only sure protection against the fatal course of the disease, namely the vaccination, is only slowly arriving for everyone.

The pandemic also made us realise how we as an organisation are positioned with regard to our own disaster preparedness, which we also propagate as a humanitarian organisation time and again in developing countries. However, this jump into the deep end showed us that HOPE'87 was well prepared with its 41 Basic Documents, which describe and guide all procedures and processes of the organisation, as well as with its Security Plan, which applies to the General Secretariat as well as to all Country Offices.

Fluid leadership and remote management developed in a very short time and «autonomously» thanks to our established long-standing and sustainable interpersonal relationships, which also showed their resistance to stress. Remote working and the home office are now as much a part of our organisational culture as cooperation, exchange, transparency and autonomy.

Our thanks go in particular to all the staff in the country offices who, despite all the restrictions and dangers that emanated and still emanate from the pandemic, ensured the functioning of the organisation and the implementation of ongoing as well as new projects and continued to work on new concepts.

We would also like to thank the Austrian Federal Chancellery and the line ministries for their special financial support.

Unfortunately, we were also hit by two losses in the past months that made us very sad.

On 20 August 2021, Heinz Vettermann, our long-time and trusted friend and for almost 10 years the representative of the Mayor of Vienna on the Board of HOPE'87, passed away suddenly.

On 18 September 2021, Benoît Muhimuzi, Country Representative of HOPE'87 Burundi, left us after a long illness.

Although Heinz and Benoît were so different, they had one thing in common: they were wonderful people who each wanted to help young people in their own way: Heinz as a politician and Member of the Vienna State Parliament and Benoît as a committed «builder» of a just social order in Burundi.

Heinz contributed his wealth of experience, so appreciated by all, to the board of HOPE'87 and supported the proposed resolutions that Benoît helped to prepare with his wisdom and love for the youth of Burundi and which he then also successfully implemented in his country.

Dear Heinz and dear Benoît, we will miss you both very much... and at the same time we promise that we will continue your work for the needy, for the hopeless, for the poor young people worldwide in your spirit....

And now dear readers, it is my pleasure to present you herewith the Annual Report of HOPE'87 2021, the purpose of which is to provide you - as in previous years - with an overview of the most important HOPE'87 activities around the world.

We have again endeavoured to provide a synoptic structure of the programme contents with reference to the UN Sustainable Development Goals. Since some programmes have been running for several consecutive years, the core data for these activities has remained the same, with information updating last year's activity report being given only where deemed necessary and relevant. Complete project data, the project reports and evaluations, as well as any other information desired, can be obtained from the General Secretariat.

During this reporting period, HOPE'87 implemented a total of 24 new projects and programmes, 12 of which are situated in Africa, 8 in Asia, 2 in Europe and 2 in Latin America. Currently 10 HOPE'87 Country Offices manage projects and programmes in Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Bhutan, Burundi, Chile, India, Mali, Moldova, Nepal, Pakistan and Senegal.



**Robert Ottitsch**  
Secretary General  
HOPE'87





## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

As in past years, we would like to express our gratitude to our donors and partners, starting with the Austrian Federal Government, the Austrian Federal Chancellery and the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC), the European Commission, ECHO, FAO and UNESCO.

We express our deep gratitude to the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs, the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Research, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Family and Youth, and the City of Vienna.

HOPE'87 also thanks all international partner organisations, with a specific mention of the Aga Khan Development Network and its affiliated bodies and institutions, as well as the Elementary Education Foundation (EEF, Khyber Pakhtunkhwa) and FACES (Pakistan) for their most successful cooperation.

We would also like to thank all the Austrian development organisations, in particular Caritas Austria, the association "Barmherzigkeit" (Austria and Germany), the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA Austria) and Jugend Eine Welt- Don Bosco Aktion Österreich for the longstanding cooperation as well as the Austrian and international media and private foundations, the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need, founded by UNESCO Special Ambassador Dr. Ute H. Ohoven, Trekking Chile and Franz Schubert, and the numerous other enterprises, organisations, associations and donors who have supported HOPE'87.

Special gratitude goes to our Japanese partner, the Asia Network of Trust (ANT-Hiroshima), its founder and Executive Director Ms Tomoko Watanabe and the Japanese donors, including JICA, who have supported HOPE'87 projects for many years in Bosnia-Herzegovina and in Pakistan.

Deep felt gratitude goes to the Austrian diplomatic missions, who have never failed to assist the General Secretariat and the Country Offices in every possible way. Our appreciation also goes to all Foreign Missions in Vienna, whose doors are always open for HOPE'87.

We would finally like to express our wholehearted gratitude to all our HOPE'87 Country Representatives and their staff, and all our volunteers and interns for their special support and commitment during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We fondly remember our departed colleagues and friends, Heinz Vettermann (†), HOPE'87 Board Member, Benoît Muhimuzi (†), HOPE'87 Burundi Country Representative, Tamar Oppenheimer, O.C. (†), UN Ass. Director General (ret) and Senior Advisor of HOPE'87, Uta Meran (†), HOPE'87-Kenya Branch Office Manager, Peter Sserugo (†), HOPE'87-Uganda Branch Office Manager.





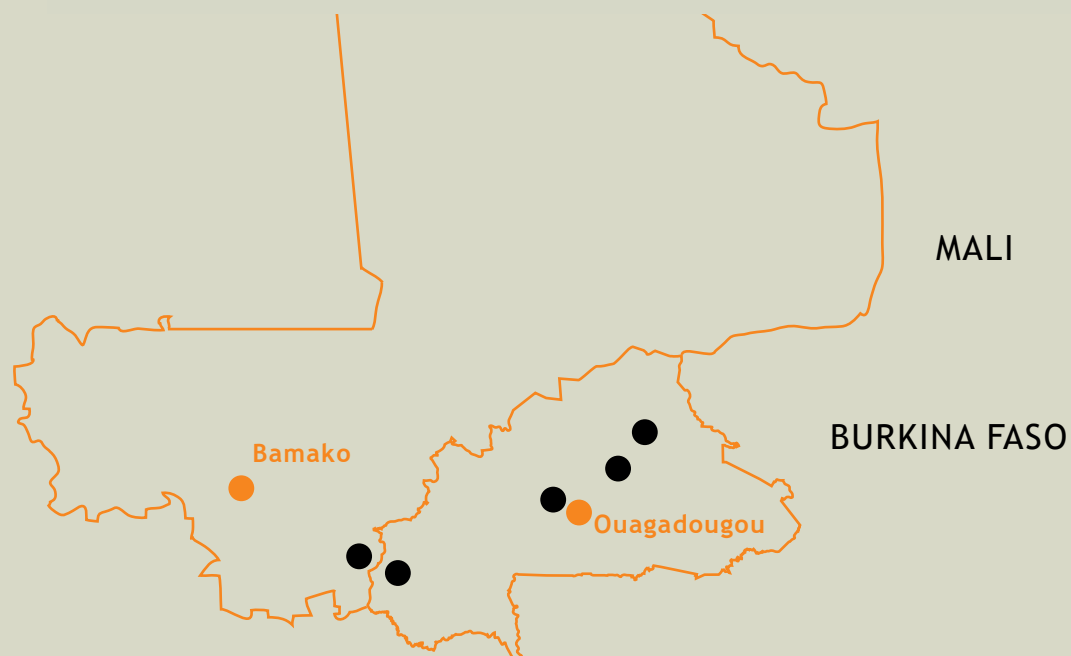
## BURKINA FASO and MALI

**PROGRAMME:** Integrated cross-border sustainable development in Burkina Faso and Mali, access to education, vocational training and employment for young people, specifically women, securing vulnerable households' production means in urban and peri-urban areas and increasing their income for social development



**Abdarhamane TRAORET** - Development Economist

COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE FOR MALI and PRESIDENT OF HOPE'87 BURKINA FASO, AN ASSOCIATED MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOPE'87 NETWORK



PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Prevent and respond to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on food security in the commune of Ouagadougou	Burkina Faso, Région du Centre, Province of Kadiogo, commune of Ouagadougou	29.400	Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 11, 12
Capacity building and income generating activities for small scale farmers in Burkina Faso and Mali	Mali, Troisième Région, Circle of Sikasso, Rural commune of Finkolo; Burkina Faso, Région des Hauts-Bassins, Province of Kénédougou, Rural commune of Koloko	700	Goals 1, 2, 3, 8
Nutritional education project for young mothers of children from 0 to 5 years old	Burkina Faso, Région du Sahel, Province of Soum, Rural commune of Kelbo	3.160	Goals 1, 2, 3
Plastic into school tables: a recycling project in Mali and Burkina Faso	Mali, Troisième Région, Circle of Sikasso, Rural commune of Finkolo; Burkina Faso, Région des Hauts-Bassins, Province of Kénédougou, Rural commune of Koloko	3.500	Goals 4, 5
"Paquet Poulet", income generation through egg production in Burkina Faso and Mali	Mali, Rural commune of Finkolo; Burkina Faso, Rural commune of Koloko	294	Goals 1, 2, 3, 5
A well for Kouloukan, Mali	Mali, Troisième Région, Circle of Sikasso, Rural commune of Finkolo, village of Kouloukan	950	Goals 3, 6
Discovering the Senufo culinary art in relation to nutrition, health and local economy	Mali, Rural commune of Finkolo; Burkina Faso, Rural commune of Koloko	8.000	Goals 3, 16
Resilience and income creation in the Sahel	Mali, Rural commune of Finkolo; Burkina Faso, Rural commune of Koloko	12.000	Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13
Fighting waste in Africa	Mali, Rural commune of Finkolo; Burkina Faso, Rural commune of Koloko	1.000	Goals 6, 11, 12
Increased income as well as food and nutritional security for small scale producers in Burkina Faso and Mali through capacity building	Mali, Rural commune of Finkolo; Burkina Faso, Rural commune of Koloko	1.400	Goals 1, 2, 3, 5
Together in the fight against the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Moldova and Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso, Région du Centre, Province of Kadiogo, commune of Ouagadougou	700	Goals 1, 8



## SUMMARY

In 2021, the humanitarian situation in Mali and Burkina Faso has not improved compared to previous years. First of all, Mali experienced an enormous political crisis due to the consequences of the coup d'état on August 18th, 2020 and a second coup d'état on May 24th, 2021. Furthermore, both Mali and Burkina Faso have been facing a serious security crisis in the last years, which has made a large part of the territory of the two countries inaccessible as it is occupied by non-state armed groups who regularly commit attacks on civilians. As a consequence, these high-risk areas are no longer covered by NGO aid and the number of internally displaced persons has experienced a sharp increase. Finally, the health crisis linked to COVID-19 greatly reduced all government efforts to improve the populations' living conditions and has resulted in an economic and social crisis that affects all social classes, both in cities and in rural areas.

Within the last year, HOPE'87 Burkina Faso and Mali carried out its activities regarding integrated cross-border sustainable development in Burkina Faso and Mali. This includes access to education, vocational training and employment for young people, specifically women, securing vulnerable households' production means in urban and peri-urban areas and increasing their income for social development in order to assist the populations of the two countries with the improvement of their living conditions. Through the participatory approach of HOPE'87, all those affected by the Sahelian crisis are included.

The activities implemented through this programme in the two countries within the last year comprised activities that reduce the negative impact of COVID-19 on the population; the contribution to integrated rural development based on support for agricultural and livestock activities that constitute the sources of income generation for the majority of the population; initiating and supporting the conditions of access to water, hygiene and sanitation and the environment with community infrastructure; training, educating and supporting pregnant and breastfeeding women and mothers of children up to an age of 5 years to ensure a healthy development of weak and vulnerable groups; and establishing conditions to practice sports, artistic and cultural activities and ensure social cohesion to build peace for development in the project area on the border between Burkina Faso and Mali.

## ACTIVITIES

### Prevent and respond to the COVID-19 epidemic impact on food security in the commune of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso

This project started in July 2019 and ended in June 2021. It was financed by the United Nations Emergency Fund (CERF) and implemented by HOPE'87 as an executing partner in the municipality of Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso. Indeed, with the appearance and spread of COVID-19 in Burkina Faso, national and local authorities have adopted a number of restrictive measures intended to reduce and limit the spread of the virus. These measures, while useful, have led to dire economic consequences. From this perspective, this project is part of a response to these restrictive measures through the establishment of a cash transfer programme as a social safety net and the re-establishment of agricultural and livestock production capacities. Thus, the target groups, estimated at 4,200 households, received a cash transfer and COVID-19 "kits" consisting of hand wash basins, soaps and masks. Agricultural producer households, involving 1,500 beneficiaries, received inputs such as cabbage, tomato, salad and onion seeds as well as small equipment. Thanks to the project, the 1,000 livestock farming households have started raising rabbits, poultry and cattle in order to strengthen their resilience in the face of a shock such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

### Capacity building and income generation for small scale farmers in Burkina Faso and Mali

This project started its activities in April 2019 in Mali and Burkina Faso. By September 2020, despite reduced activities due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it had already established a modern farm for training small farmers settled in Heremakono in Mali and the small farmers in the project area have been grouped into two civil society organisations in Burkina Faso and Mali in order to organise and defend their civil, economic and financial interests. Furthermore, the



income of small farmers has diversified and increased thanks to training and rearing of laying hens, and a cross-border partnership has been established between the two organisations in Burkina Faso and Mali.

From October 2020 to September 2021, which was still marked by the adverse effects of COVID-19, the project continued its activities and achieved the following results: in the field of support for small farmers 4,500 eggs on average are produced each month in the Heremakono Farm School. A partnership has been established with two local veterinary practices as well as with two chicken suppliers in Burkina Faso and Mali. Furthermore, two health monitoring protocols and three chicken start-up sites have been established. Six months of continuous training on breeding techniques, including the establishment, start-up and growth, care, feeding and health monitoring, have been conducted and a scientific study of comparison between breeding on the ground and breeding in cages is currently in progress. A point of sale of poultry inputs has also been opened within the farm school of Heremakono, which helps to make food and livestock equipment available to small farmers.

Additionally, in the area of increasing income, 2,000 3-month-old pullets were distributed, 20 small farmers were funded, 8,275 kg of feed was distributed and 20 micro-projects were carried out and monitored. By the end of the project, scheduled for December 2021, the major activity to be carried out is the completion of support for small farmers not yet financially supported by the Small Farmer Support Fund, which will be realised in the last quarter of 2021.

This project has been carried out under the expertise of United Teams - the strategic alliance of the YOU Foundation and HOPE'87 - who wishes to express its gratitude to the donor "Big Dutchman" (Germany) for the generous financing of the project.

### Nutritional education project for young mothers of children from 0 to 5 years old

The nutritional education project for young mothers of children aged 0 to 5 has been implemented by HOPE'87 Burkina Faso and its financial partner „Verein Barmherzigkeit Österreich und Deutschland“ in the rural commune of Kelbo in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso. During its implementation phase in 2020-2021, this project enabled HOPE'87 to train mothers of young children to better ensure their nutrition as well as of pregnant and breastfeeding women. Training in infant and young child feeding was provided to all pregnant and breastfeeding women benefiting from the project. It reached a total of 316 very poor households and 156 children aged 6 to 23 months.

With the implementation of this project over a period of eight months, the nutritional status of the target groups, namely children from 0 to 5 years old as well as pregnant and lactating women, has been improved. The project contributed to the achievement of SDGs 1 (no poverty), 2 (zero hunger) and 3 (good health and well-being).



### Plastic into school tables: a recycling project in Mali and Burkina Faso

Managing plastic waste in poor countries like Mali and Burkina Faso remains a top priority, as it improves the populations' living conditions and their development. This first plastic waste recycling project for HOPE'87 Burkina Faso was not easy in its implementation due to arising difficulties in the technique of recycling plastic waste. Thus, a technique that mainstreams environment protection throughout its process was implemented, which was an opportunity for the project to wipe out polluting activities and boost the positive effects of waste recycling.

This project began in 2020 and continued its activities in the recycling of plastic waste and the production of school desks in Burkina Faso and Mali until May 2021, when it had achieved all expected results despite the mentioned difficulties. On one hand, its implementation enables capacity building for the two women's groups set up by the project to ensure sustainable management of plastic waste in the two communes of Finkolo in Mali and Koloko in Burkina. Thus, 50 members of the women groups received the necessary training to carry out plastic waste collection. Furthermore, ten young people were trained in the recycling process. On the other hand, the unit for collecting and recycling plastic waste was built and equipped and made operational. It has enabled school desks production out of recycled plastic waste which were distributed to schools in Heremakono in Mali as well as in Koloko in Burkina Faso.

The process went through the following 4 main stages:

- sensitisation, information of the populations on the harmful effects of waste, the establishment of two women's recycling groups in Finkolo and Koloko, the organisation of collection, storage, purchase and transport of plastic waste to a recycling centre,
- construction and equipment of the recycling centre with the training of staff and women in recycling,
- reception of plastic waste and its sorting, cleaning, washing, grinding and melting in the extruder for the production of tables and benches for schools,
- delivery of the finished products to schools.

After completion of the project, the main outcomes are the establishment of two women's recycling groups in Heremakono and Koloko with a good degree of organisation and well equipped as well as the creation of jobs in collection and recycling with income being distributed to the women and the employees of the recycling site. As a result of the project, the cities are now more sanitised than before. Capitalising on this project will also allow other women to organise themselves and help reduce the negative effects of plastic waste on the environment.



### “Paquet Poulet”, income generation through egg production in Burkina Faso and Mali

Burkina Faso and Mali are poultry breeding countries. This activity is one of the most profitable rural and pre-urban economic activities in these two countries and occupies a very large part of the population. This breeding is done extensively and does not really need large investments - a small henhouse is enough to shelter the hens in case of rains and excessive heat. The poultry breeding provides a fairly substantial income to poor rural households.

It is with the aim of supporting the poor rural households that HOPE'87 and its partner, the YOU Foundation, initiated this project to breed local chickens. This project started in June 2021. It has provided an income generating activity to 42 very poor households in Burkina Faso and Mali, i.e. around 300 people. Half of these households are headed by women who had no economic activities that could provide them with an income before this project implementation. Each beneficiary household received a rooster and two hens and poultry food as well as a short training. At the end of the four months of implementation, the households had an income which enabled them to cover the expenses of their families. The number of hens distributed has increased, which will ensure a continuous income generation to beneficiary families. Furthermore, rapid training in the field of animal husbandry in Sahel countries was given to the beneficiary households.



### A well for Kouloukan, Mali

This project began its activities in November 2020 and terminated, after a period of 12 months, in October 2021. It has been carried out in partnership with the local association “Tout Pour l'Enfant” of Sikasso in Mali and has been generously financed by the City of Vienna.

The project helped set up an endogenous local organisation capable of sustainably managing this new infrastructure in order to provide drinking water to the population of Kouloukan.

Therefore, a new borehole was drilled and a 10,000-litre water tower was installed, which enables the supply of quality potable water to the entire Kouloukan village. Thus, the water tower not only supplies water to the health centre, the market and the school, but to the entire Kouloukan village and its inhabitants, which altogether are about 950 beneficiaries.

To enable a sustainable management of these infrastructures, an association of Kouloukan water users has been set up. The members of this committee were trained in organisational and administrative processes as well as basic technical knowledge to better ensure the operation and maintenance of the newly installed drinking water supply network. For the equipment maintenance and repair, two technicians, who are residents of Kouloukan, were trained and equipped in order to provide professional preventive maintenance and reparations if necessary.



### Discovering the Senufo culinary art in relation to nutrition, health and local economy

The implementation of this cultural project of safeguarding, protecting and transmitting local know-how to the younger generations of the Senufo cultural heritage in Burkina Faso and Mali has led to an enhancement of the Senufo cultural heritage, with a special focus on the preservation of their culinary art.

In order to achieve its objectives, the project carried out several activities. The most important were the inaugural Koloko conference, a village training and research workshops on Senufo culinary art in Mali and Burkina Faso with more than 100 participants as well as



exhibitions of kitchen utensils during a day dedicated to the Senufo culinary art in Koloko and for a duration of six months at the Senufo museum in Bobo-Dioulasso in order to provide visitors with an overview of the whole process of preparing meals for the Senufo.

Throughout these activities, participants from Mali and Burkina Faso greatly contributed to debates. The conference allowed the participants to get to know the richness of the Senufo culinary art. Moreover, it highlighted the fact that this culinary art can help improve the nutrition of children and adults' health and contribute to the local economy development. The workshops organised in Burkina Faso and Mali together with local communities, cultural stakeholders and the Senufo Museum of Bobo-Dioulasso succeeded in raising awareness of the relationship between child nutrition and adult diet, health and local economy. Thus, the project has enabled the knowledge and dissemination of the Senufo culinary art to future generations. HOPE'87 would like to express its gratitude to UNESCO for its financial and technical support.

### Resilience and income creation in the Sahel

This project started in July 2020, in a particular context of poverty linked to the effects of COVID-19, which appeared in March 2020 in Burkina Faso and Mali. Due to the pandemic, the local economy and the entire production systems collapsed completely, with all production in the already impoverished cross-border area between Burkina Faso and Mali being thoroughly impacted. In this context of shock and distress the project began its activities under the expertise of UNITED TEAMS - the strategic alliance of the YOU Foundation and HOPE'87 - in partnership with the rural municipalities areas of Finkolo in Mali and Koloko in Burkina Faso and with generous financing of the "ZF hilft" foundation (Germany).

Faced with this situation, the project team had to reorganise their activities to make them operational and efficient, considering the COVID-19 situation and the agricultural season in the project area, which lasts from May to October. Despite all these difficulties, activities were implemented and had a positive effect on the following: On the behaviour and organisation of target groups, the rational and economic use of drinking water and in the context of agricultural production, the target groups' income increasing, the field of proactive advocacy for peace to lead to an overall healthy life and on a balanced diet supply, particularly to infants and young children.

This multi-approach project was an adapted and innovative response in the field of sustainable development in the cross-border area between Burkina Faso and Mali. It provides support for capacity building of economic interest groups and for agricultural and poultry production, environmental protection, training for mothers in infant and young child feeding, rational management of natural resources, accessibility to drinking water, facilitation of transport conditions between production sites and markets. Furthermore, it aims to create community sports and cultural infrastructures to consolidate peace between the populations of the project area, with a special focus on young people in order to improve their living conditions at home and not let them be tempted to migrate.

The essential factor of success of this project was the strong mobilisation of beneficiaries, which was caused by the participatory approach of the project. This approach involved the beneficiaries in the choice of activities and implementation periods were chosen according to beneficiaries' seasonal calendar and the satisfaction of their needs. Thus, at the end of this year of implementation, the foundations for lasting resilience and income creation in the project area of the Sahel have been laid.

### Fighting waste in Africa

This waste management project started its activities in February 2021 and will last for a period of 11 months, until December 2021. It follows the first plastic waste recycling project executed in Heremakono (Mali) and Koloko (Burkina Faso) and is implemented by UNITED-TEAMS - the strategic alliance of the YOU STIFTUNG and HOPE'87.

Waste is an important issue in the project area because the communes of Koloko and Finkolo do not have an operational waste management system, which leads to garbage lying about everywhere in cities and poses a real threat to sanitation and public health. Thus, the project has drawn up a document called the «sanitation inventory» in the two municipalities. This document takes stock of the current sanitation situation, discusses the problems encountered and proposes solutions to improve waste management in the two communes of Finkolo and Koloko. It was drawn up in a participatory manner with the municipalities, the civil society organisations (CSO) and the state technical services and will be the benchmark for actions to be taken for sustainable waste management in the two municipalities.

The project furthermore contributes to improving the know-how regarding the waste disposal system in the two communes, taking into account the environment. Therefore, the sanitation groups were trained and equipped and together with the community leaders, town hall and state services chose the sites for controlled landfill sites in Heremakono and Koloko. Additionally, temporary sites have been identified and created, which were used to store waste of all kinds before the completion of the construction work. With the purchase of an injection moulding machine, the process of producing new items out of recycled waste will be continued.

### Increased income as well as food and nutritional security for small scale producers in Burkina Faso and Mali through capacity building

The project areas in Burkina Faso and Mali are strongly favoured by nature and thanks to abundant rainfall, agriculture can be practiced there without too much difficulty. Despite this natural advantage, farmers in general and vegetable growers in particular fail to obtain the best benefits from operating their agricultural activities. This project is intended as a response to this deficiency and aims to support the female members of the two groups of market gardeners in order to increase their agricultural income.

This project started its activities in December 2020 and will last for a period of 19 months. As the project implementation strategy is participatory, activities to be implemented were presented to all those involved in the project, namely the local authorities as well as technical services of the communes of Koloko and Finkolo. The process of targeting the 200 women beneficiaries of the project was initiated and carried out under the leadership of HOPE'87. Therefore, it carried out working sessions with the group of market gardeners from the commune of Koloko called "Heremakono" and that of female market gardeners from the commune of Finkolo called "Gnogondemeton". On this background, 100 market gardening households were targeted in the Koloko commune and 100 others in the Finkolo commune, which are respectively affiliated to two cooperatives that are represented by women.

With a view to setting up major market garden production infrastructures, a number of structuring activities have been undertaken. From the outset, this involves the development of a two-hectare market gardening site in both Koloko and Finkolo. To do this, the HOPE'87 team adopted a participatory approach based on consultation and the search for synergy. To this end, it carried out a series of working sessions with the municipal authorities of the two localities. Furthermore, two boreholes were completed and were equipped with water towers to supply the two market garden areas.





As for nutritional issues, the project team worked in close collaboration with the technical health services of the two communes - the Health and Social Promotion Center of Koloko and the Community Health Centre from Heremakono. This involved setting up Support Groups and Support for Infant and Young Child Feeding Practices (Groupes d'Apprentissage et de Suivie des Pratiques optimales d'Alimentation, GASPA) at the level of the aforementioned basic health structures, which are made up of pregnant women and mothers of children aged 0 to 23 months. It is with this in mind that seven GASPA were created on the Koloko site and seven on the Tietiebougou site in order to improve the nutritional situation of the babies.

### Together in the fight against the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Moldova and Burkina Faso

Burkina Faso, like almost all countries in the world, was affected in a severe manner by the COVID-19 pandemic at the start of 2020. This health crisis has affected Burkina Faso in terms of health, economics and finance and has had serious consequences on the economic situation of the country, its businesses and households. Among those affected very hard by this serious crisis, there are small and medium enterprises (SMEs) whose activities have been severely slowed down because of COVID-19. They had less opportunity to function and their activities were reduced. Many of them have been closed with social consequences for staff and members of their families. To combat the effects of this pandemic, HOPE'87 and its partner, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, initiated the project «Together in the fight against the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Moldova and Burkina Faso». This project started in July 2021 with the objective of strengthening SMEs affected by COVID-19. These young and growing companies, estimated at one hundred in the city of Ouagadougou, will receive training in the key areas of business management such as the management of economic units, marketing, effective management of production costs and business plans. To read more about this project, please move ahead to the section of Moldova.

## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS BURKINA FASO

### Government Authorities

- Mr Armand Pierre Roland Béouindé, Mayor of Ouagadougou
- Mr Adama Victor Kabré, Mayor of the rural commune of Komki-Ipala
- Mr Lassane Kiemtoré, Mayor of the rural commune of Tanghin-Dassouri
- Mr Yaya Ouattara, Mayor of the rural commune of Koloko
- Mr Inoussa Boye Maïga, Mayor of the rural commune of Kelbo
- Father Mathieu Traoré, Director of the cultural center René Fournier, Bobo-Dioulasso
- Mr Julien Nonguierma, former Mayor of the rural commune of Komsilga
- Mr Lassané Kabore, Minister of Economy, Finance and Development of Burkina Faso
- Mr Inoussa Ouiminga, Director General of cooperation, Ministry of Finance
- Ms Alimatou Zongo/Kaboré, Director of Partnership Promotion, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Development
- Mr Issa Ouattara, Director of the Regional Development Agency
- Mr Eric Bourgou, Responsible for NGO's, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Development
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### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Wolfram Vetter, Head of the Delegation of the EU in Burkina Faso
- H.E. Dr Ambassador Gerlinde Paschinger, Ambassador of Austria to Burkina Faso
- H.E. Ambassador Andreas Michael Pfaffernoschke, Ambassador of Germany to Burkina Faso
- H.E. Ambassador Dr Dieudonné Kere, Ambassador of Burkina Faso to Austria

### Agencies

- Ms Delphine Buyse, Technical Advisor, ECHO field office Ouagadougou
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- Mr Souleymane Traoré, Food security Expert FAO, Burkina Faso
- Mr Hannes Hauser, Coordinator, ADA Burkina Faso
- Mr David James Bulman, PAM Burkina Faso Country Representative
- Mr Aristide Dabiré, Secretary General of the National Commission of UNESCO, Burkina Faso
- Mr Fatié Ouattara, New Secretary General of the National Commission of UNESCO, Burkina Faso
- Mr Jonas Soubeiga, WFP Project Officer

### NGOs

- Mr Guillaume Doulkoum, Country Representative, SOS Sahel International, Burkina Faso
- Mr Pierre Michailard, Programme Officer, Conseil Départemental du territoire de Belfort, France
- Mr Papa Sosthène Konaté, Humanitarian Officer, OXFAM, Burkina Faso
- Mr Benoît Blossier, Funding Manager, OXFAM, Burkina Faso
- Mr Somé Koyo Désiré, Former Humanitarian Officer, OCADES, Ouagadougou

## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS MALI

### Government Authorities

- Mr Bougouzanga Coulibaly, Governor of the Region of Sikasso
- Mr Kalfa Sanogo, Mayor of Sikasso
- Mr Daniel Dembélé, Prefect of Sikasso
- Mr Drissa Ouattara, Mayor of Finkolo
- Mr Bakémo Daniogo, Director of the Teaching Academy of Sikasso
- Mr Moukeilou Maïga, Director of the Bougoula School

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Dr Ambassador Gerlinde Pashinger, Ambassador of Austria to Mali
- H.E. Ambassador Kodjo Lougué, Ambassador of Burkina Faso to Mali

### Agencies

- Mr Bruno Ssenyondo (M.Afr) Director of the Senufo Centre, Sikasso

### NGOs

- Ms Caroline Pagnan Ballo, President of the local NGO "Tout Pour l'Enfant" Sikasso
- Mr Ambroise Ballo, Programme Officer, ACOD NGO, Sikasso
- Association of Community Health in Bougoula and Kaféla
- Association of Children's parents in Bougoula and Kaféla
- Mothers' Association in Bougoula and Kaféla
- Mr Adama Nama Coulibaly, NGO IACR, Siguida Conseils, Sikasso

These countries' programmes contribute directly to the achievement of the following SDGs:





BURUNDI

**PROGRAMME:** Empowering vulnerable women with a social protection package provided through savings and loan groups, enabling women to access financial resources and engage in income-generating activities with a focus on gender and business, child rearing, hygiene and access to health services



PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Improving the livelihoods of extremely poor households in Rugombo Municipality, Cibitoke Province	Rugombo, Cibitoke Province	150	Goals 1, 2

† Benoît MUHIMUZI - Development Economist  
(Benoît sadly passed away in September 2021)

PRESIDENT OF HOPE'87 BURUNDI,  
AN ASSOCIATED MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL HOPE'87 NETWORK



SUMMARY

Burundi is a small landlocked country located in the Great Lakes region in Eastern Africa. It is one of the poorest countries in the world, ranking 185th out of 189 countries in the 2019 Human Development Index, and has the second lowest GDP worldwide. Out of the 11.7 million people, 80% are employed in the agricultural sector and more than 65% of the population lives in poverty. Burundi also has the highest hunger score worldwide, with more than 50% of the population living with chronic food insecurity. The analysis of humanitarian needs indicates that one in three Burundians is currently in need of urgent humanitarian assistance.

The country also faces major challenges and conflicts causing the displacement of the population both inside Burundi and outside of its borders. Social and political tensions around Burundi's contested presidential elections in 2015 have had an adverse effect on the economic activity and food security and resulted in over 500,000 displaced people. Political instability continues to pose a challenge to ending hunger by 2030, as it has led to a nearly 50% decrease in foreign aid. To compensate for this loss of external resources, the government has strongly mobilised internal resources, but this has not been sufficient to counter the dire situation. The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated events as it interrupted an economic recovery that was already fragile.

In this context, access to financial institutions or loans is mostly hopeless for the poor population in Burundi, as in rural areas, the nearest banks, cooperative banks and microfinance institutions are far away and a minimum deposit is required for a savings account, which is far beyond the means of the rural poor. In response to the needs identified, HOPE'87-Burundi thus continues to mobilise activities together with other partners in order to alleviate the suffering of extremely poor communities, with a special focus on the empowerment of women in rural areas that are especially vulnerable to the effects of poverty.





## ACTIVITIES

### Improving the livelihoods of extremely poor households in Rugombo Municipality, Cibitoke Province

This project's aim is to improve the livelihoods of women in the community of Rugombo in the north-west of Burundi and reduce the impact of poverty on them by supporting their economic activities. The project was launched in February 2021 and has so far empowered 150 vulnerable women through a social protection package provided through savings and loan groups, enabling them to access financial resources and engage in income-generating activities. The project also builds the human capital of these women, focusing on gender and business. Furthermore, coaching is provided for the women in order to help them address their life challenges, with a focus on child rearing, hygiene and access to health services. Mentoring is also provided in the field of basic business training, which helps the women set up their businesses efficiently, e.g. in retail or selling food at the markets, and to run them profitably. This includes knowledge about permits, paying taxes and duties as well as accounting.

Despite the project's implementation taking place under COVID-19 constraints, it managed to achieve the planned outcomes. So far, the selection of beneficiaries has been completed, activities on strengthening social protection and supporting income generation have been implemented, a coaching of savings and credit associations was established and the target groups were linked to microfinance institutions to ensure collaboration for further loans for larger ventures.

To strengthen the social protection of the women, each woman was provided with social protection packages in the form of cash transfers to savings groups, which helps them increase the number and size of loans taken on their funds. This will enable the women entrepreneurs to expand their business and thus increase their regular income in order to more easily meet their basic needs, such as the cost of their children's education, access to sufficient food and housing. As access to health services is also an important issue for the beneficiaries, health insurance cards were distributed to the women and their family members in collaboration with an existing local health insurance structure in Rugombo community.

Through its activities, the project thus contributes to end poverty (SDG 1) in the rural area of Rugombo by ensuring social protection that helps poor and vulnerable people to reduce their poverty through unconditional cash transfers and skills development, which took them out of the group of people who have to live on less than \$1.25 per day. By helping the beneficiaries to improve their living conditions and ensure they have access to safe, nutritious and sufficient food throughout the year, the project also helps to end hunger (SDG 2) in the project area.

The project is carried out in cooperation with the local administration and the municipal chiefs of Rugombo. It is implemented by the local NGO HOPE'87 Burundi, in collaboration with the YOU Foundation-Education for Children in Need and generously financed by "Deutsche Postcode Lotterie".

Further monitoring is continuously done for the projects "Kinderhilfe für Burundi": "Support for school-age children and young people in Kivoga", "Strengthening community participation in integrated early childhood development", "Ensuring access to quality education and essential child protection services for children and adolescents" as well as "Improving access to quality primary education for the poor and marginalised children of Mvumera colline". For more information on these projects please refer to last years' activity report.



## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

### Government Authorities

- H.E. Janvière Ndirahisha, Ministry of Education
- H.E. Adolphe Rukenkanya, Minister of Youth and Culture
- Hon. Issa Ntambuka, Burundian Ambassador to Saudi Arabia
- H.E. Albert Nasasagare, Deputy Chief State Protocol
- Hon. Juvenal Ndayiragije, MP of Rutana province
- Mr Siméon Ngenzebuhoro, Provincial Director of Education
- Mr Jean Marie Rurangiriza, focal point of Education in Emergencies at the Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Scientific Research
- Ms Chantal Bajinyura, Director General of Pedagogical Offices Burundi

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Dr Christian Fellner, Ambassador of Austria to Burundi
- Mr Akos Herman, Secretary of the Belgian Embassy
- Mr David Jordens, Deputy Head of Mission and Head of Cooperation of the Belgian Embassy
- Mr Daniel Lallemand, Belgium Development Agency
- Mr Christian Joly, Political Advisor, EU Delegation
- Mr Marcin Czaplicki Cabezas, Project Manager, EU Delegation
- Mr Brent Van Tassel, Consul, Embassy of Belgium in Bujumbura
- Ms Karine Desenne, Responsible of project and communication, Embassy of Germany in Bujumbura

### Agencies

- Mr Jeremy Hopkins, Representative, UNICEF
- Ms Marjan Montazemi, Deputy Representative, UNICEF
- Mr Mark Beliveau, Protocol, UNICEF
- Mr Adrien Boucher, Education Specialist, Global Partnership for Education
- Mr Yorgos Kapranis, ECHO, DRC
- Mr Ibrahima Diallo, Chief Education, UNICEF
- Ms Céline Lafoucriere, Chief Education, UNICEF
- Mr Ny Lova M. Rajonson, Education Specialist
- Mr Dan Rono, Chief Protection, UNICEF
- Ms Maki Komura, Planning and Monitoring specialist, UNICEF
- Mr Al Morgan, Chief of Mission, IOM
- Mr Amadou Alassane, Sr. Agricultural Services Specialist, World Bank
- Mr Mahaman Zailani Haladou, Emergency WASH Specialist, UNICEF
- Mr Nabor Barancira, Consultant, FAO/CAUR
- Ms Angel Ndiokubwayo, UNICEF
- Ms Roswitha Kremser, Political Affairs Officer, UN Bureau
- Ms Kristina Mejo, IOM Chief of Mission
- Mr Claude Kakule, Head of Programme, WFP
- Mr Soufrane Adjali, Deputy Representative, UNHCR
- Mr MacDonald Mwakasendile, Head of Communication, ICGLR
- Mr Russell Gates, Country Representative, CONCERN Worldwide

### NGOs

- Mr Jesse Kamstra, Regional Representative, Lutheran World Federation
- Ms Claudette Nzohabonimana, Burundi Country Representative, Lutheran World Federation
- Ms Jacques Sagna, Chief of Mission, Norwegian Church Aid
- Ms Inamahoro Chantal, Pathfinder Country Representative
- Ms Juliane Wiessenhütter, Coordinator ACCES Project, GIZ
- Ms Geneviève Gauthier, Protection Coordinator, IRC
- Mr Shaun O'Donnell, Chief of Mission, IRC
- Mr Laetitia Ngguewo, Programme Officer, Jesuit Refugee Service
- Mr Adama Toni, Country Representative, Red Cross Belgique

This country's programme contributes directly to the achievement of the following SDGs:





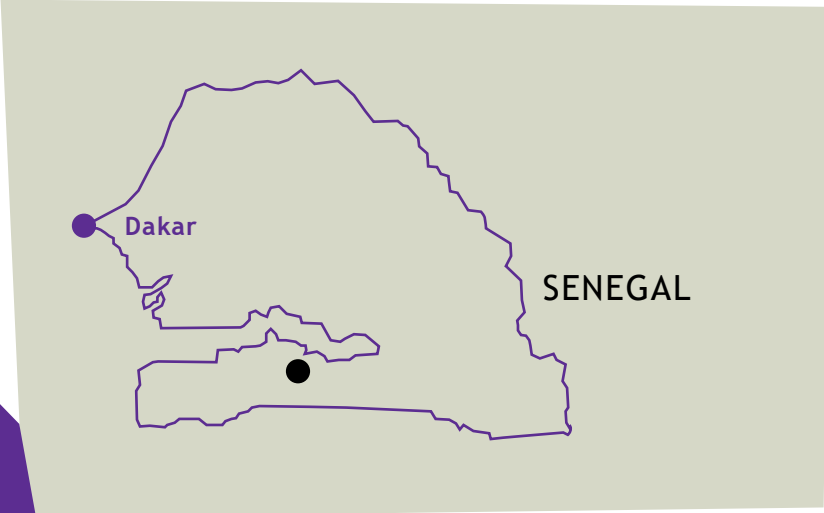
SENEGAL

**PROGRAMME:** Promoting resilience of the population of Senegal in the face of COVID-19 and focusing on vocational training for young people and their integration as well as on health, infrastructure, agriculture and income generation

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Job twinning and assistance for small businesses in Baraka	Baraka Sicap Liberté VI, Dakar Baraka Sicap Liberté VI, Dakar	495	Goals 1, 4
“The Conciergerie” - safety, cleanliness and maintenance of the new Cité Baraka	Baraka Sicap Liberté VI, Dakar	210	Goal 6
DIGI 4 Baraka	Baraka Sicap Liberté VI, Dakar	300	Goal 4
RECOUVRER - Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable persons in Western Africa in light of the COVID-19 pandemic crisis	Kolda	11.000	Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, 8
Reinforcement of the FAI health post of Medina Chérif	Médina Chérif, Kolda	6.800	Goals 4, 5, 6

COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

Boubacar MANE - Geographer



SUMMARY

Senegal has been deeply affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The health crisis has evolved rapidly and worsened in a few months, going from an epidemiological stage to a pandemic affecting all the economies of the world. The repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic on Senegal’s growth have been revealed by the Ministry of Economy, Planning, and Cooperation through the Economic and Social Resilience Programme. COVID-19 has had a significant impact on the economic activity through state of emergency measures, border closures, curfews and physical distancing. In this context, the decline in productivity across all sectors that make up the country’s economy has led to probable job losses and therefore to an increase in unemployment and poverty.

To mitigate the effects of the crisis, the government has set up an Economic and Social Resilience Programme (PRES) in order to support the health sector, strengthen the social resilience of populations (support for vulnerable households) and to ensure macroeconomic and financial stability to support the private sector and maintain jobs.

Alongside PRES, Senegal has undertaken various initiatives to install greater resilience, amongst them the “Emerging Senegal Plan” (PSE) which is the benchmark for economic policy and aims for Senegal’s economic emergence by 2035.

As part of the Senegalese government’s PSE and PRES support mission, HOPE’87-Senegal, in collaboration with its technical and financial partners, continues to focus on supporting the initiative through a variety of projects. Special emphasis lies on the fight against food insecurity, on children’s education, on vocational training for young people and their integration into the labour market, on improving the health of the population and on the quality of life of Senegalese while targeting poor and vulnerable and strengthening gender equality at the same time.

ACTIVITIES

Job twinning and assistance for small businesses in Baraka

This job training project for the Baraka craftsmen was initiated by United Teams, the strategic alliance of the YOU Foundation and HOPE’87, and is financed by the German “Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit” (GIZ). The project, which is implemented within the framework of the construction of the new Cité Baraka, aims to strengthen the beneficiaries regarding the creation of income generating activities and to contribute to an improved employability and higher quality of production and services as part of economic value creation in Baraka. The project’s objective is to offer artisans in Baraka opportunities for new entrepreneurial activities through specific training and by improving their capacities regarding production, quality control, the establishment of reserve funds, access to banks and credits, professional marketing and commercialisation, acquisition of new information and communication technologies as well as management and marketing.

At the end of the training, these craftsmen will have their training certificates, which will facilitate their integration into the labour market. They will henceforth be considered master craftsmen instead of unskilled labourers. Hairdressers and laundry women, who have already completed their training, are installed in the new Cité Baraka in basement G, rehabilitated by the YOU Foundation and its partners. Over time, more courses, such as for mechanics, masons, electricians, for processing of local fruits and products, for fishmongers and many others, will follow.

The project is also supported by the Senegalese Ministry of Employment, Vocational Training, Apprenticeship and Integration with which the YOU Foundation signed a partnership agreement in March 2021 for the training of craftsmen in the building industry (masons, electricians, plumbers, painters, wood, aluminium and metal carpenters etc.) in training schools approved by the State of Senegal.





### “The Conciergerie” - safety, cleanliness and maintenance of the new Cité Baraka

One of the main projects in which HOPE'87-Senegal has participated is the construction activity of the “Cité Baraka” Project. This project was initiated in 2015 by the “YOU-Foundation - Education for Children in Need” with generous support of “Casa Orascom” and is implemented in the slum of Baraka in Liberté VI district.

The 1st phase of the project activities ended in April 2020; in June 2020, 127 former slum households were happy to relocate into the six new buildings in the Cité Baraka. These tenants now have a new living space with common areas, running water, electricity and regular waste collection.

The peaceful community life and daily management of the new residential area will also require a high degree of hygiene and cleanliness. This is why eight caretakers, six women and two men, started working in order to guarantee the safety, cleanliness and maintenance of the first six new buildings. The caretakers also ensure that tenants comply with the house rules and their duties to use the common spaces with care and to live in peace with their neighbours. They are the first contact points in case of arguments between the tenants and will also report to the management team on all issues regarding water, plumbing, sanitation and electricity for problems to be resolved.

With the relocation of the first households in June 2020, the beneficiaries began to pay allowances for the provision of the apartments to ensure the maintenance of the buildings and to support the caretakers. United Teams, the strategic alliance of YOU Foundation (Germany) and HOPE'87 (Austria), provide administrative, technical and financial management of the buildings. In its mission, United Teams ensures the control of the caretakers' work and mediates between tenants as well as between tenants and caretakers.

### DIGI 4 Baraka

The DIGI 4 Baraka project, which is a continuation and extension of the Baraka IT Centre, is supported by the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need through its partner, the German Association for Small and Medium-sized Businesses (BVMW Germany). This project is currently implemented in the Liberté VI Baraka district in the commune of Sicap Liberté in the department of Dakar in Senegal.

The project aims at alleviating the difficulties of the population, in particular of the young people, by proposing multiple services for educational purposes to the population of Baraka and its surroundings. Hereby, craftsmen can partake in various services ranging from cyber cafés, document binding, scanning, computer training and local money transfer activities as well as computer courses and screen printing. The project also aims to ensure that the entire population of Baraka, especially the young and therefore the main target group of this project, can easily access the DIGI computer centre at a lower cost and in an enchanting setting. It is also a question of providing these young people with simple and understandable modules at their levels and ensuring good and fast service.

The IT centre is now being moved to the new Cité Baraka in the basement of building I, rehabilitated by the YOU Foundation and its partners. At the same time, the IT Centre will be a training centre for Baraka craftsmen in IT and a cyber café / multi-service after school hours.

### RECOUVRER - Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable persons in Western Africa due to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis

Seven Austrian NGOs - HOPE'87, the Red Cross, Light for the World, Horizont3000, Jugend Eine Welt and ICEP under the leadership of CARITAS Austria - have joined forces to develop a programme covering interventions in Burkina Faso and Senegal. It focuses on strengthening the resilience of vulnerable people in West Africa in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, with actions having started in November 2020. The programme will last for a period of 3 years.

This project follows a call for proposals from the Austrian Development Agency for consortia, allocating 3 million euros for actions in West African countries that have suffered from the consequences of

the COVID-19 crisis. The collaboration emphasises the complementarity of each actor, the specific expertise of others in the different sectors of WASH, health, livelihoods, food security and training skills to best meet the needs of the people. Particular attention is paid to the humanitarian-development nexus, which combines humanitarian interventions with medium and long-term actions.

The general objective of the project is to help mitigate the social and economic disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic (within the framework of SDGs 1, 2, 3, 5, 6 and 8) in Senegal, with the specific aim to contribute to the resilience of vulnerable groups affected by the consequences of COVID-19 and related emergencies or shocks in the department of Kolda.

Therefore, HOPE'87-Senegal is developing activities addressing the economic impact of the pandemic on the population of the Department of Kolda. This is combined with an intervention on awareness and protection mechanisms to reduce the transmission of the coronavirus in the villages. As part of this, 5,000 households in the communities of Mampatim, Medina Chérif, Dialambéré and Bagadadji will be trained in improved agricultural methods to compensate for the losses they envisaged during the country's containment phases. In this context, HOPE'87 helps develop and strengthen the creation and management of agricultural areas and provides technical support to farmers in order to reduce their production costs with the help of the provision of agricultural inputs. An additional focus lies on mothers and young children and their specific nutritional needs, so that a total of 11,000 people will be benefitting from the action.

### Reinforcement of the FAI health post of Médina Chérif

The FAI health post of Médina Chérif has been supported by the YOU Foundation and its partner Dr. Siegfried Axtmann of Fly Ambulance International (FAI) since 2009. The health post was built in a context where access to primary health care was difficult for the populations of the commune of Médina Chérif, with the objective of contributing to an improvement in maternal and child health within the municipality of Médina Chérif, Department of Kolda Senegal. Since 2014, a head nurse and a midwife have been assigned to the FAI Health Center by the Government. The project addresses 6,800 direct beneficiaries and has indeed become a heritage of the State of Senegal.

With a natural increase in the population of Senegal of 2.8% per year, the reception capacity of FAI health post in Medina Chérif has become a scarce resource for the population. To counteract this development, UNITED TEAMS - the strategic alliance of the YOU Foundation and HOPE'87 - and its partner Dr Siegfried Axtmann of Fly Ambulance International (FAI) have now strengthened the reception capacity of the FAI Health Post, especially with the construction of an accommodation for midwives, a new security wall and further medical equipment of the health centre.

In supporting the activities of the health post, UNITED TEAMS together with its partners have developed awareness-raising activities that cover the importance of prenatal consultations in order to prevent complicated pregnancies, diseases such as malaria affecting children and pregnant women as well as sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV / AIDS.





## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

### Government Authorities

- H.E. Mr Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal
- H.E. Mr Abdoulaye Saydou Sow, Minister of Urbanism, Housing and Public Hygiene
- H.E. Mr Abdoulaye Diouf Sarr, Minister of Health and Social Affairs
- H.E. Mr Cheikh Tidiane Sall, Ambassador, Head of Protocol of the Presidency of the Rep. of Senegal
- Hon. Ousmane Kane, Governor of Kolda
- Mr Diadia Dia, Prefect of the Department of Kolda

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Gerlinde Paschinger, Ambassador of Austria to Senegal
- Mr Michael Schmeiser, 1st Secretary, Austrian Embassy in Dakar
- H.E. Ambassador Stephan Röken, Ambassador of Germany to Senegal

### Agencies

- Mr Ibrahima Mbaye, Agéroute Ziguinchor
- Mr Bocar Balde, DG SODAGRI
- Mr Waly Diouf Coordinator PNAR

### NGOs

- European Platform of NGOs in Dakar
- Mr Dame Sall, Rencontre Africain pour le Développement Intégré (RADI)
- Mr André Faye, Vision Mondiale Kolda
- Mr Djiby Sow, USAID/Kawolor
- Alpha Sao représentant CNAAS agence de Kolda

This country's programme contributes directly to the achievement of the following SDGs:





## LATIN AMERICA

(activities administered by the Regional Office for Latin America, Santiago de Chile)

**PROGRAMME:** Strengthening education for vulnerable children and for children with special needs, as well as agricultural support

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Chile: "Es mi casa" - Support for children with special needs in San Francisco de Mostazal	San Francisco de Mostazal - VI. Region, Chile	115	Goals 4, 8
Base Brazil Football Schools - Living a Dream, violence and crime prevention based on a national passion	Santos, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	3.500	Goal 10
Creche Comunitária Amigos - Santos	Santos, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil	150	Goals 1, 3, 4, 5

### COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE and REGIONAL COORDINATOR FOR LATIN AMERICA

Rudolf LENHART - Austrian General Consul (ret.)

### PROJECT PARTNER BRAZIL

Markus SCHRUF - Football Coach and Manager



## SUMMARY

The **Republic of Chile** is a South American country situated along the western seaboard facing the South Pacific Ocean. The shape of the country is long and narrow, making it the longest north-south trending country in the world. With regards to Chile's diverse nature, one can, for example, find the Atacama Desert, the driest desert in the world, in the north of Chile and cool and damp climate in the south of Chile. In the central region of the country one can find a temperate and Mediterranean climate where the bulk of the population lives and where the larger cities, including Santiago de Chile, are located. In Chile, the Andes range dominate the landscape, making the country's relief for the most part mountainous. But Chile does not only embrace its variety of nature, it also battles with extreme natural events, such as volcanic eruptions, violent earthquakes or tsunamis. Moreover, fierce winter storms and flash floods alternate with severe summer droughts.

Chile's educational system is highly regarded among Latin American countries and more than nine-tenths of Chileans age 15 and over are literate. Moreover, university education in Chile is of considerable renown throughout Latin America. It is, however, necessary to offer support for children with special needs as Chilean public health facilities often do not have the capabilities to cater to the needs of the disabled. According to the National Disability Study of 2015, 16.7 percent of Chileans - more than 2,800,000 people - have some kind of disability. Moreover, social challenges, such as structural inequality, often affect families of the disabled disproportionately high. This includes the lack of adequate and equal access to education for disabled people. Effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have enforced these inequalities even more.

People with disabilities who live in Chile have therefore been fighting for universal access to public health, higher pensions and inclusive political representation. HOPE'87 actively supports children with special needs in Chile by offering them quality education.

The **Federative Republic of Brazil**, a South American country, accounts as the fifth largest country in the world and occupies half of the continent's landmass. It is also the fifth most-populous country on Earth and accounts for one-third of Latin America's population. The country encompasses a wide range of tropical and subtropical landscapes, including wetlands, savannas, plateaus and low mountains. It faces major environmental challenges such as pollution, which has degraded Brazil's rivers, threatening the water supplies of most of the population. And even though the government has become increasingly willing to address environmental issues and has helped to establish dozens of parks, biological reserves and other protected areas, a widespread destruction of forests has continued.

Brazil also struggles with extreme social inequalities and controversial politics. The country's social gap is characterised by a small privileged upper class and masses at the bottom

of the earnings scale, with the poor being particularly affected by the negative consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic. Between the rich and the poor one can find a substantial and diverse middle class. These serious social conditions have resulted in various existing shantytowns, also known as "favelas", which are concentrated in and around São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, and other large cities. Life in a "favela" is marked by gang crime and drug trafficking as well as poor sanitary and housing conditions which in return exacerbate health risks.

HOPE'87 follows the mission in Brazil to support young people who become the targets of organised crime and who suffer under a lack of perspective in "favelas" through the establishment of a football project. The project offers the children an education and gives them a better perspective for their future as well as a safe place to be at.





## ACTIVITIES CHILE

### “Es mi casa” - Support for children with special needs in San Francisco de Mostazal

The project “Es mi casa” supports children with disabilities and special needs in managing their everyday life in Chile. As many of these children are facing obstacles due to their disability, it is very important to offer them individually adapted learning support and educational opportunities. This knowledge-transfer takes place in a school near Santiago de Chile. The school was rebuilt as part of the project by the municipality of San Francisco de Mostazal to offer the children an environment well-adapted to their needs. In this context, the school received equipment including wheelchairs, white walking sticks and crutches. Moreover, workshops were organised at school to ensure the pupils’ good preparation for and adaptation into school life.

In cooperation with the supporting organisation of the project “Trekking Chile”, headed by Mr Franz Schubert, HOPE’87 was able to carry out the project in a successful manner and monitors its activities to this day through the regional office of Latin America. By paying visits to the school on a regular basis and by staying in continuous contact with the principal and teachers of the school, HOPE’87 ensures that the quality and the sustainability of the project are maintained.

## ACTIVITIES BRAZIL

### Base Brazil Football Schools

Since 2014, the programme “Base Brazil - Living a Dream” has been supported by HOPE’87, educating young girls and boys from the age of 6 to 18 in football schools of socially depressed areas of Brazil, also known as favelas.

In 30 cities in 12 states of the country the programme offers opportunities and perspectives to the youth by teaching them football and futsal to develop their skills and their social competence in a safe environment. The project offers these young participants alternatives to becoming affiliated with gangs and therefore being exposed to violence and crime and provides the chance to get off the streets.

In this context, sports are used as a vehicle and driving force for the technical and physical development as well as for social and cognitive skills, in order to learn in a playful way on how to “fight” and compete within fair rules in the setup of a sports team. Project Partner WWSA Brazil (Worldwide Soccer Academies Brazil) provides the Coaches Education Programme for the sports teachers and additionally applies the “Football for Peace Programme” of its longstanding partner, the Non-Violence Project Foundation (NVPF).

NVPF has trained and certified the coaches of the programme for the purpose of supporting the young participants in life-skills development, e.g. to develop self-esteem, to learn how to control emotions and to learn communication skills and conflict management. For more than 30 years, the programmes of NVPF have been aiming to inspire, motivate and engage young people all over the world to solve global conflicts in a meaningful and peaceful way.

The COVID-19 pandemic remains a true challenge of the years 2020/21 and forced the football schools to close more than once during this period. WWSA Brazil and NVPF were able to continue parts of the sports and educational programme online for approximately 3,500 participants, even though good smartphones are scarce in the favelas of Brazil. This enabled the team to balance out some of the impact of the lost time during the peak of the pandemic.

During normal periods Worldwide Soccer Academies Brazil (WSA Brazil) offers the children weekly training sessions for 15 to 25 participants per team for a period of 12 months under the supervision of trained and certified coaches.



The “Base Brazil - Living a Dream” project was carried out by HOPE’87 and has been monitored by the Regional Office for Latin America in Santiago de Chile on a regular basis to this day.

### Creche Comunitária Amigos - Santos

HOPE’87 Brazil, in cooperation with the YOU Foundation of UNESCO Special Ambassador Dr. Ute Henriette Ohoven, enables the improvement of the infrastructure at the preschool facility «Creche Comunitária Amigos-Santos». This is a day care centre where around 150 children from poor families are looked after. The programme also supports the improvement of educational programmes and materials as well as the training of social workers who accompany the children in a COVID-19 protected environment.

In addition, space will be created in the nearby sports hall, which is in urgent need of renovation, to provide additional sports education activities for the children aged 4 to 6 of the Moro Sao Bento favela in Santos, São Paulo state.

The Non-Violence Project Foundation, a partner in this project, is responsible for training and certifying the teachers and coaches of the programme so that the participants can develop life skills, i.e., develop their self-esteem, acquire communication skills, learn to control their emotions and apply non-aggressive conflict management.



## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS CHILE

### Government Authorities

- Mr. Sergio Medel Acosta, Mayor of Mostazal

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Stephan Vavrik, Ambassador of Austria to Chile
- H.E. Ambassador Dr Joachim Öppinger, former Ambassador of Austria to Chile

### Agencies

- Mr Franz Schubert, Foundation Trekking Chile
- Centro de Comunicación Educativa Audiovisual
- Comunidad de las Hermanas de la Providencia Social Cristiana
- Institución Educativa Bernardo Arango Macías

## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS BRAZIL

### Project Partners

- Non-Violence-Project (NVP)
- Municipalities in the location of the football schools
- Escola Total in Rio de Janeiro and Santos
- National Commission of Brazil for UNESCO

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Mag Dr Stefan Scholz, Ambassador of Austria to Brazil
- H.E. Ambassador Dr Irene Giner-Reichl, former Ambassador of Austria to Brazil

Latin America’s programme contributes directly to the achievement of the following SDGs:





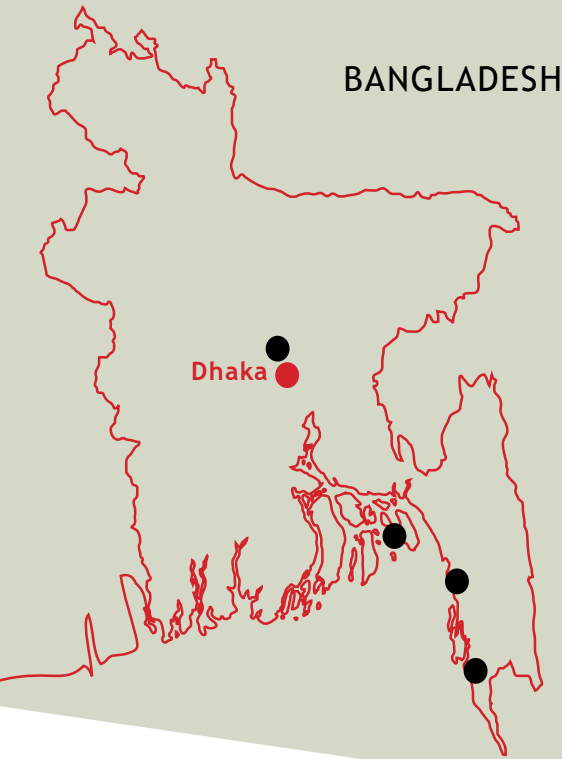
BANGLADESH

**PROGRAMME:** Strengthening education for vulnerable children and working children, empowerment of youth through skills training and capacity building and humanitarian aid for Rohingya refugees

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Model Night School for Child Workers and Street Children	Jurain, Old Dhaka City	342	Goals 1, 4
STYLE (Skills Training for female Youth and Life-skills Education) - a COVID-19 response to support women in Bangladesh	Keranigonj Sub district Dhaka	162	Goals 1, 5, 8
Health Care for Children & Women	Jurain, Old Dhaka City	1.402	Goal 3
Youth Empowerment through Skills - YES Centre Tangail	Pekua, Mirzapur, District of Tangail	475	Goals 1, 4, 5, 8
Mobile Quality School (MQS)	Chittagong and Dhaka	515	Goal 4
Humanitarian Response for Rohingya Refugees	Cox's Bazar and Bhasan Char refugee Camps in Noakhali District, Sub District Hatiya	24.320	Goals 6, 10

COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

Mohd. Rezaul KARIM - Social Worker

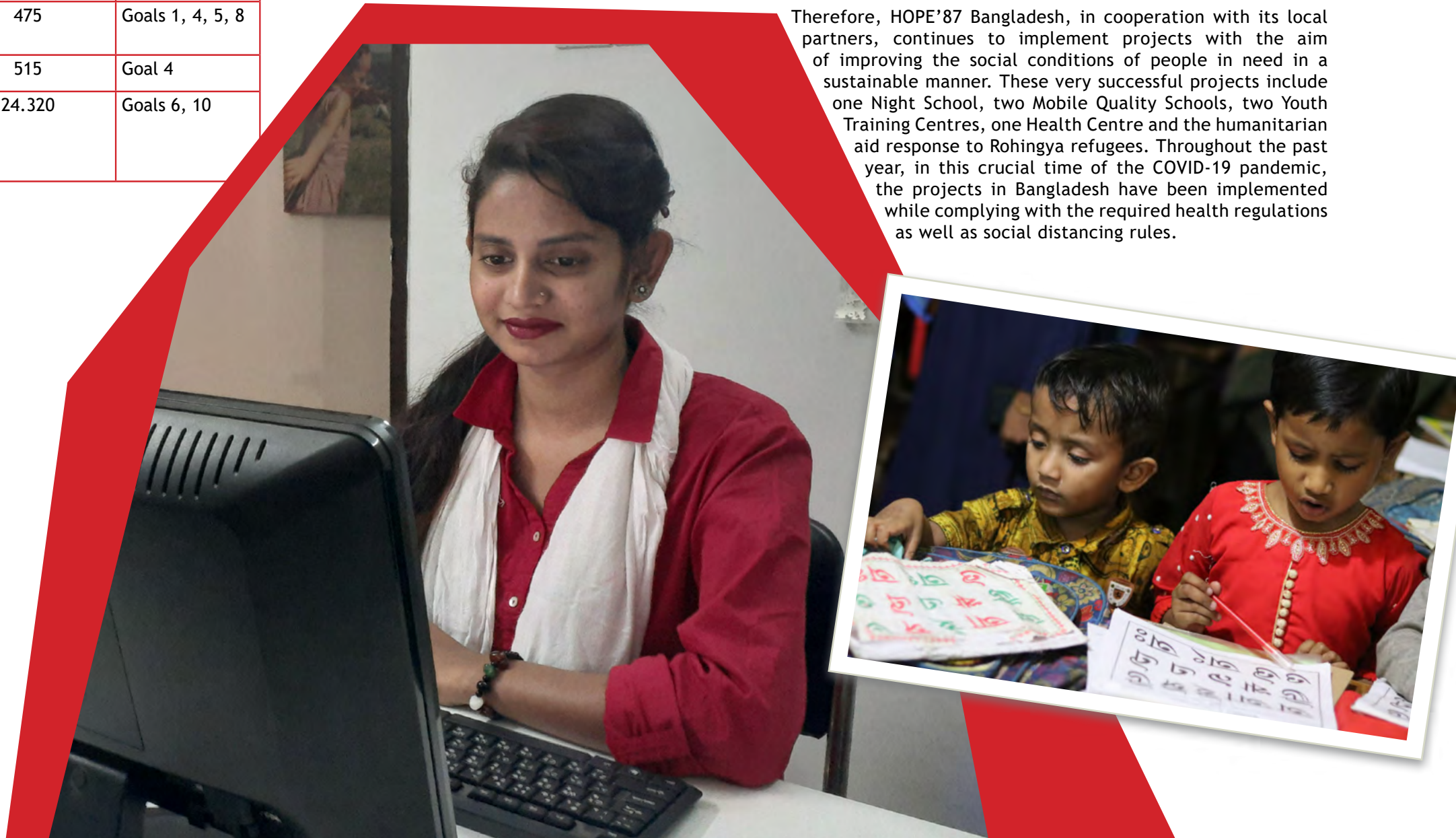


SUMMARY

Due to its geographical setting, Bangladesh is a country that is intrinsically associated with natural hazards. The country is an exceedingly flat and low-lying alluvial plain covered by over 230 rivers and rivulets with approximately 710 kilometres of exposed coastline along the Bay of Bengal, which makes it highly vulnerable to the effects of climate change and natural disasters. Bangladesh is located in the north-eastern part of South Asia - close to the margins of the Indian and the Eurasian tectonic plates. The majestic Himalayas are in some distance up north, while the Bay of Bengal is in the South. The nation offers many tourist attractions, including archaeological sites, historical mosques and monuments, the longest natural beach in the world, picturesque landscapes as well as rolling tea gardens. Furthermore, the rich flora and fauna and the colourful tribal life are very enchanting. Each part of the country offers a distinctly different topography as well as a variety of flavours and delicacies. Dhaka, the capital and biggest city of Bangladesh, is the country's financial, political and social centre point. Chittagong, the biggest seaport, is the second-largest city in Bangladesh.

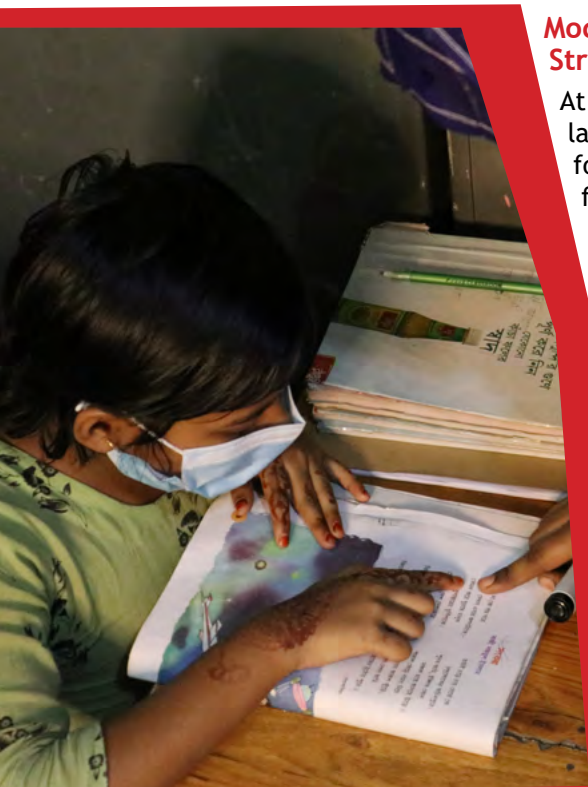
Out of the total population (approximately 164 million people) one third are young people. Therefore, there is a strong need to address these large numbers of young men and women. This is done by setting up youth centres and youth employment initiatives to make the young people an asset for the nation. The COVID-19 pandemic has severely affected Bangladesh, which has faced economic as well as social challenges during the lockdown, where many people lost their jobs and income. Some low-income families were even forced to leave their towns due to the economic crisis.

Therefore, HOPE'87 Bangladesh, in cooperation with its local partners, continues to implement projects with the aim of improving the social conditions of people in need in a sustainable manner. These very successful projects include one Night School, two Mobile Quality Schools, two Youth Training Centres, one Health Centre and the humanitarian aid response to Rohingya refugees. Throughout the past year, in this crucial time of the COVID-19 pandemic, the projects in Bangladesh have been implemented while complying with the required health regulations as well as social distancing rules.





## ACTIVITIES



### Model Night School for Child Workers and Street Children

At present, Bangladesh faces the challenge of a large number of school dropouts. The main reason for this is the inability of parents to afford school fees, learning materials and transport cost due to poverty. As a result, many families already require their children to do manual labour at a young age in order to contribute to the income of their families. Therefore, the project of the Model Night School for child workers and street children was launched with the aim to provide children from poor families with education at their own pace at night time.

The goal of this project is to establish a Model Night School (MNS) and thus to serve the poor and vulnerable children in order to reduce child labour through educational opportunities. This specialised MNS provides individualised attention to out-of-school children and strives for a holistic well-being of the students by providing them with knowledge and skills for the improvement of their livelihood and security. After receiving a basic primary education at the night school, the children are encouraged to subsequently continue their secondary school education in a regular school.

The target groups for this innovative way of formal education (pre-schooling to class V including needs-based adult education opportunities) are disadvantaged

children aged 5-16 years and their families in Dhaka City who come from extremely poor family backgrounds as well as street children who live without a family and are thus deprived of their basic needs, one of which is a proper education. Children, who have limited access to education, who never went to school or who dropped out, are given priority to enrol in this specialised evening school.

Currently, there are 342 students enrolled in the Model Night School. There, they are provided with educational equipment such as textbooks and pens and are regularly offered free health care as well as meals.

The Model Night School for Child Workers and Street Children constitutes a very efficient complement to an often over-burdened public school system and represents an integral part in achieving the objectives of basic high-quality education (SDG 4).

### STYLE - Skills Training for female Youth and Life-skills Education

Approximately half of the population of Bangladesh is female. Women and girls are in need of a proper skill development education and training in various fields for self-reliance and employment. Therefore, HOPE'87 launched the STYLE-project in order to contribute to the empowerment of the beneficiaries and to facilitate the creation of new jobs and income-generating activities for young women.

The project aims to provide demand-driven skills training in various technical professions in order to increase the working capacity and possible employability of unemployed women in Dhaka District. Furthermore, life skills and empowerment sessions have been arranged in order to directly respond to the challenges that



### Health Care for Children & Women

20 years ago, the Health Care Centre in Old Dhaka City was established in order to provide basic health care services to children living in slums as well as to their siblings and mothers. The Health Care Centre has furthermore served as a reference centre to provide nutritional education and increase awareness on health among mothers in order to improve the general nutritional situation in the children's surroundings.

At this health care facility, a doctor, a paramedic and a few volunteers devote their time to serve the underprivileged people in the community and to offer them primary health care on a regular basis, medical check-ups, prescriptions as well as medication at no charge. Furthermore, in cooperation with the Prime Bank Eye Hospital and Dhaka Medical College Hospital Social Welfare Office, the project assists the patients with their hospital admission and necessary medicine support.

The aim of this weekly health camp is to serve the most marginalised people of the community, such as female patients, children, physically challenged or elderly people. During the past year, the health care project has thus provided services to over 2,000 patients.

### Youth Empowerment through Skills - YES Centre Tangail

The major initiative of this project is economic empowerment of youth, especially of girls and young women, with the particular scope of decent employment. The overall goal is to give them access to textile and relevant office management skills and provide them with skills training in different trades. Therefore, HOPE'87-Bangladesh strives to increase the knowledge, skills, confidence and financial assets of youth groups, especially girls and young women, by empowering them through developing their capacities and increasing their access to economic activities, which is a substantial contribution to poverty alleviation. The project is implemented in partnership with Bangladesh Association of Social Advancement-BASA.

The project was started in May 2018 in both districts of Tangail and Dhaka and has been cooperating with local authorities and businesses in order to ensure employment opportunities for the participants and to support female participation in economic activities. In order to achieve the aim of the project, the YES Centre provides life skills training and six types of separate training sessions such as ICT (computer) training, proficiency in English, industrial sewing machine operation, fashion design and tailoring, beauty-cosmetics as well as a wellness and hotel management course to the targeted beneficiaries. These newly acquired technical and managerial skills then offer new opportunities for wage employment and self-employment to the young people.

The YES Centre operates its training courses with a duration of three to six months and offers a flexible time of the courses. Within the last year, the centre has provided training courses, including life skills training, to 168 young people (149 women and 19 men). Furthermore, complementary sessions on community-based Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) by the Fire Service and Civil Defence Force have been arranged at the premises of the centre. There, the students were able to take part in rescue and firefighting practices.







### Mobile Quality School

The main purpose of the Mobile Quality School project is to convey quality formal education at primary school level to working children and children who dropped out of school. The specialised Mobile Schools provide smaller classes and more individualised attention than public schools, especially to students who are left behind in the public system. Moreover, they strive for a holistic well-being of the students.

The mobile schools are set up in converted buses, which are on the inside decorated as class rooms in a child-friendly way. They are equipped with educational materials, a first aid box, a television, a laptop and leisure time sports equipment. The bus drives daily to four or five different mobile school stations in or next to slum areas and stays there for three hours. Through this mobile school, a flexible and dynamic learning system in the streets is provided by offering even the poorest children a chance to study. 40 children can take part in a class during each shift. Thus, this project gives children, who are unable to attend a regular school, the opportunity to pursue their school education from grade one to five.

Within the last year, a total of 515 students (52% girls, 47% boys) have been receiving education at the Mobile Quality Schools in Dhaka and Chittagong, including co-curricular activities such as sports, art classes, swimming classes, visits to zoos and museums, health check-ups and support through help lines. 36 girls and boys have graduated from mobile schools by obtaining a Primary Education Certificate (PEC) evaluation, a government assessment board exam which allows the students to continue with secondary education at any regular school.

Due to the global COVID-19 pandemic, the schools have temporarily been closed for physical presence as per instruction of the Bangladesh Government. During this period, the project continues its work through weekly home visits, the creation of small learning groups and online classes. Furthermore, the children have been educated about hygiene measures and the School Management Committee has distributed food packages (including rice, oil, potatoes, pulses and flour) as well as soap, face masks and hand sanitiser to the children and their families.



### Humanitarian Response for Rohingya Refugees

Violence in Rakhine State, Myanmar, which began in August 2017, has driven about 727,219 Rohingya across the border into Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh. Together with previously displaced people, this took the total number of Rohingya in Bangladesh to over 1.1 million. The majority of these people now live in camps, in settlements and amongst the host community in Cox's Bazar District. The speed and the scale of the influx have resulted in a critical humanitarian emergency. People have arrived in Bangladesh with empty hands and are now reliant on humanitarian assistance for food and other life-saving needs. In some of the sites, water and sanitation facilities are limited or of poor quality and due to the extreme high population density, there is an increased risk of the spread of COVID-19. Due to the influx of the Rohingya, approximately 1.2 million people in host communities have also been affected by the scarcity of basic needs provisions, as these host communities had already been considered economically vulnerable prior to the arrival of the Rohingya refugees.

As a result, health for Rohingyas is at risk and they urgently need regular health services. In this context, the project aims to provide health services, regular medication and follow-ups to the vulnerable Rohingya refugees as well as to the host community people of all ages and sexes, including pregnant women and persons with disabilities, to ensure a healthy life of the community. Starting in August, the project has furthermore offered needs-based protection assistance and awareness activities to the beneficiaries and is thereby contributing to improving



the living conditions as well as to building resilience of Rohingya refugees and affected host communities in Bangladesh.

The main objective of the project is to contribute to the survival and the protection against risks of about 24,320 beneficiaries by providing lifesaving medical care, segregated WASH facilities, food distribution as well as educational support through play and sports programmes for traumatised children and to provide livelihood enhancement skills training for refugees in Kutapalong camp and host communities in Cox’s Bazar and Bhasan Char refugee camp. HOPE’87 expresses its gratitude to its partner, the «YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need» in Düsseldorf/Germany, and to the donor „ZF hilft“ for their valuable support and cooperation.

INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

Government Authorities

- Mr Uzzal Kumer Halder, Assistant Commissioner & Executive Magistrate, Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Dhaka
- Dr Abu Toha M R H Bhuiyan, Health Coordinator, Office of the Refugee Relief & Repatriation Commissioner, Cox’s Bazar
- Mrs Sahana Akter, Counsellor, Word # 47, Dhaka South City Corporation
- Fire Service & Civil Defence, Dhaka, Cox’s Bazar and Tangail

Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Mag Katharina Wieser, Ambassador of Austria to Bangladesh
- H.E. Ambassador Dr Brigitte Öppinger-Walchshofer, former Ambassador of Austria to Bangladesh
- H.E. Ambassador Muhammad Abdul Muhith, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Austria
- H.E. Ambassador Md Abu Zafar, former Ambassador of Bangladesh to Austria
- H.E. Tasvir Ul Islam, Honorary Consul of Austria to Bangladesh

Agencies

- Professor Rowshan Ara Feroj, Department of Philosophy, University of Dhaka
- Choudhury Khaled Masood, Managing Editor, The Business Standard, Bangladesh
- Dr Christian Steppan, MED-EL, Austria.
- The HULT PRIZE, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh

NGOs

- Young Power in Social Action - YPSA, Chittagong
- Bangladesh Association for Social Advancement (BASA)
- The Light of Hopes Youth Foundation, Dhaka
- Rotary Club Of Dhaka Central, D 3281
- PDG Ln Sk Anisur Rahman, Loins Club of Dhaka Oasis
- Leo Club of Dhaka Oasis, Bangladesh

This country’s programme contributes directly to the achievement of the following SDGs:



1NO POVERTY



3GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING



4QUALITY EDUCATION



5GENDER EQUALITY



6CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



8DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10REDUCED INEQUALITIES



INDIA

(activities supported by HOPE’87 Bangladesh)

**PROGRAMME:** Empowering girls and young women through economic self-reliance and skills training, mitigating disasters and enhancing local capacities

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
YES Centre India - Youth Empowerment through Skills Training	Hospet Taluk, Bellary district, State of Karnataka	420	Goals 4, 5, 8

PROJECT PARTNER

Bangalore Rural Educational and Development Society (BREADS)





## SUMMARY

It's predicted that the Republic of India will become the world's third largest economy by 2030. It plays an important role in world politics with its major industries in motor vehicles, shipbuilding, chemicals, telecommunication, computers and software development. Furthermore, India is the seventh largest country in the world and possesses a great diversity at all levels, be it in regard of religion, society or language. With a population of over 1.3 billion people, India is the second most populous country in the world, preceded only by China. However, out of this 1.3 billion people, around 25% face extreme poverty and have to live on less than \$1.25 a day.

Not only does India face various environmental issues such as air pollution, poor management of waste, water pollution and land degradation, it has also been affected by a severe economic recession as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has left millions of people jobless. Marginalised citizens have been affected the most, as they faced unequal access to healthcare and were pushed into deeper poverty as a result of strict lockdowns. With a staggering 74 million people living in slums without access to running water and sanitation, the COVID-19 pandemic pushed an additional 75 million people into poverty last year (who live on \$2 or less daily), which accounts for nearly 60% of the global increase in poverty in 2020.

On a social level, India faced an illiteracy rate of 22% of the entire population in 2020 that has particularly been affecting women from poor areas. To increase the literacy among young women, HOPE'87 has implemented the YES Centre project in India, which aims at enrolling marginalised young women in youth skills training in order to empower them and to strengthen their voices for economic self-reliance and to take responsibility of their own lives.

## ACTIVITIES

### YES Centre India - Youth Empowerment through Skills Training



The YES Centre India project was launched in September 2017 and completed by April 2021. The project aimed at empowering girls and young women by strengthening their vocational skills in the garment and fashion industry sector and their voices for economic self-reliance to take a leadership role in poverty alleviation initiatives in the Bellary district in Karnataka state. Over the last three and a half years, the project contributed to developing the technical and management skills of over 400 women for enhancing disaster-resilient income opportunities. All the trainees and further women from rural communities completed additional training in entrepreneurship, women rights and community-based disaster management skills and were equipped with business skills, rights awareness and self-confidence.

The inauguration of the project took place in September 2017, when the Don Bosco training centre Hospet was renovated and an exclusive training wing for the YES Centre project was set up. For better implementation of the training and in order to provide the trainees with more individual attention, the students in each batch were divided into two groups of 30-35 that received skills training simultaneously. The trainees had six hours of training every day, six days a week.

The YES Centre also organised exposure and industry visits for all the trainees. They got the opportunity to visit different garment processing units in Bellary city, where they experienced different processes of garment making as well as entrepreneurial qualities of successful



entrepreneurs in the garment industry. After the completion of each batch, job placement drives were conducted, where many companies from the Bellary district were invited to the YES centre to conduct job interviews and skill appraisals and to recruit the eligible candidates from each batch. In addition, four days of Entrepreneurship Development Programme training was organised for all the students of the YES Centre in order to enhance the entrepreneurial, leadership, communication and business management skills of the trainees. This was followed by the support for the women entrepreneurs to set up their self-employment units or micro-enterprises.

The YES Centre India project has successfully empowered marginalised women in terms of skills, education, gender equality, decision making and economic development so that with the completion of the project, more than 80% of the trainees were either placed in jobs or started their self-employment units. The project was financially supported by ESPRIT through the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need and is executed in cooperation with the local organisation "Bangalore Rural Educational and Development Society (BREADS)".



## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

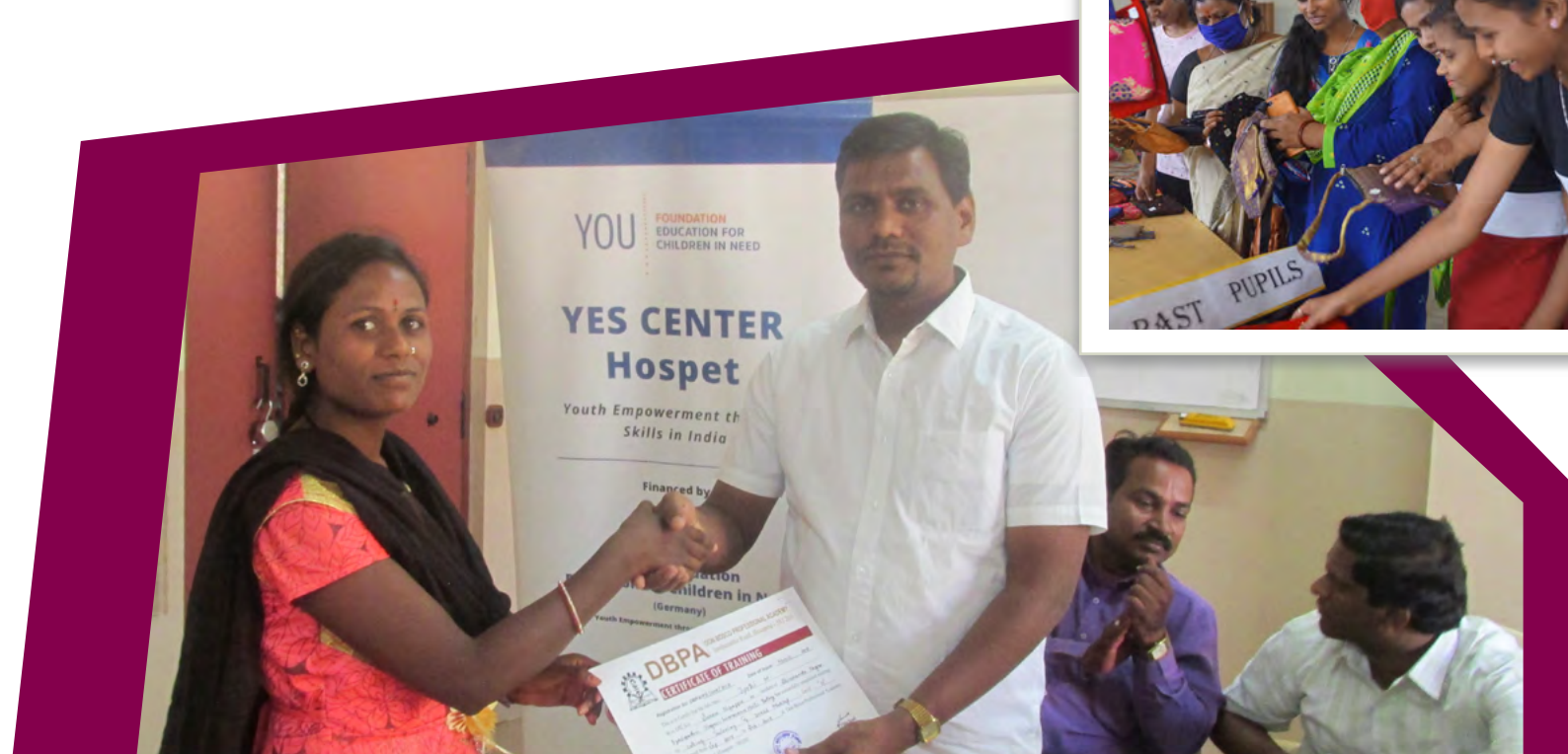
### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Mag Katharina Wieser, Ambassador of Austria to India
- H.E. Ambassador Dr Brigitte Öppinger-Walchshofer, former Ambassador of Austria to India

### NGOs

- Jugend Eine Welt

This country's programme contributes directly to the achievement of the following SDGs:





MYANMAR

PROGRAMME: Provision of humanitarian assistance to internally displaced people in Myanmar

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Fight against COVID-19 for the children of the IDP Camps Paletwa	IDP Camps in Paletwa, Chin State	8.000	Goals 1, 3, 6

PROJECT PARTNER  
Chan THAWNG - New Eden Charity Foundation

SUMMARY

Myanmar currently finds itself in a dire situation, which is on one hand caused by the global COVID-19 pandemic, and, on the other hand, by subsequent restrictions due to the political problems. This has left the country in a state of great social and political unrest. Furthermore, Myanmar is one of the countries at highest risk of natural disasters in South East Asia, being prone to floods and landslides. This overall situation has led to an increasing number of internally displaced people (IDPs) in Myanmar, with over 18,000 people remaining displaced in the conflict-affected Chin state alone, where HOPE'87 is implementing its project. The humanitarian situation in this area remains dire, as the majority of displaced persons are unable to return to their homes due to ongoing hostilities. They continue to experience significant challenges in accessing basic needs due to various constraints, including limited humanitarian access. Across the country, there are about 3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance. Before the implementation of the project, the IDPs had to walk far in the camps in Paletwa to the rivers to fetch water. Personal cleanliness and hygiene, like taking a daily shower, was not possible and shortage of water badly affected the overall hygiene. With its humanitarian aid project, HOPE'87 therefore helps to ensure a coordinated approach to provide water, sanitation and hygiene as well as to respond to the nutrition and health needs of the internally displaced populations living in camps in Paletwa, Chin state, who are forced to live together on a very limited space.



ACTIVITIES

Fight against COVID-19 for the children of the IDP Camps Paletwa

The overall project objective is to provide humanitarian assistance to internally displaced people (IDPs) in Myanmar. Therefore, it is essential to ensure the survival of IDPs and their children in the camps in Paletwa, Chin State, and to restore their human dignity through the construction of latrines, the provision of clean water and the implementation of WASH activities as the main measure against the spread of the COVID-19 virus for children and their parents.

The project in Myanmar encountered major challenges due to the COVID-19 pandemic as well as the coup d'état in February 2021. Gatherings of several people have been dispersed, although crowds in a refugee camp are inevitable. Furthermore, all routes into the project area have been made impassable by the military to prevent any resistance and all banks remain closed, making it almost impossible to send project funds to Myanmar and forcing the project staff to carry money in cash. However, the project team managed to rent a vehicle to minimise the risk of theft or robbery and after intense negotiations, the authorities allowed the project team to drive into the project area.

Despite these challenges, the project team was finally able to start and successfully implement the COVID-19 awareness campaign for over 8,000 refugees in Paletwa Camp. The campaign will continue throughout the project period of 12 months, educating more than 8,000 children and adults in the camps and showing the benefits of various activities such as washing hands, wearing mouth and nose protection in enclosed public spaces, keeping distance wherever possible, but also explaining to people what the symptoms of a COVID-19 disease are and what actions to take immediately to avoid infecting others. Due to these hygiene training sessions, the COVID-19 preventive measures and the distribution of vitamin supplements and hygiene kits to the children and refugees, the physical condition of the IDPs has already improved noticeably.

In addition, so far, 25 latrines for women, 20 latrines for men and four latrines for disabled people have been constructed in four sub-camps in Paletwa Township for about 2,000 IDPs. This is especially important in order to provide access to clean latrines with correct faeces disposal, as new refugees arrive in the camps every day, making the situation increasingly precarious. Furthermore, about 2,200 IDPs now have access to the minimum necessary clean water for cooking, washing and personal hygiene. For this purpose, PVC pipes were laid, which lead into public water points and four water containers with 2,000 litres each were installed, which now serve as reservoirs.

HOPE'87 expresses its gratitude to its partner the «YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need» in Düsseldorf/Germany, and to the donor RTL for the generous support of those in need in Myanmar!

This programme contributes directly to the achievement of the following SDGs:





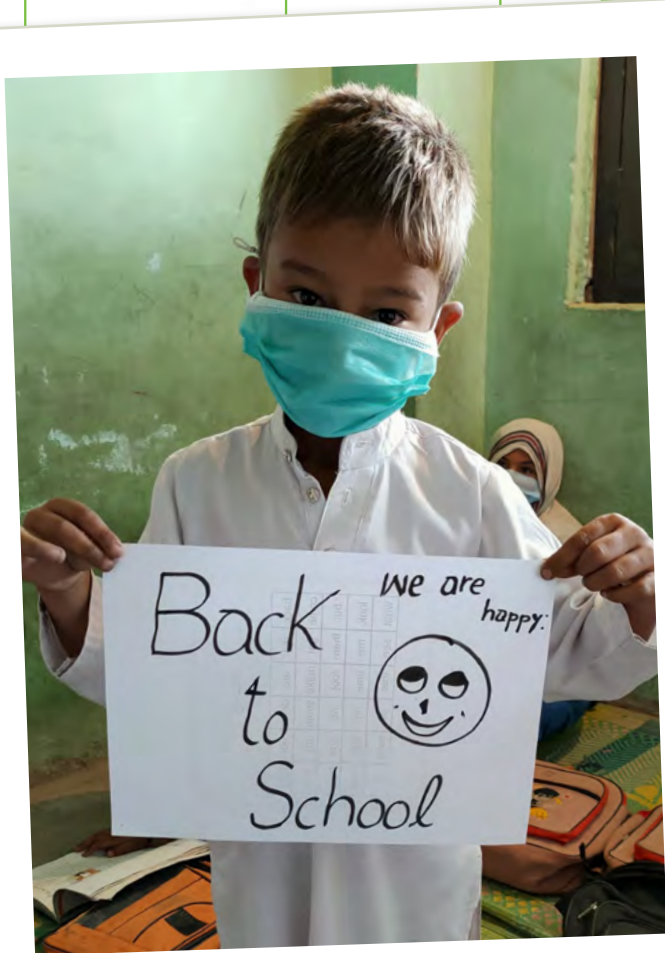
PAKISTAN

**PROGRAMME:** Building resilience amid the COVID-19 pandemic and addressing education in emergencies through digital learning, teachers training on quality education as well as mental health and psychosocial support, improving student learning outcomes and reducing gender gaps through inclusive and equitable quality education

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Access for out-of-school Children to Education and Safe Schools in Pakistan (ACCESS)	Districts Peshawar, Bannu, DI Khan, Swat, Lakki Marwat, Haripur, Bajaur, Orakzai, Khyber, Mohmand, Kurram, North Waziristan and South Waziristan - Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)	195.379	Goals 3, 4, 5
Community-led Education Opportunities in Pakistan (CEOP)	Districts Swat, Mansehra, Abbottabad, Battagram, Shangla, Buner, Peshawar - Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)	12.603	Goals 3, 4, 5
Smart and Intelligent Learning in Education (SmILE)	District Peshawar - Province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (KP)	8.746	Goals 4, 5, 10

COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE  
AND REGIONAL COORDINATOR  
FOR CENTRAL & SOUTH(EAST) ASIA

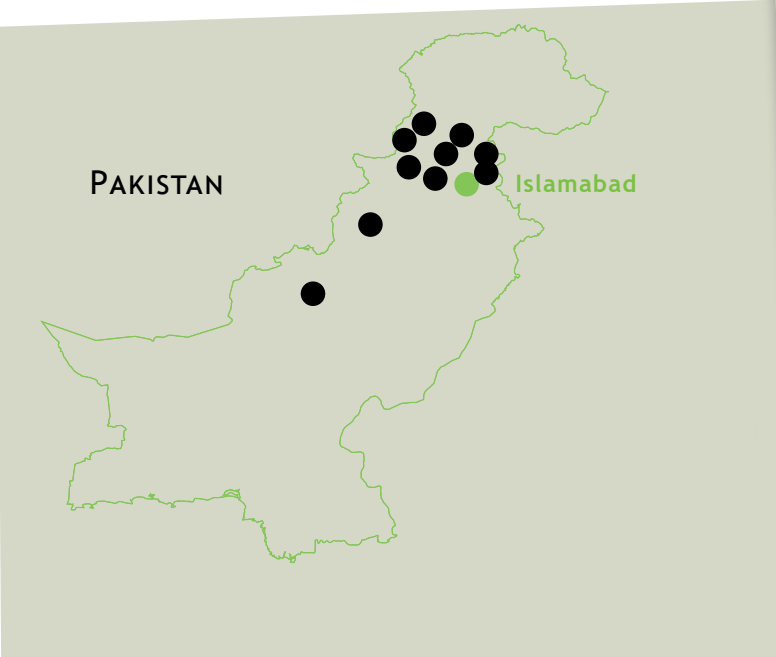
Muhammad Shoaib HAIDER - Civil Engineer



SUMMARY

Pakistan ranks 154th worldwide among 189 countries on the Human Development Index (HDI). The index usually measures a combination of factors such as health, education and standards of living. However, with this year being affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and after a year of immense environmental impact, it included two more factors - the nation's carbon dioxide emissions and the material footprint that puts enormous strain on the planet. Currently, Pakistan ranks 134th out of 162 countries on the global Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) index and it aims to achieve the SDGs by 2030.

The COVID-19 pandemic has contributed to a public health emergency as well as an education crisis in Pakistan throughout the last year, especially for school-aged children. Schools remained closed from 26th November, 2020 until 10th January, 2021 as well as from 24th April, 2020 until 23rd May, 2020, which according to the World Bank led to an estimated 930,000 children permanently dropping out of school. When schools re-opened in a phased manner and under strict compliance to Standard Operating Procedures, HOPE'87 assisted the Elementary & Secondary Education Department (ESED), the National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) and the Elementary & Secondary Education Foundation (ESEF) with the safe re-opening of schools. Therefore, 12,501 teachers were trained on the safe re-opening of schools as well as on mental health and psycho-social support. Furthermore, 508 hand washing stations and 303.240 soaps were distributed to ensure proper hand wash and respiratory hygiene practices at schools. Moreover, health screenings of a total of 18.273 students across Khyber Pakhtunkhwa were conducted.







## ACTIVITIES

### Access for out-of-school Children to Education and Safe Schools in Pakistan (AcCESS)

The AcCESS project is being implemented in 13 districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and aims to provide access to education for more than 195,000 children who do not attend school or are at risk of dropping out. With this objective, HOPE'87 together with partners (ESED, ESEF, NCHD, MaEF) is implementing a comprehensive programme for the enrolment of out-of-

school children in the project districts. These include areas

with no government school in close proximity, areas with schools having less enrolment and huge numbers of out-of-school children and areas with well-attended schools but still a sizeable number of out-of-school children. The project also aims to enrol and support young Afghan refugees in Pakistan through voucher schemes for technical training, advocacy and learning activities.

To this end, HOPE'87 trained 11,578 teachers (including 4,754 women) of ESED, 403 Girl Community School teachers (100% women) and 520 Feeder Teachers of NCHD (including 222 women). The training covered topics such as school sanitation and hygiene education and Standard Operating Procedures for the safe reopening of schools so that teachers expressed increased levels of confidence on how to follow and implement the general social distancing and WASH procedures. HOPE'87 further helped guide school teachers and parents to encourage students to make use of digital contents in order to enhance their knowledge and skills by attending online sessions on the Taleem Ghar TV channel. The objective of the tele school was to engage the students to continue their studies while staying safe at home through this distance-learning model.

Furthermore, HOPE'87 provided hand washing stations in 508 Community Schools so as of now, about 31,000 students are benefitting from the provision of hand washing stations. A comprehensive health screening exercise was conducted throughout the province of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, where a total of 18,273 students in 430 Community Feeder Schools were screened through trained field staff. The purpose of this school health programme was to identify students with visual, hearing, dental, skin and personal hygiene problems and refer them to the nearest government hospitals or basic health units.

HOPE'87 would like to appreciate the support of the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC), the National Commission for Human Development (NCHD), the Merged Areas Education Foundation (MaEF) as well as the Elementary and Secondary Education Foundation (ESEF) for supporting and co-funding this project.



### Community-led Education Opportunities in Pakistan (CEOP)

HOPE'87, with the support of (ESEF), successfully implemented the CEOP project in seven districts of Khyber Pakhtunkhwa from 1st of January, 2019 to 31st of December, 2020.

Among the key project achievements were a seven days training of 409 Girls Community School teachers on quality education, including one day refresher training of teachers on monitoring of hygiene behaviour at school level, as well as enrolment campaign events in November 2020 in two project districts, i.e. Swat and Shangla. The field teams further conducted Broad Based Community Meetings in order to sensitise and mobilise the community on the increase in enrolment, ensured child-friendly schooling and the provision of missing facilities. Thereby, 133 sessions were conducted and a total of new 2,638 students (thereof 1,385 girls) have been enrolled.

HOPE'87, together with ESEF, conducted a detailed Pre, Mid and Post Early Grade Reading Assessment (EGRA) and an Early Grade Mathematical Assessment (EGMA). These studies were conducted to gauge the existing reading and mathematical skills of the students at the start of the project and to assess the improvement in learning outcomes of the students after implementing the project activities. The overall results of English, Urdu and Mathematics have shown a significant improvement of the students' skills at all tasks.

The project furthermore established 13 Teachers Learning Circles in two project-focused districts i.e., Swat and Shangla. This has increased the confidence of teachers, as well as the coordination mechanism among Girls Community Schools and is providing a full-time opportunity to learn from each other's experiences.

The project was thus effective in developing and implementing context-appropriate community-led education opportunities for out-of-school children through improved access to education facilities, community mobilisation and capacity building of teachers. The successfully implemented community outreach programme resulted in the establishment of 21 new classrooms, the collection of profiles of school, students, teachers and Village Education Committee members and a feasibility study approved by ESEF for the establishment of 226 new Girls Community Schools.

In response to COVID-19, HOPE'87 also provided 135 hand washing stations in Girls Community Schools in two project districts, i.e. Shangla and Battagram. At least 5,149 girls and 3,149 boys (8,298 total) students are benefitting from the provision of these hand washing stations that are promoting hand and respiratory hygiene. HOPE'87 further supported ESED in developing an education sector COVID-19 response plan for the continuity of learning for children.

The implementation and success of this project was made possible through the financial support of the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) and the Elementary & Secondary Education Foundation (ESEF).



### Smart and Intelligent Learning in Education (SmILE)

The SmILE project is implemented in collaboration with the Ministry of Elementary and Secondary Education in the district Peshawar of the province Khyber Pakhtunkhwa for the duration of 30 months (1st April, 2021 until 30th September, 2023).

The SmILE project's overall objective is to contribute to the achievement of inclusive and equitable quality education and the promotion of lifelong learning opportunities for all (SDGs 4, 5 and 10) in Pakistan. The specific objective of the project is to promote quality education and thus improve higher order thinking and science learning in 24 government secondary schools of ESED through blended online learning with face-to-face instruction.

Major activities of the SmILE project are the provision of additional hardware at IT laboratories, the installation of learning software and digital content, the development and update of digital content, training of teachers and principals/head teachers, training of students (IT Champions), mentoring and coaching of teachers as well as implementing Learn Smart Classroom and lessons planning.

The joint introductory session of the SmILE project was conducted online between HOPE'87 and its consortium partner Knowledge Platform. The main agenda of the orientation was to give a brief introduction of the SmILE project and the planning for joint activities, i.e. the development of a detailed implementation plan, a joint assessment for the identification of schools, the identification of students and a joint review of digital content.

HOPE'87 expresses its gratitude to its partner, the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) and the Elementary & Secondary Education Department (ESED), for their valuable support and cooperation.

## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

### Government Authorities

- National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
- Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA)
- Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training (MoFE&PT)
- Ministry of Interior (MoI)
- Economic Affairs Division (EAD)
- States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON)
- Elementary and Secondary Education Department KP (ESED)
- Elementary and Secondary Elementary Foundation KP (E&SEF)
- Directorate of Elementary & Secondary Education (DoE&SE)
- National Commission for Human Development (NCHD)
- Directorate of Professional Development (DPD)
- Directorate of Curriculum and Teachers Education (DCTE)
- Education Sector Reform Unit (ESRU)
- Text Book Board (TBB), Peshawar, KP
- Rescue 1122
- School Safety Cell
- Civil Defence
- Private Schools Regulatory Authority
- Merged Area Education Foundation (MaEF)
- Commissionerate for Afghan Refugees (CAR)
- Planning and Development Department (P&DD)
- Creative Innovative Unit (CIU), KP
- Directorate of Science and Technology (DOST) KP

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Nicolaus Keller, Ambassador of Austria to Pakistan
- H.E. Ambassador Aftab Ahmad Khokher, Ambassador of Pakistan to Austria



### Agencies

- Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC)
- Delegation of the European Commission to Pakistan (Europe Aid Office)
- European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Organization (ECHO)
- European Union (EU)
- United Nations Office for Coordination and Humanitarian Assistance
- UNICEF - Pakistan
- United Nations Office of the Resident Coordinator (UNORC)
- United Nations Department of Safety & Security (UNDSS)

### NGOs

- Cooperazione e sviluppo, Cooperation and Development (CESVI)
- Qatar Charity (QC)
- Pakistan Humanitarian Forum (PHF)

### Private Sector Partner

- Knowledge Platform

This programme contributes directly to the achievement of the following SDGs:





# REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

**PROGRAMME:** addressing the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic through strengthening socially disadvantaged family farms engaged in agriculture in rural areas of Moldova as well as promotion of inclusive and high-quality education for pre-school children and youth

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Together in the fight against the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Moldova and Burkina Faso	Countrywide	2.000	Goals 1, 8
Healthy lifestyle starts in a kindergarten	Chisinau	144	Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9
Equal opportunities in sport	Countrywide	250	Goals 3, 4, 5
I grow healthy	Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia	202	Goals 1, 3, 4, 5
Educational Centre for children - including children with special educational needs	Chisinau	300	Goals 1, 3, 4, 5
Everyone has a right for a happy future	Tiraspoli	59	Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9
Centre for children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds for recreational activities and training - "VOSTOK"	Grigoriopol	5.000	Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9
Smile at nature - save the bee	Chisinau	15.000	Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9
Support for quality education through ICT gender sensitive tool	Countrywide	60	Goals 1, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 16
Advocacy for quality education through gender mainstreaming in high education and science	Countrywide	280	Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 10, 16



## COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

Luminita DRUMEA, PhD - Social Scientist

## SUMMARY

The Republic of Moldova is among the poorest countries in Europe. With the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the economic situation has worsened and almost one-fifth of businesses have succumbed to the economic shock caused by the required shutdown and restrictions. Due to its socio-economic structure, the Republic of Moldova is a state whose population only shows very low resilience when external events occur. The current COVID-19 pandemic illustrates this vividly. People whose livelihoods could already be described as precarious before the pandemic are now also losing what little substance they have to ensure their daily survival and that of their families. Once again, the most vulnerable sections of the population - young people, women, people with special needs and people living in rural areas - are particularly affected. As the state does not have the necessary means to provide farmers with the financial assistance that is urgently needed, these groups of people are increasingly falling into the poverty trap.

Despite a slight improvement in conditions compared to 2020 and an economic growth of 3-4%, the general situation is still difficult. Therefore, efforts to improve the livelihoods of vulnerable people have to be continued. In order to alleviate the daily pressure and instabilities that people have to endure within Moldova, HOPE'87-Moldova has launched several projects that focus on supporting children and young people in need as well as on socially disadvantaged people. As the Moldovan authorities undertake a lot of efforts in order to reduce the migration of the population, activities undertaken by HOPE'87-Moldova with a special focus on the promotion of education, social inclusivity among young people and training on environmental protection are very much welcomed by different levels of the authorities.

## ACTIVITIES

### Together in the fight against the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Moldova and Burkina Faso

To address the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the Republic of Moldova and Burkina Faso, HOPE'87 and its partner, the Austrian Federal Ministry of Social Affairs, Health, Care and Consumer Protection, initiated the project «Together in the fight against the socio-economic effects of the COVID-19 pandemic in Moldova and Burkina Faso». The project was launched in July 2021 for an overall period of 18 months and is based on combined efforts for the two developing nations that are suffering from the COVID-19 pandemic and its effects. As the socio-economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic manifests itself in different ways in both countries, the necessary interventions were adapted specifically to each region. Whereas in Moldova the action targets socially disadvantaged family farms engaged in agriculture in rural areas that are particularly affected by the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, in Burkina Faso the action aims at enhancing the resilience of 100 neo-small and medium enterprises (SMEs) in Ougadougou.

In Burkina Faso, the founders of the identified neo-SMEs in the city of Ouagadougou are receiving training in the key areas of business management such as the management of economic units, marketing strategies through creation of a commercial website or presence in social networks, effective management of production costs and in the autonomous development of budget plans, business plans and opening of a bank account. Furthermore, the SMEs receive training on prevention measures against COVID-19, on risk-management and are introduced to environmental management standards.

In Moldova, socially disadvantaged family farms are supported by the formation of expert teams for the elaboration of training materials, an elaboration of regulations on local poultry farming,



berry and fruit growing, relevant hygiene regulations, food control and consumer protection. Furthermore, they receive training in the development of quality control guidelines, the elaboration of a marketing and sales strategy, a design and media communication concept, the elaboration of the technical specifications for the automation of the ordering process of products, the organisation of information events with project participants, trade press and public state bodies as well as the counselling and coaching of the project participants in the above-mentioned areas and provision of working materials.

Through these actions, the project directly addresses the social consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic in both countries through improved education and training opportunities, capacity building and networking and indirectly also contributes to the protection against gender-based violence and the prevention of violence by reducing some of the root causes such as unemployment and lack of prospects.

### Healthy lifestyle starts in a kindergarten

The state of public kindergartens in Moldova is still affected by insufficient financing. In spite of improvements in this domain during the last decade, the situation is still difficult, especially amid the COVID-19 pandemic. In this context, the project of HOPE'87-Moldova with the objective of supporting tuberculosis-affected children with their nutritional and medical situation by offering educational services, is highly appreciated. The project allowed to improve medical, psycho-social and nutritional care for the tuberculosis-affected children and provided sanitary spaces and educational material for them. Throughout the project, a number of activities with the children's parents on topics such as the importance of a healthy lifestyle, the nutritional value of food, personal hygiene and environmental protection were also organised.

The project itself was implemented by HOPE'87-Moldova with donations provided by the readers of the "Recklinghäuser Zeitung" in Germany and resources collected through the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need. The project ended in May 2019 but to this day, HOPE'87-Moldova monitors and supervises the project to ensure its sustainability.

### Equal opportunities in sport

The project with the aim to create "equal opportunities in sport" has the objective to improve social inclusion for people with disabilities living in Moldova. Its slogan is "We are equal and do not differ from each other". As especially children with disabilities often feel as a burden to society, particularly in the countryside, HOPE'87-Moldova implements activities with the purpose of permanently involving children and young people with disabilities in social life. The project is fully supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research of the Republic of Moldova.

Throughout the project, sports equipment designed to fit the needs of the disabled was selected, procured and delivered to the premises of "Invasport", a sports organisation for young people and children with disabilities. The children with disabilities that were partaking in these events were motivated to train in their beloved sports and to prepare themselves for the Moldovan Paralympic Team.



The project that was implemented by HOPE'87-Moldova in order to ensure a sport life for handicapped children and young disabled people has already ended. To this day, the project is being monitored by HOPE'87-Moldova in order to maintain its sustainability, with the main monitoring activities aimed at the use of procured equipment and the number of children attending sport trainings.

### I grow healthy

The objective of this project is to create better health conditions for the children of the kindergarten "Solnisco", which can be

translated as "the Sun", by providing pre-school educational development of the physical and intellectual capacities of the children. HOPE'87-Moldova contributes to this by providing sports equipment to the children as well as by supporting the capacity building of the teaching team. Thereby, the development of communication skills of the children is supported, which helps to support their self-esteem and teaches them to respect each other through sports and playing activities.

The project was implemented by HOPE'87-Moldova in collaboration with its partners the "Recklinghäuser Zeitung" in Germany and the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need. Despite the successful completion of the project in early 2019, HOPE'87-Moldova continues to monitor the activities of the kindergarten in order to sustain the project's achievements and prepare further proposals for its continuation in cooperation with different national, local and international institutions.

### Educational Centre for children - including children with special educational needs

HOPE'87-Moldova has implemented the Educational and Cultural Centre "Agapis" in Chisinau, which offers vocational training to children at the Sunday School at the premises of the Chapel Saint John the Baptist on a frequent basis. The "Agapis" Centre offers various social and educational activities as well as courses in creative domains such as wood sculpture, embroidery and painting to children aged 7 to 18 years old who come from difficult family backgrounds. Furthermore, the children are served a free meal each Sunday before the beginning of the classes. Through these activities, the children learn how to use modern educational opportunities such as IT technologies and receive an adequate education, so that also children with disabilities and difficulties are able to integrate more easily into society and thus are better prepared for their future.

The project is also supported by the government of the Republic of Moldova, which has underlined the need for social protection of the most marginalised people, especially children. This is





emphasised by the ratification of the UN Convention “On rights of the people with disabilities” by the Republic of Moldova.

The project could be implemented with the support of donations from the readers of the “Recklinghäuser Zeitung” in Germany - a collaboration that was made possible by the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need. It was completed in 2019 but is constantly monitored by HOPE’87-Moldova in order to guarantee its sustainability.

### Everyone has the right to a happy future

This project’s aim is to help the Moldovan educational authorities to assure and promote equal access to education, good living conditions and social benefits for children in difficult life situations and with special educational needs. Therefore, the «Republican Specialized Children’s Home» was opened, which hosts 59 children, out of which 24 have special educational needs. There, children are raised up to an age of three years, but those born with defects in physical and mental development or severe hearing and speech impairments are taken care of up to an older age, which is determined by the decision of the Republican Psychological, Medical and Pedagogical Commission.

Throughout the project, the «Republican Specialized Children’s Home» received educational games and books for children, hygiene products as well as masks to protect them against COVID-19. The project was financed by Green Nations and the National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO and was assisted by HOPE’87-Moldova with technical advice.

### Centre for children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds for recreational activities and training - “VOSTOK”

Currently, there are 5,000 children aged three to 18 years old with special educational needs in the city of Grigoriopol. Due to the urgent need of a specialised educational and recreational centre for them, the local public administration has allocated the building of the former cinema “Vostok” for these purposes.

This project aims at helping children to receive quality education and assure sustainable access to a subsequent full socialisation through strengthening their capacities to use the obtained skills in their daily lives. Therefore, the centre was supplied with educational games and play stations and helped develop new educational approaches.

The project also contributes to the achieving of the UN-2030 Sustainable Development Goals in Moldova by giving young people the opportunity to get familiar with the activities of international organisations dealing with the SDGs. It was financed by Green Nations and the National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO and accompanied by HOPE’87-Moldova with technical advice.



### Smile at nature - save the bee

Every year on the 20th of May, the World Bee Day is celebrated in order to underline the importance of bees for humanity and bring attention to the protection of bees as well as other pollination species. In this context the project “Smile at nature - save the bee” was implemented by PEDAM in order to develop bee-based trades in Moldova. The aim of this project is to raise awareness among students on the importance of environmental protection and the conservation of bees and other pollination species in order to protect the ecosystem.

Throughout the project, 50 beehives were distributed to ten schools in the country with the objective to disseminate the knowledge on the role of bees and other pollination species for human life. Pupils have decorated these beehives according to colour and ecological requirements, which were then installed at educational aeries that the students could visit. In addition, a number of seminars on environmental protection were organised for the pupils. In total, 35 schools with 15,000 participants are involved in this project.

The Project “Smile at nature - save the bee” was financed by Green Nations and the National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO and assisted by HOPE’87-Moldova with technical advice.



### Support for quality education through ICT gender sensitive tool

The goal of this project is to promote gender equality in the Republic of Moldova through creating gender-sensitive education online tools, such as online informative lectures dedicated to gender equality issues, including stereotypes, feminism, discrimination, sexual harassment or youth leadership. These online informative lectures were then uploaded to YouTube in order to be used by all interested persons. Furthermore, the project helped to strengthen the capacity of school teachers to use online tools.

Through the establishment of online informative lectures, the project contributed to raising awareness on gender-related issues and helped provide access to IT tools, which is especially important for the empowerment of women and girls, giving them access to knowledge and information of importance to their productive, reproductive and community roles, as well as forming skills how to better apply the knowledge in professional and personal development. As gender equality is inextricably linked to the right to education for all, it also ensures that girls and boys gain access to education and complete their education cycles and are empowered equally in and through education, which is essential for individuals with the necessary competencies to enter the labour market in a competitive economy.

The project “Support for quality education through ICT gender sensitive tool” was financed by Green Nations and the National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO and assisted by HOPE’87-Moldova with technical advice.

### Advocacy for quality education through gender mainstreaming in higher education and science

This project aims to promote and advance gender equality in the Republic of Moldova through creating a gender-sensitive education and research space in the country’s universities.

This project was implemented as the international standards in the field of gender equality expressly stipulate essential elements that show the need to demonstrate a political will in order to achieve equality between women and men. These necessary elements are the adoption and implementation of a legal-normative framework and of policies aimed at gender equality, the creation of specialised institutional mechanisms, the eradication of adverse cultural traditions or harmful social habits that affect women or men, the use of non-sexist language, the allocation of adequate human and financial resources for the promotion of programmes and projects in



the field, data, statistics disaggregated by gender as well as strong monitoring and evaluation through a gender lens.

To achieve these goals, methodological tools on gender and education addressed to students were developed for future teachers in Moldova and four master classes as well as dissemination events in university libraries were organised. Taking into consideration that gender stereotypes in the society affects young people (boys and girls), they should be eliminated at all stages of the education system - in kindergarten, school and university. To achieve this, increased gender awareness of education specialists is needed as well as involvement of the university education system in the gender awareness process, teaching materials tackling gender equality and increased gender research in the field of education.

The project “Advocacy for quality education through gender mainstreaming in high education and science” was financed by Green Nations and the National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO and accompanied by HOPE’87-Moldova with technical advice.

## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

### Government Authorities

- Prof. Constantin Rusnac, Secretary General, National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO
- H.E. Ms Lilia Pogolsha, former Minister, Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Research of the Republic of Moldova
- Ms Angela Cutasevici, Vice Mayor for Education of Chisinau Municipality, Former State Secretary in Education, Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Research of the Republic of Moldova
- Mr Radu Rebeja, Former State Secretary in Sport and Youth, Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Research of the Republic of Moldova
- H.E. Ms Irina Vlah, Boscan (Prime Minister) of the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia
- Ms Olessea Tonasoglo, Deputy of the Boscan of the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia and responsible for Social and Education Issues
- Ms Veronica Solomitsci, Chief of the Department, DGETS Sector Buiukani (General Department for Education, Youth and Sport)
- Ms Elizaveta Tulbu, Director, “Sanatorium tuberculosis kindergarten No. 110”
- Ms Svetlana Agadjanova, Technical Director, “Sanatorium tuberculosis kindergarten No. 110”
- Ms Ecaterina Arabadji, Director of the Resource Center in the community Chirsovo, Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia
- Mr Evgenii Burmistrov, Director, Board of the Coordination Council for the Assistance Aids
- Mr Gabuja Oleg, Governor of the Grigoriopol Region
- Mr Ruslan Mova, Head of the Internal Affairs Department
- Mr R.D. Ivancenko, Head of City Bender
- Prof. Valentina Bodrug-Lungu, PhD, Associate Professor (Moldovan State University), President of the Gender-Centru NGO; National Gender Expert, Member of the Prime Minister’s Council of Participation, Member of the Board of the KARAT Coalition, the regional coalition of women’s NGOs in the CEE and CIS)

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Mag. Stella Avallone, Ambassador of Austria to Moldova
- Mag. Gero Stuller, Counsellor of the Austrian Embassy in Chisinau

### NGOs

- Mr Denis Cernomoret, President Green Nations & Director Green Nations Factories SRL
- Mr Serghei Afanasenko, Director, NGO Invasport
- Ms Natalia Anisimov, Director, NGO MediArt Dialogue
- Ms Otilia Sirbu, Director, Concordia
- Ms Natalia Corbu, Director, NGO Intercultural Dialogue

This country’s programme contributes directly to the achievement of the following SDGs:






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