



# ACTIVITY REPORT

OCTOBER 2019 - SEPTEMBER 2020

## HOPE'87 WORLDWIDE

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## IMPRESSUM

This Activity Report gives account of the work of the non-profit organization HOPE'87 in the period October 2019 to September 2020.

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,

I can imagine that it comes as no surprise to you to read in my introduction about the COVID-19 pandemic ravaging our planet and its consequences for the work of HOPE'87.

As an immediate measure to ensure the wellbeing of all staff members in the Country Offices and to keep the General Secretariat in Vienna fully operational as Headquarter and hub for all activities worldwide, phase two of the HOPE'87 Security Plan was enacted on March 13th, 2020.

This phase two signifies a high level of alert, imposes major restrictions on the movement of all staff members and calls upon them to revert to "home office mode" wherever possible.

By the end of March, the Country Offices Senegal, Bangladesh, Pakistan and our associated member HOPE'87-Burkina Faso informed the General Secretariat of a phase four situation according to the HOPE'87 Security Plan.

Phase four is to enable the designated Field Security Officer of the Country Offices to recommend to the HOPE'87 Secretary General the temporary suspension of parts of programmes or of programmes altogether. This entails that, within 24 hours, the Country Director provides an emergency plan on how to further ensure the security of all people working for or benefitting from such programmes and on how to safeguard the investments and financial assets already provided or about to be provided by such programmes.

It was during these hectic days of March and early April that the Disaster Preparedness Plan of the organisation proved to be fully operational, giving all staff members the correct guidance, ensuring their safety while guaranteeing the development and implementation of emergency response activities. For instance, this was the case for the COVID-19 Rapid Assessment in all districts of Kyber Pakhtunkhwa, by HOPE'87-Pakistan regarding the feasibility of tele-schooling or the immediate distribution of food items to victims of the pandemic having lost their jobs, by HOPE'87-Bangladesh through the Night School project. HOPE'87-Senegal started to support the farmers in the Moyenne Casamance who lost their sales markets because of the lockdown, and in cooperation with the YOU Foundation-Education for Children in Need, helped the seamstresses of the Baraka project in Dakar to produce and to sell mouth-and-nose-masks and so did our project partner BREADS in the YES Center Hospet in India.

Information of the public about the danger, the possible transmission and ways to reduce the risks of spreading the "invisible" virus while protecting the human dignity of all remained the foremost concern of all Country Offices. At this point, I would like to thank all staff members around the world from the bottom of my heart for their selfless and impartial aid for those in need!

We still have a long way to go until the pandemic will get eradicated, until a safe vaccine will have been found... until then let's join forces to manage COVID-19, to minimise its spread, to give everybody access to information and to medical assistance and to safeguard human dignity!

In terms of the overview of the most important HOPE'87 activities around the world, I am very pleased to report that during this reporting period, the organisation implemented a total of 46 major projects and programmes, of which 25 are situated in Africa, 12 in Asia, 7 in Europe and 2 in Latin America. Currently, HOPE'87 projects and programmes are being implemented in Bangladesh, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Chile, India, Mali, Nepal, Pakistan, Republic of Moldova, Senegal and Vietnam.

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 to update last year's activity report provided 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.



**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 and the Austrian Development Cooperation, the European Commission, ECHO, the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) and UNESCO.

The achievements of HOPE'87 would not have been possible without the active and most valuable support provided by the Austrian Federal Chancellery since our organisation was founded.

We express our deep gratitude to the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and Foreign 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 Labour, Family and Youth, and the City of Vienna.

We would also like to thank 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, the association "Barmherzigkeit" (Austria and Germany), Trekking Chile and Franz Schubert, Apotheker helfen (Germany) and the numerous other enterprises, organisations, associations and donors who have supported HOPE'87.

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

Deeply 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.

HOPE'87 also thanks all the Austrian organisations for development cooperation and humanitarian aid as well as international partner organisations, with a specific mention of the Aga Khan Development Network and its affiliated bodies and institutions, the Elementary and Secondary Education Foundation (ESEF, Pakistan), the National Commission for Human Development (NCHD, Pakistan), FACES (Pakistan), the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA), Jugend Eine Welt - Don Bosco Aktion Österreich (Austria) and many more for their most successful cooperation.

HOPE'87 would also like to thank Heinz Sünder, journalist, photographer and long-term supporter of our organisation.

Finally, we would like to express our wholehearted gratitude once again to all our HOPE'87 Country Representatives and their staff, and all our volunteers and interns for their ongoing support and commitment.

As in previous years, we fondly remember our departed colleagues and friends, Tamar Oppenheimer, O.C. (†), UN Ass. Director General (ret) and Senior Advisor of HOPE'87, Uta Meran (†), HOPE'87-Kenya Branch Office Manager (ret) and Peter Sserugo (†), HOPE'87-Uganda Branch Office Manager.

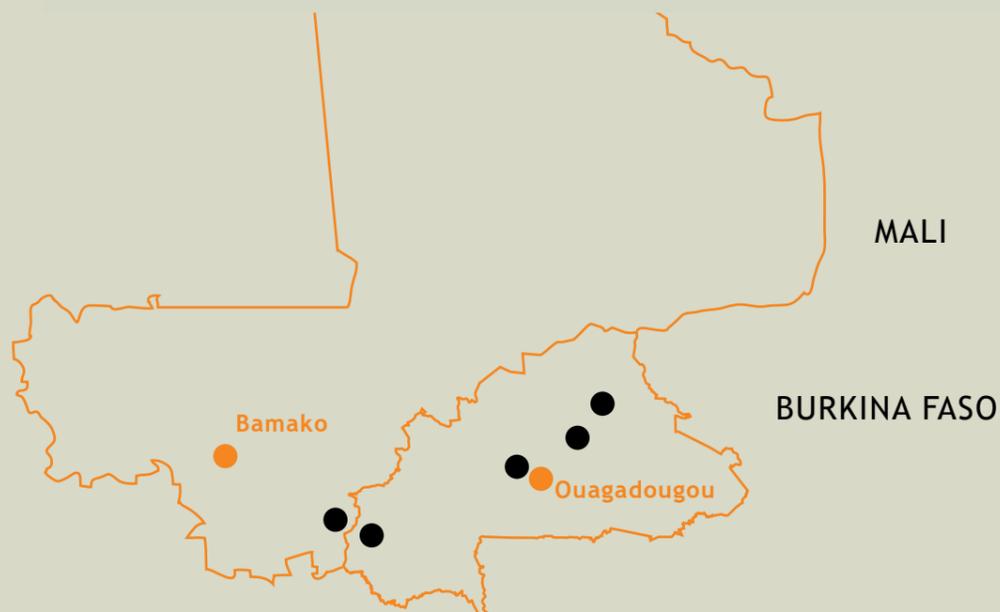
# BURKINA FASO and MALI

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



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PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Education, vocational training and humanitarian aid for Burkina Faso and Mali	Mali, Troisième Région, Circle of Sikasso, Rural district of Finkolo and Burkina Faso, Sahel and Centre Nord	8.885	Goals 4, 5, 8
Humanitarian assistance to people affected by the food and security crisis during the lean season in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso, Région du Sahel, Province of Soum, Rural district of Kelbo	3.570	Goals 1, 2, 3
Reduce the vulnerability and increase the resilience of new Micro and Small Enterprises (MEPs) in Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso, Région du Centre, Province of Kadiogo, District of Ouagadougou	700	Goal 8
Capacity building and income generation for small farmers in Burkina Faso and Mali	Mali, Troisième Région, Circle of Sikasso, Rural district of Finkolo; Burkina Faso, Région des Hauts-Bassins, Province of Kéné Dougou, Rural district of Koloko	700	Goals 1, 2, 3, 8
Plastic into school tables - a recycling project in Mali and Burkina Faso	Mali, Troisième Région, Circle of Sikasso, Rural district of Finkolo; Burkina Faso, Région des Hauts-Bassins, Province of Kéné Dougou, Rural district of Koloko	3.500	Goals 4,5
A school for Mamabougou	Mali, Troisième Région, Circle of Sikasso, Rural district of Finkolo, Village of Mamabougou	165	Goals 4, 5
Training and assistance to vulnerable mothers of children aged 0 to 5 years in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso, Région du Sahel, Province of Soum, Rural district of Kelbo	214	Goals 1, 2, 3
Prevent and respond to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on food security in the commune of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso	Burkina Faso, Région du Centre, Province of Kadiogo, District of Ouagadougou	29.400	Goals 1, 2, 3, 5, 11, 12



## SUMMARY

Not only do Mali and Burkina Faso have a common border, these two countries also have very similar development indicators. Mali's total population counted 20.25 million inhabitants in 2019, with an annual growth rate of 3.36%. As for Burkina Faso, these two indicators are respectively 20.87 million inhabitants and an annual growth rate of 3.05%.

Economically speaking, Mali's per capita gross domestic product (GDP) is 901 USD and Burkina Faso's is 731 USD. The Human Development Index (HDI) is 0.427 for Mali and 0.434 for Burkina Faso. In environmental terms, the Environmental Performance Index (EPI) is 43.71 for Mali and 42.83 for Burkina Faso. The ratio of the poor population living on less than 1.90 USD per day was 49.7% in 2009 for Mali and 43.7% in 2014 for Burkina Faso.

In 2020, the humanitarian situation in Mali and Burkina Faso has not improved compared to that of 2019 and previous years. Conflict, multifaceted insecurity and climate change (drought and flooding) have further exacerbated the humanitarian situation.

In Mali, 8.2 million people are affected by the crisis, among them 4.3 million people in need of humanitarian assistance to meet their basic needs, i.e. access basic social services and protect their means of production.

As for Burkina Faso, the number of people in need of humanitarian assistance increased from 1.5 million in December 2019 to 2.2 million in January 2020. Among these people are almost 0.95 million individuals in need of protection and 1.5 million people are dependent on humanitarian aid. Due to insecurities in the northern part of Burkina Faso, 2,512 primary schools were closed and 0.34 million pupils were deprived of education.

As if all that were not enough, the COVID-19 health crisis, which appeared in mid-March 2020, has worsened the humanitarian and economic situation of the two countries. The measures taken by the governments of Burkina Faso and Mali, i.e. closure of borders, confinement in private companies and public services, quarantining of cities with cases of COVID-19, tried to curb the spread of COVID-19 but have, at the same time, made it very difficult to provide a functioning economy. This had the effect of an increase in the number of unemployed people because many workers lost their jobs.

In this context of a multidimensional crisis, HOPE'87 Burkina Faso and its partners prepared the country programme titled „Integrated cross-border sustainable development in Burkina Faso and Mali and access to education, vocational training and employment for young people, specifically

women, securing the means of production of vulnerable households in urban and peri-urban areas and increasing their income for social development” to assist the population of the two countries in improving their living conditions.

The approach used is participatory with the inclusion of all those affected by the Sahelian crisis. The implementation of this programme in the two countries had the effect of:

- i) ensuring quality education for all (SDG 4- Quality education), giving poor children a better chance of going to school in the best conditions with an inclusive, equitable and sustainable education (SDG 5- Gender equality), offering vocational training to young girls and boys (SDG 8- Decent work and well-being), building and equipping sports and cultural infrastructure for young people (SDG 3- Good health and well-being)
- ii) assisting very poor and vulnerable households in humanitarian crisis zones with quality humanitarian assistance for children aged 0 to 5 years, pregnant women and lactating women (SDG 1- Reduce extreme poverty, SDG 2- Zero hunger and SDG 3- Good health and well-being)
- iii) supporting micro and small businesses (SDG 8- Decent work and well-being)
- iv) building capacity and generating income (SDG 1- Reduce extreme poverty, SDG 2- Zero hunger, SDG 3- Good health and well-being and SDG 8- Decent work and well-being)
- v) supporting women in recycling plastic waste (SDG 4- Quality education, SDG 12- Responsible consumption and production)
- vi) slowing the spread of COVID-19 and restoring the capacities of farmers and ranchers affected by the pandemic (SDG 1- Reduce extreme poverty, SDG 2- Zero hunger and SDG 3- Good health and well-being, SDG-5 Gender equality, SDG-11 Sustainable cities and communities and SDG-12 Responsible consumption and production).

## ACTIVITIES

### Education, vocational training and humanitarian aid for Burkina Faso and Mali

This multifaceted programme aims to improve the quality of education and vocational training for children and strengthens sports and cultural capacities for them. The project especially assists very poor households affected by the Sahelian crisis in Mali and Burkina Faso. It enables i) a real development opportunity (improvement of the living conditions of very poor populations), ii) formation of human capital (the prime condition necessary for any development) on behalf of vulnerable populations of Sikasso in Mali, of the border area Finkolo in Mali and of Koloko in Burkina Faso and iii) humanitarian assistance to the Sahelian populations affected by the Sahel crisis.

Before the implementation of this programme in these two countries, the project areas were disadvantaged in terms of children's education infrastructure and vocational training for unemployed young people who dropped out of primary school. It also lacked recreational infrastructure such as sports and leisure centres. This situation, which did not favour development, was the cause of the migration of young people to other neighbouring countries of Mali and Burkina Faso like Côte d'Ivoire and other more distant countries in Europe and South America, looking for “El Dorado”.

The lack of a training centre in the Sikasso region had made it impossible to provide adequate vocational training for unemployed young people and young people who have left the school for various reasons. Within the project component for an adequate vocational training for young people, support for employment and income generation, HOPE'87 Burkina Faso initiated with the Sikasso technical services the “Garage Espoire” (the Hope Garage) in Sikasso and implemented a technical training programme for young people. This programme focused on several skills such as automobile mechanics, automobile electronics and metal construction with wood and aluminum joinery. A total of 450 young people from several towns and villages in the Sikasso region took part in the various professional training sessions. The results of these training sessions were very beneficial for the young people. With the collaboration between the private and public sectors, young people obtained work contracts in garages and factories in the Sikasso region. These employment contracts helped to create and increase the incomes of these young people trained by the project and to insert them into the world of work. On the other hand, the companies that recruited these young people have hired well-trained and quality staff.



With regards to sports, education, culture and peacebuilding in border areas, which are facing jihadism and insecurity, the project's achievements comprise the following: The construction and equipment of sports, cultural and educational infrastructures, the organisation of sports tournaments in Mali and Burkina Faso in the disciplines of football, volleyball, basketball and athletics and the professional training of the main sports players such as referees and their assistants, match commissioners and coaches from different sports. These actions in the field of sports made it possible to provide better opportunities to enjoy different types of sport, to open up sport for girls and young women and above all to contribute to reduce conflicts during sports competitions. With its peace building component the project strengthened the solidarity between the population of Finkolo in Mali and of Koloko in Burkina Faso and within the two communities and helped build peace in the two border regions. The different project component of the project reached 716 children and young people.

Since 2012, the Sahel has been facing a deep crisis - altogether, it is a political, security, food and nutritional crisis. Despite the efforts made by the governments of Mali and Burkina Faso, the consequences are still persistent and populations like those in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso are still affected. The humanitarian action carried out by HOPE'87 Burkina Faso for the benefit of the populations affected by the multidimensional Sahel crisis provided a response to these challenges with food and nutritional assistance for 1,000 very poor households (7,000 people) in the commune of Kelbo, the province of Soum, in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso. This humanitarian assistance, during the lean period, made it possible to ensure food and nutritional security in beneficiary households and to protect very fragile groups such as pregnant and lactating women and children from 0 to 5 years old.

#### Humanitarian assistance to people affected by the food and security crisis during the lean season in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso

During 2020, Burkina Faso and the West African sub-region once again experienced a food and security crisis which continued to affect the populations of almost all of the 13 regions of Burkina Faso. As for the food crisis, it mainly affected the regions Sahel, Nord, Centre-Nord, Boucle du Mouhoun and Est.

To provide an appropriate response to the food and nutrition crisis, HOPE'87 Burkina Faso and its partners started implementing a humanitarian action that started in April 2020 and is running for 8 months in total. This action takes place in the Soum province, the Sahel region. It is an urgent response to the serious humanitarian situation that Burkina Faso in general, and the Sahel zone in particular, are facing. The beneficiaries of the project are 510 very poor households with children from 0 to 5 years, including 214 pregnant and breastfeeding women and 306 children from 6 to 23 months.



The implementation of the project made it possible to distribute food coupons and unconditional cash to all participating very poor beneficiary households. These food donations helped them to ensure a balanced diet during the 2020 lean period. Pregnant and breastfeeding women received local flour enriched with vitamins. This flour is intended for children from 6 to 23 months and ensures a healthy and regular growth during this critical period of their life.

Also, a nutrition education programme has been started to strengthen the knowledge of rural women on how to improve their nutrition and that of their children from 0 to 5 years old. This humanitarian action made it possible to strengthen the food and nutritional security in 510 very poor households, i.e. 3,570 beneficiaries, and is co-financed by the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO).

#### Reduce the vulnerability and increase the resilience of new Micro and Small Enterprises (MSE) in Burkina Faso

This project, implemented from April 2019 to September 2020, was financially supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) through the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need and made it possible to sustainably increase the income of 108 neo-MSE in the municipality of Ouagadougou through access to strategic training in the financial, economic, commercial and marketing fields. A partnership has been established with the City of Ouagadougou through the Economic Development Agency for Urbanism (ADEU), the former Business Support Centre (CAE). This training agency for businesses in the City of Ouagadougou aims to strengthen the capacities of businesses for sustainable economic development in the capital of Burkina Faso.

On 29th of September, the closing ceremony took place under the patronage of the Mayor of the City of Ouagadougou, Mr Armand Pierre Roland Béouindé, and with the new German ambassador to Burkina Faso, Dr Andreas Michael Pfaffernoschke and the Director of the Coordination Office of the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) in Ouagadougou, DI Hannes Hauser, as chief guests. With their presence they underlined their support for the project and showed their satisfaction with the reached project aims.

The activities implemented focused on three main areas:

- Increase the economic performance of neo-MSE through their capacity building. For this component, the companies benefiting from the project have implemented a marketing strategy and budget planning with realistic and well-calculated costs, which has enabled them to reduce their production costs. The use of digital, social networks and networking has made businesses very visible, which has enabled them to increase the number of their customers and thus increase their turnover and profit.
- Give neo-MSE better access to banks and other support institutions through advocacy. In this context, the project made it possible to establish a direct and professional relationship with the banks and support structures for neo-MSE in Ouagadougou. Also, with the support of the project, the beneficiary companies prepared a business plan, an essential document in the business world, in order to have financing to strengthen the production of companies. Access to public and local markets is a priority for all trading companies. The companies' employees also received appropriate training which aimed to prepare, win and implement a public or local market for goods and services.
- Support the ADEU (formerly known as CAE) so that it establishes itself as a competence centre for training entrepreneurs and for advocacy in the MSE sector. The ADEU has the technical and organisational capacities to organise - depending on demand - structured training courses and to provide its technical expertise for qualified advocacy for the promotion of neo-MSE. For



this last component of the project, the ADEU was reinforced with the preparation of a course programme adapted to the needs of young entrepreneurs. These courses will be implemented by ADEU after the end of the project to build the capacities of young entrepreneurs in the City of Ouagadougou. The experience of this project was a success: a capitalisation and advocacy document was developed which should be used by companies, technical and financial partners and the government of Burkina Faso.

The following results of this project, which was completed in September 2020, were achieved: i) the 108 neo-MSE, which benefited from the project actions, increased their economic return because of the training provided, which helped building their capacities, ii) the 108 neo-MSE beneficiaries had better access to banks and support institutions through advocacy, iii) the ADEU has established itself as a skills centre for training young entrepreneurs and to provide advocacy in the micro and small business sector. The ADEU now has the organisational and technical capacities to implement training and to provide its expertise in support of neo-MSE to the City of Ouagadougou.

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

In Mali and Burkina Faso, the populations are predominantly rural and very active in agriculture and animal husbandry. In the livestock sector, poultry farming is practiced by almost all families in both rural and urban areas. It is an income-generating activity that creates and maintains income for the very poor in both countries. Chickens and eggs are part of the local food consumption. This project, which began in April 2019, continued its activities in Mali and Burkina Faso in the border area between the two countries, the Kéné Dougou region. The project was financially supported by the market-leading and well-known German firm Big Dutchman, a cooperation that was enabled through the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need. In September 2020, the project achieved the following results:

i) Creation of an environment conducive to the development of poultry farming: the project has improved and maintained the economic conditions for practicing poultry farming reducing constraints and difficulties farmers were facing. The first approach of the project was to realise a modern training centre, the «Heremakono Poultry Farming School» to strengthen the capacities of poultry farmers in the fields of chicken coop construction, equipment and materials for breeding, veterinary care, food and marketing of avian products. Therefore, training modules have been developed and the centre provided initial and continuing technical training to small rural poultry farmers of the region, providing them with the skills needed to run their farms economically sustainable.

ii) Strengthening civil society and a solitary economy with the creation of two «Groupements d'Intérêt Économiques, GIEs» (Economical Interest Groups) for poultry farmers: these two GIEs have more than a hundred active members and new ones register regularly to benefit from the advantages of economic and social solidarity.

iii) The increase of income of the poultry farmers who are members of either one of the two GIEs: the project enabled a support fund for the two GIEs that finances micro-projects of poultry farmers in Burkina Faso and Mali. These small micro-projects made it possible to start or strengthen the economic activities of the poultry farmers. They started to generate a substantial and regular income and invested the financial benefits in the social sector, in particular for the health and wellbeing as well as education and livelihood protection of their family members.

iv) Creation and development of a partnership between the project, the two GIEs and the state services: in the project area, a partnership was established with the regional state



services of the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries in Mali and the Ministry for Animal Resources in Burkina Faso. This partnership has enabled the implementation of training activities for poultry farmers from both sides of the border and to yield valuable synergy effects in order to improve sustainable chicken farming.

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

Mali and Burkina Faso face the problem of waste management in general and more particularly of solid plastic waste.

The environment in these two countries is polluted by plastic debris and finding solutions is still a gigantic task. Despite the efforts made by the authorities and the technical and financial partners, plastic waste constitutes a real environmental problem in Mali and Burkina Faso.

Tonnes of plastic waste are produced each year in both countries. In Burkina Faso, it is estimated that more than 600,000 tonnes of plastic waste are produced annually, and rarely recycled but discarded into the environment.

To reduce the effects of this environmental pollution, HOPE'87 Burkina Faso and its partners in the municipalities of Sikasso, Finkolo and Koloko as well as women's associations and socially active groups are implementing a project of collection and storage of solid plastic waste for its recycling. The activities already implemented have focused on the organisation of women's groups in Heremakono in Mali and Koloko in Burkina Faso. These two groups have been trained in the safe collection and storage of waste. All women were provided with protective equipment, the collection sites were identified and the municipalities of Finkolo and Heremakono were associated as important partners regarding the urban development plan.

With the systematic collection and safe storage of plastic waste in the two municipalities, the environmental pollution has been reduced considerably and the public awareness for the reduction of waste production has been strengthened. As a next step, the technical recycling activities will be started in order to produce 150 tables and benches made of recycled plastic per year. These benches will be given free of charge to schools in Burkina Faso and Mali.

### A School for Mamabougou

The project «A School for Mamabougou» started its activities in November 2019. The project is planned for a period of 12 months and will end on October 31st, 2020. The project was carried out in partnership with the local association «Tout Pour l'Enfant» from Sikasso in Mali.

The project improved the quality of education for disadvantaged children in rural areas and strengthened the professional skills of teachers in the municipality of Finkolo.

The target group of project beneficiaries is made up of children aged 6 to 15 years living in Mamabougou and the seven surrounding villages. Girls' schooling was viewed as a priority for the project as was the enrolment of disabled children. These two disadvantaged target groups were integrated and monitored by teachers from the Mamabougou school.

The project contributed to the achievement of the SDG 4, in particular to ensure inclusive, equitable and quality education in Mali, and of the SDG 5, namely to achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls to self-determination.

More specifically, the project has improved the quality of primary education in an isolated rural region of the commune of Finkolo by putting in place education facilities for children and in-service professional training for the teachers, who never had the chance to enjoy further training opportunities and who were left on their own with all pedagogical problems.

The effects of the project have been very positive on educational, economic, cultural and social life in the village of Mamabougou. With the arrival of more children from the surrounding



villages, the number of pupils increased to incredible 165. In addition to this, professional training for teachers and their continuous pedagogical monitoring by an education expert helped increase the educational level of teachers in Mamabougou.

This project was generously funded by the City of Vienna.

### Training and assistance to vulnerable mothers of children aged 0 to 5 years in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso

The nutritional education project for young mothers in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso is based on strengthening the food and nutritional consumption of very poor households. More specifically, of pregnant and breastfeeding women and vulnerable children between 0 to 5 years old. This project is implemented by HOPE'87 Burkina Faso with the generous financial support of its longstanding partner - the «Verein Barmherzigkeit» - in the rural district of Kelbo, in the Soum province, the Sahel region.

The project has contributed to strengthening the food and nutritional security of very poor households through (i) the implementation of a period of nine months (April to December 2020) of nutrition education activities and (ii) a knowhow transfer regarding the preparation techniques and consumption of enriched infant flour for children 6 to 24 months.

These activities focused on raising awareness and building the capacities of young mothers. A total of 214 young mothers and 306 children aged 6 to 23 months were involved. The project helped protect the nutritional status of these beneficiaries during the lean season from June to September 2020.

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

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and HOPE'87 Burkina Faso are implementing a humanitarian action to assist agricultural households and urban and peri-urban pastoralists affected by the COVID-19 crisis in the commune of Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso.

COVID-19 appeared in Burkina Faso during mid-March 2020 and has since then affected poor urban and peri-urban agricultural and pastoralist households in the commune of Ouagadougou. These households have been negatively affected by the necessary measures taken by the government of Burkina Faso to limit the spread of COVID-19. The City of Ouagadougou was quarantined for two months, which meant that small farmers and ranchers could not sell their products during this time, which was a shock for them and contributed to reducing their income.

To reduce the negative effects for these small urban and peri-urban producers, FAO through the United Nations Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) is titled "Prevent and respond to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on food security in the commune of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso".

implementing a project

COVID-19 pandemic on food security in the commune of Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso".

HOPE'87 Burkina Faso has been a partner of FAO since 2008 and is the operational agency for the implementation of this project in Burkina Faso. With other partners such as the City of Ouagadougou, the regional directorates of agriculture and animal resources of the central region of Burkina Faso, HOPE'87 Burkina Faso carried out the following activities

- i) target and record the data of the 4,200 beneficiary households of the project, i.e. 29,400 people according to the criteria selected,
- ii) contribute to an electronic transfer of unconditional cash for the benefit of households,
- iii) distribute agricultural inputs such as small equipment, seeds and fertilisers and livestock inputs such as poultry, rabbits and cattle feed for cattle fattening, to implement a prevention

programme against the spread of COVID-19 in households and agricultural and livestock production sites,

iv) monitor and evaluate the activities of the project in coordination with all stakeholders and prepare reports on the implementation of this humanitarian action.

This post-COVID-19 humanitarian action made it possible to financially and technically assist very poor urban and peri-urban households. The action also made it possible to provide agricultural and livestock inputs to beneficiary households and to increase again their production and financial income. It helped strengthen the beneficiaries' knowledge to fight the spread of COVID-19 and strengthened the resilience of very poor households towards health and economic shocks.

## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS BURKINA FASO

### Government Authorities

- Mr Armand Pierre Roland Béouindé, Mayor of Ouagadougou
- Mr Adama Victor Kabré, Mayor of the rural district of Komki-Ipala
- Mr Lassane Kiemtoré, Mayor of the rural district of Tanghin-Dassouri
- Mr Yaya Ouattara, Mayor of the rural district of Koloko
- Mr Inoussa Boye Maïga, Mayor of the rural district of Kelbo
- Mr Issouf Nikiéma, Mayor of the rural district of Komsilga
- Mr Boniface Zango, Mayor of the rural district of Laye
- Mr Oumar Ouédraogo, Mayor of the rural district of Niou
- Mr Alexandre Zagré, Mayor of the rural district of Sourgoubila
- Mr Idrissa Sawadogo, Mayor of the rural district of Toeghin
- Father Mathieu Traoré, Director of the cultural center René Fournier, Bobo-Dioulasso
- Mr Julien Nonguierma, former Mayor of the rural district of Komsilga
- H.E. Mr Lassané Sawadogo, former Minister of Economy, Finance and Development of Burkina Faso
- H.E. Mr Lassané Kaboré, 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 Promotion of Partnership, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Development
- Mr Issa Ouattara, Director of the Regional Development Agency
- Mr Eric Bourgou, Responsible for NGOs, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Development
- Mr Germain Nana, Head of service, Department of Promotion of Partnership, Ministry of Economy, Finance and Development

### Diplomatic Representatives

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

### Agencies

- Mr Wim Fransen, former Technical Advisor, ECHO field office Ouagadougou
- Ms Delphine Buyse, Technical Advisor, ECHO field office Ouagadougou
- Mr Dauda Sau, Resident Representative of FAO in Burkina Faso
- Mr Souleymane Traoré, Food Security Expert FAO, Burkina Faso
- Mr Christian Geosits, former Coordinator, ADA Burkina Faso
- Mr DI Hannes Hauser, Coordinator, ADA Burkina Faso
- Mr Yves Delisle (†), Programme Officer, Rural Development, 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 Jonas Soubeiga, WFP Project Officer



**NGOs**

- Mr Guillaume Doukoun, Country Representative, SOS Sahel International, Burkina Faso
- Mr Baléma Bazié, President of the local association “Ca Me Concerne”
- Mr Emmanuel Niyindorera, ADRA Country Director, Burkina Faso
- Ms Claire Kaboré, GRET Country Representative Burkina Faso, Chief of Nutrifaso Project
- Dr Traoré Tahirou, GRET Deputy Country Representative
- Ms Elise Kokora, former Country Representative DRC
- Ms Edith Balbomi, Senior Project Officer Christian Aid, Burkina Faso
- Mr Modeste Konkobo, National Coordinator, Croix-Rouge Burkina Faso
- Mr Pierre Michailard, Programme Officer, Conseil Départemental du territoire de Belfort, France
- Ms Clémentine Kaboré, Groupement Féminin de Productrices “Wend Sôngda” de Komki-Ipala
- 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 Pedagogical Academy of Sikasso
- Mr Moukeilou Maïga, Director of the Bougoula School

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- H.E. Ambassador Kodjo Lougué, Ambassador of Burkina Faso to Mali

**Agencies**

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**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:** Promoting education and capacity building for the youth and increasing the income of households

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
“Kinderhilfe für Burundi”: Support for school age children and youth in Kivoga	Kivoga village, Rutana province	1.700	Goals 1, 3, 4
Strengthening community participation in integrated early childhood development	Kivoga village, Rutana province	950	Goals 1, 3, 4
Vocational training for young people in the tourism sector	Bujumbura	600	Goals 3, 4, 5, 8
Young Burundian Leaders Network and Environment	Communities Bururi, Makamba and north of Bujumbura; Bujumbura	500	Goals 2, 3, 5
Hiroshima Arts Party: Children’s drawing exhibition	Burundian refugees in Uvira, DRC	100	Goal 5
Ensuring access to quality education and essential child protection services for children and adolescents	Communities Makamba, Kirundo, Rutana, Cankuzo and Rumonge	30.000	Goals 1, 4, 5, 16, 17
Improving access to quality primary education for the poor and marginalised children of Mvumera colline	Mvumera colline, community of Mabayi, province of Cibitoke	700	Goals 4, 5, 10, 11, 13

Benoît MUHIMUZI - Development Economist

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



## SUMMARY

Burundi is a small country of 27,834 km<sup>2</sup> with an estimated population of around 12,133,210 people. The country is located in the Great Lakes region and shares its borders with Rwanda to the north, Tanzania to the south and east and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) to the west. Burundi is often confronted with major challenges like conflicts causing the displacement of the population both inside Burundi itself and outside in the bordering countries of Burundi. This situation has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic since the beginning of 2020.

The socio-political crisis of 2015 led a large number of Burundians to flee the country and to cross the border as refugees. At the time of writing this report there were about 332,451 Burundian refugees in the following regions: Tanzania, Rwanda, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Burundi held elections in 2020, with a new president coming from the ruling party. Unfortunately, this process was accompanied by the death of the former president. Burundi still faces multiple socio-economic and post-election challenges.

The analysis of humanitarian needs indicates that 1.7 million people need assistance in 2020. Since 2017, there has been a voluntary return of refugees from Tanzania and Rwanda and 60% of them are children. It is also reported that about 500,000 children and adolescents (5 to 17 years old) dropped out of school.

Moreover, a large number of refugees, returnees and Internally Displaced People (IDP) - especially children - face problems related to reintegration into school. This is mainly due to a lack of school materials, discrimination by their peers, and an inadequately prepared school environment for their reception. From a pedagogical point of view, these children have difficulties in mastering the languages of instruction (French and Kirundi) for having evolved in English-speaking education systems and also show weaknesses in non-linguistic disciplines (calculation and sciences). These children are also victims of early pregnancies and gender-based violence that occur throughout Burundi's education system. Girls face the problem of menstruating management, which, without proper care, can be a cause of school absence. More and more returnees and IDP children increase the burden on classrooms, resulting in the premature abandonment of children, which could jeopardize the completion of goal 4 of the SDGs by 2030.

The country therefore faces immense challenges that the government cannot achieve alone. It is imperative to help these children in order to give them the chance to better prepare for their future and recover their rights through equitable and quality access to education.

In response to the above context described and in view of the needs identified, HOPE'87-Burundi continues to mobilise with other partners to alleviate the suffering of these vulnerable children, including returnees and repatriates IDP children and to support children living with disabilities and those in the host environment of poor families. The actions of HOPE'87-Burundi are very much focused on marginalised communities such as the Batwa minority to encourage their children to enter school and contribute to the completion of the SDGs.



## ACTIVITIES

### “Kinderhilfe für Burundi”: Support for school age children and youth in Kivoga

The “Gitaramuka Centre for the development of improved school conditions” continues to take the lead in communities' education. The centre motivates people who live in the surroundings of the school to be more involved in the schooling process of their children but also to combine an increasing livelihood in the community.

The impact of COVID-19 on household economies is very visible and, of course, the school was not spared, although the school was among the first schools to put into practice the rules and conditions to combat the transmission of COVID-19 as advocated by the ministry of health, i.e. to wash your hands as often as possible. The centre has soap and water containers at every classroom entrance and children wash their hands before entering class.

By and by, the centre put into action the messages of the public health officials consisting of: staying at home when sick; covering mouth and nose with masks or at least with flexed elbow; washing hands often with soap and water; cleaning frequently touched surfaces and objects. These measures are taken to protect children, teachers and the community. Meetings and celebrations are also very limited at the centre.

To minimise the impact of the coronavirus on children's learning, the young children from the centre are encouraged to become advocates for disease prevention and control at home, in school and in their community by talking to others about how to prevent the spread of viruses. The role of the centre remains essential for the resilience of the community.

HOPE'87-Burundi with the generous support from the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need, the “Visions for Children” Foundation and the RTL Foundation successfully managed to implement the “Gitaramuka Centre for the development of improved school conditions”. It consisted of the construction of a school building with adjacent rooms for vocational training, several dormitories to lodge vulnerable children free of charge and accommodation for teachers.

The centre has taken the lead of a great learning environment area in Rutana, but also a respectable place in the country according to the reports from travelers who visit the site. The project involved the construction of the Gitaramuka School Centre with a primary school, consisting of eight classrooms equipped with chairs, desks and black boards, an administrative bloc, a well-equipped kitchen, a big canteen that provides healthy food, a warehouse and ecological sanitary facility. Moreover, access to safe water for the households of the community were established.

Furthermore, the Gitaramuka school is maintaining its level to be among the 3% of schools with the lowest drop-out rate in Burundi. This is partly due to the HOPE'87-Burundi continuous monitoring of the project towards the objective of the “zero drop-out rate” by infusing new methodological approaches of teaching that were collected on the basis of different meetings on new education reforms in Burundi. This was made possible thanks to the high quality of this educational centre and due to the determination of the directors, the teachers and the parents.

The school continues to support the production of food at the centre and within the community by planting bananas, vegetables, sweet potatoes and beans. The manure that is collected from the cows, goats and pigs from the centre's pilot farm is used as fertiliser in the fields. This makes HOPE'87-Burundi a part of organisations that contribute to the fight of malnutrition through education.

The continuous success recorded years back by the Village Saving and Loan Association (VSLA) allowed pupils to be part of member groups sponsored by the new microfinance institutions operating in Kivoga. This allowed the VSLA groups composed of parents to, for example, start a rice production in the swampy areas bordering both sides of the Mutsindozi river close to the school centre. This new initiative has been changing the view of parents in responding to hunger and poverty.

HOPE'87-Burundi is working in close collaboration with the community leaders to maintain the good practices in response to the Sustainable Development Goals 1, 3 and 4 which aim at erasing hunger, establishing good health as well as ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and promoting lifelong learning opportunities for all.

### Strengthening community participation in integrated early childhood development

Starting an Early Childhood Development (ECD) programme in Burundi requires a lot of courage and determination, especially when the government is far behind in supporting this kind of programme. The Ministry of National Education and Scientific Research encourages each primary school in the country to have at least two preschool classrooms. However, teachers are neither trained nor is the community supervised.

The main objective of the programme is a high-quality preschool education which involves good socio-emotional, cognitive, physical, sensory and psychomotor development of the toddlers as essential life skills which will impact on the rest of their life.

The ECD programme is currently at its sixth class since its inception. Children who entered into the primary school have been successful and motivating other newcomers of the school. The presence of this preschool education continues to motivate the community in taking care of a child at an early age.

Furthermore, a third grade has been added that allows for an education of three years at the preschool. Generally, it is required for children to start their education at the age of three as required by Burundi's early childhood education law.

To allow this preschool to work efficiently, the number of children in each class has been reduced to 25. Teachers attended various training provided by the minister in charge of education, during which the focus was on the psychosocial education of a child in order to equip teachers with necessary know-how. Teachers and parents received key messages and actions for COVID-19 prevention and control in schools. Moreover, the sandbox, playing material and books for drawing for the children were renewed. The directorate of the school received register books and chalks in boxes with different colors. The children of the preschool continue to eat the food of the canteen which makes them want to stay at the school.

As a result, the success rate of these children in primary school has risen to 90%. Parents' appreciation also testifies to a clear change in children, both psychological and intellectual, which can be seen in all areas of their everyday life.

It is amazing to see how this programme is playing a vital role with regards to the parents. By sending young children to

school, parents come to the school every day to collect their children and sometimes take time to discuss the progress of their children with the teachers.



school, parents come to the school every day to collect their children and sometimes take time to discuss the progress of their children with the teachers.

The Gitaramuka preschool remains a benchmark model of childcare for quality early childhood education. Various visits by the educational authorities, who visit the province of Rutana, are made regularly.

The implementation and the success of this project was made possible through the generous financial support of the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need, the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) and through the support of the local community of Kivoga.

### Vocational training for young people in the tourism sector

The COVID-19 pandemic, which has not spared Burundi, could exacerbate the difficulties already experienced by the tourism sector.

In its mission, HOPE'87-Burundi continues to support young volunteer leaders to find solutions for the employability of young people through local opportunities, initiated by these young people. The tourism sector remains a potential area that young people can improve their entrepreneurship in.

Each year, the project trains about 20 young leader volunteers in producing articles that are bought by tourists or a service that responds to the demands of tourists.

In the Bururi forest, a mobile training centre was put into place, with the generous financial support of the World Bank, to increase the household livelihood for people living near the forest so that they may not harm the natural resources the forest offers.

The centre allows the youth to learn how the quality of coffee can be improved from the field to the cup. This year, one person was selected to participate in a training organised by CQI-Coffee Quality Institute on “Les Bases Essentielles du traitement du café carnet de l'étudiant”. We hope that in return the selected person will train their peers...

There is also a growing exchange between the youth living in rural areas and those living in the town in regard to technical aspects and to products produced by themselves. At the centre people can have coffee, eat delicious local food and organise meetings.

Moreover, these young people help to protect the Burundian forest, which is full of animals and diverse flora and fauna, through their sustainable advocacy of local products. Environmental protection can only be effective if the communities' livelihoods are improved and if communities are involved in any decision making.

If peace is established and COVID-19 is eradicated many of them will be able to live with means from the tourism sector, since they are well prepared to welcome visitors, e.g. at the Lake Tanganyika, and to offer tours of the famous Bururi forest, which is a natural reserve protected by the Burundian government.

Furthermore, this project offers various activities for young people to participate in, such as an English club to improve their communication with foreigners or arts classes and reforestation clubs aimed at the establishment of indigenous tree nurseries.

Despite the fact that the project is responding to the great challenge of youth unemployment in Burundi, it is also a platform for youth to exchange and improve their talents.

### Young Burundian Leaders Network and Environment

The northern parts of Bujumbura remain an interesting place to promote this platform based on the voluntary involvement of talented youth in different parts of the capital city of Bujumbura.

This year, the young participants were delighted to celebrate the International Day of Peace on 21st September with different activities such as theatre plays, games, a football match and a celebration to promote peace within the Burundian communities. The interesting thing was to see different groups of young people from different quarters of Bujumbura coming together in celebration of this International Day of Peace. The northern parts of Bujumbura are largely made up of marginalized and poor people seeking for asylum. For each game, players were selected from different backgrounds, ethnic groups and religious beliefs with the intention of inclusivity. The event was organised to



prepare young people to unite for the then upcoming elections planned for May 2020 as the youth is often more prone to manipulation by political parties. To avoid political conflicts, young people were prepared to use their sense of leadership and work hand in hand for a climate of peace and for fair, transparent and peaceful elections. We believe that this civic education will promote the young generation as agents of peace for a sustainable development of their country.

Consequently, these days, HOPE'87 Burundi observes more youth who become interested in joining the network movement and to promote peace and division-based conflict resolution initiatives.

Apart from supporting youth-led projects, the Young Burundian Leaders Network and Environment has an ongoing weekly programme that intends to gather young people from various backgrounds to come together and learn English. The network uses English learning sessions as a tool to promote youth talents. Most importantly, the network arranges debates on various social and economic topics for the purpose of promoting youth empowerment.

### Hiroshima Arts Party: Children's drawing exhibition

Bujumbura is the capital city of Burundi and is situated at the north-eastern shore of Lake Tanganyika. Historically, Bujumbura played a vital role in the lives of people living in one of the two towns Uvira and Bukavu of the Democratic Republic of Congo. The three towns Bujumbura, Uvira and Bukavu, have had a lot of socio-economic exchanges during peaceful periods. There are a lot of trades going on between the three towns and a lot of Congolese citizens prefer services provided by Burundians.

However, for decades until now both countries have been characterised by unstable political phases, which have eventually led to a lot of citizens fleeing their country. Over the years, the South Kivu province in DRC has welcomed many Burundians who fled their country and are seeking refuge in the DRC. Consequently, both towns Uvira and Bukavu have a lot of school-aged children from Burundi.

This has motivated HOPE'87-Burundi to build a strong partnership with different institutions operating in DRC to join efforts and see if the suffering of the children in that part of the world can be alleviated. A project was initiated by the Don Bosco's Salesian Fathers in order to mentor and protect these children by including them in the Hiroshima Arts Party-project. The project promotes psychosocial and recreational activities for the children through drawing competitions. In 2019, 40 children attended the event in November and December before the outbreak of the pandemic of COVID-19. The initiative is an offshoot of the active cooperation of the Asian Network of Trust (ANT) and its founder Tomoko Watanabe of Hiroshima/Japan and HOPE'87.

### Ensuring access to quality education and essential protection services for children and adolescents in Burundi

Successive socio-political crises have rocked Burundi and have forced thousands of people into exile, having to leave their homes as internally displaced people. Despite the contribution of the international community to the consolidation of Peace and democratisation in Burundi, the country remains fragile and unstable.

The 2015 election process quickly transformed into a socio-political crisis, forcing a massive departure of the population to neighboring countries.

In collaboration with UNICEF and the Ministry in charge of education, HOPE'87-Burundi assists repatriated and internally displaced children to integrate into the Burundian education system in the provinces of Makamba, Rumonge, Rutana, Cankuzo and Kirundo.

Tripartite meetings (UNHCR, Government of Burundi and Government of Tanzania) continue to deal with the practical modalities of a voluntary return of refugees from Tanzania in safety and dignity. The concerned international institutions and governments also work together to assist refugees to return voluntarily and freely to Burundi.

Repatriation is planned and has been underway since the beginning of 2017 and it increases the number of vulnerable people. The current situation is being monitored with more attention by the international humanitarian community, financial and technical partners.

The humanitarian response plan for the education sector considers 151,700 people in need and targets 110,700 people. The plan is based on three objectives, namely:

- Guarantee girls and boys of school age (3-16 years) affected by population movement and other types of acute vulnerabilities, equitable access to quality education.
- Strengthen capacities and educational mechanisms and structures for advocacy, monitoring-evaluation, coordination in emergency management considering gender and age.
- Ensure girls and boys of school age (3-16 years), affected by population movement and other types of acute vulnerabilities, an education adapted to their socio-emotional needs in a healthy, protective and inclusive environment.

In order to comply with the implementation of the humanitarian response plan for the education sector, HOPE'87-Burundi contributes to the assistance of repatriates / returnees and IDP children from the Makamba, Rumonge, Rutana, Cankuzo and Kirundo provinces by the above-mentioned project based on the following objectives and activities in the education sector.

The support consisted of:

- identification of 30,000 repatriated, returned and internally displaced children and adolescents in schools and communities within five provinces.
- distribution of 150 school kits (school in a box) and 30 boxes of early learning games.
- sensitisation meetings of various stakeholders.
- organisation of remedial courses for 12,000 repatriated, returned and internally displaced children who have gaps in learning by using French and Kirundi languages.
- capacity building of 300 teachers and school officials in "Education in Emergency Situations" through a child-friendly school module with particular emphasis on social cohesion, fighting against discrimination and psychological support to make the school a place of peace.
- organisation of experiences meetings for 400 teachers in school networks.

The project considers gender, equity, environmental and sustainability approaches. In the remedial language sessions organised in schools, a gender parity between girls and boys as well as among the teachers, who provide these remedial courses is considered. Furthermore, during teacher training, a session unit of taking gender into account in classroom practices is discussed to equip teachers in order to avoid sexist stereotypes as well as gender-based violence in school.

The needs of children in vulnerable situations identified are enormous. These are a lack of school materials, a lack of classrooms, overcrowding in toilets, a lack of water at school, absence and abandonment of children due to family poverty, the weak intellectual capacity of teachers in order to stabilise the school for effective child adaptation. With this in mind, HOPE'87-Burundi undertakes the project «Support access to improve education for returnee / returned and internally displaced children in Makamba, Kirundo, Rutana, Cankuzo and Rumonge provinces».

As defined by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) in Burundi, this programme has an effect beyond a humanitarian response and is based on the guidelines formulated in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction. Resilience is an essential dimension of sustainable development and is based, in the context of this project, on the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) standards for care principles for children in humanitarian crises.



### Improving access to quality primary education for the poor and marginalised children of Mvumera colline

The Mabayi commune is one of six communes located in Cibitoke, which is a province in north-western Burundi. The project contributes to the promotion and advocacy for access to basic education for the most vulnerable and marginalised children. This action was made possible by the generous financial support of the Austrian Embassy for Burundi based in Nairobi. As a matter of fact, the Communal Director of Education, Technical and Vocational Training in the province of Cibitoke was involved in the planning of the project to ensure the achievement of the expected results.

The most important activities of this project are to meet the urgent need of children for an efficient integration into a learning school environment. The availability of classrooms and of school desks eases the suffering of children who, before the project, had to sit on the ground outside due to the lack of any school equipment.

The school is located not far from the most vulnerable marginalised ethnic group of Burundi, the “Batwa”, in the Kibira forest bordering Rwanda.

Due to the lack of a suitable learning environment at schools, many children have been affected in a way that caused them to drop out of school or to repeat the same grade. Most of them are children from the marginalised group of the Batwa. In general, some of the leading causes for the school drop-out rates is the inability of parents to afford school fees due to poverty. Such poverty in families often requires the children to do manual labour and to contribute to the survival of their families at a very young age.

Through the construction and equipment of two classrooms and a “training for teachers” programme to enhance the capacities of the teaching staff to care for vulnerable children and especially for the indigenous population, the children were motivated to return to school.

Currently, there is an increase of 13.5% in registered children at this school and these pupils were able to integrate into the learning environment through the projects’ activities. Forecasts are showing the continual increase in the number of children and the school is expecting an increase of 40% of registered children by the beginning of the school year 2019/2020.

Within this project, a tree-planting campaign is also planned in order to fight soil erosion. This sub-project will go beyond the Mvumera school, due to the necessity of environmental protection and because other schools in the community of Mabayi will embrace this practice as well. Moreover, environmental volunteer clubs will be put in place in order to contribute to the restoration of the natural landscape of the Kibira forest. This activity is an immediate response to the call of the President of the Republic of Burundi, Pierre Nkurunziza, for every Burundian to participate in his ambitious project known as “Ewe Burundi urambaye / Burundi you are covered”, which consists of planting trees on every hill.

## 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
- Mr 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:** Improving the fight against poverty by restoring the human dignity of the population in urban and peri-urban areas of Senegal through capacity-building and focusing on education, health, infrastructure, agriculture and income generation

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Construction of and providing equipment for a kindergarten - early childhood education in Baraka	Baraka, Sicap Liberté VI, Dakar	68	Goals 4, 9
Expansion of the Baraka primary school	Baraka Sicap Liberté VI, Dakar	250	Goal 4
DIGGI 4 Baraka	Baraka Sicap Liberté VI, Dakar	300	Goal 4
Job twinning and assistance for small businesses in Baraka	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
Local fruit juice production	Baraka Sicap Liberté VI, Dakar	6	Goals 1,5
Support of the activities of women fishmongers in Yoff	Yoff, Dakar	115	Goals 1, 5
Access to drinking water in the Casamance	Kouthiéra and Saré Beydari, Dep. Kolda	407	Goal 6
Production of protective masks to deal with COVID-19	Baraka, Sicap Liberté VI, Dakar	210	Goal 3
Agriculture and improved nutrition for pregnant women and children aged 0-5	Mampatim, Dialambere and Medina Chérif, Dep. Kolda	3.500	Goals 1, 2, 3
RECOURVRE - Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable persons in Western Africa due to the COVID-19 pandemic crisis	Kolda	11.000	Goals 1, 2, 5

### COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

Boubacar MANE - Geographer



## SUMMARY

Senegal faces, like many other Sahelian countries, many harmful climate challenges which have accentuated the country's poverty. The scarce resources in agricultural products make the economy vulnerable to shocks, particularly to climatic changes, as Senegalese agriculture mainly depends on rainfall. The population of Senegal has grown 2.39% in the year 2018 which led to the exodus of the population from rural areas to urban and peri-urban areas.

Despite the tremendous political and economic improvements by the government, Senegal ranks 166th out of 189 countries according to the latest Human Development Index (HDI), published by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in 2018.

Faced with this situation, Senegal has undertaken various initiatives to install greater resilience. It is above all the “Emerging Senegal Plan” (ESP) which is the benchmark for the country's economic policy. The ESP targets the economic emergence of Senegal by 2035 and is based on three main initiatives: (i) The structural transformation of the economy and growth, (ii) The human capital, social protection and sustainable development, (iii) governance, institutions, peace and security.

As part of the mission to support the ESP of the Senegalese government, HOPE'87- Senegal in collaboration with its technical and financial partners, continues to focus on supporting the initiative through a diversity of projects. The main focus hereby lies on combating food insecurity, providing education for children, providing vocational training for young people and their integration into the job market, improving the health of the population and the quality of lives of Senegalese people while targeting the poor and vulnerable and strengthening gender equality at the same time.

One of the main projects HOPE'87-Senegal participated in are the construction activities of the “Cité Baraka” project. This project was initiated in 2015 by the YOU Foundation-Education for Children in Need with the generous support of Casa Orascom; it is implemented in the slum of Baraka in Liberté VI. The 1st phase of the project activities was completed in April 2020 and on June 28th, 2020, 127 slum households were glad to move into the six new buildings.

The economic and social life of the Senegalese people has been impacted in a severe manner with the COVID-19 crisis emerging at the beginning of March 2020. As the government put in place various measures to prevent the virus from spreading, Senegalese borders and schools had to be closed.

The coronavirus lockdown had a huge impact on the majority of the Senegalese people who mainly work on a day-to-day basis and were hence deprived of an income during this difficult time.

Due to the progression of the COVID-19 disease in Senegal since March 2020, HOPE'87-Senegal integrated an awareness campaign and the production of protective masks into its programme to ensure a better protection of the population of Baraka and Kolda against the infection.



## ACTIVITIES

### Construction of and providing equipment for a kindergarten - early childhood education in Baraka

With the creation of the kindergarten in Baraka, HOPE'87-Senegal and its long-standing partner, the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need, seek to integrate children from three to six years old into the world of learning in order to promote the children's intellectual developments as well as their personalities.

Living in precarious conditions with their parents, these children were left to themselves without protection in the neighborhood. With the construction and the equipment of the kindergarten, parents understood the importance of early childhood education.

During the 2019/2020 school year, nearly 68 children aged between three and six years were enrolled in the Baraka kindergarten located on the ground floor of the primary school. These children are divided into small, medium and large groups, depending on their educational level. Moreover, an adapted learning environment, supported by the state of Senegal, was set up with qualified teachers.

### Expansion of the Baraka primary school

The Baraka primary school extension project aims to improve the quality of the preschool and primary school education for children aged three to twelve years in the poor Baraka district. This project is in line with the Quality, Equity and Transparency Improvement Programme (PAQUET 2013-2025) initiated by the government of Senegal. This document was developed in order to participate in the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals which are linked to quality education (SDG4). The objective of this goal is to ensure access for all to quality education on an equal footing and to promote lifelong learning opportunities.

The primary school in Baraka has become a school complex with a kindergarten and provides access to quality education for children aged three to twelve from Baraka and the surrounding neighborhoods. In total, 220 children from Baraka are enrolled in the primary school as part of the 2019/2020 school year.

As in all countries affected by COVID-19, schools were closed in Senegal from March 2020 to June 2020 as part of the restrictive measures taken by the authorities. The classes resumed on June 25th, 2020 for the exams and a total of 45 twelve-year-old students were allowed to resume taking classes while respecting social distancing and wearing masks.

### DIGGI 4 Baraka

The DIGGI 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, 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 main targets of this project, can easily access the DIGGI computer center 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 also served as a meeting place for craftsmen of Baraka and for technicians from the Ministry of Vocational Training during the month of February 2020. Within the framework of the project "Job winnings and assistance for small businesses in Baraka", initiated by the YOU Foundation and financed by the German Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), the technicians from the ministry met with the artisans on an individual basis in the centre for the purpose of analysing their training needs.

Moreover, computer initiation training activities were continued at the IT Centre with 10 students who registered for computer initiation and accelerated search methods. Due to the construction activities for the new "Cité Baraka" and the demolition of the slum huts, the activities of the extended IT Centre were temporarily suspended for security reasons. Once the construction works will have been terminated, the centre will be transferred to a new commercial area that is being built in the new Cité Baraka.

### Job twinning and assistance for small businesses in Baraka

This job training project for the Baraka craftsmen was initiated by the 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 aims 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.

The project is also supported by the Senegalese Ministry of Employment, Vocational Training and Handicrafts which organised workshops with the National Service for Professional Orientation (SNOP) in order to analyse the training needs of the artisans in detail.

The training sessions were scheduled to start in March 2020 but coincided with the restrictions made by the Senegalese government due to the coronavirus health crisis. However, in September the first of altogether 48 training-cycles started with a course on "textile cleaning services". By and by, more courses such as for tailoring, hairdressing, building trade, local fruit processing and many more will follow.

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

In June 2020, 127 households relocated from the former slum huts to the new Cité Baraka which is already made up of six out of eleven new buildings. The 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 cleaning concerns the corridors, the stairs and the courtyards of the 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. The caretakers 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 in order for problems to be resolved.



### Local fruit juice production

The project on local production of fruit juice in Baraka continues. This project was implemented by a group of six women who are active in the production of large quantities of juice. The aim of the project is to improve the incomes of the beneficiaries in order to meet rental, water and electricity charges for their households in the new Cité Baraka.

The juices are sold on-site in public spaces in two different kiosks, each of them equipped with three refrigerators. The two stalls were built and installed by Baraka artisans in order to promote local expertise.

The production of local and natural juice attracts foremost a clientele made up of children from the primary school of the Baraka district, young people and adults who avoid carbonated drinks as much as possible.

In March 2020, all juice production activities were suspended due to the restriction taken by the authorities in the context of the prevention of the spread of COVID-19. For security reasons, one stall was put in interim storage as construction activities for the new apartment buildings were stepped up at the end of phase I. With the relocation of the first 127 slum dwellers to their new homes and the relaxation of the COVID-19 restrictions, the juice production activities were resumed by both kiosks in June 2020.

### Support of women fishmongers of Yoff

In support of the women fishmongers in the traditional village Yoff, the phases I and II of the project have continued. The women sell and clean fish at the market not far from the traditional wharf. The overall objective of the project is to contribute to the significant improvement of the incomes of women fish sellers of Yoff.

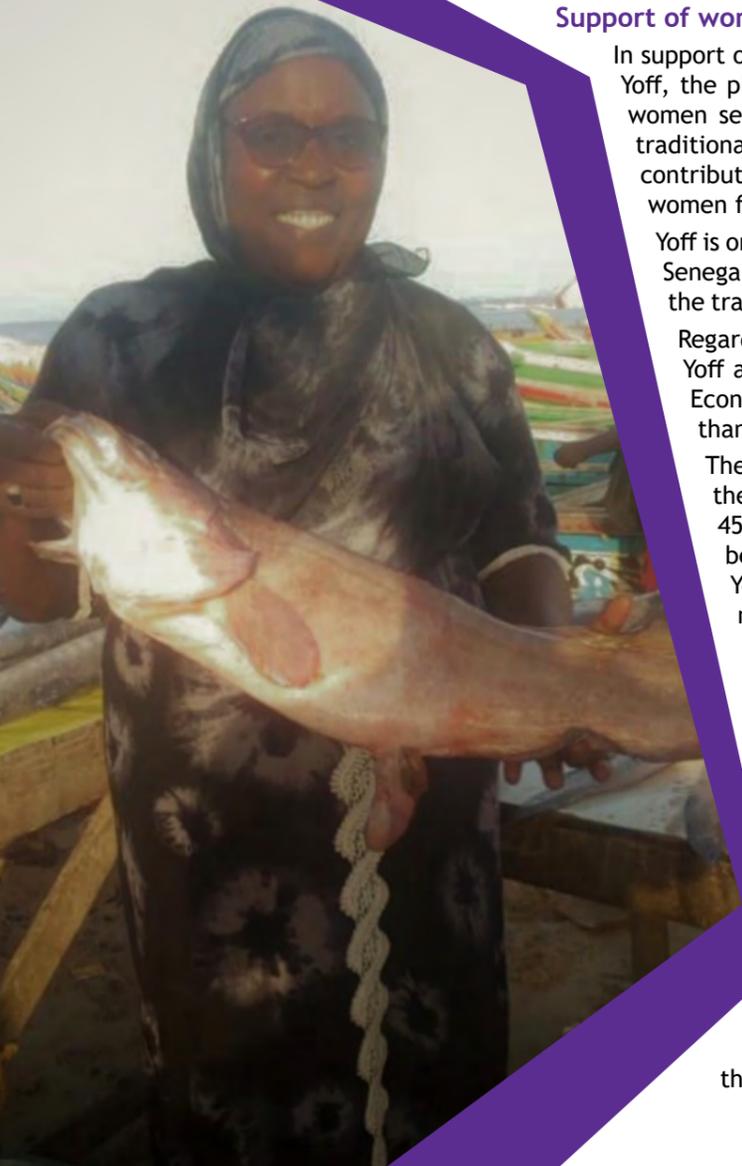
Yoff is one of the most important traditional fishing ports in Senegal. Fishing and its ancillary activities even constitute the traditional basis of the economy of the whole district.

Regarding the sale and the cleaning of fish, the women of Yoff are constituted in a GIE, a "Groupement d'Intérêt Economique" or Economic Interest Group, with more than one hundred members.

The members of the group have consensually divided the group into two parts: The first group, Yoff I, with 45 members and Mathioro Dieye as their manager has been active since February 2019. The second group, Yoff II, with 70 members and Marième Thiaw as their manager, joined the programme recently. The Yoff II project also includes fish cleaners and not just vendors in its programme.

All these women exercise the same activity, which is the sale and cleaning of fish at the Yoff beach where a fish-market was built by the town hall of Yoff. The market is open every day and receives an average of nearly 700 visitors per day.

HOPE'87-Senegal supported these groups of women by providing courses in hygiene and basic bookkeeping. Together with a microfinancing institution a guarantee fund was set up to allow them access to credits and to further develop their activities while securing the guarantee fund.



In order to diversify their sources of income, these women were also trained in the processing of fish into smoked and dried fish. These products are welcomed by Senegalese households.

### Access to drinking water in the Casamance

The project "Access to drinking water in the Casamance" was implemented by HOPE'87-Senegal in the villages of Saré Beydari and Kouthiéra as these villages face crucial problems of access to drinking water.

The only wells in each village are traditional wells that dry up as of April and leave the people with soiled water from unhealthy sources. This exposes the population, especially children under the age of ten, to waterborne diseases that manifest themselves in diarrhea and vomiting.

With the construction of two new wells as part of the project, all women of the two villages, responsible traditionally for the water consumption, now have access to perfect quality drinking water in the vicinity of their households.

Almost 50,000 litres of water are used by the households per day. The constant availability of safe drinking water has erased the fear among the population of a lack of water due to the drying up of wells. Young girls and their mothers are now able to save two hours of work every day. Before, they used to wake up at 5 a.m. to carry the jerry cans to the far-away traditional water points to be back before the wells dried up around 8 a.m. School aged girls who no longer have to walk for 5 km to fetch water, will no longer be late for school and will therefore be able to follow their school education properly.

Within the framework of this project, the emphasis is also placed on strengthening the capacities of women and community health workers ("agents de santé communautaires, ASC") on the protection of drinking water. Thus, between September 2019 and January 2020, ten ASC were trained in the nearby administrative locality of Mampatim by the regional hygiene service of Kolda on all issues concerning safe drinking water. More than 800 people are now benefitting of safe drinking water in the project region.



### Production of protective masks to deal with COVID-19

Senegal, like most African countries, has been affected hard by COVID-19 and the numbers of infected persons continues to increase at the time of preparing this report.

In poor neighbourhoods like the slum of Baraka in Dakar, the most vulnerable population fights every day for its survival and even more so in the context of the pandemic. Most of these people derive their daily income from their work in the informal sector and it is this sector which is most affected by the pandemic.

The restrictions taken by the Senegalese authorities to deal with COVID-19 have a significant impact on the lives of many people, especially those in Baraka who are marginalised and the most vulnerable.

In Baraka, where the population is in the midst of moving to the new Cité Baraka, the United Teams - the strategic alliance of the YOU Foundation and HOPE'87 - supported the women tailors, housed in the Schumacher training centre, with the production of protective masks. This helps to make masks accessible for low income people during the health crisis. Overall, the project aims to provide economic support for the women tailors whose activities have been slowed down by the COVID-19 health crisis. Within this project, more masks are produced on a daily basis and sold to the population of Baraka and the neighboring districts at an affordable price. The project has thus become a source of income for the women tailors who lost their jobs due to the coronavirus crisis but who still have to feed their families and children.

### Agriculture and improved nutrition for pregnant women and children aged 0-5

The project “Relaunch of the rainfed rice cultivation in the Casamance”, which was co-financed by the Austrian Development Agency back in 2011, continues to be executed by the same project partner, “Kissal Patim”, in the district of Mampatim.

Apart from rice production, the activities of the project were extended in more agricultural products with different varieties with high nutritional values. The aim of this action is basically to improve food security, nutrition and the incomes of vulnerable households.

With more than 3,500 members, 75% of them female, the total paddy rice production of “Kissal Patim” increased from 4,800 tonnes in 2018 to 5,500 tonnes in 2019.

Nearly 60% of the rice production is devoted to consumption and the other 40% is sold to rice processing units. The additional income from the marketing of rice enables the women to take charge of their children’s health and nutrition.

In addition to cultivating rice, the “Obatanpa” varieties of corn as well as the orange-fleshed sweet potato have been included in the project since 2016 to combat malnutrition in children from 0 to 5 years as well as to help pregnant women with their nutrition. Indeed, Obatanpa corn is very suitable for the preparation of flour and is also very rich in protein and therefore suitable for feeding malnourished children.

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

Since April 2020, HOPE’87-Senegal has been preparing tailor-made interventions in order to tackle the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in Western Africa. As part of an ideal synergy approach, the Austrian Development Agency launched a call for proposals for consortia, allocating EUR 3 Mio for actions in Western African countries that have been suffering from the consequences of the Corona-crisis. Subsequently, seven Austrian NGOs - HOPE’87, Red Cross, Light for the World, Horizont3000, Jugend Eine Welt and ICEP under the lead of CARITAS Austria joined forces to elaborate on a programme covering interventions in Burkina Faso and Senegal. The collaboration puts emphasis on complementing each other’s specific expertise in the different sectors of WASH, health, livelihood, food security and skills training to best serve the local populations’ basic needs reinforced through the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the humanitarian-development Nexus is given special focus. As a holistic approach, short-term humanitarian measures will be combined with mid- and long-term actions.

As a consequence, HOPE’87-Senegal prepared an action addressing the economic impact the pandemic has been having on the community of Kolda. This is combined with an intervention on awareness and protection mechanisms in order to reduce the mode of transmission of the coronavirus. As part of this, 5,000 households of the communities of Mampatim, Médina Chérif, Dialambéré and Bagadadji will be trained in improved agricultural methods to compensate on the losses they envisage during the lockdown phases of the country. Furthermore, emphasis is put on mothers and young children and their specific nutritional needs. A total of 11,000 individuals will be addressed by the action. The action is about to start in November 2020 and will run for a period of three years.

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



## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

### Government Authorities

- H.E. Mr Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal
- H.E. Mr Abdou Karim Fofana, former Minister of Urbanism, Housing and Public Hygiene
- 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
- Prof Abdoul Fadel Kane, Advisor to the Minister of Health
- Mr Alé Dieye Diouf, Sub-prefect of Mampatim

### Diplomatic Representatives

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

### Agencies

- Mr Ibrahima Mbaye, Agéroute Ziguinchor
- Mr Bocar Balde, DG SODAGRI
- Mr Ousseynou Konaté, Head, “Pole de Developement de la Casamance”

### 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





## 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

### 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 located in South America and borders the South Pacific Ocean to its west and Argentina, Bolivia and Peru to its north and east. As the longest north-south trending country in the world, Chile offers a magnificent diversity in nature. In the north of Chile one can find the Atacama Desert, the driest desert in the world, whereas the Chilean central region is marked by a Mediterranean climate and the south is characterised by a cool and damp climate.

According to the World Bank, Chile was considered as one of South America's most prosperous nations with a high-income economy. As the country relies heavily on its export-driven and market-oriented economy, Chile focuses on the trading of natural resources such as copper, timber, precious metals and iron ore. Moreover, Chile has a population of around 19 million people, of whom 90% are located in the heart of Chile around the capital of Santiago.

Despite the fact that Chile is a leading nation of Latin America in terms of competitiveness, income per capita, globalisation and economic freedom, the country is facing many environmental challenges. Air pollution from industrial and vehicle emissions as well as widespread deforestation and mining are threatening the environment. Chile is also prone to facing natural hazards, as there are three-dozen active volcanoes along the Andes mountain range called the Ring of Fire, capable of causing earthquakes due to eruption.

Chile also faces social challenges when it comes to unequal income generation as well as the lack of adequate and equal access to education for disabled people. The global coronavirus pandemic enforces these inequalities once more and has pushed many fragile middle-class families into poverty. It is being estimated that about one million additional people will have to live in poverty due to the coronavirus crisis.

This is why HOPE'87 actively supports children in need in Chile by assisting them in receiving an adequate education. The project takes place in San Francisco de Mostazala, a city close to the capital of the country.

**Brazil** being the largest country of South America, offers a large variety in nature and wildlife. The country accommodates for example the Pantanal, the world's largest tropical wetland, which extends through the west central part of the country. Another magnificent fact about the country is that it is home to 60% of the Amazon Rainforest which hosts approximately one-tenth of all the species in the world.

This makes Brazil an attractive country to visit for tourists. But despite hosting such a large variety of nature and wildlife, many species in Brazil have become endangered. It is pointed out by environmentalists that a staggering one-fifth of the Amazon Rainforest has already been destroyed and nearly 93% of the Atlantic Forest has been cleared. These disturbing facts inevitably affect the world's environment in a negative manner and make it more prone to natural hazards.

Moreover, Brazil is facing one of its most pressing challenges of restoring the fiscal sustainability from governmental corruption scandals as well as from a two-year recession. The World Bank forecasts that Brazil's economy will shrink eight percent this year due to the COVID-19 crisis. This new recession makes the state once again more fragile and endangers the existence of many inhabitants due to their job loss. With over one million confirmed coronavirus cases, Brazil's poorest 40 percent are particularly exposed to a fallout.

Brazil is also struggling with social issues of school enrolment and job opportunities, especially in the slum areas, called "Favelas". The country has to deal with poor living conditions, prevalent gang crime and drug trafficking in these areas, and quite often it is the young people who become the targets of organised crime and who suffer under a lack of perspective.

This is why HOPE'87 is trying to support the young people in these Favelas through a football project. This enables the children to get an education and offers them a perspective 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

In Chile, HOPE'87 is supporting a project for children with disabilities. As many of them are still facing challenging obstacles in their everyday life in Chile, HOPE'87 became involved in supporting educational opportunities for children with disabilities as well as children with special needs. The "Es mi casa" project provides the children with valuable knowledge in a school near Santiago de Chile. A workshop was built within the frame of the project and the school was rebuilt as part of the project by the municipality of San Francisco de Mostazal. Additionally, the school was equipped with wheelchairs, white walking sticks and crutches. In order to make the pupils feel welcome and to prepare them for their school enrolment as well as possible, a variety of workshops was organised at school.

The project was carried out by HOPE'87 in cooperation with the supporting organisation "Trekking Chile", headed by Mr Franz Schubert and is still being monitored to this day by the regional office of HOPE'87 for Latin America. The office ensures that the high-quality and sustainable features of the project are maintained by visiting the school on a regular basis and remaining in continuous contact with the principal and teachers of the school. This allows the project to be maintained in a sustainable manner and to benefit further the children's prospects.

## ACTIVITIES BRAZIL

### Base Brazil Football Schools

In Brazil, HOPE'87 promotes the sports project "Base Brazil - Living a Dream" for socially deprived children of the Favelas. The project involves 30 football schools working together in order to improve and contribute to the children's education. The idea behind the project is that the children - through their physical participation in soccer - use sports as a vehicle for their motivation to engage actively in society, to develop their cognitive skills as well as to work on their social skills in a sports team.

Overall, the project promotes the development of the children's psychomotor skills, their development of good sportsmanship as well as the achievement of general life-skills by learning to respect the game, their team mates, coaches, opponents and referees. Within this context, several coaches, who have been professionally trained by the Non-Violence-Project, are helping the children in applying sports with a strong emphasis on the educational aspect. This means that the children learn about the importance of healthy self-esteem, emotional control, communication skills and conflict management. These are key qualifications that young people need in order to become successful in life and to develop their own individual skills. Overall, the coaches' aims are to inspire, motivate and engage these young people into peaceful conflict solving. This is part of the Non-Violence-Project of the Coaches Education Programme that the WWSA has provided the trainers with.



With the help of the project, educational opportunities and future prospects are being improved for the children and young people of the Favelas and in total, the project has already reached around 3,500 boys and girls from different football schools in more than 30 cities in Brazil. This was made possible thanks to the Worldwide Soccer Academies (WWSA) that offers the children weekly training sessions for 15 to 25 participants per team for a period of 12 months under the supervision of a coach.

The “Base Brazil - Living a Dream” project was carried out by HOPE’87 and is being monitored on a regular basis to this day by the regional office of HOPE’87 for Latin America in order to ensure its sustainability. The project was enabled through the generous financial support of the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need under the patronage of Mr Jérôme Boateng, a member of the German national football team.

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



## 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 Macias

## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS BRAZIL

### Project Partners

- Non-Violence-Project (NVP)
- Sports for Peace Programme
- Escola Total in Rio de Janeiro and Santos
- National Commission of Brazil for UNESCO

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Dr Irene Giner-Reichl, Ambassador of Austria to Brazil



## BANGLADESH

**PROGRAMME:** Quality primary education, technical and skills training and health care support

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Milon Night School for Street Children	Jurain, Old Dhaka City	73	Goals 1, 4
Youth Empowerment through Skills - YES Centre Cox's Bazar	District of Cox's Bazar and Dhaka	400	Goals 1, 5, 8
Health Care for children & women	Jurain, Old Dhaka City	1.402	Goal 3
Small Embassy Fund: Educational material for Mobile Quality School students	Jurain, Old Dhaka City	186	Goal 4
Youth Empowerment through Skills - YES Centre Tangail	Pekua, Mirzapur, District of Tangail	525	Goals 1, 4, 5, 8
Mobile Quality School (MQS)	Chittagong and Dhaka	496	Goal 4
HOPE Technical Training Centre	Gandaria, Old Dhaka	50	Goal 8

## SUMMARY

Bangladesh is a nation in South Asia and the eighth most-crowded nation on the planet, with a population surpassing 160 million individuals. As far as landmass goes, Bangladesh ranks 92nd, traversing 148,460 square kilometers, making it one of the most densely populated nations on the planet. Bangladesh shares land outskirts with India towards the west, north, and east, with Myanmar towards the southeast, and with the Cove of Bengal towards the south. The country is barely isolated from Nepal and Bhutan by the Siliguri Passage, and from China by the Indian state Sikkim, in the north. Dhaka, the capital and with more than 18 million inhabitants one of the most populated megapolis in the world as well, is the country's financial, political and social centre point. Chittagong, the biggest seaport, is the second-biggest city in Bangladesh.

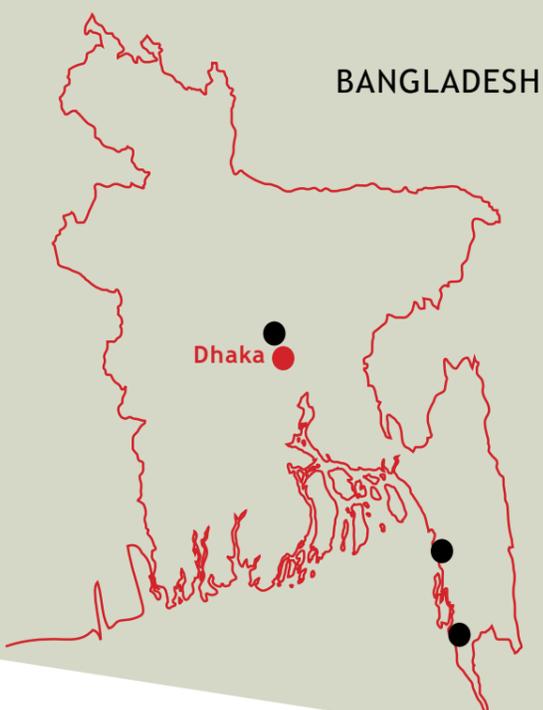
Bangladesh is one of the most disaster-stricken countries in the world and has had to face many natural disasters like cyclones, floods and landslides, particularly in the past few years. Consequently, disaster risk reduction has become a key prevention measure to keep the country's capacity stable.

HOPE'87-Bangladesh has therefore set itself the goal to carry out humanitarian aid and development projects. These projects have been running very successfully and include the night schools, the Mobile Quality School, health centres and educational training centres. Through these initiatives, poor and underprivileged people in need, especially children, women and the physically challenged, are being provided with educational opportunities, skills training, youth programmes, health support and humanitarian aid.

This help is needed even more so as the COVID-19 pandemic has put the country under enormous strain. Due to the health crisis, many people in Bangladesh lost their jobs and were bound to leave the cities. This eventually resulted in an economic crisis and enforced the instability of people's incomes once again, especially during the time of the lockdown.

### COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

Mohd. Rezaul KARIM - Social Worker



## ACTIVITIES

### Milon Night School for Street Children

In Bangladesh, nearly 30% of the total population is illiterate. Among them are mostly women and also school-aged children, of whom nearly 20% are school drop-outs. In general, street children and marginalised children are more likely to be deprived of their right to education. This is why many children in Bangladesh are illiterate and have either never been enrolled in school or have dropped out of the formal education system. The lack of education is one of the primary factors in failing to break out of this poverty cycle.

This inspired HOPE'87-Bangladesh to start the Milon Night School, with the main objective of reducing child labour through educational opportunities and the protection of disadvantaged children. The project began back in 2012 and provides a flexible and dynamic learning system by offering street children the possibility to study at their own pace at night time. Evening classes run from 5.30pm to 8.30pm with the purpose of re-integrating the street and working children into the formal education system.

Moreover, the school runs 6 days a week (every day, except on Fridays) for 3 hours. It provides regular classes from pre-school up to class 5 and holds tests on a monthly basis.

Since the beginning of this project, 1,148 underprivileged children have attended these evening classes and 73 new students enrolled during the reporting period of the past 12 months.

The Milon Night School also prepares the students to take the examinations required in order to continue their education in secondary schooling. The Milon Night School programme provides equipped classrooms with all the necessary school materials. Furthermore, the children receive the requested text books as well as light refreshments during class and have the opportunity to

participate in educational tours to zoos and museums, annual sports events and art classes every year.

### Youth Empowerment through Skills - YES Centre Cox's Bazar

The YES Centre Cox's Bazar project started its skills training programmes in July 2016 and completed its official funding period in June 2018. In total, 608 young people graduated successfully from the centre and completed their training in six different technical and mid-level office management courses. The centre was generously funded by ESPRIT and received technical support from the YOU Foundation-Education for Children in Need. Currently, the centre is being sustained by local resources from HOPE'87-Bangladesh and continues to offer training classes. During the reporting period, computer training (ICT), tailoring and dress making as well as hotel management courses were organised to improve the employability of the youth.

Moreover, a practical session on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) as well as a fire safety demonstration was arranged in which all trainees participated.

### Health Care for Children & Women

Due to the high population density, the rapidly spreading unplanned urbanisation and a general high level of poverty, there are vast slum areas in Bangladesh, especially in the capital city of Dhaka. High child labour figures are a common phenomenon among the urban poor in Bangladesh and families

often rely on income generating activities of their children. Working children are less likely to attend school and are often denied education and leisure activities.

A weekly health camp was established to improve access to quality primary health services, nutritious food and safe drinking water for school children attending the Night Schools in Old Dhaka City and to increase awareness on health and nutrition among mothers of young children. This health care facility offers primary health care on a regular basis, medical check-ups, prescriptions and medication at no charge. The weekly health camp aims to serve the most marginalised people of the community, such as female patients, children, physically challenged and elderly people.

With the completion of 1,030 weeks of service, the weekly health camp has been able to reach more than 48,000 patients so far. During the reporting year, the health care project provided services for 1,402 patients.

Moreover, in cooperation with the Prime Bank Eye Hospital, one mobile medical eye camp was arranged to provide adequate health care services, such as eye cataract operations for the ones in need.

### Small Embassy Fund: Educational material for Mobile Quality School students

The Austrian Embassy New Delhi granted a small embassy fund to the Mobile Quality Schools (MQS), where underprivileged children from different backgrounds have been pursuing their primary level education. A total of 186 students, among them 103 boys and 83 girls, benefited from this project.

The project was started in June 2018 and aims to help marginalised children with their education, as education plays a major key role in changing attitudes and behaviour. The MQS follows the syllabus prescribed and approved by the government. The financial support by the Austrian Embassy was awarded to strengthen the projects' activities, after the memorable visit to the Mobile School by Hon. Dr Karin Kneissl, former Federal Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of Austria, together with the Austrian Ambassador in New Delhi, H.E. Ms Brigitte Öppinger-Walchshofer.

Ensuring each individual an equal opportunity for educational progress remains a challenge worldwide. This is why it is necessary to emphasise the importance of achieving the Sustainable Development Goal 4 on quality education and the Education 2030 Framework for Action, as they lay the foundation of inclusion and equity for quality education. The project "Mobile Quality Schools" follows these exact approaches laid out by the UNESCO which were reported on in the annual UNESCO Global Education Monitoring Report.

### Youth Empowerment through Skills - YES Centre Tangail

The major initiative of this project is economic empowerment of youth through decent employment, especially of girls and young women. The overall goal of the project is to support the access to relevant office management skills together with some skills training in different trades in order to promote decent employment opportunities. Therefore, HOPE'87-Bangladesh has been striving as part of the project to increase the knowledge, skills, confidence and financial assets of youth groups, especially those of girls and young women. This is made possible by empowering them through developing their capacities and increasing their access to economic activities, which eventually leads up to a substantial contribution to poverty reduction. The project was implemented in partnership with the Bangladesh Association for Social Advancement (BASA).



The project was started in May 2018 in both the Tangail and the Dhaka district of Bangladesh and was completed in April 2020. Presently, the sustainability phase of the project is being implemented. In order to achieve the aim of the project, the YES Centre provides seven types of separate training sessions such as the ICT (computer) training, graphic design training, proficiency in the English language, industrial sewing machine

operations, fashion design and tailoring courses, knowledge on beauty, cosmetics and wellness and hotel management courses. These courses aim to help improve the technical and managerial skills of the young and create decent employment. A total number of 525 youth also received life skills training, of which were 80% female participants. The project also arranged advocacy dialogues with local authorities and business communities for ensuring employment opportunities and to support female participation in economic activities. Besides this, several initiatives like a round-table meeting and a job fair further contributed to ensure the entrance of trainees into the job market.

Complementary to this, sessions and workshops on school-based Disaster Preparedness (DP) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) approaches as well as on development of entrepreneurship were arranged to strengthen the capacities of the students and the youth. During the reporting period, the complementary sessions on school-based DP and DRR approaches were linked with other activities in order to facilitate a well-rounded skill set for the youth.

Additionally, the YES Centre Tangail was provided with necessary training equipment and tools, such as laptops, desktop computers, industrial sewing machines, printers and classroom furniture. This took place at the premises of the training centre of the partner NGO BASA. Overall, a total of 307 students (40 boys and 267 girls) have so far completed their respective skills training courses at the YES Centre Tangail. All of these students also participated in the life skills education workshops. During the project period, seed capital was distributed among the 10 most successful graduates for their self-employment plans.

In early November 2019, a delegation from ESPRIT and the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need visited the project sites i.e. YES Centre Tangail and YES

Centre Cox's Bazar. Both of the centres were established with the financial support of ESPRIT and the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need. The donors were able to witness the success of the project, to interact with the trainees and to observe a class for disaster preparedness, which was held by the fire services for the female participants on the premises of the partner organisation as well.

As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic, some courses needed to be put on hold and will be completed after the COVID-19 lockdown will have been lifted by the government.

### Mobile Quality School (MQS)

The Mobile Quality School project for the poor in Bangladesh operates on the basis of providing quality education, equality of gender, inclusivity and affordability for marginalised communities while being sustainable.

Generally speaking, the mobile schools are set up in converted buses, which drive daily to destinations of slum areas or areas nearby shanty towns. The concept provides a flexible and dynamic learning system in the street by offering the poorest children a chance to study. The MQS busses were equipped with necessary learning equipment, educational tools, a whiteboard and child-friendly classroom furniture. In order to facilitate good learning conditions and creative recreation activities, the buses were equipped with a television, laptops, a first aid box, a fire extinguisher and playing material.

Currently, the project provides two mobile buses that conduct the primary school curriculum every day from 7.30am to 8.30pm, except on Fridays. In each class, a total of 40 children per shift can take part as the learning sessions are conducted in several shifts during the day and at four to five different places in Chittagong and Dhaka City. These specialised Mobile Quality School buses are divided into smaller classes than those of public schools in order to facilitate a more individualized attention on each pupil. This accounts especially for students who are

considered as 'forgotten' or 'left behind' in the public eye.

The project was started in June 2018 in both Dhaka and the Chittagong district and has successfully completed its 1st phase project duration in May 2020. After this fundamental period and with the support of financial donors such as the reputable newspaper "Orion Group / The Business Standard", the Mobile Quality School buses are successfully operating for their students without any interruption.

In context of the global COVID-19 pandemic, however, the government of Bangladesh decided to close all schools from mid-March 2020. During this time, HOPE'87-Bangladesh has distributed hygiene and food items, i.e. rice, oil, biscuits, washing powder and soap, to the families of the MQS students. Also, HOPE'87-Bangladesh guided the MQS students during the pandemic by providing them with necessary learning material on a weekly basis. This has helped the students to continue with their respective classes and to move up to the next class. The MQS also follows the curriculum prescribed and approved by the government.

Besides this, the students are given homework once a week to complete or practice what they were taught in school. This also leads them to discuss new knowledge with their siblings and parents at home, making the parents in return more responsible, and the pupils themselves instilled with confidence and a creation of a sense of achievement in their minds.

Moreover, educational material and school uniforms were distributed among the students. All students (52% girls and 47% boys) are receiving educational services from the MQS in combination with co-curricular activities such as sports, art classes, swimming classes, visits to the zoo and the museums, health checkups and support through help lines.

A total of 33 girls and boys have even graduated from the Mobile Quality School and undertook the Primary Education Certificate (PEC) exam. The PEC is a government assessment board exam and accounts for a successful enrolment in secondary schools i.e. for class VI in any regular school.

The community mobilisation strategy for the enrolment of marginalised children in the MQS project functions through awareness creation through door-to-door house visits, sensitisation programmes, counseling and showcasing as a positive role model. The project also gives special attention to girls' enrolment rates of at least 50%, in order to combat structural gender inequalities in society.

### HOPE Technical Training Centre

The HOPE centre was set up with the support of the European Union and the Austrian Development Cooperation back in 2001 and is located in Old Dhaka city. After the completion of its funding period in 2003 by the International Labour Organisation, HOPE'87-Bangladesh continued to run the training centre with its own financial resources and with the help of local social contributions. The training centre provided technical training to students in order to support school dropouts and to combat unemployment of young people. The training was available in several different trades, i.e. tailoring, basic ICT, electricity and house wiring, refrigerator repair. The project provided young people with a vast skillset, which contributed to the creation of employment and self-employment opportunities. During the reporting period, a total of 50 young people and school students have attended these practical training courses. Since the inception of the training centre, HOPE'87-Bangladesh has successfully trained a total of 4,826 young people. The centre is officially accredited with the "Bangladesh Technical Education Board" (BTEB).



## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

### Government Authorities

- NGO Affairs Bureau, Prime Minister's Office, Bangladesh
- Brigadier General (Dr) Md Sharif Ahmed, Chief Health Officer, Dhaka South City Corporation
- Mr Md Samsul Hoque, Zonal Executive Officer, Deputy Secretary, Dhaka South City Corporation
- Ms Rezwana Afrin, Assistant Commissioner & Executive Magistrate, Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Chattogram
- Mr Md Masud, Counsellor, Dhaka South City Corporation
- Mr Md Abdul Malek, Upozila Nirbahi Officer, Mirzapur Upazila, Tangail district
- Fire Service & Civil Defence, Dhaka, Cox's Bazar and Tangail

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Dr Brigitte Öppinger-Walchshofer, Ambassador of Austria to Bangladesh
- H.E. Ambassador Md Abu Zafar, former Ambassador of Bangladesh to Austria
- H.E. Tasvir Ul Islam, Honorary Consul of Austria to Bangladesh
- H.E. Ambassador Alexander Marschik, Permanent Representative of Austria to the United Nations in New York

### Agencies

- Mr Dr Edgar Schütz, Head of Foreign Desk, Austria Press Agency (APA), Vienna
- Ms Kate Deckman, Global Organizational Development Manager, ESPRIT
- Ms Dilini Murray, Social Media Manager, ESPRIT
- Mr Zahid Abed, Head of Sourcing Bangladesh, ESPRIT
- Mr Choudhury Khaled Masud, Managing Editor, The Business Standard, Bangladesh
- Mr Ahmmad Sharjin Sharif, Apprentice Sub-Editor, Dhaka Tribune
- Mr Imran Bin Sobur Staff Reporter, Purbokon Daily Newspaper, Chattogram

### NGOs

- Bangalore Rural Educational and Development Society (BREADS), India
- Young Power in Social Action - YPSA
- Bangladesh Association for Social Advancement (BASA)
- Mr Daniel Colindres (World Cup professional footballer) & Ms Maria Ternanda, Costa Rica
- Ms Carine de Paiva & Mr Agnes Lucas de Araujo, Instagram: @2wego, Brazil
- Mr Anderson D'as do Vall, Brazil

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



## INDIA

(activities supported by HOPE'87 Bangladesh)

**PROGRAMME:** Empowerment of girls and young women through skills training and economic self-reliance as well as mitigation of disasters and enhancement of 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

The Republic of India is foreseen to become the world's third largest economy after the USA and China by 2025. With its major industries in motor vehicles, shipbuilding, chemicals, telecommunication, computers and software development, India's importance in the world politics is undeniable.

However, India does not only account as the seventh largest country in the world, it is also marked by diversity at all levels of society. Over 80% of people in India are Hindu, 13% Muslim, 2% Christian and the remaining 5% are mainly Sikh or Buddhist. Moreover, over 22 different languages are currently spoken by a population of over 1.3 billion people, making India the second most populous country in the world. To this day, around 25% of India's population have to live on less than \$1.25 a day.

Geographically speaking, India borders the Bay of Bengal to its east and the Arabian Sea to its west. The Southern Asian country lies between Myanmar and Pakistan and is characterised by a climate varying from tropical monsoons in the south of the country to temperate climate in the north.

Moreover, three major rivers run through India: the Indus, which flows through Pakistan, Tibet and India, the sacred Ganges River, which flows through India and Bangladesh and finally, the Brahmaputra, which flows through Tibet, India and Bangladesh. India also inhabits the Himalayas mountain range, which runs through the north of India.

Despite these enticing facts about India and its variety in nature and cultures, the country has to face various environmental issues such as air pollution, poor management of waste, growing water scarcity, water pollution, loss in biodiversity and land/soil degradation.

There are just as many social issues that India has to act on. One of them is illiteracy: In 2018, India's literacy rate was only 74% of the entire population. Particularly women from poor areas are among the 80% of females between the ages of 15 to 24 that account for the youth illiteracy rate in India.

Hence HOPE'87 has implemented the YES Centre project in India. Like the other HOPE'87 YES Centre projects in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Vietnam, the project aims at enrolling marginalised young women in youth skills trainings in order to empower them and to strengthen their skills and voices for economic self-reliance as well as to take leadership of their lives and to get closer to erasing the gender gap.

Additionally, the global coronavirus pandemic has taken a toll on India's economy and has affected marginalised citizens the most as the health system is collapsing under the overload. With over one million confirmed coronavirus cases in India, the pandemic has hit the country very hard and pushed millions of Indians into deeper poverty at the same time. With problems like unequal access to health care and a staggering 74 million people living in slums without access to running water and sanitation, it is expected that an estimated 104 million Indians could fall below the World Bank-determined poverty line of \$3.2 a day as a direct result of the pandemic's economic destruction. This will eventually lead to an augmentation in poverty from 60% to 68% of India's population - a situation the country was last faced with a decade ago.

## ACTIVITIES

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

The YES Centre Hospet started its third-year operation in January 2020. The project aims at enhancing the capacity of 420 young women, and particularly their managerial and leadership skills, through job-oriented skills training in the garment and the fashion industry sector. Overall, the project empowers marginalised women in terms of skills, education, gender equality, decision making and economic development.



It was possible to win over 100% of the beneficiaries from the first and second year of the programme to continue the third year of the programme. More than 80% of the trainees who have completed the skill training during the past two years were either placed in jobs or started their own self-employment units.

About 97% of the 61 women who were enrolled in the courses of the fourth phase training have successfully completed this fourth batch training. Moreover, students from the fifth phase of the training were mobilised through door-to-door visits, social media platforms, print and TV ads to attend the YES Centre India. Some trainees were even recommended and referred to by the alumni and religious institutions. Initially, around 40 students registered for the courses of the fifth phase and later on, the batch was filled with 60 students due to the high interest.

Moreover, the trainees were divided into two batches for a better follow up and focused training, which is given 6 hours a day in combination with theoretical knowledge and practical classes to facilitate a better learning experience.

The courses were put on hold from March 22nd onwards due to the unprecedented lockdown announced by the Government of India to prevent the further spread of the pandemic of COVID-19. Although the government had given many alleviations during the lockdown, the decision-makers still have not allowed to open or resume courses at schools and colleges or skills training institutes. A restart of the courses at the YES Centre is expected in late 2020 or early 2021.

Out of 61 students, who have completed the fourth batch training, 30 students started their own business and one woman was employed. 10 others opted to continue their studies and 18 other young trainees are in the process of job placement or to initiate their self-employment ventures.

In regard to the alumni students of the YES Centre, who were placed in a job or have become self-employed, 80% of them still continue working in their job or with their own business units and earn a decent income.

The project is 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 Dr Brigitte Öppinger-Walchshofer, Ambassador of Austria to India

### NGOs

- Jugend Eine Welt

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



# NEPAL

## PROGRAMME: Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable people to disasters by enabling them to prepare, respond to and mitigate disaster impacts

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
Strengthening the resilience of vulnerable people to disasters by enabling them to prepare, respond to and mitigate disaster impacts	Kavre and Dhading Districts of Central Nepal	1.500	Goal 3



### PROJECT PARTNER

**Marcel WAGNER** - Managing Director of ADRA Austria

### SUMMARY

The Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal is situated in Southern Asia, wedged between the two giants, India and China. The landlocked country is bordering India to its east, south and west, and the Tibet Autonomous Region of China to its north. The country is famous for its beauty in nature while stretching along the southern slopes of the Himalayan mountain ranges.

The country's geography is characterised by the soaring peaks of the Himalayas, with their highest peak, the Mount Everest in the north of the country, green valleys, terraced farmlands, hilly foot trails and infinite forests full of rare, wild species.

Moreover, Nepal's climate ranges from subtropical monsoon conditions in the southern Tarai region to a warm climate in the mid-mountain region and cool temperate conditions in the higher parts of the mountains as well as an Alpine climate along the lower slopes of the Himalaya mountains.

However, despite Nepal's diversity in climate and nature, the country is facing many social and environmental challenges. To this day, Nepal ranks among the least developed countries in the world. One of the many challenges that Nepal faces is the inadequate health care system. Despite efforts from the government's side to improve existing health centres and to establish new ones, diseases like malaria, tuberculosis, cholera and typhoid remain prevalent.

Moreover, the country lacks in high quality elementary and secondary education and in providing enough institutions of these. As Nepal can be defined as a young country, with more than three-fifths of the population under 30 years of age and with about one-quarter of its population living below the poverty line, an adequate health care system and high-quality education is urgently needed.

Additionally, Nepal is combatting environmental issues such as deforestation, forest degradation and soil erosion. This makes Nepal more vulnerable to natural hazards such as severe thunderstorms, flooding, earthquakes and landslides.



Therefore, HOPE'87 in cooperation with ADRA Austria has established a project in Nepal that promotes responsive measures to disasters and natural hazards such as disaster risk reduction (DRR) and emergency preparedness.

### ACTIVITIES

#### Building community resilience to disaster by promoting and mainstreaming disaster risk management (DRM) and climate adaptation initiatives

In 2015, a massive 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Nepal and destroyed thousands of houses and blocks and caused countless toppled towers and thousands of deaths. Consequently, the Government of Nepal declared an immediate state of emergency and international assistance was requested.

In this context, ADRA Nepal distributed temporary shelter kits (tarpaulins and tool kits), hygiene kits, household water filtration units, emergency food packs, mosquito nets as well as school and health centre tents in the most affected districts.

In order to create a more sustainable approach towards disaster risk reduction (DRR), HOPE'87 in cooperation with ADRA Nepal implemented a project on DRR. The activity aimed at involving the local community as well as the government of the respective project area into educational programmes on DRR. The main focus was to support the local community to adopt proper risk reduction measures in a quick manner in order to cope with natural hazards.

The main beneficiaries of the project were students, teachers, parents and educational authorities, as the importance of school safety and the adoption of the Safe School Framework were prioritised. A total of 4,500 children from 15 different schools, 1,200 individuals from government agencies and a total of 15,000 households of 8 different municipalities have benefitted through educational programmes in the context of the project. The activity also ensured that the government, policy makers, the civil society and the public familiarised themselves with policy frameworks as a basis for safety and security. Moreover, community-based organisations and local NGOs were involved in the educational programmes to enhance their capacities to organise and to manage disaster risk reduction activities in the future.

In cooperation with the local organisations "Nangshal Association Nepal" (NAN) and "Rural Mutual Development" (RMD), ADRA Nepal had implemented the project in the Kavre District and in the Dhading District. The project is being monitored on a regular basis to this day by HOPE'87 in order to ensure its sustainability. The cooperation was enabled through the generous financial support of the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need.

### INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

- H.E. Ambassador Dr Brigitte Öppinger-Walchshofer, Ambassador of Austria to Nepal
- ADRA Nepal
- Nangshal Association Nepal (NAN)
- Rural Mutual Development (RMD) Nepal

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



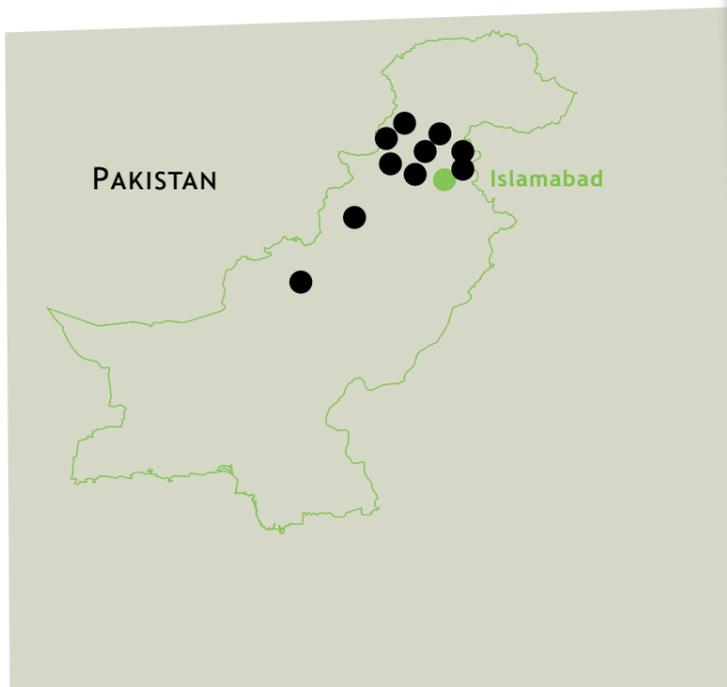
# PAKISTAN

**PROGRAMME:** Educational focus on teacher training, institutionalising disaster preparedness through education in emergency situations, gender equality, skills training & youth employment, capacity building, income generation to ensure resilient communities

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)	11.917	Goals 3, 4, 5

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

M. Shoaib HAIDER - Civil Engineer



## SUMMARY

Pakistan ranks 152nd worldwide on the Human Development Index (HDI) and 130th out of 162 countries in regard to its global Sustainable Development Goal (SDG). The country aspires to achieve the SDGs by the year 2030.

One of the most important Sustainable Development Goals for Pakistan is the SDG 4, which aims to “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”. In Pakistan, a total of 22.8 million children are currently out of school, of which 35% are boys and 65% girls. In Pakistan’s province Pakhtunkhwa (KP) alone, 3,168 million children are out of school (36% of them boys and 64% girls). This is why the province of KP accounts as a vital project area for HOPE’87-Pakistan in regard to educational projects.

Under the AcCESS and the CEOP projects in KP, HOPE’87-Pakistan is mainly working on the facilitation of enrolment for Out-of-School Children (OOSC). This is established by improving the educational quality, the transitional periods for the children, the educational infrastructure and educational governance.

HOPE’87-Pakistan supports the educational departments in Pakistan through annual enrolment campaign activities at provincial, district, tehsil, village and school level in order to improve the learning outcomes for students, to have a positive impact on attendance in classes and to lower dropout rates. This eventually led to an enrolment of more than 10,000 Out-of-School Children in Girls Community Schools (GCS) and Community Feeder Schools (CFS).

In total, HOPE’87-Pakistan has trained 815 teachers of the Elementary and Secondary Education Foundation (ESEF) through the AcCESS and the CEOP project. Moreover, 394 teachers of the National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) were trained in acquiring quality educational skills and techniques.

HOPE’87-Pakistan also established 100 new community schools in nine different project districts together with the NCHD. Additionally, basic school supplies were provided by HOPE’87-Pakistan to a total of 498 schools. Pre-Early Grade Reading Assessments (pre-EGRAs) and Early Grade Mathematical Assessments (EGMAs) were conducted with students of grade II and III to assess their basic competencies. Also, 42 senior management members of the Elementary and Secondary Education Department (ESED) were schooled in the field of School Based Disaster Risk Management (SBDRM).

Under the CEOP project, a comprehensive study in all of the project’s districts was conducted in order to identify the factors contributing to girls’ dropout rates combining it with recommendations on how retention can be improved at primary level.

Moreover, HOPE’87-Pakistan, with the support of ESED, conducted a one-day training for government school teachers on mental health, psycho-social support and Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for a safe re-opening of schools in the districts of Peshawar and Swat of KP. More than 11,000 teachers have been trained within this initiative.

HOPE’87-Pakistan along with the ESED also developed an enrolment strategy for Out-of-School Children (OOSC). Within this context, a two-day consultative workshop on the project activities of AcCESS and its alignment with the Education Sector Plan (ESP) was jointly organised by the education department and HOPE’87-Pakistan on 15th and 16th August, 2020.

In response to COVID-19, the Government of Pakistan closed down all educational institutions from March 2020 until 14th September, 2020. The Federal Minister for Education announced the reopening of the country’s educational institutions in various phases from 15th September, 2020 to 30th September, 2020 if the situation allows to do so. This has led to a delay of the enrolment campaigns and post EGRA/EGMA assessments. However, in consultation with the KP education department, HOPE’87-Pakistan was assigned with the development of distance learning tools, sectoral needs assessments, contingency planning and preparedness for education in emergencies during the health crisis.

Additionally, HOPE’87-Pakistan conducted a Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) assessment during the health crisis to improve hand and respiratory hygiene in schools. HOPE’87-Pakistan has also carried out a rapid assessment in the districts of Peshawar, Swat, and DI Khan of KP on the



continuity of children's education, awareness, preparedness, prevention measures and the immediate impacts on livelihoods in the context of COVID-19.

Another rapid assessment was conducted by HOPE'87-Pakistan in 27 districts of KP on the readiness of school children from the most marginalised backgrounds for tele-schooling and/or online learning. For this purpose, the assessment looked at the availability of electricity, TV, radio, and smart phones at the homes

of the children studying in non-formal community schools. In this regard, 83% of these families confirmed that electricity is available in their areas, 37% of the families confirmed that they have television at homes, 40% have smart phones and 26% have radio. Another 59% either have a TV or a smart phone.

## ACTIVITIES

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

The AcCESS project is implemented in 13 districts of KP with the support of the KP Elementary and Secondary Education Department (ESED), the National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) and the Elementary and Secondary Education Foundation (ESEF). The action aims to provide access to education for over 164,495 children (50% of them girls), who currently find themselves out of school or at risk of dropping out. The action also includes 17,968 Afghan children.

The project was initially planned for a duration of 24 months but after an approval of a modification request the project's duration was extended for another 24 months. Hence, the total project duration is 48 months, running from 1st April, 2019 until 31st March, 2023 and a financial volume of EUR 6 million.

In the context of the project, HOPE'87-Pakistan has facilitated a three-day training on Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) for 42 executive staff and senior management members of ESED. This was enabled with the financial support of the School Safety Cell. The objective of this training was to inform the participants on recent developments in the field of DRR, to give them information on DRR frameworks and to develop the Emergency Standard Operating Procedures (ESOPs)/School Based Disaster Risk Management (SBDRM) consolidation and replication plan for KP.

Moreover, HOPE'87-Pakistan has facilitated a two-day training conducted by the School Safety Cell for 35 district master trainers on School Based Disaster Risk Management. The district master trainers then conducted a two-day training for school teachers on SBDRM in 5 districts of KP, training a total of 1,000 teachers.

In the context of the AcCESS project, another three-day training for master trainers of the NCHD was conducted. The focus of trainings was on quality education, feeder school management as well as dropout and retention strategies. The NCHD Master Trainers used this knowledge to further conduct a five-day training for NCHD Feeder Teachers. This training was attended by 394 teachers (226 of them men and 168 women) across KP. The training aimed to enhance the basic understanding and capacity of feeder teachers in order to improve their teaching techniques, their use of effective teaching methodologies, the approach of multi-grade teaching as well as social mobilisation.

On top of this, a seven-day training of girls-community-schools teachers of ESEF was conducted in four districts of KP i.e. Peshawar, Swat, DI Khan and Bannu. A total of 406 teachers were enrolled in this training on effective teaching methodologies, multi-grade teaching, communication skills, social mobilisation and lesson planning.

Moreover, HOPE'87, together with the NCHD district field teams, conducted a validation exercise for the establishment of 100 new community feeder schools in nine targeted districts of KP. All of these schools have been opened; the school sites are safe and accessible for the students and the teachers, with the availability of drinking water and sanitation facilities on-site. For these new community feeder schools, basic stationery as well as curricula books were provided by the NCHD, while HOPE'87 provided the required basic school supplies, i.e. chairs, blackboards, soft boards, water coolers, school bells, plastic mats, boxes of chalk, attendance registers and visit registers. The supplies were also provided to the existing 498 community feeder schools across the province on equity and need base. For the maintenance of sustainability, the funding of 100 new Feeder Teachers (FTs) have been taken over by the project partner, the National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) and have been adjusted against the various vacant positions across Pakistan.

In order to gain data for this sustainability plan, HOPE'87-Pakistan, with the support of the ESEF district teams, conducted a detailed baseline study on girls community schools in three districts of KP i.e. Peshawar, Swat and DI Khan. Thereby, the HOPE'87-Pakistan team visited all the girls community schools and developed a tailored school profile, a teacher profile and a student profile. The team then further collected information on 22,626 students from girls community schools in three districts of KP.

Additionally, HOPE'87-Pakistan and ESEF hired 34 community mobilisers for the establishment of girls community schools. Beforehand, the community mobilisers had to undergo a five-day training plan. This training aimed to enhance the basic understanding of community mobilisation, enrolment and retention programmes, beneficiary data management, social mobilisation, child protection, community dialogue as well as daily diary and report writing. This activity was put on hold, however, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, as the situation improved in late August 2020, 21 community mobilisation associates and seven training associates were re-hired from 1st September, 2020. They are now facilitating with the implementation of SOPs for a safe re-opening of schools and education. Their job is to also monitor teachers on COVID-19 precautionary measures and SOPs. Moreover, they are strengthening the Village Education Committees by house-to-house visits, classroom observations and reflection sessions for the identification and addressing of barriers to girls during the enrolment process.



HOPE'87-Pakistan has worked with an IT firm for the development of a Learner Management Information System (LMIS), a system aimed at data management for community schools of ESEF and NCHD. The salient features of this system are presentations of (a) profiles of Out-of-School Children (b) teacher profiles (c) the school profiles (d) the learner profiles (e) as well as reporting on the districts. This IT firm is also developing an app for Out-of-School Children data collection which will be linked to the web-based MIS and will also work off-line in case of no internet access. The data will be updated and synchronised automatically when the system is connected to the internet.

Moreover, a detailed pre-Early Grade Reading Assessment (pre-EGRA) and Early Grade Mathematical Assessment (EGMA) study was conducted in nine project districts. The explicit purpose of this study was to measure the core fundamental skills of literacy and numeracy acquisition in the early grades at schools, to identify gaps of knowledge and highlight areas where improvement is needed. This will help to fill knowledge gaps. The EGRA and EGMA tool was administered in three different languages i.e. English, Urdu and Pashto to a total of 320 lower primary grade students from grade II and III, who were randomly selected from 56 community feeder schools situated in nine districts of KP.

In order to rehabilitate 11 schools (8 primary, 2 middle and 1 high school) in the district of Bajur, a procurement process was launched and completed within the AcCESS project. Just before the purchase order was to be issued, this initiative had to be put on hold due to the COVID-19 crisis, as the country was put under a lockdown. This overlapped with the Humanitarian Implementation Plan 2020 of the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO HIP 2020), realising the evolving humanitarian need to respond to COVID-19. Hence, HOPE'87-Pakistan applied for a modification request to ECHO with the idea of supporting the education department in regards to its COVID-19 response plan, its COVID-19 information campaigns and its WASH actions to promote hand and respiratory hygiene. All this was managed through the provision of distance-learning tools and home-based learning as well as with the provision of mental health support and psychosocial support for the ones in need.

While in close coordination with ESED and donors, the activity of the rehabilitation of 11 schools was replaced with setting up 540 hand washing facilities at schools (500 of them are community schools of NCHD and ESEF and 40 of them are government schools).

In response to the COVID-19 situation and with the approval of the AcCESS modification request by ECHO, HOPE'87-Pakistan and the ESEF district teams conducted a detailed assessment on the need of WASH in several districts of KP. This helped to assess the current conditions of WASH facilities (water supply, hand washing areas, sanitation facilities, drainage systems) in community schools of ESEF. The reinforcement of WASH actions will promote hand and respiratory hygiene in schools and will also ensure an adequate supply of water and hand water stations in about 500 community schools and 40 government schools. The handwashing design has already been finalised and shared with the KP education department for approval. This activity will be completed by the end of November 2020.

HOPE'87-Pakistan and the Italian NGO CESVI are currently implementing ECHO- funded projects and are willing to work together on the improvement of hand-washing and respiratory hygiene. In this regard, CESVI has already provided a total of 303,240 soaps (40 soaps per school per month) to HOPE'87-Pakistan for a distribution among formal and non-formal schools of the Elementary & Secondary Education Department (E&SED) in the districts Peshawar, Swat, Shangla and DI Khan.

In this context, HOPE'87-Pakistan, with the support of E&SED, organised a one-day training for government school teachers on mental health, psycho-social support and SOPs for a safe re-opening of schools in the districts Peshawar and Swat of KP. More than 11,000 teachers participated in this training. Safety measures, i.e. social distancing, provision of masks, sanitisers and soaps, were installed during the training. Moreover, NCHD and ESEF teachers were trained again in October 2020.

Additionally, HOPE'87-Pakistan along with E&SED developed an enrolment strategy for Out-of-School Children (OOSC). Firstly, HOPE'87-Pakistan will cover 4 districts of the KP province. These include Peshawar (Central region), DI Khan

(Southern region), Swat (Malakand region) and Haripur (Mansehra region). Hence a representative district from all regions will be covered. Secondly, these districts have the highest number of OOSCs. Peshawar counts 12% of the total OOSCs, Swat 9%, DI Khan 6% and Haripur 2% of OOSCs. The first aim is to reach 29% of the total Out-Of-School Children in the province of KP.

Therefore, a two-day consultative workshop on the project activities of AcCESS and its alignment with the Education Sector Plan (ESP) was jointly organised by the education department and HOPE'87-Pakistan on 15th and 16th August, 2020. The workshop aimed at discussing the priorities of the education department and subsequently finalise the project implementation plan in consultation with key stakeholders of the education department.

A two-days orientation session of assistant directors of NCHD was conducted on 17th and 18th September, 2020. This session was jointly organised by NCHD and HOPE'87-Pakistan. The orientation session was aimed to train key district staff of NCHD on COVID-19 activities. The detailed workplan has been developed alongside the distribution of responsible assignments to field staff.

A Technical Working Group (TWG) was formed by ESED of KP in order to issue a response to COVID-19 with regards to the education sector. The purpose of the TWG is to identify effective and coherent sectoral needs for assessments and analysis, contingency planning and preparedness for education in emergencies, training of staff and capacity building of humanitarian partners for a continuity in education. NCHD and HOPE'87-Pakistan are members of this TWG and attend its meetings on a weekly basis. HOPE'87-Pakistan is closely working with the ESED to facilitate a COVID-19 response plan for a prepared educational sector and to assure the continuity of learning for children.

On top of this, HOPE'87-Pakistan has carried out a rapid assessment in the districts Peshawar, Swat and DI Khan of KP from 24th to 26th March, 2020 on awareness, preparedness and prevention measures in regard to the COVID-19 threat, assessing the continuity of children's education and the immediate impacts on livelihoods since the lockdown. HOPE'87-Pakistan, with the support of NCHD and ESEF, has carried out another rapid assessment in 27 districts of KP from the 4th to 8th April of 2020, assessing the readiness of school children from the most marginalised backgrounds for tele-schooling and/or online learning. For this purpose, the assessment looked at the availability of electricity, TV, radio, and smart phones at homes of children studying in non-formal community schools. HOPE'87-Pakistan also conducted a food security and livelihood assessment in KP to gather data on the impact of COVID-19 on livelihood, food security and access to the labour market. All assessment reports were shared with the implementing partners, the education department of KP and donors of the project.

HOPE'87 would like to express its gratitude towards the European Commission-Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO), the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC), the National Commission for Human Development (NCHD) as well as the Elementary and Secondary Education Foundation (ESEF) for funding this project.

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

The CEOP project aims to increase the learning outcomes for at least 9,867 children in the two project districts of Swat and Shangla.

In the context of this project, HOPE'87-Pakistan conducted an orientation session for ESEF's district programme officers from all 7 project districts. The orientation session was utilised to inform all district programme officers about the aims of HOPE'87-Pakistan itself and to provide them with an overview on previous good practices and lessons learnt under the completed project "Supporting Education in Emergencies in Pakistan" (SEEP). The SEEP project was co-funded by the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC) and the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO).

A detailed study was conducted in all 7 project districts to identify the factors that were contributing to girls' school dropout rates at primary level. Therefore, a sample was selected from each of the four regions of the province. This included the three districts Swat, Buner and Shangla from the



Malakand region, the districts Battagram, Mansehra and Abbottabad from the Hazara region as well as the districts Peshawar and the additional district DI Khan from the Southern and Central regions. A survey team conducted a total of 16 focus group discussions with local communities and 120 in-depth interviews with 80 parents and 40 teachers. Based on these findings, a community-based child protection mechanism was drafted in order to implement counteractions when it comes to girl-biased dropout rates.

Moreover, a detailed pre-Early Grade Reading Assessment (pre-EGRA) and Early Grade Mathematical Assessment (EGMA) study was conducted in all of the 7 project districts. The purpose of this study was to assess basic competencies that a child must have as the foundation of a successful education, i.e. being able to read fluently with comprehension and to perform basic mathematical functions. In total, the survey team conducted the pre-EGRA and EGMA survey with 84 students of the grades II and III. This survey was done on a random basis at different Girls Community School (GCS) teachers covering all 7 project districts. In total, 54 girls and 30 boys were involved in 12 different types of tests including four tests on Urdu (the national language), four tests on English and another four tests on mathematical knowledge.

As part of the project, a seven-days training of GCS teachers was successfully completed in the districts of Battagram, Buner, Mansehra and Shangla. This training was organised by ESEF and HOPE'87-Pakistan and was conducted by the Alfalah Professional Services (APS). Within this training, a total of 409 teachers, including 38 female teachers, were trained. The training aimed to build the capacities of GCS teachers on activity-based learning, effective teaching methodologies, multi-grade teaching, productive lesson planning, managing of student behaviours, use of teaching aids, record keeping, communication skills and social mobilisation processes.

In addition, HOPE'87-Pakistan and ESEF hired six community mobilisers for the establishment of girls community schools and for the support of the project activities in two districts of KP. HOPE'87-Pakistan and ESEF also conducted a five-day training on community mobilisation. The training aimed to enhance the basic understanding of community mobilisation, enrolment and retention programmes, beneficiary data management, social mobilisation, child protection, community dialogue as well as daily diary and report writing. This activity was put on hold though due to the COVID-19 situation.

However, as the situation improved in late August 2020, 13 community mobilisation associates were hired on 1st September, 2020. They have been facilitating the implementation of SOPs for safe re-opening of schools and education, as well as monitoring teachers on COVID-19 precautionary measures and SOPs. They have been ensuring the feasibility survey for the establishment of GCS and strengthening the Village Education Committees through house-to-house visits, classroom observations and reflection sessions to identify and address barriers to girls' enrolments.

Together, HOPE'87-Pakistan and ESEF field teams conducted a detailed feasibility survey of 11 potential locations in the tehsils Charbagh, Madyan and Barikot for the establishment of a new GCS. Social distancing SOPs were followed during this process. The recommendations for the opening of 11 GCS have been sent to the ESEF provincial office for approval.

The CEOP project is implemented by HOPE'87-Pakistan in seven districts of KP with the support of the Elementary and Secondary Education Department (ESED) and the Elementary and Secondary Education Foundation (ESEF) and is generously funded by the Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC).



## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

### Government Authorities

- National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA)
- Federal Directorate of Education (FDE)
- Provincial Disaster Management Authority (PDMA)
- Ministry of Federal Education and Professional Training (MoFE&PT)
- Ministry of Interior (MoI)
- States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON),
- Elementary and Secondary Education Department KP (E&S ED)
- Elementary and Secondary Elementary Foundation KP (E&S EF)
- Directorate of Elementary & Secondary Education (DoE&SE)
- National Commission for Human Development (NCHD)
- Provincial Institute of Teacher Education (PITE)
- Directorate of Curriculum and Teachers Education (DCTE)
- Education Sector Reform Unit (ESRU)
- Text Book Board (TBB), Peshawar, KP
- Rescue 1122
- Civil Defence
- Private School Regulatory Authority
- Merged Areas Education Foundation (MAEF)

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Nicolaus Keller, Ambassador of Austria to Pakistan
- H.E. Ambassador Mansoor Ahmad Khan, Ambassador of Pakistan to Austria

### Agencies

- Austrian Development Cooperation (ADC)
- Delegation of the European Commission to Pakistan (Europe Aid Office)
- European Commission Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Office (ECHO)
- European Union (EU)
- Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- United Nations Office for Coordination and Humanitarian Assistance
- United Nations Children's Fund-Pakistan (UNICEF-Pakistan)
- United Nations Office of the Resident Coordinator (UNORC)
- United Nations Department of Safety & Security (UNDSS)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

### NGOs

- Action Against Hunger (ACF)
- Agency for Technical Cooperation and Development (ACTED)
- Cooperazione e sviluppo, Cooperation and Development (CESVI)
- Help Age International Pakistan
- International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- Qatar Charity (QC)

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



## SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM

**PROGRAMME:** Empowerment of the youth in Vietnam, especially girls and young women, by strengthening their skills and voices for economic self-reliance to take a leadership role in poverty alleviation initiatives in Vietnam

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
YES Centre Hanoi - Youth Empowerment through Skills Training	Hanoi	500	Goals 4, 5

### PROJECT PARTNERS

- ADRA Austria (Marcel WAGNER - Management Director)
- ADRA Vietnam

### SUMMARY

The Socialist Republic of Vietnam is a one-party Communist state and accounts as one of south-east Asia's fastest-growing economies. The country has set its sights on becoming a developed nation by 2020.

However, as all other countries in the world, Vietnam has been affected by the coronavirus crisis which is why the authorities in Hanoi have imposed social distancing measures and have sealed the country off from international passenger traffic. Due to the pandemic, Vietnam has reported only a 1.81 percent GDP growth in the first half of 2020 which marks the lowest since 2011. It is expected by government economic advisors that Vietnam's economic growth will slow down to 3 to 4 percent this year.

In regards to the cultural aspects of Vietnam, the country is known for its multi-nationality with an astounding amount of 54 ethnic groups. The Viet (Kinh) people account for 87% of the country's population and mainly inhabit the Red River delta, the central coastal delta, the Mekong delta and major cities. The other 53 ethnic minority groups, totalling over 8 million people, are scattered over mountain areas (covering two-thirds of the country's territory) spreading from the North to the South.

Moreover, Vietnam offers tourists a broad variety in nature and amazing landscapes ranging from a coastline of over 3.000 km to pristine forests, mountain ranges, and impressive limestone pinnacles and plateaus. The weather in Vietnam ranges from tropical weather in the south to the monsoon in the north. Due to these climatic conditions, Vietnam is often subjected to natural disasters and hazards, such as occasional typhoons, accompanied by extensive floods.

However, Vietnam's environment has also been suffering from the many logging activities and slash-and-burn agricultural practices that have extensively contributed to deforestation and soil degradation. Additionally, Vietnam has to deal with water pollution, overfishing, groundwater contamination and air pollution.

In regards to social inequalities, Vietnam still struggles with the abolition of all gender inequalities, discrimination against ethnic

minorities and persons with disabilities, as many of them still lack access to quality education. As the school curricula tend to neglect non-formal education, vocational training and the needs of the labour market - while showing a strong tendency towards formal education and university degrees - many young people terminate their long years of formal studies only to find themselves unemployed at the end.

As a consequence, the Government has increased its support in skills development and adequate training in order to provide young people with demand-driven qualifications. This is exactly why HOPE'87 strongly supports young people in receiving practical skills through training at the YES Centre.

### ACTIVITIES

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

In order to combat unemployment, HOPE'87 has made it its mission to contribute to the empowerment of the youth in Vietnam, and especially of girls and young women, as they are more likely to be discriminated against.

In order to strengthen the skills and voices of young people and to help them become economically more self-reliant and less vulnerable to economic shocks, HOPE'87 has established the YES Centre in Hanoi.

As practical experience is highly necessary in finding a job and young graduates often lack knowledge in this skill set, HOPE'87 provides them with the necessary knowledge at the YES Centre. Moreover, the young people are being educated on the topic of disaster reduction measures (DRM), as well as their practices and procedures as there is a critical need to build capacity for enterprises regarding DRM.

Altogether, the YES Centre in Hanoi is based on vocational training, creating job opportunities and start-ups for young people. The vocational training programme includes courses on ICT, English language, business accounting, fashion design and textile production, hospitality management and tourism. Moreover, the programme helps the young students to develop their leadership skills and their problem-solving capacities.

Additionally, the project aims to empower corporations and factories in Disaster Risk Reduction and Disaster Preparedness (DRR/DP) work and helps them build and implement their security plans.

The direct target group of the project ranges from 15 to 22 years in age and consists altogether of 500 young people, of which 60% are young women. As these newly skilled people will develop as change agents in their own communities, they will eventually contribute to sustaining the project's impact by including 2.430 indirect target beneficiaries of family members.

During the COVID-19 lockdown, the YES Centre Hanoi, together with the Women's Union, distributed 200 food packages to vulnerable families whose small businesses or daily incomes have been affected by the pandemic. Moreover, many YES Centre members have actively supported local farmers by distributing their agricultural products. Furthermore, 1.200 face masks were produced by the garment workshops of

the YES Centre.

However, despite the difficulties of the pandemic, the YES Centre trainees are still continuing to participate in training and the start-up initiatives are still being supported by the YES Centre project.

The project is being monitored by HOPE'87 on a regular basis to this day, it was financed by ESPRIT through the YOU Foundation - Education for Children in Need and was executed in cooperation with ADRA Vietnam.

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



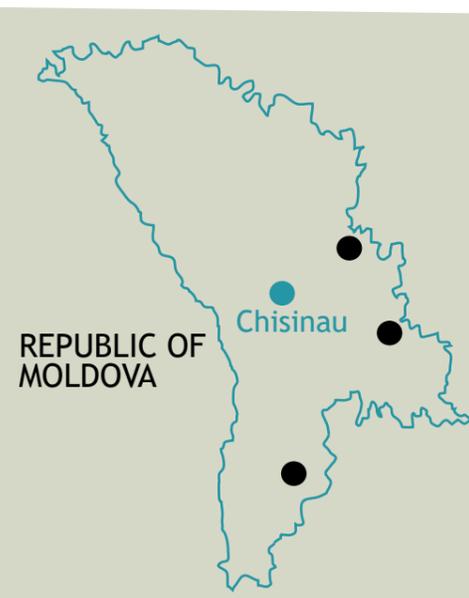
# REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

## PROGRAMME: Promotion of inclusive and high quality education for pre-school children and youth

PROJECTS	LOCATION	N° OF BENEFICIARIES	SDGs
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 the right to a happy future	Tiraspol	59	Goals 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9
The church roof renovation in Grigoriopol - improving the educational conditions for children of the Sunday school	Grigoriopol	300	Goals 1, 3, 4, 5
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

### COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVE

Luminita DRUMEA, PhD - Social Scientist



## SUMMARY

The Republic of Moldova (RoM) is a landlocked Eastern European country in the north-eastern corner of the Balkan region. Moldova borders the Ukraine to the north, east, and south and Romania to its west. Chisinau is the capital city of Moldova and is located in the south-central part of the country.

The country's climate can be described as warm and moderately continental with a lengthy frost-free period, a comparatively mild winter, considerable temperature fluctuations, and extended droughts in the south.

The country is also characterised by a variety in ethnic groups. About three-fourths of its population are Moldovans. There are also smaller ethnic populations such as Ukrainians, Russians, Gagauzians, Roma and Bulgarians. The country's official language in the constitution is Moldovan. Furthermore, over 90% of the population of Moldova are considered orthodox.

In regard to the economy of Moldova, the country is still combatting corruption, insufficient foreign investment and other economic issues. It has led to Moldova being among the poorest countries in Europe. Due to the 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/restrictions.

In order to alleviate the daily pressure and instabilities that some people have to endure within Moldova, HOPE'87-Moldova has launched several projects that focus on supporting children and young people in need. As the youth is the future of this country, HOPE'87-Moldova is eager to promote children's education, social inclusivity among young people and education on environmental protection.

## ACTIVITIES

### Healthy lifestyle starts in a kindergarten

As Moldova is still struggling to maintain public kindergartens due to missing financial resources, HOPE'87-Moldova has made its objective to support tuberculosis-affected children with their nutritional and medical situation by offering educational services at the kindergarten No. 110.

The project's goal is to ensure medical, psycho-social and nutritional care for the tuberculosis-affected children, as well as to provide sanitary spaces and educational material for them.

Moreover, the parents of the children were holistically involved in the well-being and education of their children through meetings on topics such as healthy lifestyle, nutritional value of food, personal hygiene and environmental protection.

The project was enabled through generous donations by the readers of the "Recklinghäuser Zeitung" in Germany, which were raised through the YOU Foundation- Education for Children in Need. The project itself was implemented by HOPE'87-Moldova and ended in 2019. To this day, HOPE'87-Moldova monitors and supervises the project to ensure its sustainability.

### Equal opportunities in sport

The "Equal opportunities in sport"-project aims to enhance and improve social inclusion for people with disabilities living in Moldova. In 2016, a total of 182,000 people with disabilities, among them 15,000 children, lived in Moldova. Life in Moldova is especially hard for children with disabilities as they are often considered a burden to society, particularly in the countryside.

Therefore, HOPE'87-Moldova founded this project with the purpose of creating an annual national sports festival for children and young people with disabilities. The project was launched under the slogan "We are equal and do not differ from each other" and promotes social inclusivity. The annual sports festival "Equal opportunities in sport" is also fully supported by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research of the Republic of Moldova.

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 took part in these events were motivated to train in their beloved sports and to prepare to become part of the Moldovan Paralympic Team. Furthermore, the so-called “Programme of development of inclusive education for 2011-2020” has been supported by the Moldovan government since 2011, aiming at the implementation of adequate conditions for disabled people and the provision of educational material.

The project was implemented by HOPE’87-Moldova in order to ensure a life full of exercise for handicapped children and young disabled people. To this day, the project is monitored by HOPE’87-Moldova in order to maintain its sustainability.

### I grow healthy

The aim of this project is to ensure healthy conditions for the children of the kindergarten Nr. 1 “Solnisco” which can be translated as “the Sun”. This kindergarten is situated in Chirsovo, a small town with approximately 9,000 inhabitants, in the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia. The project focuses on pre-school educational development of the physical and intellectual capacities of the children. In this context, HOPE’87-Moldova provided sports equipment to the children and supported the capacity building of the teaching team. The project strengthens necessary communication skills of the children. It is beneficial to their social behaviour by supporting their self-esteem and teaching them to respect each other through sports and playing activities. Furthermore, the imagination and creativity of the children are supported through the project.

Eventually, the project combines objectives of education, such as quality of knowledge, physical and general development in an independent attitude to the children. The project, which was successfully completed in 2019, was enabled through the funding of the readers of the “Recklinghäuser Zeitung” in Germany, a collaboration that was made possible by the YOU Foundation- Education for Children in Need. The project itself was implemented by HOPE’87-Moldova, which will continue to monitor the activities of the kindergarten in order to sustain the project’s achievements.

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

As vocational training is treated as a top priority action by a variety of policy documents of the educational system of the Republic of Moldova, HOPE’87-Moldova implemented the educational and cultural centre “Agapis” for children in Chisinau. This centre is situated next to the Church of Saint Dumitru in Botanica, one of the districts of Chisinau. From a historical perspective, the church was first referred to as the Church of the Saints Peter and Paul in 1893 and subsequently took the name of Saint Dumitru.

The “Agapis” centre is dedicated to social and educational activities and offers a variety of courses such as wood sculpture, embroidery and painting. These educational activities have helped hundreds of children aged between seven and 18, who have difficult or marginalised family backgrounds and who live in the immediate surroundings, to receive an adequate education. These children attend the Sunday school at the premises of the Chapel Saint John the Baptist on a frequent basis and are served with free meals each Sunday before the beginning of the classes.

Overall, the project has helped to better integrate young people into society by including those who require special education, such as young people with disabilities.

The project has also received support from the Government of the Republic of Moldova, as many government officials have underlined the need for social protection of the most marginalised in society. This is emphasised by the ratification of the UN Convention “On rights of the people with disabilities” by the Republic of Moldova.

Furthermore, children with and without special



needs are supported in their development on theoretical, practical and creative skills through IT technologies. For this purpose, an IT centre was created and equipped with computers, scanners, printers and other necessary equipment and furniture to meet the needs of the young. As the ability to work on computers accounts as a necessary skill in today’s working environment, the participating young people enhance their possibilities on a professional level. Knowledge in IT allows them to access new information and new skills.

In the context of the “Agapis” project, the 14-year-old Nikita, who suffered from Infantile Cerebral Paralysis and was confined to a wheelchair, received medical support. With the help of HOPE’87-Moldova, Nikita was able to receive surgery at the Turner Institute of St. Petersburg, a very renowned paediatric clinic in the Russian Federation. After two operations and a long rehabilitation process, the young man is now able to stand on his own feet again and he is able to hug his mother Irina, who supported him tirelessly throughout the entire process.

The “Agapis” project was financed through 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. The implementation process of the project was finalised by HOPE’87-Moldova in 2019 and to this day, the activities of the “Agapis” centre are sustained.

### Everyone has the right to a happy future

The main aim of the project is to promote equal access to education, good living conditions and social benefits for children in difficult life situations and with special educational needs in the “Republican Specialised Children’s Home” in Tiraspol.

The «Republican Specialised Children’s Home» was opened on the basis of the Tiraspol orphanage which was founded in 1946 and which receives local financial support. It hosts 59 children of which 24 are invalids and have special needs in education.

The institution raises healthy children from birth until they are three years old. If these children are born with defects in physical and mental development or with severe hearing and speech impairments, it will be determined up to a certain age by the Republican Psychological, Medical and Pedagogical Commission, if a premature transfer is considered. The children can remain in the institution, as long as they are not older than seven years. The maintenance and training of pupils in the institution is carried out on the basis of a full state support.

On September 29th, the «Republican Specialised Children’s Home» received educational games and books for the children as well as hygiene products and masks to protect them against COVID-19. These masks are also intended for the pedagogical and medical staff. They were also provided with a complete set of equipment for the catering and the canteen in the children’s home.

The “Everyone has the right to a happy future” project was financed by Green Nations and the National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO. HOPE’87-Moldova accompanied the project with technical advice.



### The church roof renovation in Grigoriopol - improving the educational conditions for children of the Sunday school

The Orthodox church of Saint Michael was finished on 21st November 2005 and is located in the region of Krasnaya Gorka near the town of Grigoriopol in the building of a former school. Around 2,000 people visit the church per year. A Sunday school was launched near the church and children from vulnerable families and with a special need of education thus have access to education. This will facilitate their capacities to be involved in social life. The total number of children visiting the school has thus risen to 300. This educational unit offers teaching in drawing, arts and other subjects in creational development.

As the church is under roof construction, the educational process currently cannot take part on a regular basis. The costs of the roof renovation are covered by the project.

This project will contribute to the improvement of the quality of vocational trainings, i.e. embroidery, but also to personal skills such as painting and singing sessions that take place in the Sunday school. This will allow the children, including those who require special education like children with disabilities, to be better integrated into society.

The project "The church roof renovation in Grigoriopol - improving the educational conditions for children of the Sunday school" was financed by Green Nations and the National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO. HOPE'87-Moldova accompanied the project with technical advice.

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

In Grigoriopol there are 5,000 children between the age of three to 18 years with special educational needs. Therefore, there is urgent need for a specialised educational and recreational centre. The local public administration has thus allocated the building of the former cinema "Vostok" for these purposes. This building was built in 1969 and was renovated in 2000 with resources from the state budget.

The goal of the project is to help children to have a quality education and to assure them a sustainable access for further full socialisation.

As part of the project, the centre was supplied with educational games and play stations for a total of 15.000 USD.

The project opens up the opportunity for young people to familiarise themselves with the activities of international organisations aiming to achieve the UN 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

The project "Centre for children and young people from disadvantaged backgrounds for recreational activities and training - «VOSTOK" was financed by Green Nations and the National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO. HOPE'87-Moldova accompanied the project with technical advice.



## INSTITUTIONAL CONTACTS

### Government Authorities

- Ms Valentina Buliga, former Member of Parliament and former Minister of the Republic of Moldova
- Mr Constantin Rusnac, Secretary General, National Commission of the Republic of Moldova for UNESCO
- H.E. Ms Monica Babuc, 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 for Education, Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Research of the Republic of Moldova
- Mr Radu Rebeja, former State Secretary for Sport and Youth, Ministry of Education, Culture, Youth and Research of the Republic of Moldova
- H.E. Ms Irina Vlah, Prime Minister (Boscan) of the Autonomous Territorial Unit of Gagauzia
- Ms Olesia 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 Agadjanova, Technical Director, Sanatorium tuberculosis kindergarten No. 110
- Ms Ecaterina Arabadji, Director of the Resource Centre 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

### Diplomatic Representatives

- H.E. Ambassador Mag Christine Freiling, Ambassador of Austria to Moldova
- Mr Gero Stuller, Counsellor of the Austrian Embassy in Chisinau

### NGOs

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



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



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Republic of Austria  
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Republic of Austria  
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-  Federal Ministry  
Education, Science  
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Civil Service and Sport
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