

Standing together for a just future

Our vision

We believe in a world in which we live sustainably in a just society; a world in which there are equal opportunities and every person has the chance to lead a self-determined life through their own efforts.

Our mission

Menschen für Menschen is committed to promoting equal opportunities and sustainable development through joint action across countries and continents in order to overcome social injustice and to improving living conditions for current and future generations. In our project regions we have shown that joint efforts together with the population of Ethiopia lead to better living conditions in the long term.

There is no first, second or third world. We all live on one and the same planet, for which we share responsibility.

Karlheinz Böhm (1928–2014)

MENSCHEN FÜR MENSCHEN

Menschen für Menschen has been working with the Ethiopian population to advance social and economic development in rural regions for over 40 years now. Together with our approx. 530-strong Ethiopian team, we support and accompany people in improving their living conditions effectively and for the long term. We campaign for a spirit of partnership in a united, equitable world and we attach great importance to political and denominational neutrality.

Devastated by the famine in the Sahel Zone and outraged by the unjust distribution of wealth in the world, the famous actor Karlheinz Böhm founded *Menschen für Menschen* in 1981, following a legendary bet on the German TV show "Wetten, dass..?" in which he raised a total of 1.2 million German marks. Karlheinz Böhm was firmly convinced that each one of us carries global responsibility and that a holistic approach to local solutions is necessary.

Today, Menschen für Menschen is represented by independent organisations in Germany, Austria and Belgium. Our office in Addis Ababa, which is run by Menschen für Menschen Germany, coordinates project work on-site and implements it on behalf of and with the financial resources of the country organisations. In this report, we present the work of the German Foundation, the projects realised on behalf of partner organisations in 2024 and the documentation of funds entrusted to us.

At the start of 2025, our organisation will have a new, attractive and clear image. The aim behind this is to reach broader sections of society. The new logo with the monogram "MFM" now also illustrates our vision at first glance: human beings are equal and we are connected to each other.

TITLE PAGE AND BACK COVER: Prospects for young people: a newly established bakery generates its own income in the Wore Illu project area.

Dear readers,

Truth seems to have gone out of fashion as a value. In public debates, opinions are constantly confused with facts and, following an election campaign in the US characterised by disinformation, the Meta group is abolishing fact-checkers on its social media platforms. The "narrative" is what counts. This may bring short-term attention and personal power and — as bitter as it is — will bring suffering to many people for a while. But we are convinced that the lie will not prevail in the long term: 1+1 will still be 2, gravity will continue to ensure that objects fall to earth, and the sun will rise every day. And finally, humans are and will remain social beings who are especially successful in the long term when working together, as scientists have proven time and again.

This attitude has kept us successful for almost 45 years: seeking the truth, working on what is actually needed by the people of Ethiopia and bringing about change together. That is why we are facing up to climate change. Its consequences have long been a reality for the people in our project regions. That is why we are tackling the massive social inequality and high unemployment, especially among young people in Ethiopia. Our director Bahritu Seyoum describes how everything is connected in the interview on page 11.

Ignoring facts does not prevent the consequences. This is why, in the transformation of agriculture, we are working with the scientific community to use the best banana cuttings (pages 17 to 19).

This is why our worm composting projects are so well recognised by the local population, as they save measurable amounts of money, improve the harvest and enable sustainable production (page 20 and onwards).

Sometimes it takes time, patience and trust to get to the truth. Without the empathic approach of our social workers, many women would probably never have dared to talk about their years of suffering from uterovaginal prolapse and seek treatment. The shame was too great — the relief is all the greater now (page 26 and onwards). And finally, the Bachelor's graduates at our ATTC college in Harar have such good job prospects because 70 percent of their training is practical and they complete it on real equipment and not just in theory (page 24 and onwards).



We should not allow ourselves to be confused by the flood of information from algorithms that are not loyal to the truth, but to their need for attention. As humans, we can find solutions because the problems are manmade. But we can only do this if we listen carefully, scrutinise and want to understand, if we are empathic and open to unconventional approaches. Our partnership with the people in Ethiopia and with you is based on precisely this honest foundation. We are convinced that this is the only way we can make sustainable progress.

We would therefore like to thank you very much for your trust and our joint commitment to truthfulness.

Kind regards,

Dr Sebastian Brandis (Board Spokesman) Benjamin Freiberg

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We strive to preserve the world's forests. This is why we use 100% recycled paper for the print version of this publication.



OF BEES AND WORMS

With modern beehives and worm composting, farmers generate income and become sustainable. Page 20–21



CLEAN DRINKING WATER AT LAST

The construction of wells and spring developments does much more than just quench thirst.

Page 22-23



A VISION OF THE FUTURE FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

A look over the shoulder of the students at the Foundation's own technical college (ATTC) in Harar.

Page 24-25



EDUCATIONAL WORK AGAINST THE TABOO

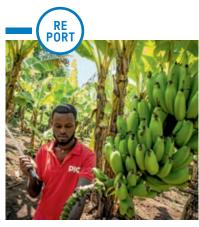
Workshops with our social workers and operations help women affected by uterovaginal prolapse. Page 26–27



BUILDING FOUNDATIONS BRICK BY BRICK

Our training programmes pave the way for young people to become self-employed.

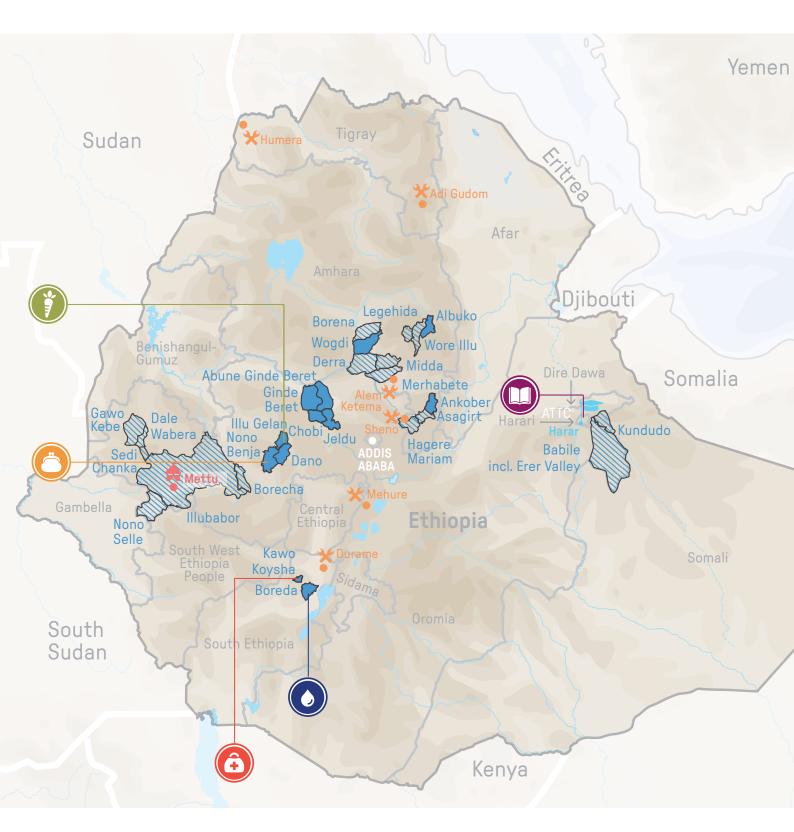
Page 28-29



HAPPINESS IS YELLOW

Our report sheds light on how highyield banana and fruit varieties get from our tree nurseries to the farmers' fields. **Page 16–19**

Our project areas



- Integrated rural development projects
- Projects handed over to the local population
- ABCH Abdii Borii Children's Home, Mettu
- TVET vocational education centres (Technical and Vocational Education and Training)
- ATTC Agro Technical and Technology College, Harar

2024 Review

Two years after the civil war, the situation in Ethiopia remains extremely tense, particularly in the regional states of Amhara and Oromia. In 2024, we had to interrupt our work repeatedly in the affected project regions for safety reasons. In the other regions, however, we have made good progress. In total, we have supported over 1.4 million people in the reporting year and advanced many of the United Nations' 17 Sustainable Development Goals. Here is an overview of what we achieved in 2024.

Human development



business start-ups and founders supported through training

- 1,164 women trained in home economics
- 482 new jobs created for women and young adults
- The creation of 119 private vegetable gardens supported

Health



12,042 pregnant women provided with tetanus protection

- 266 people cured of cataracts and trichiasis through eye surgery
- 22 HIV/AIDS awareness events organised









































Sustainable land management

242 hectares of protected areas established for reforestation

- 5.2 million tree seedlings planted for reforestation
- 441 kilometres of terraces created for soil stabilisation



Water and hygiene

24 spring developments and shallow wells built – they supply 9,937 people with clean drinking water

472 improved dry toilets installed

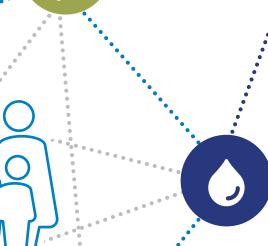


Education

104 diploma and Bachelor's certificates awarded to ATTC graduates

- 3 schools for a total of 6,700 children and young people completed
- Further training for 6,099 farmers





Strategy and goals

OUR COMMITMENT

Our organisation strives to enable those living in rural Ethiopia to sustainably improve their living conditions. The measures implemented by our Ethiopian team under its own leadership in our project regions serve this purpose. At the same time, we want to sensitise people in Europe to the fact that there is a connection between the existential challenges in countries such as Ethiopia and the way of life in industrialised nations. We use examples of our organisation's work to show how support can be effective and sustainable and create awareness for the requirements of modern, supportive development cooperation.

OUR STRATEGY

The problems in the remote areas of Ethiopia are closely interwoven. This is why we pursue the principle of integrated rural development. Together with the local population, we tackle the necessary projects in selected project regions for sustainable development in five key areas and coordinate them with each other.

In addition to the twelve active project areas in 2024, we provide short-term emergency aid, for example for famine or natural disasters.

SUSTAINABILITY AS A GUIDING PRINCIPLE

All of our projects must be well-founded and oriented to the long term. They must also continue to exist after we leave. For this reason, we involve the local population in our projects right from the outset, placing an emphasis on dialogue at eye level and individual responsibility. Upon completion, we hand over infrastructure facilities to the local authorities in order to avoid external dependencies.

OUR FOCUS AREAS



SUSTAINABLE LAND MANAGEMENT

Food security by means of improved agricultural and animal husbandry methods, erosion control, reforestation and conservation of resources.



WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE

Construction of wells, spring developments and entire water supply systems, raising awareness for improved hygiene.



EDUCATION

Building and equipping schools and training centres as well as literacy courses. Operation of a college.



HEALTH

Building and equipping rural healthcare centres, further training of nursing staff and educational campaigns.



HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Support for entrepreneurs and vocational integration for women, young people and young adults, home economics advice, development of infrastructure for improved access to markets.



Village in rural Ethiopia in the Gofa region.

How we implement development projects

PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND OUALITY ASSURANCE

We place great emphasis on the efficient and transparent use of the funds entrusted to us and strive to meet our development goals with the optimum distribution of funds. To this end we have established a project management system that enables precise planning, control and targeted development of our projects. The responsibility lies with our Project Coordination Office (PCO) in Addis Ababa. The majority of the staff is deployed in the rural project areas.

INTERNAL SUCCESS MONITORING

For each of our integrated rural development projects, we define project-specific impact goals and suitable indicators with which we gauge progress during the course of a project. This confirms that we are on the right course and that the results conform to our quality standards. In order to give more weight to this systematic success monitoring, we created an independent field of activity in 2012 dedicated to this purpose. In addition to monitoring and evaluation coordinators in the project regions, the responsibility also lies with monitoring and evaluation experts in Munich and Addis Ababa.

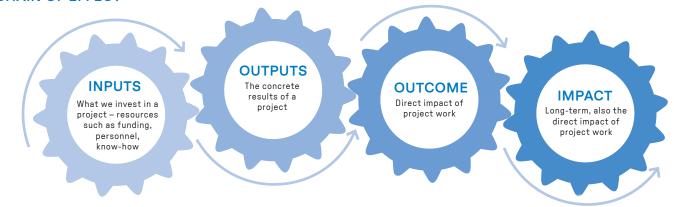
EXTERNAL EVALUATION

In addition, we have both individual project phases and completed projects evaluated by external independent experts. The Ethiopian authorities also carry out regular evaluations. The results of these analyses are an important evaluation of our work. Along with the monitoring reports, they are integrated into the programme planning and serve the further development of our projects.



Silas Lawrato is a model farmer in the village of Zamo in the Kawo Koysha project area. His harvest successes are an incentive for others to also seek advice.

CHAIN OF EFFECT



EXAMPLES OF INDICATORS

- Construction of wells
- Training of young people
- Microcredits for women
- Clean drinking water
- Young people making products
- Capital and know-how
- Less disease
 - Fewer young people unemployed
 - Increased property for women
- Better state of health
- Economic upturn
- Reduction in poverty

FINANCIAL CONTROL MECHANISMS

All our expenditure is examined by several entities before it is approved. In addition to the project managers, our country representative in Ethiopia, the Ethiopian management team and the Executive Board of the Foundation make regular visits to the project areas. Furthermore, members from our controlling department check the cash amounts, inventories and fuel consumption, among other things, both physically on site and through IT accounting systems. They also survey the progress made on the construction sites.

The respective project management submits detailed quarterly reports to the country representative and the Ethiopian authorities. We have also established a compliance management system (see page 33), which ensures that funds are used appropriately and that our organisation operates in strict compliance with the law. Since autumn 2023, the Foundation has been advised on compliance issues by law firms Hogan Lovells and Gibson Dunn.

Every year, we have our accounting audited by an independent auditor. The financial report (page 34 onwards) is submitted to the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board. In 2024, we received an unqualified audit certificate for the Annual Financial Statements once again. In addition, external Ethiopian auditors reconcile expenditure in Ethiopia with the appropriate receipts, making random checks against work completed.

Menschen für Menschen would like to disclose that the law firm owned by a board member who stepped down in 2022 continues to provide the Foundation with legal advice. This business relationship has been reviewed and expressly approved by the Supervisory Board.

OUR STANDARDS

LOCAL TEAM. Around 530 well-trained Ethiopian employees are active in the project areas. They are familiar with the local conditions and speak the regional languages or dialects. This creates trust and promotes direct exchange with the people who benefit from our projects. As the need arises, we cooperate with other Ethiopian partners – in construction projects, for instance.

INVOLVEMENT OF THE POPULATION. In order to achieve maximum impact with limited funds, *Menschen für Menschen* plans each project with the greatest of care. The baseline is always the specific needs that we identify in a process of exchange with the population. By virtue of our integrated approach and the involvement of those affected, we achieve lasting improvement in the local living conditions.

LONG-TERM ORIENTATION AND QUALITY ASSURANCE. Even after a project has been handed over to the population and local authorities, we stay in touch. We use systematic monitoring and evaluations to ensure the further development and long-term success of our work.

MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR CONTRACTUAL PARTNERS. Fairness is our guiding principle, and also applies to the deployment of day labourers. Since 2014 we have obliged all building contractors under contract to build schools for us to pay these temporary workers a fair minimum wage, regardless of gender. We also expect occupational health and safety to be observed.



The Coordinator for Sustainable Agriculture, Tessema Chekun, trains new employees in the area of project evaluation.

"Peace is the most important thing"

Ethiopia has developed enormously in recent decades and is now facing new challenges. How is *Menschen für Menschen* responding to this? What strategies are needed today? A look into the past and future with the Director of Project Implementation, Bahritu Seyoum. She is also part of the management team in Addis Ababa.

"We build schools

prospects with job

training."

and offer young people

Ms Seyoum, you have been working for the Foundation for around 20 years. What has changed for the better in Ethiopia since then?

The country has changed a lot. The government has invested heavily in infrastructure. There is a much better power supply and a larger road network. This has brought the country forward. The expansion of the education system is also a positive development — our Foundation has contributed a great deal to this.

Can you explain this in more detail?

Around half a million Ethiopians attend one of the more than 470 schools that we have built throughout the country. Then there are the vocational education centres and the ATTC. We are regarded by the population as "school builders". I'm very proud of that!

In your opinion, what are the three biggest problems facing the country today?



A bright classroom, a better learning atmosphere: school in Ijaji in the Illu Gelan project area.

Global warming and its consequences have Ethiopia, like the rest of

the world, firmly in their grip. Many farmers are struggling with drought. In addition, wars and violent conflicts have impaired our country's economic development, particularly in recent years. This has to do with the third major challenge we have to face: the high unemployment rate among young Ethiopians. Industry, companies and the government have not sufficiently kept up with developments in the

not sufficiently kept up with developments in the education system. There is a lack of jobs for well-trained people, and their frustration is high. Some therefore allow themselves to be recruited by extreme forces or engage in illegal activities.



Proud of what she has achieved: Director of Project Implementation Bahritu Seyoum.

Does the Foundation respond to this?

Yes, for example, by offering intensive training for entrepreneurs at our college in Harar and at the vocational education centres we have set up. The aim: young people should not only hope for employment, but also seize the opportunity to become self-employed using their own skills.

More and more Ethiopians are moving to the cities. The Foundation's activities have so far focussed on rural areas. Is that changing now?

No, because the overwhelming majority of the population still lives on small farms in the countryside. This continues to be our focus. However, this does not mean that we are ignoring the developments. Small settlements that used to be home to perhaps 2,000 people are now home to 30,000. We support the development of

suitable water and healthcare facilities. We build schools and offer young people prospects with job training — even away from their parents' fields.

One last question: what do you want for your home country?

Peace! It's the most important thing. If we have peace, people can move from one place to another and trade without worry. Children go to school and young adults go to university. In short, the country flourishes.

Soil as a precious resource

Soils are literally the basis of our existence. They filter and store water and ensure our food supply through agriculture, they are a haven of biodiversity and, as carbon stores, are indispensable for climate change mitigation. However, the soil is also subject to heavy wear: sealing takes away its vital functions for people and the environment, while deforestation leads to soil erosion and loss of fertility. Soil protection therefore plays a fundamental role in our development projects.

Today:
23.6 percent
Goal for 2026:
30 percent

At the end of the 19th century, around 35 to 40 percent of Ethiopia's land area was still covered by forest. Massive deforestation reduced the tree stock to less than 3 percent in the 1990s. By 2023, it had risen again to 23.6 percent owing to reforestation measures.

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CAUSES

- Strong population growth
- Wood for house construction and as a source of energy
- Demand for agricultural land

CONSEQUENCES

- Soil erosion and slope breaks
- Floods
- Loss of harvests and fertile soil
- Danger to life and property
- Groundwater decline

This is the aim of the Green Legacy reforestation initiative in Ethiopia. By 2026, the forest area is to grow from 23.6 to 30 percent of the land area. On annual campaign days, the entire population gets involved: in August 2024, a total of 60 million tree seedlings were planted within twelve hours. The aim is to create a healthy, climate-resistant mixed forest.

40 percent



- Educating the population
- Terracing for soil stabilisation
- Planting of protection forests on the slopes
- Eucalyptus plantations for firewood
- Wood-saving stoves

SUCCESSES

- Species diversity and biodiversity return Groundwater level rises
- More drinking-water safety
- Soil fertility increases
- Safety from landslides and flooding
- Evaporative cooling through the forest

To date, we have created around 60,000 kilometres of terraces

New record

Menschen für Menschen contributes to reforestation with its own reforestation projects. In 2024 we planted the 300 millionth tree seedling. Overall, we were able to reforest around 160 square kilometres in our project areas in this way — this corresponds to the area of the Principality of Liechenstein.



95 PERCENT

of agricultural production in Ethiopia comes from smallholder farmers. On average, they cultivate an area of less than one hectare.



NO PRIVATE LAND OWNERSHIP

In Ethiopia, all land has been owned by the state since the mid 1970s – according to the 1995 constitution, it is the common property of the Ethiopian people and may not be sold or mortgaged. However, private individuals and companies can acquire rights of use. In recent decades, large agricultural areas have been repeatedly leased to domestic and foreign investors – especially in the sparsely populated and underdeveloped west of the country. This has led to conflicts with local communities. The government hopes that this will provide the urgently needed modernisation boost for agriculture.



35 FOOTBALL PITCHES SEALED PER DAY

Every day, the area for roads and settlements in Germany grows by 55 hectares. Of these, around 45 percent are sealed, i.e. built on, asphalted, concreted or otherwise paved.

Unrivalled diversity

The landscape, soil and utilisation options are extremely varied in Ethiopia:

- from alpine climate to evergreen moist forests to savannah
- Danakil Depression: at 125 metres below sea level one of the deepest places on earth and the hottest (almost 36 degrees on average)
- Ras Dashen: the highest mountain in the country at 4,533 metres



The intensive exploitation of wood in Germany in recent centuries is illustrated by this motif from a Harz mountain jug from 1734: the stacks of different lengths show mine timber, and coal and construction timber. In the background you can see some charcoal piles.

Forest area in Germany

Population growth and economic development

also caused the forest area in Germany to shrink. This repeatedly led to wood shortages. It was only from 1850 onwards that a system based on the principle of forestry and forest management committed to sustainability. Today, a third of the country's land area is once again covered by forest, but it is still under threat: from road and settlement construction, but also from climate change

and its consequences such as storms, droughts and diseases of stressed trees.

Activities and results in 2024

In 2024, our project work in the regional states of Amhara and Oromia in particular was again hampered or completely prevented by clashes between the central government and various rebel groups. However, we were able to continue the majority of our planned activities in the accessible project areas of the other regional states unhindered. This also applies to projects outside our regular project areas, such as the construction of three secondary schools funded by public donors. Our two individual projects, the technical college in Harar (ATTC) and the children's and youth centre in Mettu, Illubabor, could also be carried out without disruption. The devaluation of the Ethiopian birr by the government in mid-2024 and the subsequent inflation had a major impact on our project costs.

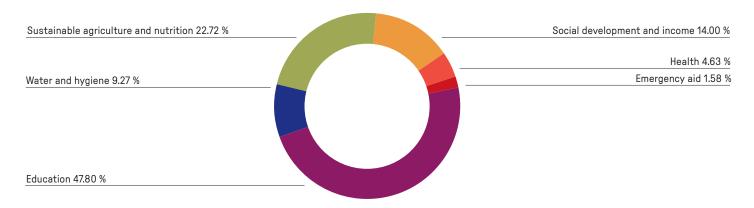
In the area of sustainable agriculture, the introduction of an entire package of measures to further increase the productivity of smallholder farms should be emphasised. With funding from GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für internationale Zusammenarbeit), almost 3,500 farmers have learnt about the worm composting method, which provides them with rich fertiliser and saves them money. They also received grafted avocado seedlings and beekeeping training. The response among the model farmers initially approached was great, and they have already passed on their knowledge to neighbours. This is precisely the aim of our work: new knowledge and skills are disseminated in the communities through convincing role models.

In water supply, we have drilled and commissioned a large number of shallow wells, particularly in Nono Benja, with the help of earmarked funds. They now supply 1,730 people with hygienically safe water. In total, the construction of water points in six of our project areas gave almost 10,000 people access to sufficient drinking water in 2024. Due to the unrest, some school construction sites were inaccessible, meaning that only three of 16 new buildings were completed.

In social development, we have made a slow transition from microcredit programmes for women to the promotion of micro-entrepreneurship. The programme is still aimed at women, but also at unemployed young adults in general. 482 women and men completed training as hairdressers, oilseed traders, chicken farmers or tyre repairers and received equipment or start-up capital for their business. At the ATTC in Harar, we have launched EU-funded start-up training programmes for budding micro-entrepreneurs. The first workshops and training courses to help people traumatised by the war in Amhara to come to terms with their experiences were held with funding from the BMZ.

Menschen für Menschen spent a total of around €11.6 million (previous year around €16 million) on project work in Ethiopia in 2024. The German organisation contributed most of the financial resources with €9.6 million (previous year €13.4 million).

Project Expenditure in Ethiopia by Focus Area



NOTES ON THE TABLE ON PAGE 15

INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

Ginde Beret, Abune Ginde Beret, Jeldu, Chobi, Derra and Albuko. The projects are or were financed by the Austrian association and implemented on its behalf.

INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

In some regions, *Menschen für Menschen* has launched individual or multiple infrastructure measures outside the project regions.

These include the construction of roads, health centres, water points and schools. The activities were or are being organised from the neighbouring project areas and from the Project Coordination Office (PCO) in Addis Ababa.

PROJECT SUPPORT

Responsibility for project support lies mainly with the Project Coordination Office in Addis Ababa and the development cooperation and purchasing staff in Munich. Project support for the Austrian project areas is also provided by the Austrian association.

Project spending

Project areas	Size in km²	Project duration	Employees***	Population supported	Spending in euros in 2024
INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS					
Ginde Beret	1,200	since 2011	7	136,798	50,710
Abune Ginde Beret	1,360	since 2012	2	139,922	3,878
Wogdi	1,122	since 2013	26	158,897	272,597
Dano, managed by Illu Gelan	659	since 2013	0	125,759	155,731
Jeldu	390	since 2017	4	99,992	17,829
Illu Gelan	424	since 2020	54	93,209	588,423
Nono Benja	784	since 2020	46	106,754	731,352
Chobi	353	since 2021	2	70,512	4,215
Ankober	673	since 2021	35	110,024	736,333
Albuko	492	since 2023	23	104,125	364,311
Boreda	464	since 2023	24	101,427	585,741
Kawo Koysha	352	since 2023	25	73,123	252,583
INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS (COMPLET	TED)				
Illubabor	32,041	1985–2013	0	1,363,150	0
Merhabete	1,210	1992–2009	0	137,570	0
Derra	1,500	1997–2010	0	209,575	3,832
Midda	900	2000–2013	0	101,233	0
Babile (Erer valley 1981–2002)	3,502	2002–2013	0	108,068	0
Nono Selle	2,000	2007–2012	0	26,416	0
Asagirt	437	2007–2015	0	53,845	0
Hagere Mariam	752	2008–2015	0	60,055	0
Borecha	961	2007–2017	0	94,676	0
Kundudo (2012–2015, only reforestation project)	144	2012–2017	0	54,821	0
Dale Wabera*	697	2013–2019	3	80,496	5,561
Sedi Chanka	707	2013–2019	0	61,148	0
Gawo Kebe	975	2015–2019	3	31,000	5,189
Legehida	429	2014–2023	0	78,764	0
Wore Illu	683	2014–2023	5	132,960	36,281
Borena	980	2011–2023	19	187,915	95,836
Number of people who have benefited from the project results	since the proje	ct handover**		770,804	
INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS					
Including Tigray, Harari, Gursum and Jarso, Jimma Zone, Kembata, Jamma, Girar Jarso, Degem, Moretna Jiru and Ensaro, Somali and Bure 1,926,876					3,169,364
INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS					
Abdii Borii Children's Home (ABCH) — 111 children in the home, 31 independent	17 in training or	since 1996	45	428	295,723
Agro Technical and Technology College (ATTC) — 471 in the ATTC; 3,802 graduates		since 1992	124	4,273	1,040,719
Arsi Job Creation Project (GIZ funding project)		since 2018	26	500	529,568
Emergency relief 2024			5,000	141,769	
PROJECT COORDINATION OFFICE (PCO) AND CENTRAL WAREHOUSE 59				2,514,089	
TOTAL POPULATION SUPPORTED 6,797,912					
TOTAL PROJECT SPENDING				11,601,645	
OF WHICH PROJECT EXPENSES OF THE AUSTRIAN ASSOCIATION				1,974,172	

^{*} Since 2018, Dale Wabera has been divided into the districts of Dale Wabera and Sedi Chanka. **Based on an average population growth of 2.5% according to the World Bank (2022). *** Average number in 2023.



HAPPINESS IS YELLOW

In the village of Konda, situated in the fertile lowlands of southern Ethiopia, tropical fruits such as bananas thrive particularly well. But so far they are not very widespread here. *Menschen für Menschen* is therefore working with the government's agricultural research centres in the region and propagating banana plants in its own tree nursery – all in order to bring the perfect fruit to the field.

When Mengesha Boshe arrives at his field, he is out of breath. He puts his hands on his hips and looks at the green plants that rise up from the brown earth in several rows. The tall, 28-year-old farmer smiles.

He and his father have only recently planted the small banana plants here. They still look a little lost in the otherwise barren piece of land. "They'll soon be towering over you," predicts Zekarias Korota, who arrives next to him at the edge of the field and wipes the sweat from his brow. The two men climbed up the steep path from Mengesha's hut in the village of Konda to the field to see how the plants were growing.

Zekarias is a development counsellor at *Menschen für Menschen* in the southern Ethiopian project area of Boreda. "The location here is really well suited to growing bananas," he emphasises. The 27-year-old kneels down next to a plant and pushes aside some soil on the trunk with his hand." The perennials need water regularly," says Zekarias. "The best thing to do is to dig a small ditch around each plant and then" — he points to the hilltop above the field—"channel the water from the river up there down here." Mengesha nods. In the steep terrain, the task that the agricultural expert sets him is not so easy to realise. Mengesha is certain, however, that the effort will be worth it and that he will be harvesting yellow bananas here in around a year and a half. "I can hardly wait to try the first ones," he says.



Lessons in the field: development counsellor Zekarias Korota gives farmer Mengesha Boshe tips for banana cultivation.

Marketable fruits generate income

Mengesha is the second eldest of eight siblings. While his older brother works as a nurse in one of the region's health centres, Mengesha decided to continue his parents' farming business after leaving school. He and his father used to grow peanuts, ginger, maize, teff, white beans and cassava. The family of ten uses a large

part of it for themselves. They also sell some products, especially cassava and ginger, at the market. Last year, they earned around 60,000 birr, the equivalent of just under €400. As bananas are not

"I can hardly wait to try the first ones."

Farmer Mengesha Boshe

yet very common in the region, the father and son team can also get a good price for them. "Our farmers increase their income in the long term with these crops," explains Tesfalidet Gebrekidan, head of the project area. "This helps to buffer against sudden crop failures and make important investments – for school materials or clothing, for example."

The mini perennials in Mengesha's field are cuttings from mother plants that thrive a few kilometres away in the tree nursery of the Foundation. There are five banana varieties here — Poye,

What we do





Worms produce fertile compost for Mengesha (top left). He uses the manure from his cows (top right). His siblings are also happy about the bigger harvest.

Williams, Lady Finger, G/Cavendish and Grand Naine are their names. "They are all high-yielding and disease-resistant," explains Tesfalidet Gebrekidan. The difference lies in the size of the shrubs and fruits. Some also need a little more water, others a little less. "Depending on the location and size of the field, we decide which variety is best."

Cooperation with the research institution

In order to select the right varieties for the region in the first place *Menschen für Menschen* works closely with a government agricultural science centre. It is located on the outskirts of Arba Minch, a large city around 130 kilometres south of the tree nursery. "We grow different types of maize, sorghum, wheat, white beans, fodder plants for animals and bananas here," explains employee Teshale Wube during a tour. In order to test seeds and seedlings in as



many places as possible, the centre cooperates with organisations such as *Menschen für Menschen*. Around a year ago, it gave the Foundation 500 banana plants free of charge, 100 of each variety. At the foundation's own nursery, employees then took care of the shrubs and watered them regularly. After a year, they separated a total of 2,000 cuttings from the mature trees and distributed them to farmers in the project area. "We don't have the financial and human resources to manage this on this scale," explains Teshale Wube. The agricultural expert would like to visit the project in Konda soon and see the tree nursery and the plants in the fields for himself. Until then, Tesfalidet Gebrekidan will keep him up to date via video call. "It's a win-win situation for everyone involved,"

summarises the head of the Boreda project area. "For the research centre, for us as a Foundation and for the farmers."

Not only bananas thrive in the tree nursery, but also avocados, papayas, coffee and some shade-giving trees. As soon as they have reached the right size, they are also distributed to the



"It's a win-win situation for everyone involved."

Tesfalidet Gebrekidan, head of the Boreda project area

farmers. Mengesha and his father also received coffee, avocado and papaya seedlings, as well as seeds for chilli, beetroot and cabbage. Zekarias showed them how to plant everything according to the principle of agroforestry and distribute it across the fields. "Mengesha in particular learns quickly and is very motivated to put the tips into practice straight away," he praises his model pupil. After several days of intensive training with nine other farmers, the development counsellor currently visits him once or twice a week.

Mengesha's success finds imitators

Compared to many of their neighbours, Mengesha's family have a total of four hectares of farmland at their disposal. His grandfather bought the land at a favourable price when the village of Konda did not yet have that many inhabitants. "That's one of the reasons why we approached the family first," explains Zekarias. It is much easier for them to clear part of the fields for the new seedlings and seeds. Farmers with less land are usually more cautious. They are not yet familiar with the Foundation, its ideas and methods, and may find it more difficult to cope with crop failures.

Mengesha's fields are the perfect demonstration site for Zekarias. "We invite the villagers here so that they can see for themselves," he says. "This is how we gain the trust of even those who are more sceptical." So far, Zekaria's plan has worked: many of the 70 farms, including smaller ones, have opened up to him and the changes. They harvest their first vegetables and, like Mengesha, wait for their papaya or avocado harvest. "I've noticed that many

"I've noticed that many of the people in the village are daring to hope again.

Zekarias Korota, development counsellor

of the people in the village are daring to hope again," says the Foundation employee happily. "That makes me very proud."

Most families now have another ray of hope in their backyard: their own worm

compost. Zekarias showed the farmers how to build the large wooden crates, explained what they needed to fill them with and gave them a few thousand worms to start with. "We used to simply throw cow dung away. Today we know how useful it is for compost," explains Asfaw Anja, Mengesha's immediate neighbour. Like most people, the almost 70-year-old maize farmer had previously spent a large part of his income on chemical fertilisers. "The fact that we can now produce fertiliser ourselves has changed many things for the better," he is convinced.



Employees carry a bunch of bananas through the tree nursery.



Good money can be earned at the market with fresh papayas.

Advice on hygiene and healthy eating

A social worker from *Menschen für Menschen* also visits Kondo regularly. She explains to the women, including Mengesha's mother and sisters, how important a balanced diet is and how rich the new bananas are in minerals and vitamins, for example. She provides each household with a wood-saving stove and cooks new recipes with the women farmers. She also teaches household hygiene. Together with the families, she builds shelves for kitchen utensils or shows them how they can build a latrine on the property. "We hope all this will protect us from getting sick," says Mengesha.

Despite the daily field work, the young farmer would like to continue his education in the future; perhaps attend a college or university to study agricultural sciences. "But only in evening classes or at the weekend," he quickly adds. "I'm needed here!" He takes one last look at his banana field, then he makes his way back home. "When they're ripe, I'll give them to the neighbours to try." If they then also want to start growing bananas, Mengesha will take a few cuttings from his perennials and help them with the plant starter kits. "The Foundation gave it to me, so I'm going to do the same," he says. "The fruit should also bring happiness to others."

Sustainable land management

Six out of ten people in Ethiopia live from agriculture. But the harvests of micro-farms are meagre and often hardly enough to feed the farmer's own family — especially when there is no rain and the fields dry out. Fertilisers are expensive and acidify the soil. This is why we are showing people how they can produce nutrient-rich compost themselves and thus make their cultivation more effective, more ecological and more climate-resilient. Vegetable seeds and marketable fruits such as coffee also improve food diversity and generate more income.



Soresa Abdisa is happy about new compost. It saves him money on chemical fertilisers.

FROM OUR PROJECT AREA IN ILLU GELAN

Of bees and worms

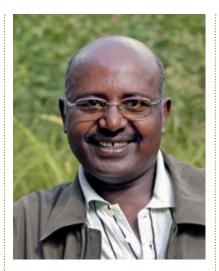
While Soresa Abdisa sleeps or sits eating with his wife and children, a group of little helpers work in his garden in the village of Buko. In two large compost boxes, thousands of worms eat through leaves, crop waste, cow dung and straw. Colonies of bees buzz around their hives at a safe distance of a few metres from his house. "I've always found it fascinating how they fly from flower to flower and there's delicious honey at the end," says Soresa with enthusiasm.

Around two years ago, he received a grant from *Menschen für Menschen* for a four-day beekeeping training programme. The 48-year-old had already tried his hand at honey production before – "and did a lot of things wrong", as he admits. His tradi-

tional beehives, woven basket tubes or hollowed-out tree trunks were only used for one harvest. Soresa crushed them and was stung all over in the process. Bees died and the extracted honey was contaminated. The Foundation provided him with two more modern wooden beehives. He also received instructions on how to build and clean the hives himself.

"My honey is now clean and beautifully yellow," enthuses Soresa. 5,000 birr, around €32, is what he earned with the first small harvest at the market. Soon he would also like to sell the beeswax. "Both are extremely popular right now," he says. "And people are paying for it."

Thinking about whether there was a market for his products used to be incon-



"Model farmers play a key role in passing on the knowledge they have acquired by working with us."

Demere Ano, project manager for Illu Gelan and Dano





Soresa's bees produce precious honey here.

FUNDS USED IN 2024 €2,039,398

OUR MOST IMPORTANT SUCCESS STORIES:

- 1,767 improved beehives distributed
- 173,830 apple, avocado and papaya seedlings distributed
- 3,965 farmers trained in organic farming





Training, construction

of compostboxes, delivery

of compost worms





OUTPUT

cost-effective alternative

to chemical fertilisers







OUTCOME





IMPACT



Lower production costs, higher yields

Higher income greater food security

ceivable to Soresa. "I remember the time when our eldest daughter was born," he says. Back then, 24 years ago, he only grew maize. It was just enough for the small family. There was no money to buy other food and thus have a more varied diet or to buy the baby new clothes. "That was a tough time," says Soresa.

The father of seven sought help from the local agricultural office in the Illu Gelan region around 200 kilometres west of Addis Ababa. In the years that followed, the authority provided him with seeds and advice. Soresa began to sell parts of its maize and teff harvest. And the yoghurt that his wife makes from the milk of his cows. He earned around €650 per year. However, he had to invest more than half directly back into chemical fertiliser for his crops.

Worm compost is an ecological alternative here, and also incurs hardly any costs. Soresa learnt from Menschen für Menschen how to build the worm boxes, what to fill them with and how often to water them. He also received a starter set of two kilos of worms. "I was very sceptical at first," admits Soresa. He tried out the vermicast on a small part of his maize field - and is still enthusiastic about it today: "The stems, leaves and grains look so healthy!" Soresa would soon like to completely dispense with artificial fertilisers. He will also fertilise his coffee bushes and the papaya and avocado trees he received from the Foundation with the compost. In the future, the farmer plans to fatten up some of his oxen and cows and expand his fruit cultivation.

His wife will also soon be starting her own small chicken farm. Soresa is building her the stable, and she will receive some animals from Menschen für Menschen. Perhaps, Soresa hopes, his eldest daughter could also get involved. With no income and no job prospects, she went to Saudi Arabia after finishing school. "I miss her very much," he says, "and I want her to finally have prospects here at home."

WHAT DOES IT ALL COST?*

- 5 modern beehives: €87
- Starter set for chicken farming: €48
- Vegetable seeds and cultivation training for one person: €39

^{*} Exemplary information. Costs are subject to fluctuating prices and exchange rates.

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Water, sanitation and hygiene

Clean water is still not a matter of course in rural Ethiopia: three out of ten people lack drinking water. The water they draw from ponds, streams and rivers is contaminated with bacteria, parasites and even leeches. This means that many suffer regularly from illnesses that can even become life-threatening - especially for children. Together with the local population, we are therefore building spring developments and supply systems for entire villages and small towns. This is important, because clean water is essential for health. for regular school attendance and for the strength to take the future into one's own hands.



Beshike Banga and her neighbours can now draw clean water directly in the village.

FROM OUR PROJECT AREA IN BOREDA

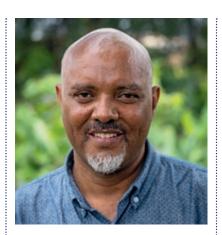
Drinking water without fear

As the water flows from the tap into her jerry can, 47-year-old Beshike Banga is beaming in her bright yellow top. Just minutes ago, the wooden gate to one of the water points in her home village of Desgale, around 400 kilometres south of Addis Ababa, was opened. The residents of the community in the Boreda project area can draw water here twice a day. Beshike and her family of twelve can use it to cook, clean, shower and wash. "Above all, we can drink it without fear," says Beshike.

That wasn't always the case. The Meti Koro river used to serve as a water source for the village. Now, in the dry season, it babbles as a rivulet in a basin below the village. The danger posed by the little river cannot be recognised at first glance. But it

is abundant, in the form of parasites that make people ill. Beshike also suffered from gastrointestinal complaints on several occasions. Once she had to be treated in hospital and borrow money for the medication.

But she was hit the hardest when she swallowed a leech about three years ago. "It was still very small, so I didn't see it," Beshike reports. The parasite got stuck in her throat, latched on and became engorged with blood and grew bigger and bigger. Beshike felt something strange in her throat, and a little later she spat up blood. "I was totally shocked and was afraid I was going to bleed to death," she recalls. People from the village rushed to her aid. While some people held her mouth open, her neighbour Dera Balcha carefully insert-



"It is very important that the people in the village help with the construction work. This makes them feel responsible even after our involvement has ended."

Tesfalidet Gebrekidan, project manager in Boreda





Source of disaster: the river Meti Koro.

FUNDS USED IN 2024 €831,966

OUR MOST IMPORTANT SUCCESS STORIES:

- 14 spring developments built
- 10 shallow wells constructed
- 182 members of water committees trained

INPUT



Construction of water points and training of water committees OUTPUT



More sustainably operated, safe water points

OUTCOME



Better access to clean water; improved hygiene **IMPACT**



Fewer diseases; better health of the population

ed a thin thorny branch into her throat. "I skewered the leech with it and pulled it out," explains the 52-year-old.

Others were also affected by the leeches. The villagers therefore began to draw their drinking water from a distant spring built by the government. It took them around three hours just to walk there and back, plus the waiting time on site.

Tesfalidet Gebrekidan, head of the Boreda project area, remembers it well: "When we visited the community for the first time, everyone complained about how difficult it was to get clean water."

In order to improve the situation, Menschen für Menschen built a whole supply system: a natural spring three kilometres away was contained. It feeds two water

reservoirs from which the water flows through pipes to the three distribution points in the village. "Everyone in the village pitched in with the construction work," reports Dera. They hauled stones and cement, dug deep holes and donated wood for the fences.

To enable the villagers to maintain the system themselves, *Menschen für Menschen* has trained a water committee. In a training course lasting several days, the seven women and men, including Beshike and Dera, were given a small toolbox and learnt how to carry out minor repairs, replace individual parts and clean water tanks and dispensing points. Members of the committee open and close the distribution points, while others collect the small

monthly user fee of around 70 cents per household.

Parasites are not just a problem for humans, but for their animals as well. Some, including a pregnant cow from Dera, died as a result. Now the farmer is hoping that they will soon have better health too: drinking troughs for the animals are soon to be installed in Desgale.

WHAT DOES IT ALL COST?*

- Training for a 7-member water committee: €105
- Construction of a spring development: €3,600

^{*} Exemplary information. Costs are subject to fluctuating prices and exchange rates.



Education

Around 60 percent of Ethiopians live from agriculture. At the same time, the country is modernising in leaps and bounds. Many companies are looking for well-trained technical specialists, engineers and mechanics, but there is a shortage of them. On the other hand, unemployment is particularly high among the younger generation. In order to close the gaps and provide prospects, we are building, renovating and equipping vocational schools throughout the country. We have also been running our own technical college, the ATTC, in Harar since 1992. This is because a good vocational education is the key to a better future.



Jerusalem Bekana (second from left) has started her final year of study at the ATTC.

FROM OUR COLLEGE IN HARAR

Connections to the future

The first task is to untangle the cables. They lay unused in the drawer of the course room for weeks. "After the holidays, we always need something to get us back into it," admits Jerusalem Bekana, a student of electrical and electronic engineering. Then the slender 22-year-old fishes several yellow, red and black cables out of the tangle and plugs them into a modulator. In the communications engineering seminar, she and her fellow students learn how to transmit information over long distances.

Four days ago, Jerusalem returned to the Agro Technical and Technology College (ATTC) in Harar. She has used her free time to prepare for her courses in this final year of study. Jerusalem asked former students for teaching material and researched on the internet. "I want to continue to improve my performance and find a really good job."

To pave the way to a successful professional future for motivated young people like her and to provide the growing Ethiopian economy with skilled labour, Menschen für Menschen founded the ATTC more than 30 years ago. The graduates are in high demand. In addition to electrical and electronic engineering, students can also complete a Bachelor's degree in manufacturing and automotive engineering. The study programme is free of charge: machines, tools, work clothing, textbooks, accommodation and catering for the 471 students are funded by donations and grants from German companies, such as Bürkert the Swabian technology company funds



"Thanks to our practicallyoriented teaching, students find it much easier to remember what they have learned."

Getachew Shunki, President of the ATTC





Students in front of one of the college's workshops.

FUNDS USED IN 2024 €4,291,626

OUR MOST IMPORTANT SUCCESS STORIES:

- 104 students have completed their Bachelor's degree at the ATTC
- Three schools built and equipped
- Construction of two new schools has begun
- Further construction of a vocational school

INPUT





OUTPUT









IMPACT



Equal access to high-quality, skills-oriented university education

More qualified university of applied sciences graduates

Better jobs and higher income for young women

OUTCOME

Improved gender equality and strengthened role of women in the population

training for around 40 women, including Jerusalem.

As one of four siblings, she grew up in Fincha in the state of Oromia, 800 kilometres to the west. There are two hydroelectric power stations on the outskirts of the city. Jerusalem has always been fascinated by how they produce electricity. "I've wanted to be an electrical engineer since I was a child," she explains. When she heard about the college, she applied.

She still remembers her first days at the ATTC in detail. Jerusalem hardly spoke to the five other young women in her dormitory at the time. "We had never been so far away from home before and we were all very shy," she says. "It's hard to imagine today." The students, who come from dif-

ferent regions of Ethiopia and belong to different ethnicities and religions, have become close friends. They help each other with the seminar tasks and go to the library together. When one of them goes to a church service at lunchtime or in the evening, the others take her food from the canteen. At the weekend, the girls sometimes go shopping in the city centre or watch films on their mobile phones in the evening.

"I will miss the togetherness here the most," says Jerusalem. After her studies, she would like to work at Ethio Telecom, the nationwide internet and telephone service provider. "We live in the information age," she says. "Before, we used to know very little about other places in the world, but today we can google everything and com-

municate with people everywhere without any problems."

Before she can realise her career aspirations, Jerusalem still has to pass a few written exams and submit her final practical project. Jerusalem is planning to develop a traffic light system that indicates more than red, amber and green. "We want pedestrians to see how much time they have to cross the road," she explains. "Here, too, communication can improve people's lives."

WHAT DOES IT ALL COST?*

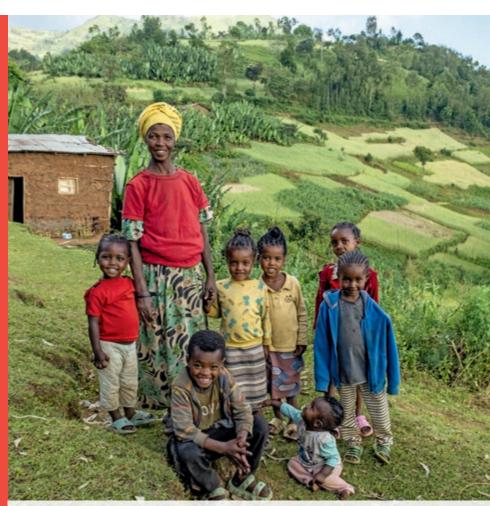
- Working materials for 20 students: €139
- Catering for one student for one school year: €168

^{*} Exemplary information. Costs are subject to fluctuating prices and exchange rates.



Health

Rural areas in Ethiopia lack basic health services and health professionals. If people fall ill, they often have to walk for a whole day to get to the nearest doctor or hospital. Preventable diseases sometimes end up being fatal. This is why we are renovating the often poorly equipped rural health centres, equipping them with furniture and materials. We also train local medical staff, transport vaccines, organise awareness campaigns and facilitate operations – for example, gynaecological procedures.



Workinesh Meskale is now fit enough to play with her grandchildren.

FROM OUR PROJECT AREA IN KAWO KOYSHA

Uterovaginal prolapse: how we're helping

Workinesh Meskale holds a small yellow canister under the tap. The other women at the water point have much larger ones, 15, 20 litres fit in there. Just three in Workinesh's canister. "I'm just happy that I can fetch water again without any problems," she says, smiling shyly.

There are two reasons for this: since the Foundation built a water point right in her neighbourhood, she and the other people in Marea no longer have to walk for hours to get clean drinking water. The Foundation also enabled Workinesh to have an operation that changed her life.

The 54-year-old woman suffered from a uterovaginal prolapse, or UVP. In affected women, the uterus protrudes from the vulva. At the beginning, pelvic floor exercises can help and are effective as a preventative measure, but in its advanced stages, the condition causes severe pain. It can lead to bladder weakness and can then only be treated surgically. "The main causes are prolonged hard physical labour and home births without medical supervision," explains Mulugeta Tadesse Lema. He is a gynaecologist and one of the doctors who carried out many of the interventions in the Kawo Koysha project area.

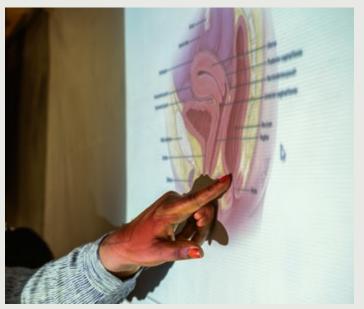
Workinesh grew up in Marea. "Back then, there was no water, no electricity, not even a road," she remembers. There were recurrent landslides in the area, making it difficult to cultivate the fields. Even as a little girl, Workinesh helped her parents. She hauled firewood, looked after the animals,



"The fact that the condition is such a taboo that nobody talks about it is a problem. So many women suffer for a long time before we can help them."

Dr Mulugeta Tadesse Lema, Gynaecologist





The Foundation organises workshops on the topic of uterovaginal prolapse.

FUNDS USED IN 2024 €415,402

OUR MOST IMPORTANT SUCCESS STORIES:

- 91 uterovaginal prolapse operations
- Completion of an extension building for a health centre
- 12 health centres provided with furniture and supplies



Treatment of UVP* and information events

OUTPUT



More women treated and improved knowledge about the disease

OUTCOME



Lower rate of UVP; women seek help without shame

IMPACT





Improved health of mothers in the population

* UVP = uterovaginal prolapse

even ploughed the field. She never attended school. Workinesh had her first child at the age of 19, and six more followed over the next twenty years. She gave birth to all of them at home. "Only the traditional midwives in the village helped," says Workinesh. If her life had not been easy up until then, it became even more difficult four years ago. "I was harvesting sweet potatoes when I suddenly had severe pain and a strange feeling in my abdomen," says Workinesh. Later, when she was changing, she saw what had happened. And remained silent.

None of her neighbours had ever spoken about such an illness. Workinesh also hid it as best she could. She tied a piece of cloth tightly around her abdomen and took part in weddings, funerals and normal village life, even though she could often hardly sit

because of the pain. She didn't reveal anything to her family either. "You couldn't tell," says her eldest son, 35-year-old Abebe Feyisa.

It was only when a social worker from Menschen für Menschen in Marea informed her about the condition and told her about the operation that would fix it, that she confided in her. The Foundation organised the operation and paid for the transport to the hospital. Back at home, Workinesh had to take it easy for the first four weeks. She should also continue to take care not to lift anything too heavy. But today she can go to church again with joy, do light work in the fields, fetch water and play with her grand-children without pain. "That's what I'm most happy about."

She spends a lot of time with her son Abebe's five-year-old twin daughters in particular. When they sit next to her while she prepares coffee or food, she sometimes tells them made-up stories about wild lions and monkeys. "When they are old enough, they are to go to school. Then later go to university and learn a profession," says Workinesh. "And never have to suffer like me."

WHAT DOES IT ALL COST?*

- Uterovaginal prolapse surgery: €75
- Training for 10 healthcare professionals on recognising UVP: €140
- Equipping a health centre with medical supplies for one month: €168

^{*} Exemplary information. Costs are subject to fluctuating prices and exchange rates.

Human development

Unemployment among young
Ethiopians is high. There is a lack of
jobs, especially away from the larger
cities. This is a social time bomb:
frustrated young people are losing
confidence in the government and,
in the worst-case scenario, allow
themselves to be recruited by extreme forces. In order to offer women
and men prospects and show them
how they can get on their own feet
economically, Menschen für Menschen
organises practical vocational training
and provides support in setting up
micro-enterprises.



Brick producer Sesu Bekele (centre) and his colleagues have full order books.

FROM OUR PROJECT AREA IN NONO BENJA

Brick by brick

The machine vibrates and rattles, pouring the mixture of cement, pebbles, sand and water into the moulds. The men top up with shovels, one of them pulls a lever and presses the mixture into hollow blocks. "Seeing them so perfectly formed in front of me is always the best moment," says 35-year-old Sesu Bekele. Dressed in overalls to protect against the dirt, he carries the finished specimens out into the sun to dry. "Let's go," he calls out to his colleagues. Together, they have been running the brick production facility in Alga, in the heart of the Nono Benja project area, for just over a year.

Sesu grew up around 18 kilometres from the small town, one of six siblings. His parents were farmers. They grew teff and maize on their small field. The harvest was just enough for the whole family. When his father suddenly fell ill, Sesu had to drop out of school. He helped in the fields and earned some extra money for the family in a flour mill. "That was a really difficult time," he recalls. He moved to Alga in his early twenties. Here, he believed, there were better job opportunities. He helped out on building sites, usually assisting a carpenter. This allowed him to gain experience and earn a little more money than before. But his job as a day labourer did offer a secure income.

When he heard about the vocational training programmes that *Menschen für Menschen* was planning at Nono Benja, he immediately registered his interest with the district authority. Together with the



"I am delighted that our brick producers are so successful. They are filling a gap in the market and are working very hard."

Fayesa Dejene, counsellor for small companies in Nono Benja





The hollow blocks dry in the sun.

training courses

FUNDS USED IN 2024 €1,257,722

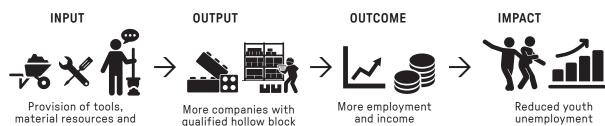
OUR MOST IMPORTANT SUCCESS STORIES:

- 482 jobs created for young adults and women
- 367 micro-entrepreneurs trained

•••••

in the population

 49 women and men trained in manual trades



for young people

Foundation, it selected the most suitable candidates based on their previous knowledge. In a 20-day workshop, Sesu and the other men then learnt about the different brick shapes. They saw how to mix cement and the other ingredients correctly and how to operate the press. They also learned how to draw up a business plan in a training course for entrepreneurs.

The authorities then allocated them a plot of land, *Menschen für Menschen* set up a small warehouse made of corrugated iron, provided the machine as well as shovels, wheelbarrows, water barrels and some sacks of cement and sandstone aggregate. "This is our starter set," explains Fayesa Dejene. The 28-year-old Foundation em-

ployee is responsible for the newly established small companies.

producers

"Today there are brick soap and cooking oil manufacturers, four hairdressing salons and a group that trades in butter," Fayesa proudly lists. "I'm very happy with the men," he says, praising Sesu and his colleagues.

Like many small towns in Ethiopia, Alga is growing steadily. New apartment blocks are being built, government offices and schools are being expanded and shops need premises. And as the men are the only ones who make bricks locally, they now have orders for more than 2,000 pieces. They have already delivered around half of them and earned 65,000 birr, the equivalent of around €1,000. The men spent al-

most 28,000 birr (\in 430) on raw materials, and they also pay themselves 130 birr (\in 2) a day as wages. If business continues to go so well, they plan to buy a larger machine at some point. "It will be able to produce six bricks at once instead of two," explains Sesu enthusiastically.

He wants to use his fixed income to support his son in his school career, which ended so early for him. "And who knows, maybe I'll go back to school myself," says Sesu and laughs. "After work, of course."

WHAT DOES IT ALL COST?*

 20-day workshop on block production: €160 per person

^{*} Exemplary information. Costs are subject to fluctuating prices and exchange rates.

Education and public relations

Communication and education are among our core tasks. We inform the public about the impact of our work in Ethiopia and attract donors to the organisation. At the same time, we want to raise awareness of the fact that the problems of people in African countries and the way of life in industrialised nations are linked. Our message: Only if we treat each other fairly and with respect do we have a chance for a good, shared future.

In 2024, we set the course for our new organisational identity, which we have been presenting to the public since March 2025 under the motto "Standing together for equal opportunities". With a fresh design and modern logo, we want to communicate our core values more clearly and reach a wider audience. In this way, we want to secure long-term support for our projects and continue our successful work of the last 40 years into the future. Our new appearance will be accompanied by a communication campaign with media contributions and a presence at numerous events.

Our fundamental promise remains the same: to provide transparent information about the use of our funds and report on the progress of projects and the impact of our work. We do this through our NAGAYA MAGAZINE, which is published four times a year, our website, our Annual Report containing a comprehensive financial section, and regular correspondence and newsletters. We reach a broad public audience via our social media channels as well as our work with the press. The commitment of our volunteers, who organise information stands and raise awareness for our cause with charity campaigns, is also indispensable.

We contribute specialist articles to the debate on a sustainable, modern and holistic partnership with Africa. Unfortunately, the still tense security situation in the country made it impossible to undertake a press trip to Ethiopia in 2024. In 2025, however, we would like journalists to accompany our Ethiopian team in our project areas again.



"WÜRZBURG PLANTS X 10" EXCEEDS ALL EXPECTATIONS

One tree in Würzburg and ten in Ethiopia: with this goal in mind, the university town has collected more than €50,000 in donations for tree seedlings. These will be planted in Heidingsfeld in Würzburg and in our Illu Gelan project region and will store CO₂ over the coming decades, provide shade and protect against soil erosion – a contribution to climate protection both locally and globally.

CONSUMPTION WORLDWIDE: ARTE DOCUMENTARY ABOUT BOREDA

In her documentary "Zu viel Konsum? Zu viele Menschen? Die Erde am Limit"

(Too much consumption? Too many people? The Earth at its limit), Lourdes Picareta shone a light on lifestyles around the world—and filming also took place in our Boreda project area in southern Ethiopia. The film poses critical questions about consumer habits in the global North and shows how development cooperation contributes to education, food security and sustainable agriculture. In



Director Lourdes Picareta in conversation with Dr Sebastian Brandis at the film screening.

December 2024, we showed the film produced by ARTE to an interested audience in a Munich cinema and informed them about our work.



14 FOOTBALL PITCHES OF NEW FOREST

Our autumn campaign "Forest works wonders" generated a total of €12,461 in donations in 2024. This means that an area the size of around 14 football pitches can be reforested in Ethiopia, which helps to protect both the climate and the soil. At the same time, the trees sustainably improve the living conditions of the local population. A big thank you to all our supporters!

AN ANNIVERSARY FULL OF HUMANITY

What began in 1984 as a spontaneous fundraising campaign organised by the Oldenburgische Volkszeitung newspaper and the Vechta District Sports Association has developed into one of the most remarkable charity initiatives in Germany. The Sportler gegen Hunger (Athletes against Hunger –



Germany. The Sportler gegen Hun
Tradition in the Vechta district: sport for a
good cause.

SgH) initiative from the district of Vechta has collected over €6 million in around 40 years to give children, women and men in Ethiopia and other African countries a better future. *Menschen für Menschen* has so far received over €3.6 million from the SgH pot. A great example of what voluntary work can achieve!

OFFICIAL PARTNER OF B2RUN

After a successful start in 2024, *Menschen für Menschen* has been the official charity partner of Europe's largest corporate running series B2Run since 2025. Participants can register as a "charity starter" for an additional entry fee of €5. The proceeds from the event benefit the drinking water supply in our Boreda project region. For each registered team, a tree is also planted in the Kawo Koysha project area – around 12,500 trees were planted in 2024.



B2Run attracts more than 240,000 participants from 11,800 companies nationwide.

HIGH FIVE 4 LIFE HELPS 100 YOUNG PEOPLE TO START A BUSINESS

Giving 100 young Ethiopians a self-determined future through business training and job opportunities: this is the goal of the "Zukunftsaktion" (Future Action) campaign, which was launched in February 2024 and aims to reach its target by the end of 2025 — thanks to the dedicated support of our children's

and youth initiative High Five 4 Life. One highlight along the way was our participation in the "EINE WELT" (ONE WORLD) youth event in Berlin, which marked the start of our cooperation with Engagement Global. In addition, High Five 4 Life reached a total of 1,777 pupils in Germany with over 24 school presentations and raised awareness of global issues.



Launch of the school competition "EINE WELT – Jung. Global. Deine Zukunft!" (ONE WORLD – Young. Global. Your future!)

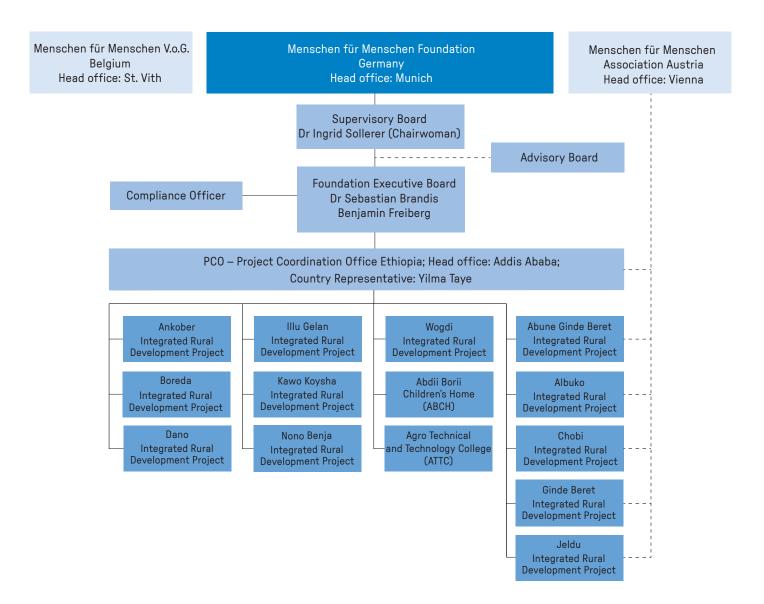
We thank our partners for their support

Their valuable commitment raises awareness of the work of our Foundation and the need for an equitable global community. Below is a selection of our partners:

- Förderverein Menschen für Menschen e.V. Support for the educational work, public relations and Foundation projects, in particular Abdii Borii
- Christian Bürkert GmbH & Co. KG,
 Ingelfingen Support for female students of manufacturing, electrical and automotive engineering at the ATTC in Harar
- Sportler gegen Hunger e.V., Vechta
 Construction of the new Zefano Higher
 Secondary School, Boreda
- Alois Dallmayr, Munich Action in the area of sustainable land management and water, sanitation and hygiene in Illu Gelan
- Andreas-Gerl Foundation, Berlin Construction of the new Gora Higher Primary School in Illu Gelan
- Ein Herz für Kinder, Hamburg (A Heart for Children) Co-financing of a new secondary school in Arsi
- Klaus and Gertrude Conrad Foundation, Hirschau Expansion and equipment of a health centre in Ijaji, Illu Gelan
- Knorr-Bremse Global Care e.V., Munich Construction of shallow wells in Nono Benja
- ECOSIA, Berlin Reforestation in Nono Benia
- Viva con Agua de Sankt Pauli e. V.,
 Hamburg Small town water system in Ijaji,
 Illu Gelan
- nuru Women e.V., Berlin Promotion of women in the award of microcredits in Ankober
- Margit Nekounian Foundation, Starnberg Social development measures in Nono Benja

In addition, we cooperate with other foundations, associations and companies as well as public donors such as the Bavarian State Chancellery, BMZ, EU, GiZ, with universities such as the TU Munich as well as with municipalities and the media. We are also active in the initiative "Mein Erbe tut Gutes. Das Prinzip Apfelbaum".

The Foundation in 2024



LOCATIONS AND STRUCTURE

Menschen für Menschen is politically and denominationally neutral and economically independent. The Menschen für Menschen Foundation Germany cooperates with the legally independent country organisations in Austria and Belgium. Funds from all three countries flow into the project work in Ethiopia. The central Project Coordination Office (PCO) in Addis Ababa organises and implements all activities in the project regions and monitors them in consultation with the partner organisations. In formal terms, the Ethiopian organisation is a branch of the German Foundation. The Austrian organisation executes an additional controlling function for the project areas it finances.

The head office of the German Foundation is located in Munich, where, in 2024, an unchanged average of 25 full-time and part-time employees worked in the Executive Office, Press, Fundraising and Communications, Donors Support, Development Cooperation, Purchasing and Logistics, Finances and IT.

In Ethiopia, the Foundation employed an annual average of 530 people, all of whom were Ethiopian nationals. In Germany, about 100 voluntary employees support our activities at various locations. This makes it possible to maximise support for the people in Ethiopia with a minimum expenditure on administration and fundraising.

CORPORATE BODIES AND PERSONS

The corporate bodies of the Menschen für Menschen Foundation Germany are the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board.

THE EXECUTIVE BOARD consists of a maximum of seven members. Up to three members of the Executive Board are Managing Directors within the meaning of Section 26 of the German Civil Code (Bürgerliches Gesetzbuch, BGB) and perform their duties in return for payment on the basis of employment contracts. As at 31 December 2024, two managing directors of the Foundation were appointed:

- Dr Sebastian Brandis
- Benjamin Freiberg



In Bonga, Dr Sebastian Brandis and Country Representative Yilma Taye visit the site where one of the first new boarding schools is to be built.

THE SUPERVISORY BOARD approves the budget, appoints the members of the Foundation's Executive Board, advises on fundamental issues and supervises its activities, in particular to ensure that they can be reconciled with the will of the founder. It consists of a minimum of two and a maximum of seven members. As of 31 December 2024, the members of the Supervisory Board are as follows

- Dr Ingrid Sollerer (Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board)
- Dr Annette Bhagwati (Deputy Chairwoman)
- Haile Gebrselassie
- Prof. Netsanet Workneh Gidi
- Peter Schwarzenbauer
- Prof. Matthias Siebeck

THE ADVISORY BOARD has a purely advisory function for the Executive Board and Supervisory Board. It consists of at least six and a maximum of 15 members.

As of 31 December 2024, it was composed as follows: Dirk Kasten (Chairman), Gunther Beger, Ralf Bos, Dr Claas Knoop, Franziska Reh and Harald Spiegel (Deputy Chairman).

THE PURPOSE OF COMPLIANCE MAN-AGEMENT is to ensure that the Foundation always performs its activities in accordance with the law and that it observes high ethical standards in all areas. Since autumn 2023, the Foundation has been advised on compliance issues by the law firms Hogan Lovells and Gibson Dunn.

THE DATA PROTECTION OFFICER advises the Foundation and its employees and volunteers on data protection issues and ensures that statutory regulations are adhered to. Dr Georg Schröder has acted as data protection officer since 13 July 2017.

The members of the Supervisory Board and the Advisory Board as well as the compliance management work on a volunteer basis.

CONSISTENT DONATION SEAL SINCE 1993

Each year, Menschen für Menschen subjects itself to an audit by the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI). In



2024 the DZI once again awarded its seal of approval to *Menschen für Menschen*, certifying that the Foundation handles the funds entrusted to it in a diligent and responsible manner. *Menschen für Menschen* has received the DZI seal every year since 1993.

CLEAR PRINCIPLES, BINDING RULES

Binding principles and rules apply to the actions of all employees of *Menschen für Menschen*. They are set forth in a series of guidelines.

- Our Code of Conduct on dealing with corruption requires that employees fulfil their duties diligently and in conformance with the law, points out typical conflict situations and explains the consequences of corrupt behaviour. It is supplemented by the Internal Complaints procedure.
- Our Procurement Guidelines specify principles, procedures and prerequisites for the award of all contracts.
- Our Travel Expense Regulations set forth the rules according to which travel expenses are reimbursed to the employees and members of the Supervisory Board, Executive Board and Advisory Board.
- Our Investment Guideline specifies the principles by which Menschen für Menschen invests in the financial market.
- Our Guideline to Raising Awareness and Public Relations defines
 the content and instruments of
 public relations work as well as
 the rules of cooperation with
 outside companies, service
 providers, agencies and ambassadors.
- Our Signatory Powers guideline specifies the signatory powers and representation arrangements for internal decisions and interfaces with external partners.



On the initiative of Transparency Germany, representatives of civil society and science have defined 10 items that every non-profit organisation should make accessible to the public. *Menschen für Menschen* is a signatory to this initiative and publishes all the required information on its website.

2024 Annual Financial Statements

In the 2024 financial year, we significantly increased our income compared to the previous year. Income from donations and grants increased by almost 12 percent to a total of €16.1 million. This increase is mainly due to higher income from inheritances. Expenditure on project work in Ethiopia totalled €11.6 million and was therefore below the previous year's level. This is due to the sometimes difficult security situation, which continues to hamper our project work. In addition, the development of the exchange rate contributed to the reduction in expenditure. A net profit of €1.3 million was achieved in 2024.

Notes for the 2024 financial year

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

Pursuant to Section 16 (1) of the Bavarian Foundation Act (Bayerisches Stiftungsgesetz, BayStG) the Menschen für Menschen Foundation — Karlheinz Böhms Äthiopienhilfe Munich is obliged to maintain proper accounting records and prepare an annual statement of accounts showing assets and liabilities. The BayStG does not prescribe a specific form of accounting.

The balance sheet and profit & loss statement must be structured in accordance with the provisions applicable to stock corporations pursuant to Sections 266 and 275 (3) of the German Commercial Code (HGB). The special characteristics of the Foundation are taken into account in

further sub-categories. Insofar as deviations occur from the German Commercial Code, this will be specified.

The fiscal year coincides with the calendar year.

The Foundation's accounting and valuation principles have remained essentially unchanged compared to the previous year.

B. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Fixed assets

Since 2015, fixed and current assets in Ethiopia have been capitalised in the balance sheet based on ownership rights to the assets. Accounting is based on legal opinions dated 17 September 2015 and 17 October 2018,

Balance Sheet at 31 December 2024

A. FIXED ASSETS	31/12/2024 in €	31/12/2023 in €
I. Intangible fixed assets		
IT software	45,324.44	13,373.28
II. Tangible fixed assets		
1. Land, leasehold rights and buildings, including structures		
on third-party land	2,930,986.84	3,097,445.42
2. Technical equipment and machinery	3,303.06	6,727.06
3. Other installations, operating and office equipment	1,367,780.81	1,568,263.6
4. Advance payments made	0.00	67,200.00
	4,302,070.71	4,739,636.09
III. Financial assets		
Securities held as fixed asset	8,559,985.38	10,502,348.1
	12,907,380.53	15,255,357.48
B. CURRENT ASSETS		
I. Inventories		
1. Raw materials and supplies	2,366,670.00	2,963,203.27
2. Advance payments made	559,318.75	546,716.7°
	2,925,988.75	3,509,919.98
II. Accounts receivable and other assets		
Other assets	388,479.20	299,378.64
- thereof with a term of more than one year: €25,308.99 (prev. year €25,308.75)		
III. Cash on hand, bank deposits	14,344,473.96	10,545,680.66
	17,658,941.91	14,354,979.28
C. DEFERRED INCOME	41,353.96	6,966.09
	30,607,676.40	29,617,302.85

according to which the Foundation holds ownership rights to the assets. The ownership rights are subject to a number of restrictions, as specified in particular in the Ethiopian Charities and Societies Proclamation and subordinate legislation. These restrictions include, for example, conditions pertaining to the exercise of ownership rights or requirements for the consent and approval of Ethiopian authorities for charitable organisations and companies.

Accruals from legacies are recognised in the balance sheet and profit & loss statement as and when their value has been clearly established. This is normally only the case when the money has actually been received. The potential claim at the time of death of the testator is not entered in the balance sheet at the current value due to uncertainties in disbursement of the endowment.

Intangible assets and property, plant and equipment are recognised at cost of acquisition, less amortisation/depreciation. Assets acquired free of charge and subject to capitalisation are recognised at their notional cost of acquisition, which corresponds to the prudently estimated fair value.

Expired stocks are subject to scheduled amortisation. The intangible assets acquired were amortised on a pro rata temporis basis according to the straight-line method. Additions to property, plant and equipment

were also depreciated using the straight-line method. The useful lives to be used for depreciation of buildings range from 20 to 35 years, for technical plants and machinery from 6 to 20 years, and for other facilities and business equipment from 7 to 10 years, depending on their location in Germany or Ethiopia.

Securities included in the financial fixed assets are recorded at cost of acquisition upon purchase or, in the case of additions made free of charge, at their notional cost of acquisition. Notional cost of acquisition corresponds to the market value prevailing at the time of acquisition. Unscheduled amortisation of financial assets is made to achieve a better view of the financial position and results of operations, even if the impairment is not expected to be permanent.

Current assets

Inventories are valued at cost of acquisition by observing the lower of cost or market principle.

Receivables and other assets are recognised at their nominal value or at their fair value if the latter is lower than the market value.

Cash holdings and bank balances are recognised at their nominal values. Cash in hand and bank balances in Ethiopian currency have been translated using the mid-market spot rate prevailing on the reporting date using the closing date method.

A. NET EQUITY	31/12/2024 in €	31/12/2023 in €
I. Foundation capital		
Endowment capital	2,351,901.84	2,314,547.92
II. Reserves		
1. Capital maintenance reserve	789,674.59	737,932.75
2. Other revenue reserves	26,024,064.67	24,783,495.94
	26,813,739.26	25,521,428.69
	29,165,641.10	27,835,976.61
B. NOT YET USED DONATIONS		
Donations not yet used for purposes set out in the Charter	671,034.92	1,061,779.34
C. PROVISIONS		
Other provisions	207,704.59	155,888.56
D. LIABILITIES		
1. Trade accounts payable	264,147.38	195,008.85
- thereof with a residual term of up to one year: €264,147.38 (prev. year €195,008.85)		
2. Other liabilities	299,148.41	368,649.49
- thereof with a residual term of up to one year: €299,148.41 (prev. year €368,649.49) - thereof from taxes: €130,696.80 (prev. year €319,138.26)		
- thereof from taxes: €130,090.00 (prev. year €319,136.20) - thereof within the scope of social security: €28,809.77 (prev. year €48,380.65)		
- thereof within the scope of social security. 620,003.77 (prev. year 640,000.03)	563,295.79	563,658.34
	30,607,676.40	29,617,302.85

Deferred income and accrued expenses

This item includes expenses representing expenses for a specified period after the reporting date. As of the reporting date, these are essentially campaign costs, support and maintenance costs for the Sextant fundraising and donor management tool.

Revenue reserves

An earmarked reserve (Project funding reserves I) was created in accordance with Section 62(1) no. (1) of the German Fiscal Code (A0) for approved projects which had not yet been implemented on the reporting date, as well as for special programmes from public funding (BMZ, GIZ, EU and the Bavarian State Chancellery). In addition, another earmarked reserve (Project funding reserves II) was formed in 2015. The capital resulting from the revaluation or initial inclusion of fixed assets and inventories in the balance sheet of the Ethiopian branch office as of 1 January 2015 and the cash holdings and bank balances taken over by the sister organisations in Austria and Belgium were allocated to Project funding reserves II. The reserves earmark the funds available to the Foundation for purposes set out in the Charter.

Not yet used donations

In accordance with IDW RS HFA 21 (an accounting principle for donations set by the German Institute of Auditors, Institut der Wirtschaftsprüfer, IDW), donations that have not yet been consumed are reported on the liabilities side under the item "Donations not yet used for purposes set out in the charter" (€671 thousand, previous year €1,062 thousand). "Donations not yet used for purposes set out in the charter" are donations received that have not yet been consumed as expenses as at the balance sheet date. As per IDW RS HFA 21, these donations are not to be recognised in the profit & loss statement until they have been consumed.

Provisions

The provisions are disclosed as a liability in the settlement amount required under reasonable commercial valuation. They take into account all identifiable risks and contingent obligations.

Liabilities

Accounts payable are valued at their settlement amounts.

All assets and debts were converted at the respective mean spot exchange rate on the balance sheet date. Expenses and income are translated at monthly average rates.

C. NOTES ON THE BALANCE SHEET ITEMS

Fixed assets

A detailed statement of the changes in fixed assets in the 2024 fiscal year is attached as an appendix to the Notes.*

Receivables and other assets

All receivables and other assets have a term of less than one year, except for rental deposits of &25 thousand (previous year &25 thousand).

Foundation capital

The Charter as currently applicable discloses core assets of €1,222 thousand as of 31 December 2014. These core assets increased due to donations to €2,352 thousand as of the balance sheet date. A capital maintenance reserve of €790 thousand was created to safeguard the basic assets.

Not yet used donations

The donations not yet used according to the Charter include liabilities from public subsidies of epsilon19 thousand (previous year epsilon0 thousand) and liabilities from government grants in the amount of epsilon652 thousand (previous year epsilon1,062 thousand).

Other provisions

Other provisions relate, in particular, to leave entitlements of $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{C}}76}$ thousand (previous year $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{E}}45}$ thousand), audit costs of the financial statements amounting to $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{E}}45}$ thousand (previous year $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{E}}45}$ thousand) and expenses for the safekeeping of documents amounting to $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{E}}21}$ thousand (previous year $\[mathebox{\ensuremath{\mathfrak{E}}21}$ thousand).

D. NOTES ON ITEMS OF THE 2024 PROFIT & LOSS STATEMENT

Donation income

Legacies are donations made on account of death received by the Foundation in the course of the fiscal year. For reasons of prudence, revenue to be anticipated from hitherto unsettled inheritance issues has not yet been taken into account. The donations from legacies amounted to €4,275 thousand as of 31/12/2023 (previous year €2,182 thousand).

In 2018, the Foundation concluded a cooperation agreement with its Austrian sister organisation, which is executed through annual project contracts. Under the provisions of this agreement, the Foundation carries out the project work in Ethiopia for its Austrian sister organisation and receives corresponding subsidies from the latter. These amounts are disclosed under the item "Contributions from partner organisations". Contributions from Austria amounted to £2,391 thousand in 2024 (previous year £2,353 thousand). Contributions from Belgium amounted to £492 thousand (previous year £400 thousand).

Other income

Other income includes in particular income from currency conversions (£145 thousand, previous year £179 thousand), contributions from sponsors (£155 thousand, previous year £150 thousand), cash receipts from cost sharing (£53 thousand, previous year £56 thousand), income from the reversal of write-downs of financial assets (£115 thousand, previous year £0 thousand), income from the sale of securities (£288 thousand, previous year £0 thousand) and other income (£297 thousand, previous year £98 thousand).

^{*}Changes in of fixed assets as well as the Management Report have been audited along with the financial statements, but could not be published in this report for printing reasons.

Income Statement for the Period from 1 January to 31 December 2024

1	Donations and other contributions	2024 in €	2023 in
	a) Donations	6,813,311.94	7,353,820.01
	b) Legacies	4,275,030.01	2,181,722.26
	c) Dedicated donations	150.00	2,550.00
	d) Public grants	1,982,434.27	1,966,203.31
	e) Contributions from sponsoring associations	134,000.00	137,500.00
	f) Contributions from partner organisations	2,882,924.14	2,752,452.21
	- of which from MfM Austria	2,391,135.64	2,352,452.21
	- of which from MfM Belgium	491,788.50	400,000.00
		16,087,850.36	14,394,247.79
	Other income	938,692.97	483,509.39
	thereof from currency conversions: €145,158.07 (prev. year €178,739.90)		
. ·	Cost of materials	17,026,543.33	14,877,757.18
-	a) Expenses for raw materials and supplies and for purchased goods	-3,846,044.59	-5,353,705.19
	b) Expenses for other services	-2,403,866.98	-3,632,729.77
		-6,249,911.57	-8,986,434.96
	Personnel expenses	4700 454 07	F 000 000 00
	a) Wages and salaries	-4,782,451.67	-5,888,693.22
	b) Social charges, expenses for retirement benefits and support	-509,303.05	-530,710.9
i	Amortisation of intangible fixed assets and depreciation of property,	-5,291,754.72	-6,419,404.13
	plant and equipment and tangible assets	-393,495.26	-326,838.70
	Other operating expenses	-4,066,006.12	-4,060,318.2
	- thereof from currency conversions: €534,157.75 (prev. year €236,114.33)	-4,000,000.12	-4,000,316.2
	Income from other securities and long-term loans	332,092.47	340,015.66
3.	Other interest and income	44,438.70	65,029.97
).	Reversals of write-downs (previous year depreciation) of financial assets	-109,060.42	126,313.72
0.	Interest and similar expenses	0.00	-852.05
1.	Earnings after taxes	1,292,846.41	-4,384,731.52
2.	Other taxes	-535.84	-473.00
3.	Net income for the year (prev. year annual loss)	1,292,310.57	-4,385,204.52
4.	Addition to the capital maintenance reserve	-51,741.84	-136,558.33
5.	Addition to the statutory reserve -2,132,215.22	0.00	
6.	Withdrawal from other revenue reserves	891,646.49	4,521,762.85
7	Net retained profit/loss	0.00	0.00

E. OTHER DISCLOSURES

Information on the average number of employees in the 2024 fiscal year The Foundation employed, on average, 25 employees in Germany. In Ethiopia, an average of 526 full-time employees were employed to fulfil the Foundation's duties.

Executive Board

In the 2024 fiscal year, two managing directors were appointed to the Foundation:

- Dr Sebastian Brandis (Speaker)
- Mr Benjamin Freiberg

The remuneration of these Board members totalled $\ensuremath{\mathfrak{C}}250$ thousand in the fiscal year 2024.

Supervisory Board

The Supervisory Board consisted of the following members in the 2024 fiscal year:

- Dr Ingrid Sollerer (Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board)
- Dr Annette Bhagwati (Dr Annette Bhagwati (Deputy Chairwoman of the Supervisory Board)
- Haile Gebrselassie
- Prof. Netsanet Workneh Gidi
- Peter Schwarzenbauer
- Prof. Matthias Siebeck

Other financial obligations

The total lease commitments arising for the office building in Brienner Strasse and the warehouse located in Reichenhallerstrasse, Munich, Germany, amount to €574 thousand on the basis of the currently applicable rental agreements. The leases for office space will be valid until 30 July 2029. The lease for the warehouse will be valid until 30 June 2025.

In Ethiopia, agreements have been made with government agencies committing *Menschen für Menschen* to participate in projects. As of the balance sheet date, obligations arising therefrom amount to approx. €39 million.

There were no other contingent liabilities as at the balance sheet date.

Total fee of the auditor

The total fee charged or to be charged by the auditor for the reporting period is €35 thousand (plus VAT).

F. EVENTS AFTER THE BALANCE SHEET DATE

After the reporting period, the market values of some of the securities recognised in the balance sheet deteriorated, which could lead to another need for future devaluation of the financial assets and thus to unscheduled amortisation. However, there is currently a positive development, on average.

Munich, 16/06/2024

Dr Sebastian Brandis

f. Transis.

Benjamin Freiberg

Independent auditor's report

To the Menschen für Menschen Foundation – Karlheinz Böhms Äthiopienhilfe, Munich

Report on the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements and the Management Report

Audit Opinions

We have audited the Annual Financial Statements of the Menschen für Menschen Foundation — Karlheinz Böhms Äthiopienhilfe, Munich — consisting of the balance sheet as at 31 December 2024 and the profit & loss statement for the fiscal year from 1 January to 31 December 2024 — and the notes, including a description of the accounting and valuation policies. We also audited the Management Report of the Menschen für Menschen Foundation — Karlheinz Böhms Äthiopienhilfe, for the fiscal year from 1 January to 31 December 2024.

In our opinion and based on the knowledge gained in the course of the audit.

- the enclosed Annual Financial Statements comply in all material aspects with German commercial law as applicable to stock corporations and, in accordance with the German principles of regular accounting, convey a true and fair view of the Foundation's assets, liabilities and financial situation as at 31 December 2024 and its financial performance in the fiscal year from 1 January to 31 December 2024; and
- the enclosed Management Report conveys a true and fair view of the Foundation's situation. In all material respects, this Management Report is consistent with the Financial Statements, complies with German legal regulations and accurately represents the opportunities and risks of the future development.

In accordance with Sec. 322 (3), sentence 1 of the HGB, we declare that our audit did not give rise to any objections against the compliance of these Financial Statements and the Management Report.

Basis for the audit opinion

We conducted our audit of the Annual Financial Statements and the Management Report pursuant to Sec. 317 of the HGB, by observing the generally accepted German principles of proper audits of financial statements, as promulgated by the German Institute of Public Auditors in Germany (IDW). Our responsibility under these regulations and principles is further described in the section "Auditor's responsibility for the Audit of the Annual Financial Statements and the Management Report" of our auditor's report. In accordance with German commercial law and professional regulations, we are independent of the Foundation and have fulfilled our other German professional obligations in accordance with these requirements. We are of the opinion that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit assessments on the Financial Statements and the Management Report.

Responsibility of the Executive Board and the Supervisory Board for the Financial Statements and the Management Report

The Executive Board is responsible for drawing up the Financial Statements, which must comply in all material respects with the provisions of German commercial law applicable to corporations, and for ensuring that the Financial Statements give a true and fair view of the net assets, financial position and results of operations of the Foundation in accordance with the German financial accounting principles. Furthermore, the Executive Board is responsible for the internal controls that they have determined to be necessary in accordance with the German financial accounting principles to enable the preparation of Financial Statements that are free from material misstatements due to fraudulent acts (i.e. manipulation of accounting and damage to assets) or errors.

When preparing the Financial Statements, the Executive Board is responsible for assessing the Foundation's ability to continue its operation as a going concern. Furthermore, they are responsible for stating matters associated with the going concern assumption, insofar as that is necessary. In addition, they are responsible for preparing the Financial Statements on the basis of the going concern principle, unless factual or legal circumstances prevent this.

In addition, the Executive Board is responsible for preparing the Management Report, which must generally provide a true and fair view of the Foundation's overall situation and be consistent with the Financial Statements in all material aspects, must comply with German legal regulations and accurately represent the opportunities and risks of the future development. Furthermore, the Executive Board is responsible for arrangements and measures (systems) which they deem to be necessary to allow for the preparation of a Management Report in accordance with the applicable German legal provisions and to be able

to provide sufficient appropriate evidence for the statements made in the Management Report.

The Supervisory Board is responsible for overseeing the Foundation's accounting process for the purpose of preparing the Financial Statements and the Management Report.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements and the Management Report

Our aim is to obtain reasonable assurance the Financial Statements are, as a whole, free from material misstatements — whether due to fraud or error — and that the Management Report as a whole provides a true and fair view of the Foundation's situation, is in all material respects consistent with the Financial Statements and with the findings made during the audit, complies with German legal regulations and accurately represents the opportunities and risks of future development. Another objective is to issue an audit report containing our audit opinions on the Financial Statements and the Management Report.

Reasonable assurance is a high degree of certainty, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Section 317 of the HGB and in compliance with the German principles for the proper audit of financial statements promulgated by the Institute of Public Auditors in Germany will always detect a material misstatement. Misstatements can arise from fraudulent acts or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of the addressees taken on the basis of these Financial Statements and Management Report.

During the audit, we exercise due discretion and maintain a critical attitude. In addition.

- identify and assess the risks of material misstatement due to fraudulent acts or errors of the Annual Financial Statements and the Management Report, design and perform audit procedures as a reaction to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit assessments. The risk that an essential misstatement resulting from fraudulent activity will not be detected is higher than the risk that a material misstatement resulting from errors will not be detected, as fraudulent activities may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misleading representations, or the overriding of internal controls.
- obtain an understanding of the internal controls relevant to the audit of the Annual Financial Statements and of arrangements and actions relevant to the audit of the Management Report in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of those internal controls of the company or these arrangements and actions.
- we assess the appropriateness of the accounting methods used by the Executive Board as well as the acceptability of the estimated values and related disclosures presented by the Executive Board.
- we draw conclusions on the adequacy of the going concern accounting principle applied by the Executive Board and, on the basis of the audit evidence obtained, whether an essential uncertainty exists in connection with events or situations which might raise serious doubts about the Foundation's ability to

continue to exist as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in the auditor's certificate to the related disclosures in the Financial Statements and the Management Report or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our respective audit opinions. We draw our conclusions on the basis of the audit evidence obtained until the date of our auditor's certificate. Future events or situations might, however, result in the Foundation no longer being able to continue its business activities

- we assess the overall presentation, structure and contents of the Financial Statements, including the additional information and whether the Financial Statements present the underlying transactions and events such that the Financial Statements, in consideration of the German principles of proper accounting, convey a true and fair view of the Foundation's assets, liabilities, financial position and financial performance.
- we assess the consistency of the Management Report and the Financial Statements, its compliance with the law and the view it conveys of the Foundation's situation.
- we perform auditing procedures regarding the forward-looking statements in the Management Report presented by the Executive Board. On the basis of sufficiently suitable audit evidence, we reproduce, in particular, the significant assumptions underlying the forward-looking statements made by the Executive Board and assess whether the forward-looking statements have been properly derived from these assumptions. We do not express an independent assessment on the forward-looking statements or the underlying assumptions. There is a significant unavoidable risk that future events may differ materially from the forward-looking statements.

With those responsible for governance, we discuss, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in the internal controls that we identify during our audit.

Other legal and regulatory requirements

Note on the expansion of the audit of the Annual Financial Statements pursuant to Section 16 (3) of the Bavarian Foundation Act (BayStG) in conjunction with the Ordinance on the Execution of the Bavarian Foundation Act (AVBayStG).

Audit Opinions

We reviewed the preservation of the Foundation's core assets as of the balance date 31 December 2024 and the proper use of the Foundation's funds in accordance with the Charter in the fiscal year from 1 January to 31 December 2024.

In our opinion, the core assets of the Foundation were preserved in all material respects as of the balance sheet date 31 December 2024, and the funds of the Foundation were used in accordance with the purpose set out in the Charter in the fiscal year from 1 January to 31 December 2024.

Financial section

Basis for the audit opinion

We conducted our audit on the basis of Section 16 (3) BayStG in conjunction with Article 4 of the AVBayStG in observance of the International Standard on Assurance Engagements (ISAE) 3000 (revised). In carrying out the engagement, we have complied with the independence and quality assurance requirements of the national statutory regulations and professional pronouncements, in particular the Professional Code of Conduct for German Public Auditors and Chartered Accountants and the IDW Quality Management Standard: Requirements regarding the quality management in auditing practice (IDW QMS 1(09/2022). We have fulfilled our professional obligation pursuant to the German Auditor's Regulations and professional code for auditors/certified accountants including the requirements pertaining to independence. Our responsibility under those regulations and principles is described in more detail in the "Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements" section of our auditor's certificate. We are of the opinion that the auditing evidence obtained by us is sufficient and suitable to serve as a basis for our audit opinion.

Responsibility of the Executive Board for the preservation of the Foundation's core assets and the use of the Foundation's funds in accordance with the Charter

The Executive Board is responsible for the preservation of the Foundation's core assets and the proper use of the Foundation's funds in accordance with the purpose set out in the Charter as well as for the precautions and measures (systems) that they have deemed necessary for this purpose.

Responsibility of the auditor for auditing the preservation of the Foundation's core assets and the use of the Foundation's funds in accordance with the Charter

Our objective is to obtain reasonable assurance that the assets of the Foundation have been preserved, in all material respects, as of the balance sheet date and that the core assets of the Foundation were used in accordance with the Charter in the fiscal year, and to issue a statement containing our audit opinions with regard to the preservation of the assets of the Foundation and the use of the core assets of the Foundation in accordance with the Charter. During the audit, we exercise due discretion and maintain a critical attitude.

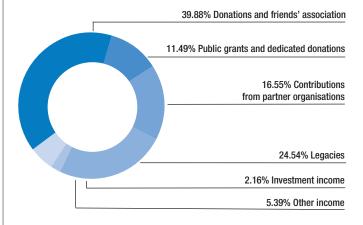
Munich, 16 June 2025

gezeichnet Rüger Auditor gezeichnet Beyerer Auditor



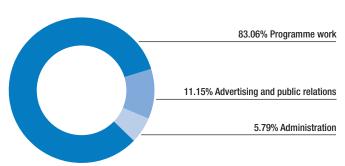
Sources of funds

Sources of funds in 2024

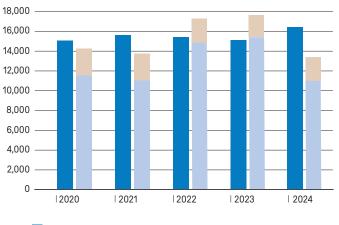


Allocation of funds

Allocation of funds in 2024



Development of contributions and expenses 2020 to 2024 in € thousand



Donations and other contributions

Expenses for project funding and support

Expenses for administration and advertising

In order to ensure comparability, all contributions and expenses were recalculated according to the DZI criteria.

DZI distribution 2024

Expenditure in €	Total costs	Programme work	Advertising and public relations	Administration
Communications work	1,367,837.44	235,421.42	1,080,134.94	52,281.07
Press work	76,883.14	38,062.66	38,062.66	757.82
Donor support and finances	368,796.83	0.00	219.32	368,577.50
Committees, IT, Purchasing	312,108.60	153,983.63	55,011.96	103,112.99
Subtotal	2,125,626.01	427,467.71	1,173,428.88	524,729.38
Cost of office space	149,068.68	67,632.46	31,170.26	50,265.95
Other general expenses (e.g. office material)	38,539.22	17,485.24	8,058.55	12,995.42
Subtotal of other operating expenses	2,313,233.91	512,585.41	1,212,657.69	587,990.75
Personnel costs in Germany	1,682,957.69	841,028.60	526,280.74	315,648.35
Total expenditure Germany	3,996,191.60	1,353,614.01	1,738,938.43	903,639.10
Project work in Ethiopia	7,992,848.09			
Personnel costs in Ethiopia	3,608,797.03			
Total expenditure Ethiopia	11,601,645.12	11,601,645.12	0.00	0.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE GERMANY AND ETHIOPIA	15,597,836.72	12,955,259.13	1,738,938.43	903,639.10
Percentage distribution of DZI criteria	100.00%	83.06%	11.15%	5.79%

ADDITIONAL NOTES ON EXPENSES

Programme work: Project funding and support

The programme work includes all expenses on integrated rural development in Ethiopia, as described in detail on pages 14 to 31. This encompasses personnel, procurement and running costs for the Agro Technical and Technology College (ATTC) and the Abdii Borii Children's Home. It also covers training expenses and compensation paid to the local population in return for their support in the varied project work. Programme work also includes project support relating to expenses for the selection of suitable projects and their supervision by controlling, monitoring and evaluation as well as statutory educational and awareness-raising work for the projects. The international purchase of goods that are not available (in sufficient quality) on the local market is likewise included.

Advertising and public relations

In order to draw even greater attention to the work of the Foundation in Germany and to raise public awareness of the life circumstances of people in Ethiopia, the Foundation organises and supports campaigns and a wide variety of events, e.g. in schools or as part of adult education. Our aim is to present a picture of Africa in the spirit of equitable partnership and to raise awareness of the living conditions of the local population. This item also includes expenses for fundraising through the various communication channels we use to approach donors (see also pages 30 to 31).

Administration

The Foundation calculates its administration and advertising costs in accordance with the guidelines of the German Central Institute for Social Affairs (Deutsches Zentralinstitut für soziale Fragen, DZI). According to such guidelines, administration includes accounting, IT support, human resources management and expenditure for the executive management.

Personnel expenses and remuneration

The annual remuneration of the appointed Executive Board members in 2024 was €250,000. No individual salaries are published for reasons of data protection. Given the small number of employees working in Germany, three different salary levels can essentially be distinguished. Salaries are based on the responsibility assumed by the individual, their competence and performance, their professional experience as well as their years of service in the organisation. The following table shows the salaries, converted to one twelfth of the annual total:

Clerk (Junior/Senior)	2,000 to 3,500
Speaker (Junior/Senior)	3,500 to 6,000
Executive	6,000 to 9,000

Planning for 2025

In the area of sustainable agriculture, our main focus is on improving food security. Higher productivity and crop diversification contribute to this. Both also provide farmers with additional sources of income through sales on the market. in 2025, we will therefore once again distribute high-quality fruit tree seedlings in our project regions in addition to 200 quintals of more productive and drought-resistant seed - a total of 130,000 avocado, papaya and apple tree seedlings are planned. In addition, there are more than 1.9 million higher-yielding coffee seedlings and over 680 modernised beehives that improve honey and wax production. To preserve natural resources and livelihoods, in 2025 we will stabilise a total of 17 kilometres of erosion ditches, build 680 terraces and plant 7.5 million mixed tree seedlings, most of which will be planted in reforestation areas.

In the area of water, sanitation and hygiene, a key objective is to improve the drinking water supply. The expansion of 24 spring developments and five shallow wells will provide the water needed for drinking, washing clothes and personal hygiene. If a water point is productive enough, the animals are also supplied with water. For each water point, a water committee of men and women is formed from the ranks of the users, who can use the income to maintain the facility and carry out minor repairs.

in 2025, we will continue or complete the construction and equipping of 15 schools in the area of **education**, including our eighth vocational school. Work will begin on the construction of five more schools. At the "Agro Technical and Technology College" (ATTC) in Harar, which is run by the Foundation, 471 students will receive training in technological professions. EU-funded start-up training courses for over 120 young adults continue to be held

In the fourth area of activity, health, the Foundation mainly provides support to achieve good medical care in rural regions. One health centre will be completed in 2025



A young woman harvesting vegetables in the Illu Gelan project area.

and the construction of two more will begin. A total of 18 health centres will receive furniture and consumables such as disposable gloves, disposable syringes, disinfectants, bandages and laboratory equipment. Vaccinations against ten diseases are recommended by the government for small children. The foundation ensures the cold chain of the vaccines required for 21,000 children from central warehouses to the health centres. In addition, the health centres are supplied with contraceptives for more than 85,000 women as well as testing facilities for HIV/AIDS infections. In the northern areas, which were severely affected by the war between 2020 and 2022, we are continuing a programme to support women who have experienced sexual vio-

The area of social development is divided into three areas: healthier living conditions, education about harmful traditional practices and support for business startups for women and young adult men. by 2025, we want to have around 3,000 wood-saving and less sooty stoves in operation in the houses, and our social workers will guide the women in setting them up. We want to reach more than 2,100 participants from all walks of life with our awareness-raising event on early and forced marriage and circumcision. In order to provide unemployed young adults in rural regions with income opportunities, they receive

training in basic business management, training in a locally required trade and benefits in kind as start-up capital. This allows groups of five to ten people to set up micro-enterprises, such as hairdressing salons, a chicken farm or a block-making business. in 2025, 365 young adults and women will be given the opportunity to become micro-entrepreneurs.

Our children's and youth home **Abdii Borii** will care for 156 children and young people this year.

Risks and opportunities

The decline in public and political interest in Africa and the resulting drop in donations for development cooperation cannot be overlooked. Public funding for development cooperation is also currently under political pressure worldwide, which also poses a risk to future income. At the same time, the reorganisation of the foundation in 2024 and the development of new business models, for example in the context of climate and biodiversity financing, will create opportunities for new sources of income that are very likely to increase in 2025.

The ongoing instability in Ethiopia continues to harbour risks for our project work. In the Amhara region in particular, a political solution to the conflict between the government and the rebels does not appear to be in sight at present. The start of our project work in Tigray, which has been planned

for many months, has also been further delayed by the unstable political situation in the region in the north of the country. Meanwhile, we can continue our work unhindered in other regions – for example in Harar, in the west of the country, where our technical college ATTC is located, in the east, in Illubabor, where our children's home Abdii Borii is located and where we are building a new vocational training centre TVET, and in the southern project areas. In other regions of Oromia, the situation has normalised to such an extent that we can resume our work after several years of interruption.

In 2024, the Ethiopian currency, the birr, opened for free trade. This radical step and the subsequent sharp decline of the currency against the euro also had consequences for the Foundation. The increase in the price of imported goods (such as medicine or diesel) increases inflation and places additional burdens on the lower income strata in particular. This leads to more poverty and increases dissatisfaction. On the other hand, it reduces the costs (calculated in euros) for some of our projects, such as the construction of schools. This allows us to realise more activities with the funds made available to the Foundation.

There are also noticeable changes due to the increasingly unreliable rainy seasons: agriculture, which is still largely traditional, still bases its planting, harvesting and stockpiling plans heavily on the one or two rainy seasons, meaning that slight delays of a few weeks can quickly lead to major crop failures and food shortages. The transition

to a more sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture, which is a key part of our work, is thus becoming increasingly important. We will therefore intensify our measures in this area. On the revenue side, this creates opportunities, as awareness of climate change and its consequences remains high — and with it the willingness to do something about it. Climate protection and the preservation of biodiversity thus become a connecting element between the people in Ethiopia and in Germany.

Donor communication and development

A major step for the Foundation is the new market presence from February 2025, which has received a very positive response from all sides. By emphasising that we humans can only solve global problems together and that we depend on each other as a species, we are also appealing to younger groups of donors who are looking for a sense of belonging and community. In doing so, we are increasingly focussing our approach on target groups that can identify strongly with the work and principles of the foundation. One example is the partnership with B2Run, Europe's largest corporate running series, which fits in with Ethiopia as a country of runners and through which we can achieve greater awareness and penetration in the running communities. Our partnership with Engagement Global's school competition will increase our presence in the education sector, and we will also be able to reach younger people and their parents again with topics such as equal opportunities. We are also continuing to work on diversifying our income structure in order to become even less dependent on fluctuations in individual donor groups and income sources. The stronger focus on major donors and new business models has been expanded by a new team, so that the Foundation's presence in new markets, such as climate financing, can be expanded in particular. There is also growing interest from public and private donors, especially companies, in supporting the training and qualification programmes in Africa and specifically in Ethiopia, also in order to counteract the impending shortage of skilled workers in Germany through more exchanges if necessary.

Conclusion

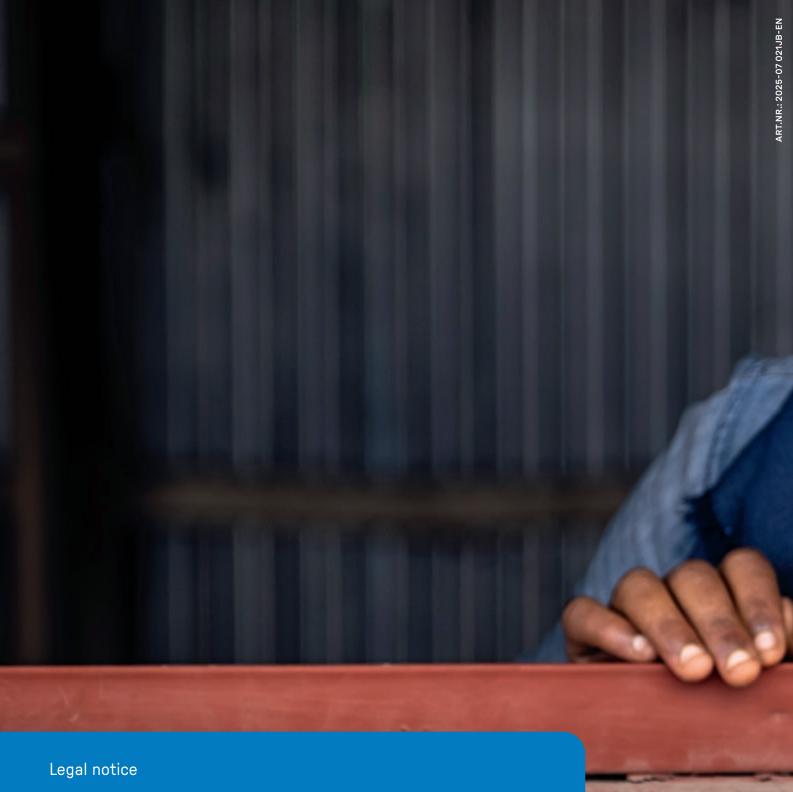
Overall, the Executive Board is optimistic about 2025, as — despite the uncertain environment — the diverse operational activities in Ethiopia are opening up new business opportunities and the new market presence is appealing to new donor groups. The area of climate financing in particular should start to bear fruit in 2025 and enable new access to donors. The Foundation's broad expertise and experience allows it to adapt flexibly to new circumstances, even in dynamic times of transformation.

FINANCIAL PLANNING FOR 2025

	€ thousand
CONTRIBUTIONS	
- from Germany	13,953
- from Austria	2,837
- from Belgium	400
- Other income	300
TOTAL INCOME	17,490
PROGRAMME WORK	
Education	-5,735
Sustainable land management	
& nutrition	-2,725
Water, sanitation & hygiene	-1,112
Human development & income	-1,680
Health	-555
Project support & education	-2,979
TOTAL PROGRAMME WORK	-14,786
Advertising & public relations	-1,960
Administration	-1,069
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	-17,815
ADDITIONAL OPERATIVE EXPENDIT	JRE -325
REDUCTION IN RESERVES	325
NET PROFIT OR LOSS FOR THE YEA	R 0



Pupils from the Wallelegn School in Mekane Selam in the Borena project area.



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