

Annual report

2025



Member of
actalliance

Brot
für die Welt

We

- help the most disadvantaged people in the world
- act through partnerships
- advocate justice and peace
- provide help through self-help
- promote participation
- live ecumenism
- are in dialogue with politics and the public

About us

As a non-governmental organisation and project supported by the protestant churches, Brot für die Welt advocates global justice, peace and education while combating hunger and poverty.

We work together with our more than 1,600 partner organisations to enable disadvantaged people in 77 countries to lastingly improve their living situations through their own efforts.



**Your donation makes
a difference!**

www.dzi.de



Dr. Dagmar Pruin

Dear Reader,

Between 2000 and 2014, the number of people suffering from hunger in the world saw a continuous fall — from nearly 790 million to around 540 million. However, the consequences of the COVID 19 pandemic, the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and the Iran war have seen these numbers rise again significantly. Crises and conflict always affect the poorest the most. Around 670 million people are currently experiencing hunger, which is more than eight percent of the world's population.

Securing the food supply is a key focus of both our political lobbying work and our international programme work at Brot für die Welt. Hunger is not caused because too little food is produced. It has long been possible to ensure all people have a healthy and sufficient diet. If the political will is there, everyone has access to the food they need to live.

One of the reasons that food prices are increasing is the disruption to shipping in the Strait of Hormuz. In addition to oil, a significant portion of the world's nitrogen fertiliser trade passes through this strait on the Persian Gulf. Even moderate increases in the price of fertiliser force agricultural enterprises to use less of it, thus reducing their yields.

The industrial system of agriculture worldwide continues to be heavily dependent on fossil fuels and synthetic fertilisers. But this dependence is completely unnecessary. Farmers can make use of nature's diversity and work with the opportunities already available to them. Those who use agroecological methods remain independent and autonomous and are not reliant on external help.

Our partner organisations are advising farming families around the world and working with them to establish seed banks and local processing and marketing systems. For instance, the projects of the Kaluli Development Foundation in Zambia, the Association for Community Development in Laos and AS-PTA in Brazil are securing both family food supplies and food security for the whole region.

Agroecology is not a luxury, but a shield against the next wave of famine. By investing in sustainable local nutrition now, we can save lives tomorrow. In this annual report, you can read about the impact the projects of our partner organisations are having and how our lobbying work is helping to establish a fair, crisis-resilient food system that secures everyone's right to food.

Best wishes,

Rev Dr Dagmar Pruin,
President of Brot für die Welt

Content

Foreword	3
Report of the Executive Board	6
Worldwide Projects	8
Projects by Continent and Topic	9
Project Map	10
Offices Abroad	11
Projects by Country	12
Civil Society Under Pressure	14
Voices of Our Partners	16
Civil Peace Service	18
Scholarships	20
Quality Assurance	21
Governing Bodies and Staff	22
Organigram	23
Engagement and Communication	24
Focus on Climate Policy	25
Political Work	26
Development-related Educational Work	28
Finances	30
Donations	31
Overview of Funds	31
Annual Accounts	32
Sources of Funds/Income	33
Use of Funds/Expenditure	34
Contact/Imprint	35



Kamoga arrived in the Ugandan capital of Kampala at the age of 15. His family could not afford to send him to school. Through his training with our partner organisation "Uganda Youth Development Link", the now 22-year-old found a job as an assistant cook in the kitchen of a country club. He would now like to help others forge their own path in life.



Report of the Executive Board

Current Challenges

The year 2025 was shaped by a multitude of regional conflicts with global impacts. It also saw a crisis in multi-lateral international cooperation. At the same time, the focus of political and public discourse in Germany increasingly turned to national and European interests. Although the German federal government renewed its commitment to spending 0.7 percent of gross national income on development cooperation, this target will be missed for the second time in succession.

As around 670 million people around the world suffer from hunger, Germany's retreat from its international responsibility sends the wrong signal – because the shortages of today are the crises of tomorrow. These developments are having a particularly severe impact against the backdrop of the USA's far-reaching withdrawal from development cooperation. As the USA previously financed nearly a quarter of the budget of the World Health Organization along with many other research initiatives, the consequences are severe in healthcare in particular, and are placing support for millions of people around the world at risk.

In the past year, the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) has strategically realigned German development policy with its reform plan "Shaping the future together globally". In it, the ministry reinforces the importance of development cooperation for German business and security. Likewise, the BMZ underlines its continued commitment to fair international partnerships and multilateral collaboration. Brot für die Welt especially welcomes the fact that development cooperation remains focussed on the fight against poverty and hunger and cooperative partnership with civil society actors. At the same time, we are critical of the fact that the German federal government is making considerable cuts to the BMZ budget. These cuts are inconsistent with its stated goals and will have a particularly significant impact on people in the Global South. A clear commitment to international solidarity and global responsibility must be reflected in an appropriate financial provision for development cooperation.

Financial Situation

The cuts have direct effects on the work of Brot für die Welt, which receives around 50 percent of its funds from public sources. To safeguard its ability to act in the medium term, the Executive and Supervisory Boards of

Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung, of which Brot für die Welt is a part, have introduced a consolidation process in the past year. Working units have been merged, processes reorganised and structures adapted.

Alongside that, individual national programmes have been scaled back or integrated into regional offices. In addition, through our subsidiary Dienste in Übersee, we are concentrating on the secondment of professionals from Europe with partner organisations on the "Civil Peace Service" programme. We will continue to cover any other partner requirements for personnel and consultation, but through other instruments (see page 19).

Alongside our internal structural measures, we are resolutely working towards opening up other sources of financing. One of our focuses is on securing third-party funds, particularly from the European Union (EU). In 2025, we managed to obtain EU funds totalling 3.5 million euros for three new projects. The subject matter ranges from climate change to conflict resolution to promoting democracy.

The result of donations, collections, bequests and fines totalled 79.8 million euros (2024: 82.3 million euros). The Protestant regional churches and free churches remain firmly committed to their development organisation and have provided 66.2 million euros (2024: 62.7 million euros) from the church development service. In 2025, the funds received by Brot für die Welt from the German federal budget rose to 177 million euros (2024: 168 million euros) on the basis of long-term commitments. Thus, Brot für die Welt's development work had a total of 341.7 million euros at its disposal in 2025 (2024: 332.4 million).

Spaces for Civil Action Are Getting Narrower

In the past year, we once again saw the spaces for civil society to act coming under increasing pressure worldwide. Rule-of-law principles are being hollowed out, checks and balances are being undermined in many places, and protections against state abuse of power are at risk. Around the world, democracy and human rights are being attacked in a way that has not been seen in decades. The success of development cooperation is under threat as a result (see page 14).

The country of Georgia, for instance, has introduced legislation forcing all organisations that receive money from abroad to declare themselves as "agents", thus



creating a climate of mistrust. In many cases, employees from our partner organisations have faced interrogation, fines and systematic intimidation. Access to political decision-makers has been completely blocked for many NGOs in the country. Where classic advocacy work is no longer possible, the organisations have focussed on educational work, economic empowerment and local self-organisation. As our “Atlas der Zivilgesellschaft” (Atlas of Civil Society) shows, just 3.4 percent of people worldwide now live in states where full freedom of expression and assembly is guaranteed.

In June of the past year, 30 representatives of partner organisations from 22 countries gathered with employees from Brot für die Welt to discuss these topics at the “Global Dialogue on Changing Spaces for Civil Society” in Berlin. Those in attendance discussed the form of support that will be required in the future. They made it clear that we are all part of a movement responding to global challenges through global solidarity.

Digitalisation

The “digital project file”, which significantly simplifies long-distance collaboration with partner organisations, became mandatory for all projects last year. In addition, an internally developed “AIHub” tool enables Brot für die Welt employees to use artificial intelligence in compliance with data privacy legislation and makes it easier for

them to perform tasks such as creating project templates. At the same time, the people using the tool remain responsible for ensuring the professionalism and substance of their work.

Thank you to all our partner organisations for not losing sight of our collective goals and for their great commitment to achieving them. I would also like to thank the Protestant churches along with their congregations, our donors and the German government for giving Brot für die Welt the capabilities to continue its impactful work. Thank you to the employees of Brot für die Welt for rising to the challenge in difficult times and making their vital contribution. The future is open. The hope of more justice and peace in this world will continue to define our actions.



Dagmar Pruin

Dr Dagmar Pruin, President of Brot für die Welt



Despite the peace agreement reached between the government and FARC guerillas ten years ago, violence and kidnappings remain commonplace in Colombia. Our partner organisation Conciudadanía is working for peace, reconciliation and environmental protection in the region of Antioquia, which has been particularly badly affected. In Anacoza, children and young people from the “Memoria y no Violencia” collective work in their community garden.

Living Equitably and Safely in Dignity

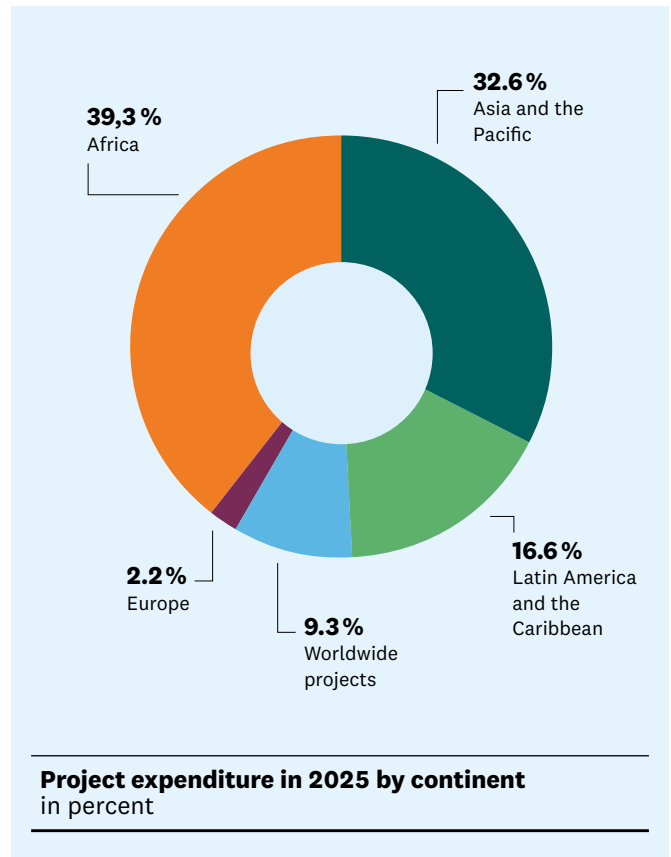
Overcoming poverty, ensuring food security and promoting justice are important objectives for Brot für die Welt. But people can improve their lives and living conditions through their own efforts only if they have access to food, water, education and health care, if their rights are respected and if they can live in peace. This is what we are working for throughout the world – hand in hand with churches and partner organisations.

Projects by Continent

Regional Focuses Were Africa and Asia

In 2025 Brot für die Welt supported 3,001 projects in 77 countries with a total of 247.4 million euros. Africa and Asia/the Pacific were the regions we focused on. 816 projects in Africa received a total of 83.5 million euros of support, and in Asia and the Pacific region 691 projects received 69.2 million euros. 412 projects in Latin America and the Caribbean received 35.2 million euros in funding, and 48 projects in Europe were awarded 4.6 million euros.

That means 39.3 percent of the funds awarded went to Africa and 32.6 percent to Asia and the Pacific region. 16.6 percent went to Latin America/the Caribbean and 2.2 percent to European countries. 9.3 percent of the funds were allocated to interregional projects in 2025. Project funds for scholarships and professionals are not included in this percentage calculation.



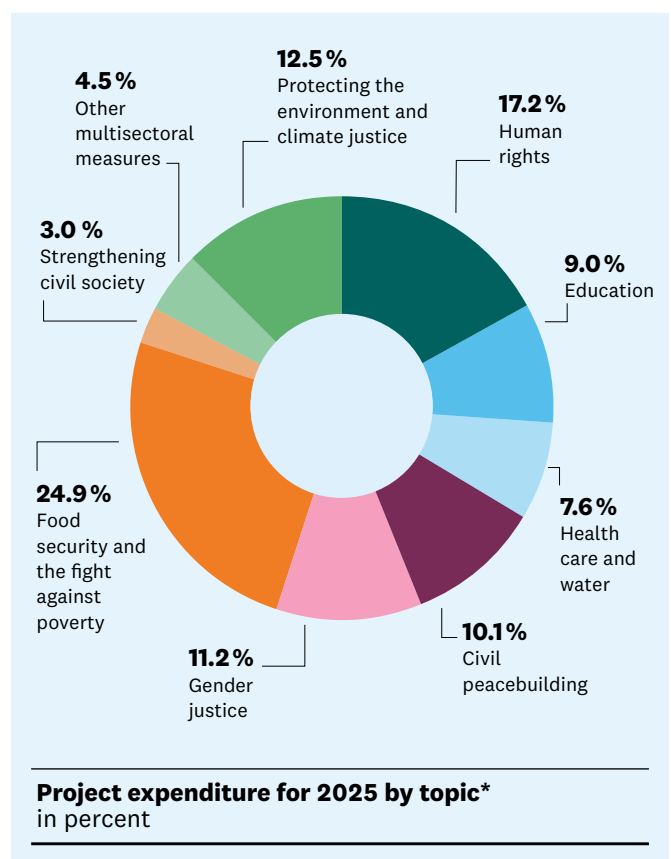
Projects by Topic

Focus on Food Security and the Fight Against Poverty

Brot für die Welt's projects often combine several measures that focus on different topics. Securing the food supply is thus often addressed by projects focussing on other issues. The distribution in our statistics is based on the main measures of our projects in 2025.

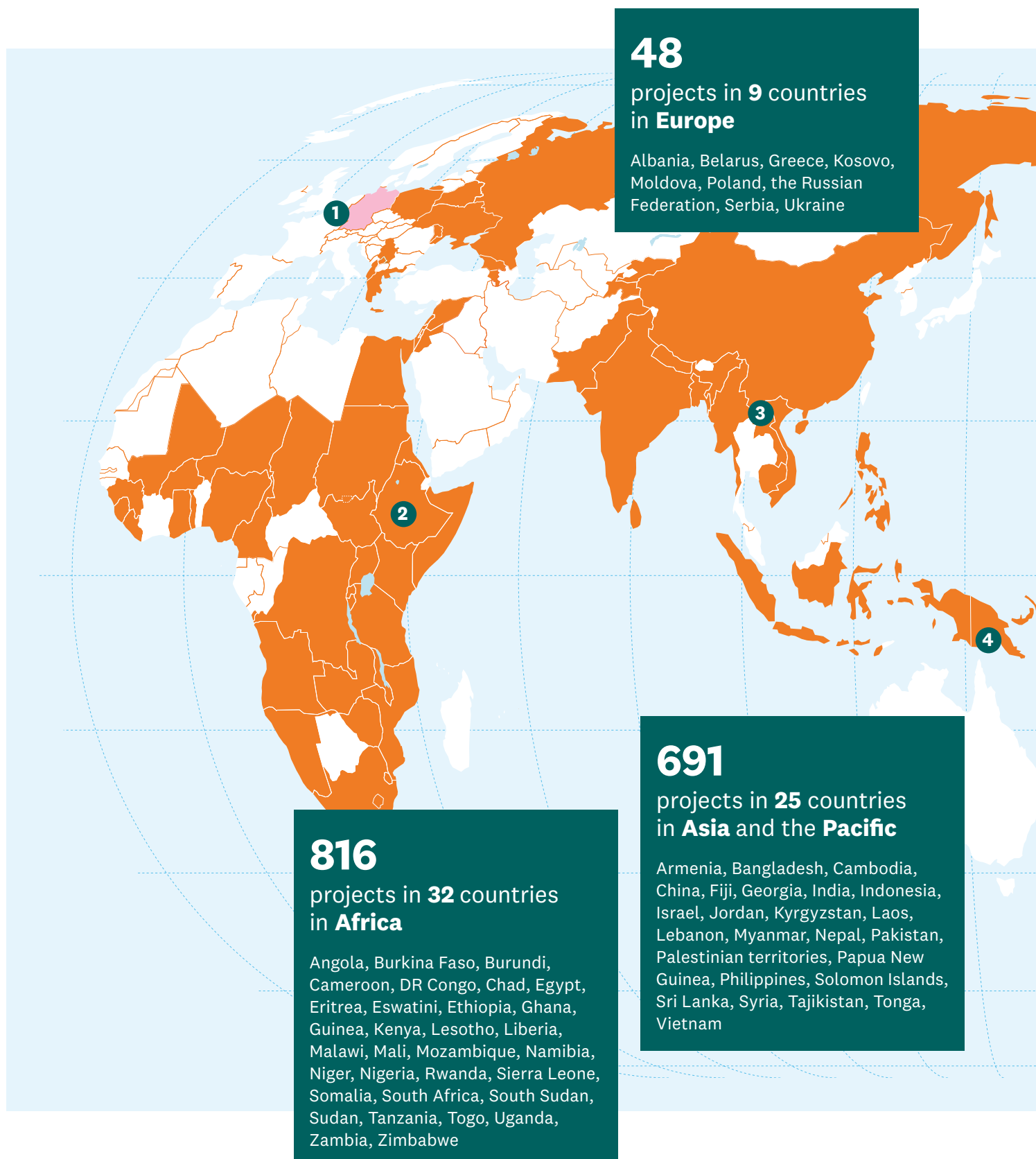
Brot für die Welt primarily approved projects in the following areas in 2025:

- Food security and the fight against poverty
- Human rights
- Protecting the environment and climate justice
- Gender justice
- Civil peacebuilding
- Education
- Health care and water
- Strengthening civil society
- Other multisectoral measures (including the secondment of specialists, scholarships, and partner consultation)



*Source of funds: BMZ, KED and donations. For all figures, see the section on finances starting on page 30.

Brot für die Welt Is Active in These Countries





3,001*

projects in **77** countries
around the world

*with scholarships, support and
evaluation, as well as professionals,
Civil Peace Service, and educational
projects in the Germany

150

interregional projects
around the world

412

projects in **15** countries
in **Latin America** and the
Caribbean

Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Columbia,
Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador,
Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico,
Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru

Our offices and regional offices (VEST) abroad

- 1 EU Office of Brot für die Welt**
advocacy@brot-fuer-die-welt.de
- 2 VEST Horn of Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**
heide.wegat@brot-fuer-die-welt.de
- 3 VEST Vietnam/Laos in Hanoi, Vietnam**
johann.singer@brot-fuer-die-welt.de
- 4 VEST Pacific in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea**
t.czerwinski@vest-pacific.org
- 5 VEST Central America in San José, Costa Rica**
alexis.moncada@brot-fuer-die-welt.de
- 6 VEST Andes in Lima, Peru**
adrian.oelschlegel@brot-fuer-die-welt.de

Worldwide Projects



Africa

	Project expenditure in euros	Number of projects*
Africa, continent wide**	12,552,643.13	70
Angola	1,853,255.45	22
Burkina Faso	1,601,731.52	14
Burundi	663,029.60	9
Cameroon	2,923,874.45	44
Chad	1,859,019.48	24
DR Congo	6,109,489.15	51
Egypt	1,677,236.74	12
Ethiopia	7,238,764.28	83
Eswatini	566,701.22	7
Eritrea	112,057.60	1
Ghana	875,007.06	11
Guinea	661,107.76	11
Kenya	5,639,056.81	45
Lesotho	631,148.54	8
Liberia	1,235,427.67	13
Malawi	1,630,281.69	18
Mali	1,220,316.00	15
Mozambique	2,557,427.10	23
Namibia	1,179,721.97	15
Niger	639,523.88	15
Nigeria	2,320,739.04	27
Rwanda	1,425,373.77	13
Sierra Leone	2,795,780.66	28
Somalia	2,455,999.40	8
South Africa	4,734,591.56	57
South Sudan	1,862,989.57	16
Sudan	678,972.80	4
Tanzania	3,961,333.98	43
Togo	1,730,435.67	22
Uganda	3,834,000.05	29
Zambia	1,068,241.04	18
Zimbabwe	3,186,518.41	40
Total	83,481,797.05	816



Latin America and the Caribbean

America , continent wide**	4,664,219.67	36
Argentina	1,309,331.05	18
Bolivia	1,647,593.76	31
Brazil	6,865,076.46	54
Columbia	3,307,822.02	44
Costa Rica	304,477.80	5
Cuba	578,482.51	11
Ecuador	1,298,100.41	20
El Salvador	926,556.35	16
Guatemala	2,086,554.04	5
Haiti	622,352.27	8
Honduras	1,231,562.50	19
Mexico	3,517,083.02	57
Nicaragua	482,104.10	4
Paraguay	574,844.05	10
Peru	5,731,515.44	74
Total	35,147,747.45	412



Asia and the Pacific

Asia , continent wide**	8,456,519.01	68
Armenia	2,021,733.85	16
Bangladesh	7,235,124.30	41
Cambodia	4,930,703.05	52
China	227,589.61	6
Fiji	1,546,376.41	11
Georgia	1,918,737.06	23
India	9,544,203.06	93
Indonesia	5,966,088.54	71
Israel	1,805,073.57	16
Jordan	261,506.95	2
Kyrgyzstan	1,375,438.41	13
Laos	2,512,155.70	21
Lebanon	679,163.90	11
Myanmar	3,651,823.62	46
Nepal	2,548,484.34	29
Pakistan	1,230,152.60	13
Palestinian territories	3,326,691.92	31
Papua New Guinea	1,989,509.85	27
Philippines	3,234,151.73	43
Solomon Islands	79,011.40	2
Sri Lanka	644,707.44	14
Syria	158,007.60	2
Tajikistan	110,015.20	1
Tonga	16,226.99	1
Vietnam	3,693,006.35	38
Total	69,162,202.46	691



Europe

Europe, continent wide**	671,913.3	10
Albania	549,185.50	5
Belarus	107,000.00	1
Greece	79,000.00	2
Kosovo	312,011.40	4
Moldova	37,341.00	2
Poland	10,000.00	1
Russian Federation	579,147.80	5
Serbia	661,280.29	9
Ukraine	1,578,790.30	9
Total	4,585,669.59	48

Interregional Projects

Total	19,749,937.94	150
-------	---------------	-----

Total Projects

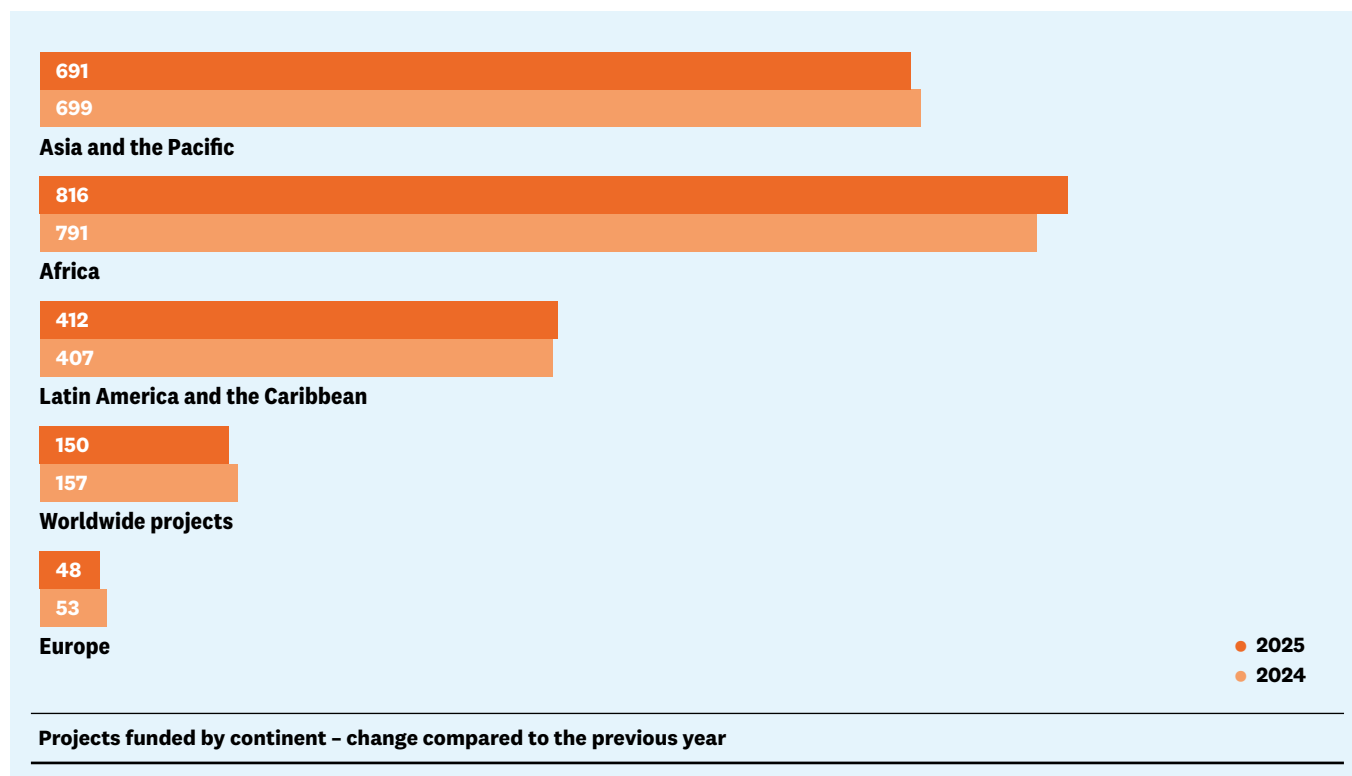
	Total	212,127,354.49	2,116
Scholarships		6,406,546.57	62
International specialists		12,040,304.62	191
Support and evaluation		8,559,742.99	20
Education (in Germany)		8,249,467.32	612
Total	247,383,415.99	3,001	

* This column lists all the projects that received a payment in the past year. Since projects that have already been completed may still be retroactively receiving final payments as part of their final settlement, this amount may differ from the amount for the active projects.

** This covers funding awarded to several countries on the continent. This includes projects on ecological land use or network activities that benefit small-scale farmers and their families in various countries, as well as projects for which we provide interregional consulting for partner organisations on the continent.



We publish a separate annual report on the support we provide for development-related educational work in Germany. In 2025, specific practical examples were presented that showed how decolonial perspectives can set sustainable change in motion. brot-fuer-die-welt.de/inlandsfoerderbericht (in German)



An additional 885 projects in the field of interregional personnel cooperation, scholarships, support and evaluation and education (in Germany) were funded.

Interview

Civil Society Under Pressure

Authoritarian regimes are jeopardising the success of development cooperation. What are the biggest challenges we face now?

Kathrin Strobel — Our partner organisations increasingly confronted with authoritarian regimes much more frequently. As a part of civil society and a democratic counterweight, its freedom of action is increasingly being restricted. We call this phenomenon civil society's "shrinking space". In many countries, this space has shrunk to such an extent that we talk of a "closed space", where civil society can effectively no longer take action.

What specific effects does that have on projects and organisations supported by Brot für die Welt?

KS — Authoritarian regimes utilise a kind of toolkit: they exert legal and administrative pressure, through stricter laws and bureaucratic hurdles, for instance. Many countries have introduced a "foreign agents law". This was originally developed in Russia but has since spread worldwide.

It typically involves rules that require organisations receiving money from abroad to fulfil onerous registration obligations. These obligations are often very extensive, up to and including disclosing the personal data of employees and target groups. They therefore involve significant security risks. Anyone who does not disclose the information is breaking the law, which opens them up to further repression. Conversely, anyone who does not register loses access to funds from abroad.

What do the administrative hurdles look like in practice?

KS — One example is where documentation obligations are designed to be excessively far-reaching. Regulations are often formulated in deliberately vague terms. That allows authoritarian regimes to undermine actors that they deem politically undesirable: Civil society organisations can never be sure of whether or not they are complying with these legal regulations.

An example?

KS — The country of Georgia has approved a legislative package that effectively paralyses projects that have already begun: All ongoing projects have to be retroactively approved again by Georgian authorities. That creates additional expense and major uncertainty. Without authorisation, no funds can be paid out and employees no longer receive their salaries. Many are considering a change of occupation or going into exile.

Based on the wording of the legislation, a project can be rejected if it is not in keeping with the programme of government or the interests of the Georgian state — a convenient legal basis for obstructing projects seen as politically unwelcome. In practice, we expect projects on the rule of law, democracy and human rights in particular to be affected.

Anyone who continues projects without state authorisation risks significant sanctions, even including lengthy prison sentences. Partners are also reporting of raids on offices. Private vehicles and apartments are being defaced. Individuals are receiving threatening phone calls. That creates an atmosphere of fear.

How are the partner organisations dealing with these challenges?

KS — The programme work in some countries is being adapted. Our partner organisations there are trying to utilise their remaining spheres of action. Choosing different approaches for activities involves additional expense. Many partners are also responsible for the safety and psychosocial support of employees and target groups. We make funds available to finance this work.

In one conversation, a partner told me: "Those who provide support need support themselves." That is a hugely important point to me. We have to take care and prevent the people who perform this hard work from burning out. It is therefore important to connect with churches, religious associations and regional alliances — together we are less vulnerable. In some countries, like Nicaragua, direct work is barely possible or even not possible at all. In extreme cases, organisations have to

go into exile and continue their work from there as best they can.

How does Brot für die Welt help its partner organisations in these circumstances?

KS — We help our partners to establish a comprehensive compliance and risk management system. Their work has to avoid making any mistakes with the implementation of legal provisions. That is an extremely laborious process.

We often connect partner organisations, sometimes across national borders and regions, so they can exchange ideas and learn from each other. Some have already adapted their systems to the conditions in their countries, while others are being newly confronted with these changing circumstances. We finance legal consulting — often for multiple organisations at the same time — and encourage the digitalisation of data, especially in places where documentation constitutes a security risk.

In extreme cases, we protect human rights activists who are facing an acute threat by providing safe houses or short-term financial aid, for instance. We also offer advocacy, such as through German embassies, to build international pressure and further increase the space for civil society to act.

What can the German government or churches do to improve the situation?

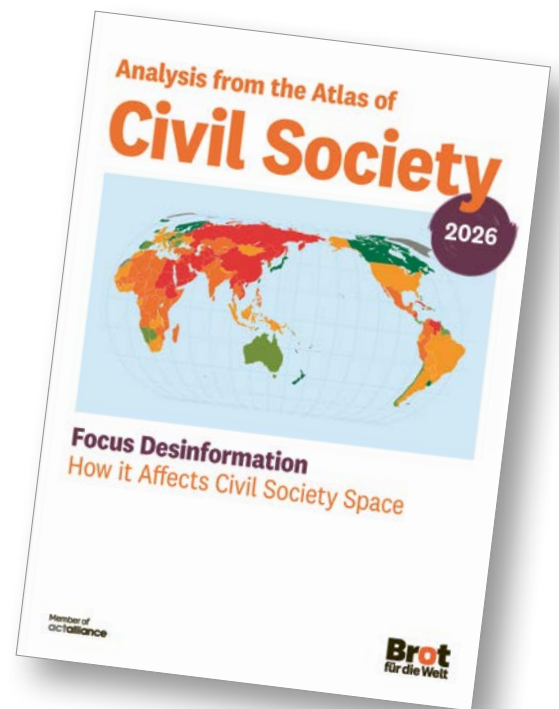
KS — Church actors in particular have a huge influence in many countries. In places where civil society is restricted or closed off, the churches are often the last institutions that can express critical opinions due to their special position in society. That's why their support, both financial and political, is such an important lever for development policy.

The German government is called upon to exert international pressure, for example, through diplomatic and economic measures. Germany and Europe have to act coherently in these cases: we must not criticise human rights violations against Indigenous peoples from a development policy perspective on the one side, while then supporting economic practices involving forced access to the natural resources on their territories on the other.

Stable financing is also crucial for organisations. Cuts to development collaboration and humanitarian aid are making their work more difficult.

How do churches under an authoritarian regime capitalise on their greater scope for action?

KS — As an example, the church council of Zimbabwe carries out some really impressive work: it repeatedly criticises autocratic tendencies and human rights violations by the government and influences legislative proposals in order to improve them.



The “Atlas of Civil Society Atlas 2026” shows how civil society’s scope for action is shrinking due to desinformation. brot-fuer-die-welt.de/atlas-2026-en

Last year, for instance, a law on the rights of people with disabilities was passed. The church council managed to have it formulated along the lines of the human rights-based approach of the UN Convention of 2006. That enshrined housing and employment arrangements in law and created regulations for accessible infrastructure. Another of its achievements was to empower people with disabilities to present their position at public hearings.

The church council is currently working on stricter environmental standards in the amendment of mining legislation, along with greater social responsibility for the companies involved. The raw materials sector is extremely politically sensitive. Thanks to its theologically grounded conviction that we must care for all creation and love our neighbour, the church council can take a clearer position compared to many non-religious organisations. Because for Christians, the dignity of every human being is a central tenet.



Dr Kathrin Strobel
is the Director
of International
Programmes.

Worldwide Projects

Jharry Martínez

Project Officer at Conciudadanía,
Medellín, Columbia



“We live in a country with new outbreaks of armed conflict. But the women and men of Caicedo, Santa Fe de Antioquia and all the other communities where we work are showing that it is possible to create a culture of peace.”

i You can find out more about Brot für die Welt's work on peace and conflict transformation at brot-fuer-die-welt.de/just-peace

Filomena Embéavanga

Volunteer at Mwana Pwo, Saurimo, Angola



“Anything to do with sexuality is still a taboo in our society. But we have to talk about it. To be free to choose when and with whom we have children, we need information.”

i You can find out more about more about Brot für die Welt's work on gender equality at brot-fuer-die-welt.de/gender-equality

**We are a
reliable partner.
Our help works.
People worldwide
confirm that.
Six voices.**

Paula Litvachky

Executive Director of Centro de Estudios Legales y
Sociales (CELS), Buenos Aires, Argentina



“Our strategic partnership with Brot für die Welt gives us the legal and political means to challenge the extraction of raw materials against the will of communities in Indigenous territories and the cuts to funding for improving living conditions in informal settlements. In the face of serious setbacks to human rights in Argentina, this partnership offers reliable and indispensable support.”

i You can find out more about Brot für die Welt's political work at brot-fuer-die-welt.de/lobby-advocacy

Agness Mwambazi

works as a volunteer in the South-North volunteer programme with the Berlin-based development policy organisation Weed



“The volunteer programme has challenged me and given me more self-confidence. It has shown me that real change comes about through courage, solidarity and responsibility. And it inspires me to continue working for a more just and compassionate world.”

Juliate Keya Malakar

Director of the Christian Commission for Development in Bangladesh (CCDB), Dhaka, Bangladesh



“Brot für die Welt is one of our most important partners. Since our foundation, the organisation has been by our side and is there with us on every step we take to help particularly vulnerable people in Bangladesh live their life with dignity.”

Professor Daniel Egbe

Chair of the Executive Board and CEO of ANSOLE e.V.



“ANSOLE e.V.’s collaboration with Brot für die Welt is a recognition of our impactful work for the migrant community in Thuringia and our newspaper MigranTh. It makes us very proud.”

Worldwide Projects

Civil Peace Service

A Bridge Between Mexico and Europe

In Mexico, murders, the forced “disappearance” of people and intimidation of activists are commonplace. Finja Henke has worked as a Civil Peace Service professional at Consorcio, a partner organisation of Brot für die Welt, since February 2025 and is helping to document these violations of human rights.

Finja Henke had not been at Consorcio Para el Diálogo Parlamentario y Equidad (Consortium for Parliamentary Dialogue and Equity, Consorcio) in Oaxaca for two months before she saw what advocating for human rights in Mexico can entail. On 9 April 2025, the body of Sandra Domínguez was found. The lawyer representing the Indigenous Mixe community had been involved in protecting the rights of Indigenous women in Oaxaca.

“That news really affected me deeply, as a woman myself,” explains Henke. “Your gender alone is reason enough to be killed here. The violence in Mexico is of a whole other dimension compared to Germany.” The case, she says, also highlights the discrimination faced by Indigenous peoples and the state’s entanglement with

organised crime. “Domínguez exposed local dignitaries. That is why she was murdered.”

Judicial authorities failed to take action on the case initially. However, her family brought the murder to public attention. The female lawyers at Consorcio helped them to do so. Other employees organised demonstrations and press conferences. Henke was not directly involved to begin with. However, she attended the events and documented them for reports for international institutions. Documentation is part of her role as a Brot für die Welt professional within the Civil Peace Service (CPS). The CPS is a programme for the prevention of violence, civil conflict resolution and peacebuilding. It is run by nine German peace and development organisations and supported by the German federal government.

Consorcio has been active in the area of women’s rights and the prevention of violence against women since 2003. The organisation is at hand to provide them with legal and psychosocial support, while also assisting defenders of human rights and young women who are involved in positive conflict transformation. The project that is currently being supported is providing help for nearly 1,000 women in the Mexican federal state of Oaxaca, a large proportion of whom are indigenous. One of the organisation’s successes is that the Mexican state introduced the criminal offence of “femicide” – that is, the killing of a woman due to her gender – into its criminal code in 2012, making it punishable by severe penalties.

Finja Henke’s role at Consorcio involves communicating with institutions such as the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights and the UN Commission on the Status of Women. By documenting cases such as that of Sandra Domínguez, she hopes to bring attention to human rights violations in Oaxaca. However, Henke also

Short and Sweet

135 Experts Worldwide

In 2025, Brot für die Welt had 85 women and 50 men working on contract and providing services overseas.

Many partner organisations that are supported by professionals are involved in conflict resolution, human rights protection or ensuring that civil society retains its scope for action. Help with fundraising and climate action has also been in frequent demand – a mirror of the problems faced worldwide.

The number of new contracts concluded with specialists is slightly lower than last year’s: In 2025, 32 women and 15 men decided in favour of a new secondment to our partner organisations.



Finja Henke (r) accompanies Yolanda Pérez (l) to talks intended to bring about the release of Yolandas Ehemann.

keeps statistics on physical and psychological attacks on female Consorcio employees. Reports on this issue are sent to a Mexican state body for the protection of human rights activists and journalists. It is not just about establishing the facts. Henke also provides assessments and recommendations and attempts to shape government policy in this way.

Consortio was one of the first organisations to take on Civil Peace Service professionals. That was over ten years ago. “These professionals facilitate dialogue between Brot für die Welt and us,” explains Yésica Sánchez Maya, Director of Consortio. “We need that to ensure the German government knows what is happening here too.” She says she can learn how people in Europe think from people like Henke. “She is a bridge between Mexico and Germany.”

One case of great concern to Finja Henke is that of the Indigenous environmentalist Pablo López. He was charged with several counts of murder and sentenced to 30 years in jail “to take him out of circulation”, as Finja Henke puts it. She says this innocent man has already spent 15 years in custody. “To mark this anniversary, we initiated a campaign that I was given the task of organising,” she explains. “I made banners, prepared the demonstrations and wrote up the necessary information about the case.” She says she knows of the threats that Yolanda Pérez, the wife of the imprisoned man, is receiving. Henke regularly accompanies her to embassies to

report on the case and press for López to be released. She hopes to make the international public aware of the risks faced by such courageous people in Mexico.

Scaling Back the Professional Programme

In the past year, the management of Brot für die Welt reluctantly made the decision to end one of the personnel cooperation programmes for the secondment of professionals in organisations in the Global South. This is a significant setback to a decades-long commitment that has helped shape German society since 1960. Dienste in Übersee – a subsidiary of Brot für die Welt since 2012 – has been placing qualified persons in the projects of partner organisations for more than 60 years now. Unfortunately, this decision has become necessary as a result of the huge cuts we face – particularly in the budget of the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Brot für die Welt will continue to use other instruments to support partners with their personnel and consultation requirements. The Civil Peace Service and secondments for cooperation partners are being retained as important standalone parts of the portfolio.

Worldwide Projects

Scholarships

Combating Malnutrition With Science

Diana Richard is researching the nutritional situation in the agricultural region of Morogoro in eastern Tanzania. As part of her research, the 28-year-old nutritional scientist is surveying girls and young women who are often affected by malnutrition. They tend to suffer from a lack of iron, vitamin A, zinc and iodine in particular. This deficiency can lead to anaemia, a weakened immune system, growth disorders and reduced learning ability. Diana Richard does not just get her data through questionnaires; she also analyses food samples in the laboratory to assess whether they contain important micro-nutrients.

The Tanzanian government has put its faith in food enrichment programmes to combat malnutrition since the 2010s. However, information about how important nutrients are for health often fails to reach people with low incomes – especially in rural regions – a fact Diana Richard can attest to through her field research.

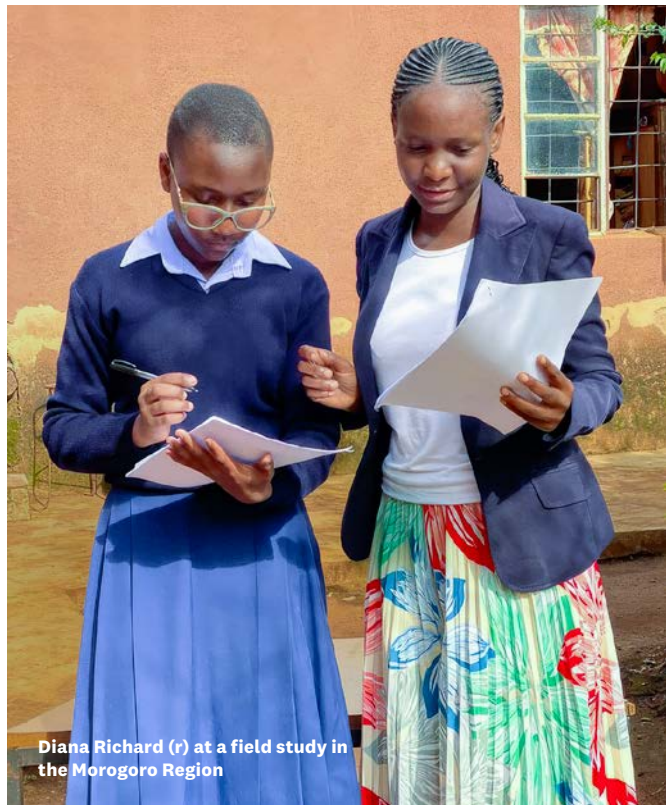
Her master's study is facilitated by a scholarship from "Climate Action Network Tanzania" (CAN TZ). In CAN TZ, 42 member organisations work together to address environmental and climate protection and sustainable development. As well as non-governmental organisations (NGOs), universities, the national weather agency and various government bodies contribute to the network. NGOs consider it important to have well educated employees. With that in mind, CAN TZ launched a scholarship programme where employees can obtain further qualifications for specific tasks. Brot für die Welt has supported this programme since 2024.

A scholarship committee decides who receives these scholarships based on jointly defined criteria. For instance, applicants must have achieved good results in their previous studies and participated in volunteer or non-profit work. Only individuals who would not be able to finance their studies themselves receive a scholarship. Furthermore, the field of study must be related to the sustainable development goals of the United Nations (SDGs), such as food security, adapting to climate change or gender equality.

As with all scholarship programmes that Brot für die Welt supports, the scholarship does not just provide financing for study fees and living costs. It also includes a support programme where the recipients can network with each other. Seminars on sustainable development and mandatory community work anchor the recipients in

their communities and NGOs. That also reduces the risk that qualified employees will leave the organisations after their studies.

The study support programme helped Diana Richard forge ahead with both her research and her personal development: "Through the networking events, I was able to connect with other researchers from different fields of expertise. I learned a lot about the effects of climate change on agriculture and nutrition. But the events also developed my communication skills and helped give me the confidence to deal with people from different areas in an open and informal way."



Even before her master's study, Diana Richard worked with the "Morogoro Saving the Poor Organization" (MOSAPORG) on a voluntary basis: "I want to work for those people who are most at risk and lacking information about healthy nutrition." Once she has finished her research work and master's study, she hopes to work with MOSAPORG again. In the long term, she could also see herself moving to an international organisation.

One important thing for Diana is that young people with low incomes continue to be given the opportunity to study through the scholarship programme. She is already thinking about the next generation: "I would urge Brot für die Welt to continue supporting the programme."

Quality Assurance

Harnessing Our Strengths Through Networks

A cross-sectional evaluation of human rights projects in Mexico found that networking can broaden their impact even more.

In many regions of Mexico, people are suffering from violence perpetrated by organised crime and state actors. According to a report by human rights organisations, 58 human rights activists were murdered in the federal state of Oaxaca alone between December 2018 and October 2024; 55 of them were of Indigenous origin. In the same region, a total of 241 women and girls were killed between December 2022 and May 2025, often by their own partners. With these figures in mind, Brot für die Welt is supporting many human rights organisations in Oaxaca who are helping victims and their relatives and trying to prevent the perpetrators from escaping justice.

A cross-sectional evaluation now has taken a closer look at the work of the four partner organisations CODIGODH, Consorcio, EDUCA and TEQUIO JURIDICO in Oaxaca in order to assess where the strengths of the supported projects lie and where there is still potential for improvement. This is especially important because the Mexican government is planning a major infrastructure project, the “Corredor Interoceánico”, in the region. On the one hand, that represents a major opportunity for the isolated region; on the other, there is a risk that the human rights situation will get even worse due to the expected expropriation of land.

In a two-day workshop, the evaluators discussed the methods used in the projects and the challenges on the ground with three members of employees from each of the partner organisations. They also conducted 46 interviews with the teams that worked directly with the people and other local stakeholders. The evaluators reviewed project applications, cooperation agreements and activity reports from the partner organisations. Finally, they also analysed the websites and publications of the partner organisations. They also checked whether the organisations had taken into account the findings from the previous evaluation of the human rights funding area conducted by Brot für die Welt in 2017, which three of the four partner organisations took part in.

All the organisations involved in the evaluation utilise the benefits of participative methods and also follow the approach of “cuidado colectivo” (collective support), which seeks to move beyond simply providing one-to-one

assistance and instead create networks of solidarity and mutual support. The organisations themselves therefore do not speak of target groups either, because the work changes both sides – the organisations and the people they are working with.

Gender perspectives are taken into account by all the partner organisations, but to differing extents. For instance, while they permeate all the actions of Consorcio, CODIGODH incorporates them into its work but does not explicitly discuss them with the people in the projects.

The recommendations from the 2017 evaluation made the work of all the participating organisations more sustainable. Long-term perspective is also required, because work in the area of human rights is complex and often involves protracted processes by necessity. As well as integrating professionals from the Civil Peace Service into the programmes (see page 18), partners’ security was also increased, for instance, by encrypting digital communications.



As a result of the current study, the evaluators recommend for the organisations to interlink their work with each other more effectively in the future. They suggest establishing a country-wide media network for distributing their individually produced media content together. They could also collectively call for the state prosecutor in the federal state of Oaxaca to adhere to legal procedures and standards. As a result, cases where the organisations support victims of human rights violations could be completed successfully and on time more frequently.

i You can find out more about our evaluations at: **brot-fuer-die-welt.de/evaluations**

Governing Bodies and Staff

The Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e. V. (EWDE, Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development) and its three brands Brot für die Welt, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and Diakonie Deutschland are managed by a full-time **Executive Board**. The Supervisory Board appoints the members of the Executive Board for a period of six years. Members of the Executive Board are Pastor Dr Dagmar Pruin (Deputy Chairperson; President of Brot für die Welt and Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe), Pastor Rüdiger Schuch (Chairperson; President of Diakonie Deutschland) and Dr Jörg Kruttschnitt (Finances, Staff and Law).

The Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e. V. has committed itself to upholding a **Code of Conduct**. The total gross remuneration for the three board members of all three brands are disclosed.

Three committees also determine the work done by Brot für die Welt. Their members work on a voluntary basis and receive no earnings: The **Diakonie and Development Conference** is the highest resolution body of Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung. Up to 112 members decide on essential issues regarding the entity. They approve budget plans and financial statements, and they assist the Supervisory Board and the Executive

Board. Its chairperson is Pastor Andrea Wagner-Pinggéra, member of Bodelschwingh Institution Bethel (v. Bodelschwingschen Stiftungen Bethel).

The up to 22 members of the **Supervisory Board** monitor implementation of the resolutions of the Diakonie and Development Conference, appoint the members of the Executive Board and monitor their work. The chair is Bishop Dr Beate Hofmann, Evangelical Church of Hessen Electorate Waldeck (Evangelische Kirche von Kurhessen-Waldeck).

The up to 18 members of the **Development Service and Humanitarian Aid Committee** advise the management of Brot für die Welt on development and funding policy, humanitarian aid, communication, fundraising and education. Upon request from the Executive Board, it approves project funds awarded by Brot für die Welt. The chairperson is Bishop Dr Christian Stäblein, Protestant Church of Berlin, Brandenburg and Silesian Upper Lusatia (Evangelische Kirche Berlin-Brandenburg-schlesische Oberlausitz).

i You can find detailed information on the committees and employees at [brot-fuer-die-welt.de/jahresabschluss](https://www.brot-fuer-die-welt.de/jahresabschluss) (in German).

Staff

Number of Employees

	Employees	Men	Women
Total staff	554	146	408
of which:			
Full-time	303	101	202
Part-time	251	45	206
Limited contract	72	23	49
Unlimited contract	482	123	359

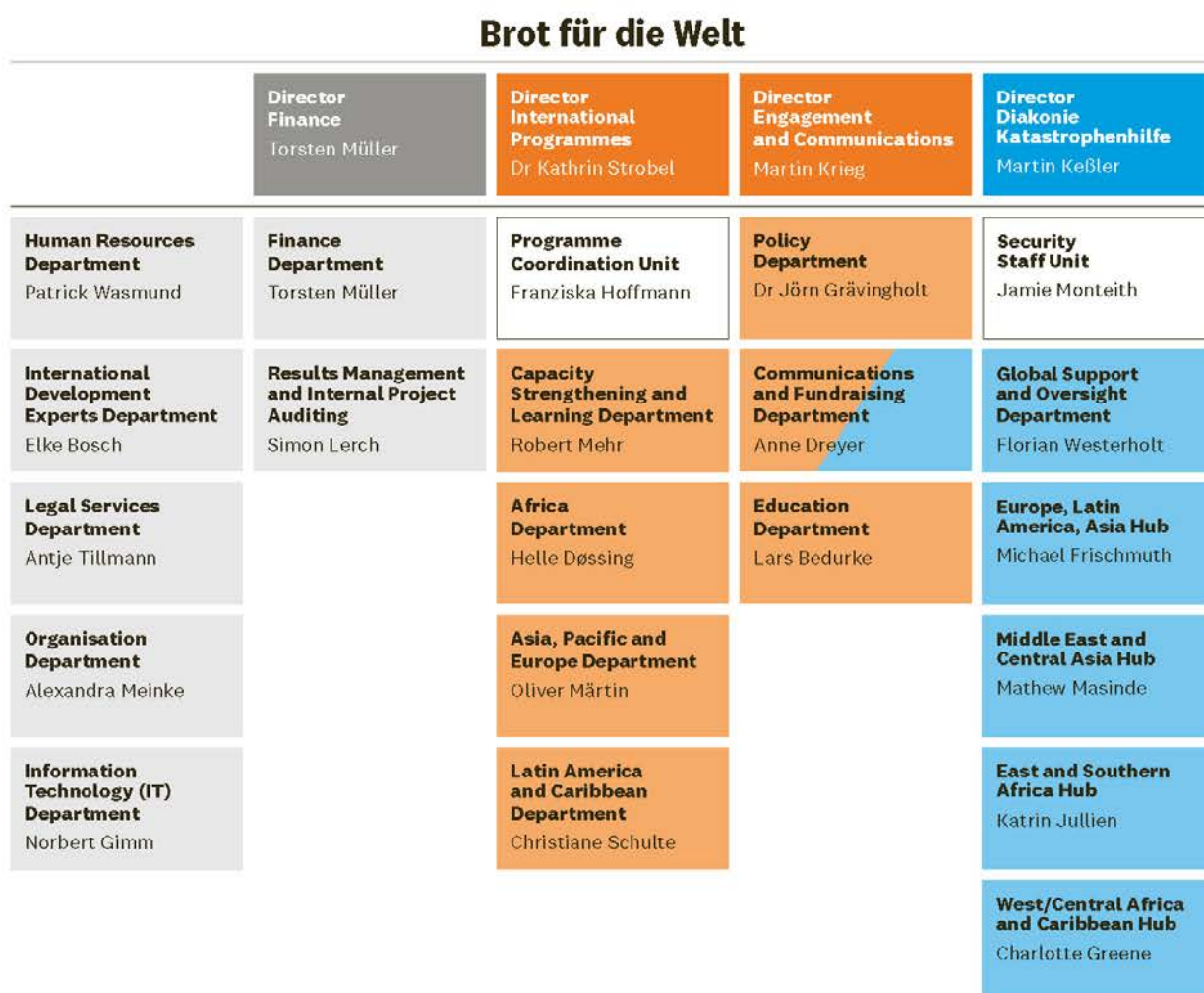
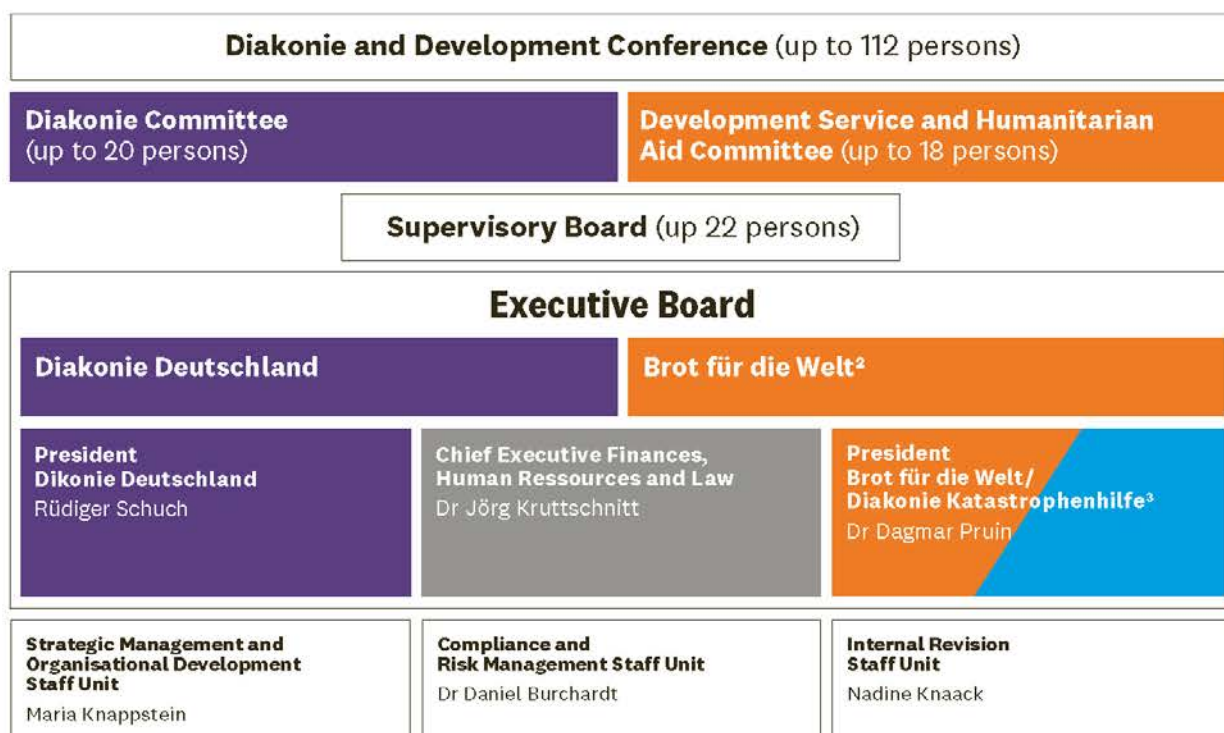
As at 31.12.2025 a total of 554 full-time employees were employed at Brot für die Welt. This figure does not include employees who work only for Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe.

Remuneration Structure

Monthly remuneration in euros*	Pay Grade	from	to
Directors	B3	EUR 9,891.19	EUR 9,897.84
Head of Department	15	EUR 7,039.04	EUR 8,409.30
Head of Unit	14	EUR 6,429.01	EUR 7,833.66
Programme Officer	13	EUR 5,135.53	EUR 7,438.36
Project members	10–11	EUR 4,317.28	EUR 6,616.96
Assistant	8–9B	EUR 3,611.09	EUR 4,802.21
Secretaries	7	EUR 4,000.57	EUR 4,000.57

* Gross employee salaries based on the TVöD (pay levels for public service) salary table valid from 01.04.2025 to 30.04.2026

Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e.V.¹



¹ Protestant Agency for Diakonie and Development

² Bread for the World

³ Diakonie Emergency Aid



Brot für die Welt was courageous, strong and resolute in attendance at the church congress in Hanover from 30 April to 4 May, where it unveiled its new typeface and colours.

For Sustainability and Justice

Brot für die Welt incorporates the situations of people in need into national and international decisions – whether they are afflicted by hunger, poverty, the climate crisis or violated human rights or are refugees. Together with our international network, the ACT Alliance, and other associations, we demand concrete steps for better justice and participation at conferences and before parliaments.

Climate Policy

Greater Climate Protection Through Greater Rights for Indigenous People

The climate crisis is a global problem that can only be solved by combining our powers. That is why international dialogue must not break down. Representatives from 196 governments and civil society met at the 30th Climate Change Conference (COP 30) in Belém, Brazil to find ways to manage the climate crisis together and protect life on our planet in the long term.

As the people of the Global South are the most severely affected by climate change but have done the least to cause it, one of the central questions was how they can be adequately financially assisted with adapting to the effects of the climate crisis. To exert more pressure in this regard, Brot für die Welt enabled representatives of its partner organisations to attend the conference and also sent its own experts to Belém. They are careful to ensure that positive developments do not have undesired side-effects: “The funding for adapting to climate change must be provided through aid from industrialised countries. Credit drives the countries affected by the climate crisis deeper into debt,” explains climate expert Sabine Minninger.

In parallel to COP 30, the representatives of civil society met at “Cúpula dos Povos” – the “People’s Summit”, which was organised with the support of Brot für die Welt. This summit saw around 15,000 people gather on the Federal University of Pará (UFPA) campus in Belém. Thousands of Indigenous people travelled down river to the summit by boat to assert their right to the land on which their families have lived for generations. Massa Koné from the Brot für die Welt partner organisation CGLTE-OA pointed out that this gesture also contributed to climate action: “In the forests of every continent, there are communities living in harmony with nature. We have developed many strategies for adapting to climate change. We are calling on the climate conference to listen to us.”

To finish the “Cúpula dos Povos”, the President of COP30, André Correa do Lago, was presented with a catalogue of demands. Alongside the protection of Indigenous territories and agroecological reform, the demands included ceasing the use of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas.

The Climate Conference itself did not manage to achieve any breakthrough in this crucial regard. Alongside the European Union, Germany fought hard for the phasing-out of coal, oil and gas, but was thwarted by those states that continue to cling to the fossil-based

economic model. There was also insufficient movement on financing the adaptation of the poorest and most affected population groups to the climate crisis. Some industrialised countries – including the EU – did agree to triple climate adaptation funding by 2035. However, the long time-frame for fulfilling this pledge and the simultaneous reduction in grants make it difficult for the countries affected to plan adaptation measures. “They need help and firm commitments fast in order to prepare themselves for the continuing climate crisis,” explains Minninger.



Demonstrators at COP 30 with a clear message: “The Amazon Rainforest is not a commodity.”

As a meaningful contribution to fair and equitable financing, Brot für die Welt is calling for all countries – including Germany – to support a levy on luxury flights, such as flights in first class or on private jets. This could generate much needed additional funding and would satisfy the polluter pays principle and the principles of climate justice. The “Global Solidarity Levies Task Force” estimates that levies on luxury flights could raise several billion euros annually.

i You can find out more about our climate change policy commitment at brot-fuer-die-welt.de/climate-change

Political Work

Inequality Is Not a Natural Law

Inequality increased across the world once again in 2025. Together with our partner organisations, we advocate for greater global equity at international conferences hosted by the United Nations.

Despite the success of development cooperation in recent decades, the Covid-19 pandemic, extreme weather events and conflicts have seen a further increase in poverty globally. More than 1.1 billion people worldwide live in extreme poverty according to the Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI). Around 120 million people have been forced to flee wars, conflicts, persecution or catastrophes. Many countries in the Global South find themselves in an increasingly precarious financial situation, as rising debt and cuts to development cooperation massively limit their options for actions. Add to that is the fact that tax

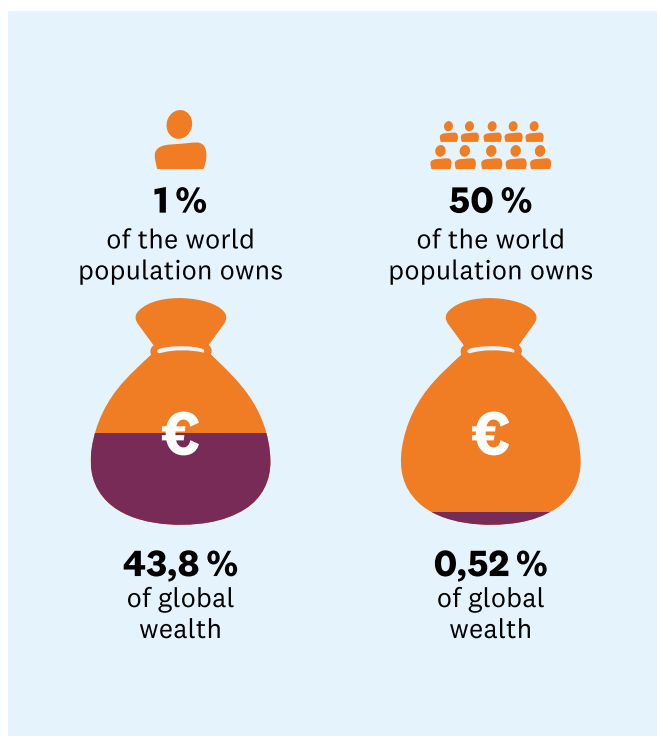
avoidance and illicit financial flows are depriving low-income countries of much needed public revenue.

At the same time, the wealth of a small number of individuals continues to grow at an unprecedented rate. For the first time, there are more than 3000 billionaires in the world. The twelve richest individuals now have more assets than the poorer half of the global population, or four billion people. The richest one percent of the global population owns 43.8 percent of assets worldwide, while the poorest half owns just 0.52 percent.

This increasing inequality must be countered with global political solutions to ensure the sustainable development goals (SDG) set for 2030 by the United Nations do not disappear from view. Two UN conferences in 2025 offered important opportunities: the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4) in Seville from 30 June to 3 July and the Second World Summit for Social Development (WSSD2) in Doha from 4 to 6 November. Both forums placed the question of how to achieve sustainable and fair development under conditions including multiple crises and a lack of financing front and centre.

Alongside its partner organisations, Brot für die Welt took both opportunities to make sure the collective calls for greater global justice are heard. Political change does not just come about through official decisions alone, but through continuous pressure, through having the arguments and through shining a light on global inequality.

Together with other non-governmental organisations (NGOs), we reported live from the FfD4 conference in Sevilla about the expectations and initiatives, the activities of the German government and the controversies in the debates on development financing for the German public. We organised an exchange on development policy prospects with our partner organisations from the



Global South for German parliamentarians and government representatives with the clear message: development financing works and is necessary.

In doing so, we highlighted how a lack of tax justice and debt contributes to inadequate access to healthcare, education and social security. States can only invest in health, education and social security systems if they have access to sufficient financial resources. The German government therefore also bears some responsibility for social human rights worldwide.

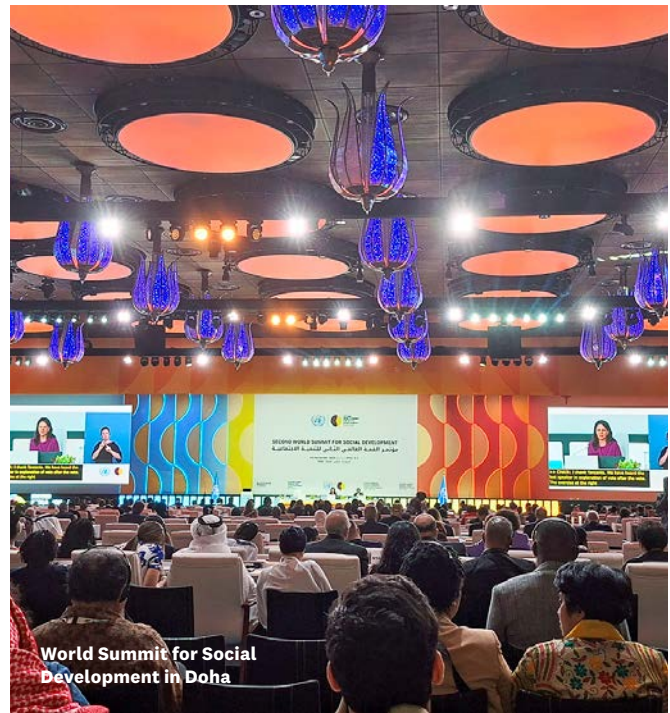
In the conference's outcome document, the states affirmed their commitment to the goal of spending 0.7 percent of gross national income on public development cooperation. They agreed to initiate a UN process on the reform of debt architecture. Taxation of the super rich and a UN framework agreement on international tax cooperation were also addressed in the outcome text. However, the resolutions remain far behind requirements and the implementation plans in particular are vague overall.

But that was precisely the point. Immediately after the conference, we therefore held an event to assess the outcome, where we and other NGOs called for participating government representatives to fully and rapidly implement the resolutions at national and international level.

The focus of the World Summit for Social Development (WSSD2) in Doha was, naturally, on social development. Around 14,000 delegates attended the conference. It built upon the landmark meeting in Copenhagen in 1995 and, 30 years after the first summit for social development, was intended to provide a new impetus for the fight against poverty, the promotion of full employment and decent work, social protection, gender equality and social inclusion – all fields where significant progress has been achieved in the meantime.

Brot für die Welt was represented in the official German delegation at this conference. This gave us the opportunity to meet with government representatives while preparing for the conference and stress to them that the financial framework conditions for social protection need to be improved worldwide.

The results of the conference are mixed. The Doha Political Declaration pledges its commitment to social justice and human rights – but it contains barely any binding measures and remains vague in its statements. Many states, particularly in the Global North, are still avoiding really dealing with the structural causes of global inequality, including historical responsibilities, unequal trading conditions and power imbalances in the international finance system. Thus the causes of growing inequality cannot be remedied: the countries that are most affected – often due to crises for which they have barely



any responsibility – are forced to cut spending in social programmes and thus in their future.

The unequal global distribution of assets is another major challenge in the pursuit of global justice. The super rich should make a greater contribution to the common good, for instance through taxation on income and high levels of wealth. In reality, however, this often results in more wealth being hidden away in tax havens. The Tax Justice Network estimates that the countries of the Global South lose out on hundreds of billions of dollars a year due to aggressive tax avoidance and illicit financial flows. With this in mind, the UN Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation, which is currently being negotiated and set to be completed by the end of 2027, represents a historic opportunity. Only by collectively and consistently fighting against tax avoidance and establishing a fairer international financial architecture and taxation system can states mobilise the resources they need for investments in healthcare, education, social protection and the climate-friendly infrastructure to safeguard the future of humanity.

For this reason, we are actively engaging with the ongoing negotiations alongside our partner organisations, because a fair national and international tax policy is the foundation for a fair and inclusive society.



You can find out more about our lobby and advocacy work at **brot-fuer-die-welt.de/lobby-advocacy**

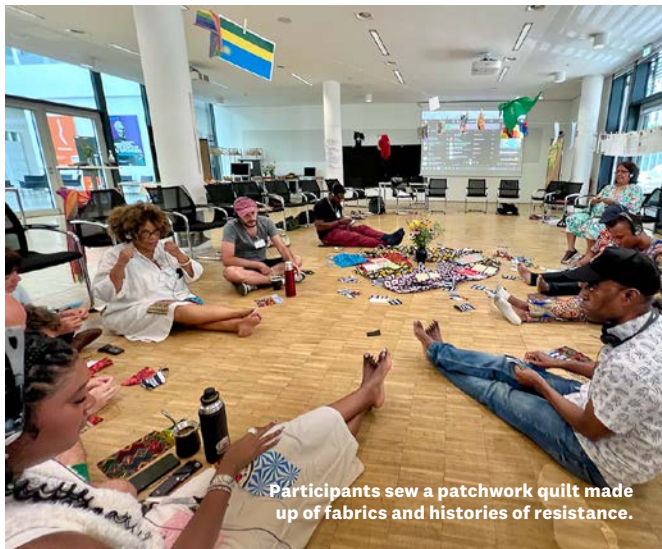
Engagement and Communication

Development-related Educational Work

Imagining Other Worlds Together

Even though the era of colonialism has largely come to an end, its violent history continues to have an impact to this day. To change outdated views, people have to talk to each other. In Berlin in July 2025, this conversation happened as part of the Decolonial Lab.

As of 1 April 2025, German citizens now need to apply for a visa for tourist trips if they want to visit Namibia. In Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger, the national languages have been upgraded to become official languages, while French is now deemed only to be a “working language”. Regional languages are also gaining greater recognition in other countries. These steps are a sign of Africa breaking down colonial structures.



Participants sew a patchwork quilt made up of fabrics and histories of resistance.

In Germany too, questions of decolonisation are being more widely debated, initiated primarily through (post)-migrant led initiatives. In October 2025, Nettelbeckplatz in Berlin was renamed as Martha-Ndumbe-Platz, after a Black woman from Berlin who was murdered in Ravensbrück concentration camp in the era of national socialism. Migrant-led initiatives are bringing their perspectives to societal debates, making injustice visible

and playing a crucial role in turning global solidarity into a reality here on the ground too.

One special example of this is the Decolonial Lab, which was organised by the Ecumenical Research Department (DEI) in Costa Rica alongside Brot für die Welt in Berlin in July 2025. Around thirty participants from Africa, Latin America and post-migrant and diaspora organisations gathered to discuss the question: how can we re-imagine the world when we cast off colonial thinking patterns?

The lab was more than just a classic educational event: it was a space for collective reflection, learning and realignment, where voices from the Global South and migrant perspectives came together as equals. Participants got to experience decolonisation as a lived practice. Music, poetry, meals together and body-orientated approaches made it clear: learning happens with the head, heart and body.

One hugely important moment in this process was making a patchwork quilt. Each person had brought along a piece of fabric from their country or region of origin. As the participants sewed the quilt together, they talked about their histories of resistance and shared stories, poems, symbols and songs. The songs overcame the language barrier that otherwise separates people from each other.

“That moment had a real sense of eternity. We felt an intense connection to one another. And with our ancestors, who no longer belonged to just one group, but had become our shared ancestors,” says co-organisator Silvia Regina de Lima Silva from DEI of her experience. “But the moment did not just lead us to the past; instead it awoke in us the desire to do things together, to sing, to sew and to stitch together the scraps, the fragments of our history of resistance.”

One thing that united all the participants was the aim of opening up another way of thinking together. Inspired by the pedagogy of Paulo Freire and the decolonial concepts of Catherine Welsh, they searched for ways in which thoughts and actions could grow beyond colonial structures.

“We wanted to create a space where diverse forms of knowledge, experiences of resistance and activism and different ways of life beyond the dominant Western narratives can thrive,” says Ailed E. Villalba Aquino from the oikos Institute for Mission and Ecumenism, describing her motivation for co-organising the Decolonial Lab. “The value of the Decolonial Lab is not only in the moment of exchange itself, but in the process we wanted to initiate together: in strengthening relationships, in building new alliances, and in having the courage to imagine other possible worlds, and to gradually shape them together.”

However, the path Europe has to take is still a long one. Mariette Nicole Afi Amoussou from the Black Academy noted that decolonisation is often still discussed without engaging in dialogue with the communities and people who were historically affected by colonialism: “Decolonisation cannot take place without actively involving the people affected from these regions.” In the Decolonial Lab, marginalised communities were not viewed as “input”; instead, they were able to bring their own critical perspectives into focus, challenge structures of power and knowledge, and in doing so establish the foundations for fairer visions of the future.

For Tzehaie Semere of the ecumenical centre of the Hessian regional churches, the exchange in the Decolonial Lab also has very specific implications for the centre’s future working methods. He hopes to decolonise the committee that approves grant applications, including those from migrant and diaspora organisations, itself: “The aim for the future is to diversify the committee, which until now has been exclusively white-dominated, with new members from different diasporas.”

Mariette Nicole Afi Amoussou also takes inspiration for her own work from the Lab: “One important aspect that has become even more central to our work is the South-South perspective. The exchange between Africa and South and Central America is often overlooked in many decolonial discourses, especially in the European context.”

Event co-organiser Regina de Lima Silva draws a positive conclusion on the Berlin meeting: “Places like the Decolonial Lab are important because they put the power of the current systems of governance into context as one individual existing reality. But other possible worlds already exist. Acknowledging this fact definitely has a transformational power.”

Whether digital or in print: Good information at any time

More materials in German are available for download at brot-fuer-die-welt.de/publications



Jelena Ostrs encourages support for Brot für die Welt projects in Hamburg city centre.

Three Strong Pillars of Financing

We derive the funds for our work from three sources: Donations and funding from the state and church. External auditors and the DZI-Spendensiegel (German Central Institute for Donations, DZI) guarantee to our supporters that we carefully and effectively use their money.

Donations

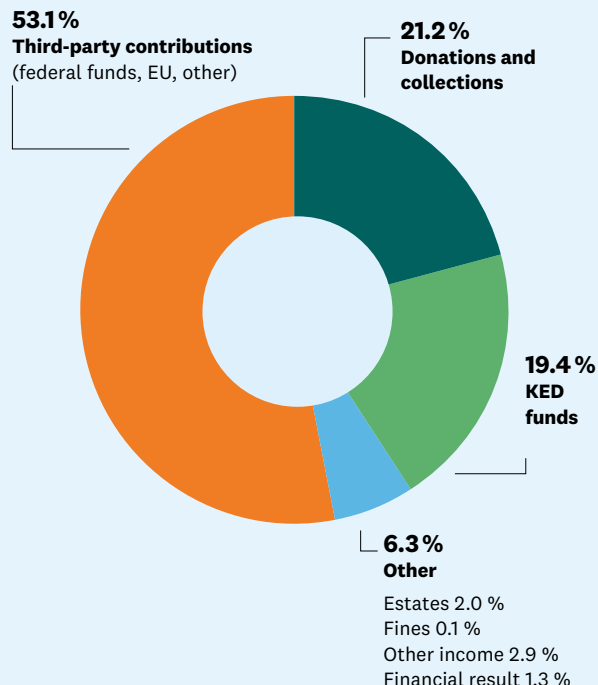
Enthusiasm Is Contagious

For the last two years, Brot für die Welt has taken a new approach to collecting donations for projects for its partner organisations in Germany. In the city centres of Hamburg, Cologne or Berlin, young people engage passers-by to encourage them to support people in other parts of the world.

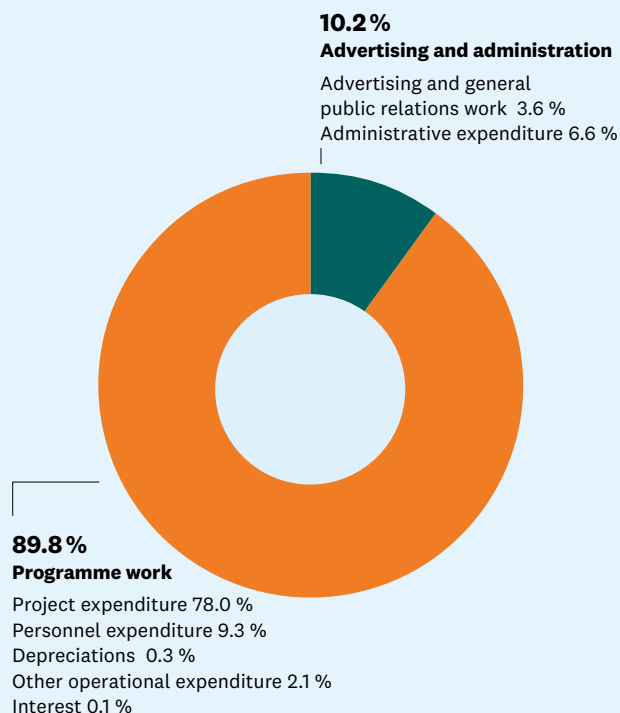
One of these young people is Jelena Ostrs. It does not take long for her to become engaged in conversation with the people she approaches on the street: “Brot für die Welt is really well known and that naturally makes our job much easier.” She often talks about the “Satt trotz Dürre” (Enough to Eat Despite Drought) project, where the “Kaluli Development Foundation” in Zambia shows small-scale farming families how to deal with the consequences of climate change and ensure a sufficient and healthy diet. After the families lost their productive land to a dam project in the 1950s, they spent many years without enough to eat. Since they were provided with seeds and goats and acquired the necessary knowledge of sustainable agriculture, they do not just have healthy meals on the table three times a day, but can even supply other regions in Zambia with agricultural products.

The key aspect in getting people in Germany to support projects such as this one in Zambia is frequently to help them understand that families often just need a helping hand to get started and do not want to stay in an aid system in the long term. Direct conversations are the best way to do so. Brot für die Welt works with the face-to-face marketing agency Direct Result. Naturally, this type of fundraising donation is not free. For instance, the agency has to pay the campaigners appropriately according to the standards of the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI). As the concept has proven successful, Brot für die Welt will extend this method for fundraising donations to other cities in the coming year.

Jelena Ostrs has used the conversations in Hamburg city centre to finance part of her studies and taken her first steps into professional life with the agency. However, fundraising donations for Brot für die Welt is also something close to her heart: “I hope that people are inspired by my enthusiasm for this amazing project in Zambia and support this work.”



Sources of funding in 2025
Percentage



Use of funds in 2025
Percentage

Annual Accounts

	Brot für die Welt (incl. EZE and DÜ)		Brot für die Welt (incl. EZE and DÜ)	
	2025	%	2024	%
	in euros		in euros	
Sources of funding				
Donations and collections	72,577,459.28	21.2	73,893,087.72	22.2
of which donations to "Bündnis Entwicklung hilft"	1,407,202.68		1,283,150.66	
Estates	6,986,588.66	2.0	8,119,797.85	2.4
Fines	231,207.03	0.1	273,674.00	0.1
Church Development Service funds (KED)	66,181,644.57	19.4	62,662,828.39	18.9
Third-party contributions	181,486,992.38	53.1	173,999,406.48	52.3
European Union	1,584,528.13		837,535.83	
Statel funds	177,184,105.83		167,933,839.57	
Other third-party contributions	2,718,358.42		5,228,031.08	
Other income	9,781,949.96	2.9	9,189,710.39	2.8
Financial result	4,448,021.13	1.3	4,195,962.89	1.3
of which financial income	5,512,327.77		5,238,024.37	
of which financial expenditure	1,064,306.64		1,042,061.48	
Total funding	341,693,863.01	100.0	332,334,467.72	100.0
Use of funds				
Programme work	293,924,452.00	89.8	289,282,216.01	90.8
Project expenditure	255,096,228.11		250,386,142.90	
Personnel expenditure	30,401,941.19		29,295,214.85	
Depreciations	1,080,132.41		1,083,549.67	
Other operational expenditure	7,043,131.12		8,158,605.57	
Interest	303,019.17		358,703.02	
Advertising and public relations	11,768,700.45	3.6	10,614,265.60	3.3
Material expenditure	525,604.90		606,046.36	
Personnel expenditure	2,752,361.84		2,402,156.65	
Depreciations	102,479.20		75,741.72	
Other operational expenditure	8,361,953.59		7,504,481.88	
Interest	26,300.92		25,838.99	
Administration	21,463,560.84	6.6	18,844,644.56	5.9
Personnel expenditure	13,483,115.10		10,653,743.43	
of which is expenditure for socially responsible restructuring	2,993,220.00		0.00	
Depreciations	360,028.03		377,530.42	
Other operational expenditure, incl. taxes	7,521,174.94		7,686,336.77	
of which from taxes	77,559.66		139,768.47	
Interest	99,242.77		127,033.94	
Total use of funds	327,156,713.29	100.0	318,741,126.17	100.0

EUR 66,181,644.57

Funds from the church development service (KED)

In 2025 Brot für die Welt received more than 66 million euros from the funds of the church development service.

EUR 293,924,452.00

Programme work

In 2025 Brot für die Welt spent nearly 294 million euros on programme work.

Sources of Funds/Income

Total Income

In 2025, the total income of Brot für die Welt was 341.7 million euros; it was 9.4 million euros higher than it had been the previous year.

Donations and Collections

Donations and collections continue to be the bedrock of Brot für die Welt. They are not just financial resources, but an expression of the commitment of church parishes and individuals to our cause and a source of motivation for us. They demonstrate to the state that we are rooted in church and society, and they are why the state trusts us and allocates funds to us. Like the KED funds (funds from the Church Development Service (Kirchlicher Entwicklungsdienst, KED)), they combine our development work with our church mandate. Income from donations and collections amounted to 72.6 million euros, slightly lower than in the previous year.

Church Development Service (KED) Funds

Brot für die Welt receives Church Development Service (KED) contributions from the Protestant Church in Germany (EKD). These contributions are a proportion of church taxes reallocated by the regional churches for development work. Amounting to 66.2 million euros in 2025, they are a key source of funding for our project work and for financing the staff and material costs of the development agency.

Third-party Contributions

Third party contributions are primarily funds provided by the state for church-based development work. Of the 177.2 million euros of federal funds, 152.3 million came from the budget of the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), 16.4 million from Engagement Global gGmbH, 0.6 million from the German Foreign Office (for foreign scholarship holders) and around 1.4 million from the Federal Ministry of the Interior for a social project in Romania. These funds are allocated exclusively for project work. Depending on the progress of the project, an application may be made for funds to be paid out, with the amount varying accordingly. We also received 2.7 million euros in other third-party contributions, for example for church-to-church aid projects.

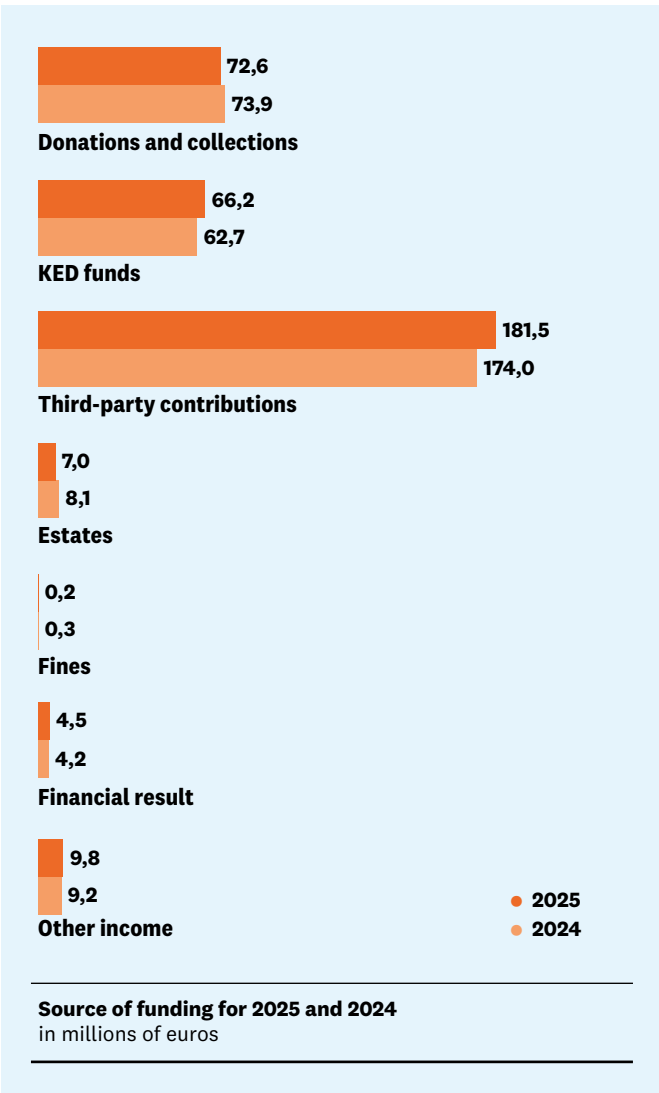
Other income

Other income for 2025 amounted to 9.8 million euros and remained constant compared to the previous year. For the most part, this income comes from sales of Brot für

die Welt merchandise, licensing proceeds and cooperation agreements, and reimbursements for expenses.

Financial Result

Brot für die Welt receives interest on income because donations are not immediately passed on in full to project partners but released according to project progress. Until they are paid out, we invest part of the project-bound, approved project funds according to ethical criteria. The resulting income enables Brot für die Welt to fulfil important tasks. The financial result in this reporting year increased slightly by 0.3 million to 4.5 million euros.



Use of Funds/Expenditures

Programme Work

Programme work primarily comprises project fund payments amounting to 255.1 million euros (250.4 million euros in the previous year) to Brot für die Welt's partner organisations. In addition, all additional staff and material expenses that are required for supporting and evaluating the projects are listed here.

Advertising and Administration

• Advertising and Public Relations

Brot für die Welt uses only means of fundraising donations that are effective, serious and cost-efficient. The costs for advertising and general public relations work amounted to 11.8 million euros in the reporting year, and they thus account for approximately 3.6 percent of the total expenditure (previous year: 3.3 percent). The rise in costs for advertising and general publicity is primarily the result of higher fundraising costs, which were incurred to stabilise the income from donations and increase it in the medium term.

• Administrative Expenditure

The administrative expenditure includes the material and staff expenses for the general organisation (e.g. accounting, human resources management) of Brot für die Welt. The expenditure for administration is approximately 21.5 million euros and increased slightly compared to the previous year (18.8 million euros).

Due to socially responsible restructuring measures, administrative costs have risen in the reporting year. The administrative expenditure thus accounts for about 6.6 percent of the total result (previous year: 5.9 percent).

Advertising and administrative costs make up 10.2 percent of total expenditure and are deemed "appropriate" according to the DZI criteria.

Publication of Annual Financial Statements

The audit certificate from the auditor, the annual financial statements for the legal entities EWDE, Protestant Association for Global Development (EZE), DÜ and the certification of the audit of the annual financial statement are published on our homepage at brot-fuer-die-welt.de/jahresabschluss (in German).

We Prevent Corruption

Corruption and abuse of power by organisations or individual employees endanger the success of a project and the credibility of the project holder. Both can lead to even more poverty and inequality in the countries concerned. Even Brot für die Welt cannot always prevent funds from being embezzled or misappropriated. However, this happens only on rare occasions.

To prevent the funds we provide to our partners from being embezzled or misappropriated, we rely on not only transparency and raising awareness in our collaborations, but also monitoring. By doing so, we protect ourselves and our partners. Already during the project planning stage, independent accountant officers ask the following questions: Does the partner have an internal control system? Do they have qualified staff to implement the project? In addition, auditors regularly use receipts to test whether expenditure and activities match up.

A team in the Results Management and Internal Project Auditing Department also follows up on signs of embezzlement and misappropriation and does everything it can to address its suspicions. Independent auditors are commissioned to examine the situation on site for this purpose. To continually improve our prevention and awareness work, we are in constant communication with other German funding organisations.

Confidential Complaint Management

Brot für die Welt wants to protect employees, partners and target groups in Germany and abroad against discrimination, sexual harassment, corruption, fraud, abuse of power and conflicts of interest. That is why we have adopted a Code of Conduct that also forms the basis of our collaboration with partners.

We have also created a digital whistleblower portal that can be used to report misconduct – including anonymously. We want to create a working environment characterised by mutual respect and where all encroachments are neither whitewashed, covered up nor tolerated thanks to a confidential complaint mechanism. Details can be found at brot-fuer-die-welt.de/compliance-and-integrity.



Beauty Nyathi waters her plot in the community garden in Mbizwo, Zimbabwe. Two water tanks and a deep well from the partner organisation MeDRA make this possible.

Cover photo: Marika carries his friend Kelevi. The village of Cogea on Fiji, where the two boys live, was destroyed by Cyclone Yasa in late 2020 and has to be relocated.

Contact

Brot für die Welt

Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie
und Entwicklung e. V.
Caroline-Michaelis-Straße 1
10115 Berlin, Germany
Phone +49 (0) 30 65211 0
kontakt@brot-fuer-die-welt.de
brot-fuer-die-welt.de

Bank für Kirche und Diakonie
IBAN: DE10 1006 1006 0500 5005 00
BIC: GENODE33KDB
brot-fuer-die-welt.de/spenden



Imprint

Publisher

Brot für die Welt
Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie
und Entwicklung e. V.

Editors Michael Billanitsch, Thomas Beckmann,
Marcel Maffei (photo editing)

Responsible according to press law Anne Dreyer

Photos Kathrin Harms: title, page 17 (right), 39;
Hermann Bredehorst: page 3, 7 (bottom), 15; Siegfried
Modola: page 4/5; Michael Klein: page 7 (top), 25;
Lena Mucha: page 8, 16 (top left); Anne Ackermann:
page 16 (bottom left), 19, 21; private: page 16 (right),
page 17 (top left, bottom left), 20; China Hopson:
page 24; Till Bender: page 27; Esteban Chávez Guevara:
page 28; Direct Result: page 30.

Design/layout Herden.Design, Stuttgart

Printing PIEREG Druckcenter, Berlin

Paper 100 % recycled paper

October 2026

Co-operations and Networks

Brot für die Welt is a member of various national and international networks and works closely together with other organisations. They include the international church network ACT Alliance, the umbrella organisation for development-related and humanitarian non-governmental organisations in Germany VENRO, as well as the alliance Bündnis Entwicklung hilft and our sister organisation for disaster aid, Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe.

You can find more information at **brot-fuer-die-welt.de/our-network**

**Somebody
should be doing
something
about hunger.
Wait a minute,
you actually
are somebody.**