

# International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development

Annual Report 2013



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Like many other people in the Philippines, these children rely on food assistance after Typhoon Haiyan.

#### Editorial



Foreign Minister Aurelia Frick at the opening of a dormitory for nurses in training in Zambia

Hunger has always been a global political issue. While some regions of the world are in the fortunate position of having enough food for their entire population, a large part of humanity struggles with hunger every day.

This report on International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD) in 2013 deals with current developments of the food situation worldwide. Especially in light of the increase in the world population, we should pay more attention to the issue of food.

The case of the Tanzanian farmer Hadiga Kibwana in the guest article by Hans Rudolf Herren, founder of the Biovision Foundation and laureate of the Alternative Nobel Prize, shows that courage and innovation are rewarded. Liechtenstein works to ensure that examples like this are not isolated cases and that small farmers around the world place more emphasis on ecological methods. Only this kind of commitment can sustainably improve the food situation in developing countries.

The following report describes IHCD projects dealing with this issue. Our solidarity creates a clear added value in the affected countries. Despite all these project descriptions from regions that seem so far away from Liechtenstein, it should never be forgotten that sustainable food models must begin precisely where sufficient food is available.

I would like to thank everyone involved for their active efforts over the past year and for their contributions to this report. I would also like to refer you to the IHCD website, www.llv.li/ihze, where you can find current news and all the relevant background information.

I hope you enjoy reading this Annual Report.



Organic and diversified agriculture in East Africa improves the food security of small farming families and preserves their livelihood for the long term.

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## Humanity needs farmers like Hadiga Kibwana

The soil near Towelo in the Uluguru Mountains in Tanzania is barren, and the land is steep. This is where the farmer Hadiga Kibwana lives. Until a few years ago, she grew only maize, beans, and cabbage. When the weather was good, the yield was just enough to survive. But recently, the climate has been less amenable. The rainy season either comes too late, or the rainfall is sparse. In other years, heavy rains have washed the soil away.

In 2009, local farming families established the self-help group »Maendeleo» – »Development» and made contact with Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT). SAT researches locally adapted farming techniques. SAT advisors instructed the group in the methods of organic farming and showed how to slow erosion, improve soils with compost, and fight pests using natural enemies. Today, Hadiga Kibwana's fields grow cauliflower, tomatoes, cabbage, eggplant, onions, papayas, and pepper. She harvests more and saves an annual sum equal to one average month of income, which she used to spend on fertilizer and pesticide.

Global agriculture is facing an immense challenge. To master it, millions and millions of innovative farmers like Hadiga Kibwana will be needed.

#### Growing humanity, shrinking arable land

By 2050, the world population will grow from currently 7.2 billion to more than 9 billion. Meanwhile, the resources of agriculture are shrinking. Of the 5 billion hectares (12.4 billion acres) of agricultural land available worldwide, already 1.9 billion hectares (4.7 billion acres) are degraded by overuse. Crop diversity – the basis of plant breeding – is diminishing, and in some world regions, climate change will severely reduce the yield potential of agriculture.

The problems are not least of all the result of misguided developments in agricultural policy. For too long, industrial and reductionist agriculture was promoted in a one-sided manner, extracting the short-term maximum from soils using just a few high-yield crops and the forced use of agrochemicals, without paying attention to the ecological and social consequences. While these methods resulted in impressive yield increases, they threaten the fundamentals over the long term.

What is called for is therefore a fundamental change of course in agricultural policy – toward ecological agriculture that does not aim for the highest yield, but rather the yield that is sustainably possible, that protects soils and water, that preserves natural soil fertility, and that promotes biodiversity.

Hans Rudolf Herren Founder of Biovision



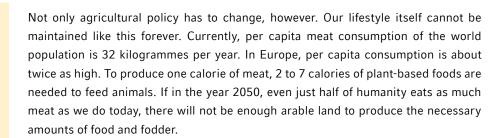
#### Promoting small farms

The natural partners for this transition are small farmers. More than 90% of Africa's food is produced by small farms, of which 80% cultivate fewer than 2 hectares (5 acres) of land. The potential for those small farms to increase yields is high even using ecological methods. Numerous projects in the tropics and subtropics show that improvements of 50-150% are possible using adapted organic farming.

Small farms are able to feed the people in developing countries. But to do this, they must be strengthened and given better support. First of all, this means the price of food must be right. While it is true that the unaffordability of food is the main cause of the hunger problem – not insufficient production – it would nevertheless be wrong to keep food prices in developing countries low. Doing so keeps farmers poor, and it is not worth it for them to increase production. Instead of keeping producer prices low, the goal should be to increase the standard of living so that everyone can afford fair prices for food. Furthermore, small farms need better access to local markets and capital. Transport routes in rural areas must be expanded and financial systems must be established to grant farmers microcredits, such as for adapted mechanization or seed.

Agricultural research must find a new orientation. The goal should not be to increase yields at any cost, but rather to preserve soil fertility, promote crop diversity, develop adapted crops, clean up degraded soils, and promote biological crop protection. The necessary investments to steer agriculture toward sustainability are affordable. According to the Green Economy Report of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) published in 2011, USD 198 billion would have to be invested in agriculture. This corresponds to 0.16 % of worldwide GDP.

#### There is enough for everyone – but not for everything.



Finally, we must stop wasting food. In industrial countries, one third to one half of purchased food ends up in the rubbish. A drastic reduction of this waste costs nothing at all.



Since 1998, the Biovision Foundation has been fighting poverty and hunger and advocating the dissemination and use of ecological methods leading to sustainable improvement of living conditions in Africa and at the same time protecting the environment. Biovision helps people help themselves and promotes ecological thought and action – in the North and in the South. Hans Rudolf Herren, the founder of Biovision, was the first Swiss to be awarded the Alternative Nobel Prize in 2013, together with his foundation.

## Fighting hunger

## Support for destitute people as part of Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance

For almost everyone in Liechtenstein, having enough to eat goes without saying, and hunger is unheard of. We live in a society of excess, in which large amounts of food end up in rubbish bins. These are circumstances most people around the world can only dream of. Every eighth person has to go to bed hungry. Hunger is the greatest health risk worldwide. Each year, more people die of hunger than of AIDS, malaria, and tuberculosis combined. But even though hunger is the largest problem in the world, it is solvable. Three entirely different examples are presented below of how Liechtenstein strives to fight against global hunger through Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance.



Manuel Frick Office for Foreign Affairs

#### Mali – hunger due to armed conflicts



Liechtenstein's contribution makes it possible to buy 77 metric tons of rice, benefiting about 192,500 people in the region of Timbuktu in the north of Mali.

Mali was already one of the poorest and least developed countries in the world. But the situation got even worse when the Tuareg rebels in the north of the country took over the Azawad region and unilaterally declared independence in 2012. Malian and French armed forces subsequently lunched a military operation at the beginning of 2013 against the Islamic rebels advancing from the north. The population in the north of Mali, which was already affected by recurring droughts in the Sahel, has been hit hard by the persistent fighting. Food has become unaffordable for most families because of the massive price increases. For this reason, Liechtenstein supported the aid programmes of the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and of Caritas Switzerland in 2013 for the destitute population in Mali. WFP supports both people in Mali and refugees in neighbouring countries. Caritas Switzerland maintained a pro-

gramme for internally displaced persons in the north of Mali. Making food available was a key component of both programmes. Additionally, the beneficiaries of the Caritas project also received basic medical care and hygiene products.

#### North Korea – hunger caused by the political regime



These girls and boys are among 7,300 children in North Korea who received special food for 13 months thanks to Liechtenstein's contribution.

Because of the collapse of the Soviet Union, North Korea's foreign trade almost came to a complete standstill at the beginning of the 1990s. The level of food production — which was already structurally too low — was additionally impeded by political decisions. The regime closed itself off to the outside and no longer allowed aid organisations from abroad to enter the country. The consequence was a great famine. A chronic food crisis still persists. According to a nationwide study, 30% of pregnant women suffer from anaemia as a consequence of malnutrition, which has an especially negative impact on unborn and breastfed children. This is particularly serious because malnutrition during the first 1,000 days of life can lead to irreparable physical and psychological harm. For this reason, WFP launched the project entitled «Nutrition Support for Children and Women in DPR Korea». The aim of this programme supported by Liechtenstein is to help children as well as pregnant and nursing women. One of the measures of this programme is to promote the production of special food referred to as «super cereals» and «nutritious biscuits». These are enriched with vitamins and minerals to combat malnutrition more efficiently than with ordinary food.

#### Emergency and reconstruction assistance

Emergency and reconstruction assistance provides short-term and urgent preventive and aid measures to preserve human life and to alleviate the consequences of natural disasters, political crises and armed conflicts. It also includes the medium-term development of social structures and infrastructure in regions affected by disasters, political crises and armed conflicts.

#### 10 | Philippines – hunger due to natural disaster



Around 1,850 families were helped thanks to Liechtenstein's support for the «Cash for Food Programme» after Typhoon Haiyan.

On 8 November 2013, Typhoon Haiyan – probably the strongest storm ever measured – reached the Philippines. As a consequence, several thousand people died and tens of thousands were injured. In total, 11.3 million people were affected by the disaster. In the week after the devastating typhoon, the Liechtenstein Government decided to contribute to emergency aid in the Philippines. The first tranche was donated to WFP and the Swiss NGO MEDAIR. For the first six months after the typhoon, WFP allocated USD 88.2 million for nutrition support. Overall, more than 2.5 million people benefited from this commitment.

Mali, North Korea, and the Philippines are three examples in which very different sources led to an emergency situation. The UN World Food Programme (WFP) is one of the most important partners of Liechtenstein within the framework of Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance, and in all three of these contexts Liechtenstein worked together with WFP in 2013. The following interview with Ralf Südhoff, Director of WFP in Germany, Austria, Liechtenstein, and German-speaking Switzerland takes a closer look at WFP's work.

#### Interview about cooperation with WFP

Ralf Südhoff Director of WFP in Germany, Austria, Liechtenstein and German-speaking Switzerland



The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) is the largest humanitarian organisation in the world, fighting hunger worldwide. Each year, WFP supports up to 100 million people in more than 75 countries with food assistance: through rapid emergency aid in disasters, and development programmes helping people around the world to feed themselves and their families.

Mr Südhoff, what were the greatest humanitarian challenges for WFP last year? In 2013, WFP was confronted with a number of serious humanitarian crises as never before: Typhoon Haiyan devastated the Philippines and left millions of people behind who lost the possibility overnight to feed themselves. In South Sudan, tens of thousands had to leave their homes because of the fighting that flared up again and urgently needed food assistance – usually in remote regions that were difficult to reach, where they hid from the attacks. Because of the bloody confrontations in the Central African Republic, the food security of 1.25 million people was in danger, and the unsafe situation in the country made our aid impossible at times. Moreover, the humanitarian situation in Syria further deteriorated over the course of last year. The number of refugees inside and outside the country urgently dependent on WFP assistance rose to more than 6 million.

The greatest humanitarian challenge, however, was that WFP had to respond almost simultaneously to these four crises, which the United Nations classified as humanitarian emergencies of the highest level (Level 3).

How is WFP affected by the austerity measures after the economic and financial crisis?

WFP is funded exclusively by voluntary contributions of governments, businesses, and private individuals. In light of the hunger in the world – one in eight people, or about 842 million people, still do not have enough to eat – and the large number of global conflict regions, I am warning of a decline in the willingness to donate.

Trouble spots neglected by the media but still in need of assistance, such as North Korea, the Central African Republic, and Yemen, are at risk of being overshadowed by countries affected by conflict such as Syria and hence forgotten. As a consequence of the resulting »donor fatigue», the financial means for these countries were running out. Our need is always greater than the resources we receive – by far.

At the same time, new studies show: If the international community were to invest only about EUR 900 million over five years in order to fight malnutrition in a targeted way, the benefits in terms of improved health, lower child mortality, and higher income would amount to nearly EUR 12 billion.

How much money was missing in concrete terms in 2013?

In 2013, the requirements for implementing all WFP projects as planned and reaching everyone in need amounted to about USD 6.7 billion. During the same period, WFP received about USD 4.4 billion in support by various donors. This means there was a funding gap of about USD 2.3 billion – more than a third of the total need – so that WFP had to cut rations for hundreds of thousands of people in numerous programmes or suspend entire operations in several countries.

In your view, what is the strength of your organisation?

Firstly, WFP has a very good network in the countries where we are active: both thanks to the more than 10,000 local staff members and thanks to the close cooperation with more than 2,800 local and international non-governmental organisations. This provides us with detailed knowledge of the needs and possibilities in each

12 I

country. Secondly, WFP is able to draw on the expertise and analyses of our UN sister organisations, FAO and IFAD, and in this way provide innovative and regionally adapted assistance. Last but not least, our strength also consists in providing aid very quickly in disasters, thanks to our leading logistics, and in ensuring long-term worldwide assistance to hungry populations – through school nutrition programmes, local purchasing, investments in infrastructure, and protective measures against the consequences of climate change.

Since 2011, Liechtenstein has supported WFP's work in North Korea. What are the key challenges in that country, and where are the future priority areas?

According to a WFP report, the food situation in North Korea improved slightly in 2013. The most important factor consisted in deliveries by international organisations and support from abroad. According to the WFP report, 46 % of the population received sufficient quantities of food. 17 % received only meagre food supplies, while a total of 38 % of North Koreans were still on the verge of a famine. By comparison: In 2012, only 26 % of the North Korean people had enough to eat, and practically every second person suffered from hunger.

WFP's work in North Korea focuses on support for women and children. Thanks to enriched special food and school meals – in nine of the ten provinces nationwide – WFP is able to prevent malnutrition and fight the still widespread lack of proteins, vitamins, and micronutrients. A total of 2.4 million people benefit from assistance.

#### What does Liechtenstein's commitment mean for WFP?

Liechtenstein is an extremely reliable and flexible partner for WFP. We appreciate this all the more in a time when many other donors are making their aid pledges more and more inflexible by earmarking them only for a specific operation in a specific country. Liechtenstein's many years of commitment make it possible for WFP to provide targeted assistance to people in need in crisis situations with food, vouchers, or cash. Of particular note in this connection is Liechtenstein's continuous support for the WFP Immediate Response Account (IRA), which permits WFP to provide assistance very rapidly and flexibly in emergency situations. Steady support for WFP's work in North Korea is also especially important, because it allows WFP to plan for the long term and purchase foods on the market at the most favourable time.

#### What has been achieved with money from Liechtenstein?

At the end of 2013, for instance, a donation from Liechtenstein provided about 1,850 families in need with cash assistance after Super Typhoon Haiyan in order to obtain food on the local markets. In Mali, about 192,500 persons in need and internally displaced persons in four different regions received a monthly ration of rice. Liechtenstein's support for the WFP programme in North Korea provides about 7,300 infants and sick toddlers with enriched rice milk over a period of 13 months to prevent and combat malnutrition. And already since 2007, Liechtenstein has been a donor to WFP Immediate Response Account (IRA).

Mr Südhoff, thank you very much for the interview.

## Raspberries for Goražde

#### Similar features but different circumstances

Heribert Beck Migration and Passport Office



Goražde, a canton in the East of Bosnia and Herzegovina. 36,000 inhabitants. The Drina splits the capital down the middle. Mountains rise on both sides. Industry is the economic pillar of the canton. The parallels to Liechtenstein are unmistakable. But there is a significant difference: Unemployment is very high. Not least of all, this is due to the armed conflicts in the early 1990s, which destroyed a lot of infrastructure and continue to have an effect today.



A good side income: Raspberry harvest in Goražde (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Another parallel between the canton of Goražde and Liechtenstein, however, is the good and active cooperation during the ongoing reconstruction. The Migration and Passport Office has invested about half a million Swiss francs from International Refugee and Migration Assistance resources in this area in the past four years alone. The funds are used to support a project that looks like an agricultural niche at first glance but is ideally suited to the local context – berry production. Already with a small plot of land and a small loan financed by Liechtenstein, the livelihood of an entire family can be secured.

### International refugee and migration assistance

International refugee and migration assistance follows a sustainable and comprehensive approach to manage the global refugee and migration problem and seeks worldwide protection for the rights of refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees, stateless persons and other persons abroad in need of international protection.

#### A new source of income for landowners

»The project basically means secure income for small producers. This is all the more important because for many producers, income from selling berries is the only possible way to obtain cash,» says Erich Ruppen, programme officer for the Western Balkans at Caritas Switzerland, the long-standing project partner of the Migration and Passport Office.

For Goražde, this kind of small farming has developed into a significant economic factor. Income enhances purchasing power in the region, and regular earnings are a way to buffer the consequences of unemployment and also mitigate migration pressure.

#### Prosperity and peace through raspberries

»Since the price of raspberries per kilogramme was nearly twice as high in 2013 as in the previous year, 0.2 hectares (0.5 acres) of land could be used to produce up to EUR 5,500 of raspberries. This means a monthly income of about EUR 450, which is a good monthly salary for Bosnia and Herzegovina, says Erich Ruppen, clearly pleased about the success of the project. In good production years, growing raspberries is more than a side income. It can even mean a monthly income higher than the national average.

But the project not only has an economic impact; it also does a lot of good in non-material germs. Goražde is a region where Bosniaks and Serbs live together. Because of the civil war from 1992 to 1995, this coexistence is still not always free of tension. "The raspberry farmers are joined together in a producers' association to assert their interests more effectively," Ruppen explains. "Through common economic interests, the parties that were estranged because of the war come closer together again and enter into a dialogue that also leaves room for other topics over time. In this way, the project contributes to a process of reconciliation that is of the utmost importance for the economic and social development of this region."

Berry production as a success model can meanwhile look back on a long history. Since 2004, a total of 1,005 small farmers have received a loan. »With an average of five family members, this means that more than 5,000 people have benefited directly from the project,» according to Ruppen. Indirectly, the people in the project region have also benefited. »All 36,000 people of the canton of Goražde participate in the economic upswing – thanks to the enhanced purchasing power of the families and the newly created jobs in the processing industry.»

#### Liechtenstein know-how for Goražde

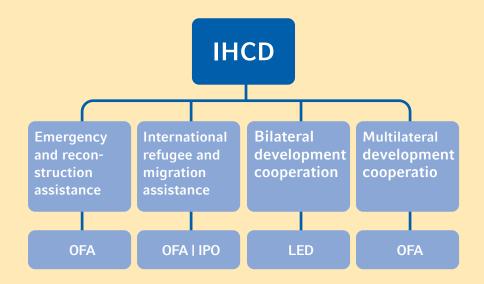
But Liechtenstein helps the canton of Goražde not only through small loans for raspberry farmers. Since October 2012, young Bosnians from the region have been trained as farmers in Liechtenstein through internships with Liechtenstein farmers. Currently, seven Bosnians are learning at Liechtenstein farms how to apply the knowhow of modern agriculture in Bosnia and Herzegovina upon their return, and how to advance agriculture beyond berry production. "The young people are also able to earn money in Liechtenstein that they can later use to expand their own farms," Erich Ruppen says.

Through these initiatives, farms evolve that in turn help strengthen the economy of the entire region and thus facilitate social peace and reconciliation and mitigate migration pressure. All of this is the result of cooperation between two geographically very similar regions that nevertheless have had very different fates over the past 25 years.

## Liechtenstein's International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD)

International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD) covers all forms of humanitarian and development policy engagement by the State of Liechtenstein, including the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED).

IHCD works in four categories: Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance, International Refugee and Migration Assistance, Bilateral Development Cooperation, and Multilateral Development Cooperation. The responsible institutions are the Office for Foreign Affairs, the Immigration and Passport Office, and the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED).



#### **Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance**

Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance offers short-term, urgent assistance measures in the event of natural disasters, political crises, and armed conflicts. The focus is primarily on preserving human life and protecting the affected population. Additionally, the medium-term development of social structures and infrastructure is supported in order to facilitate a return to normal life as quickly as possible. 10 % of IHCD resources are earmarked for this area. The urgency of the situation is the main criterion for Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance. There are accordingly no geographic priorities. However, special attention is paid to emergency situations that are largely ignored and underfunded by the international community. Since 2011, Liechtenstein has been a member of the Good Humanitarian Donorship group. This internationally constituted working group is dedicated to compliance with key principles of humanitarian engagement.

#### 16 I International Refugee and Migration Assistance

International Refugee and Migration Assistance is based on a sustainable and comprehensive approach to dealing with global refugee and migration issues. This area also takes up 10 % of the IHCD budget. Bilateral activities focus on the Balkan countries. People in need of protection, including minorities, receive support for local integration and long-term improvement of their living conditions. As part of a holistic view of the migration issue, possibilities of circular migration, readmission agreements, and visa questions are also discussed. At the multilateral level, compliance with international legal, human rights, and humanitarian standards for refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees, stateless persons, and other persons in need of international protection is promoted.

#### **Bilateral Development Cooperation**

The largest pillar of IHCD is Bilateral Development Cooperation, which is the responsibility of the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED). For this purpose, LED receives about 65 % of the overall resources each year, most of which it employs via local partners (Southern partners) or partner organisations from Switzerland and Austria (Northern partners). In Chisinau (Republic of Moldova), Cochabamba (Bolivia), and Harare (Zimbabwe), LED maintains its own local offices.

LED is currently engaged in 13 priority countries. These are the Republic of Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan, Bolivia, Peru, Costa Rica (Central America), Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Zambia. Thematically, LED focuses on the development of rural regions and education. The advancement of women, social justice and environmental conservation are horizontal topics. Since adoption of the Food Security and Intercultural Bilingual Education strategies, these areas have been given greater consideration. Another important area of action is microfinance.

LED informs the Liechtenstein public about the context of development work and promotes global education at schools. It also funds the secondment of individuals from Liechtenstein to development projects managed by other organisations, and it arranges internships.

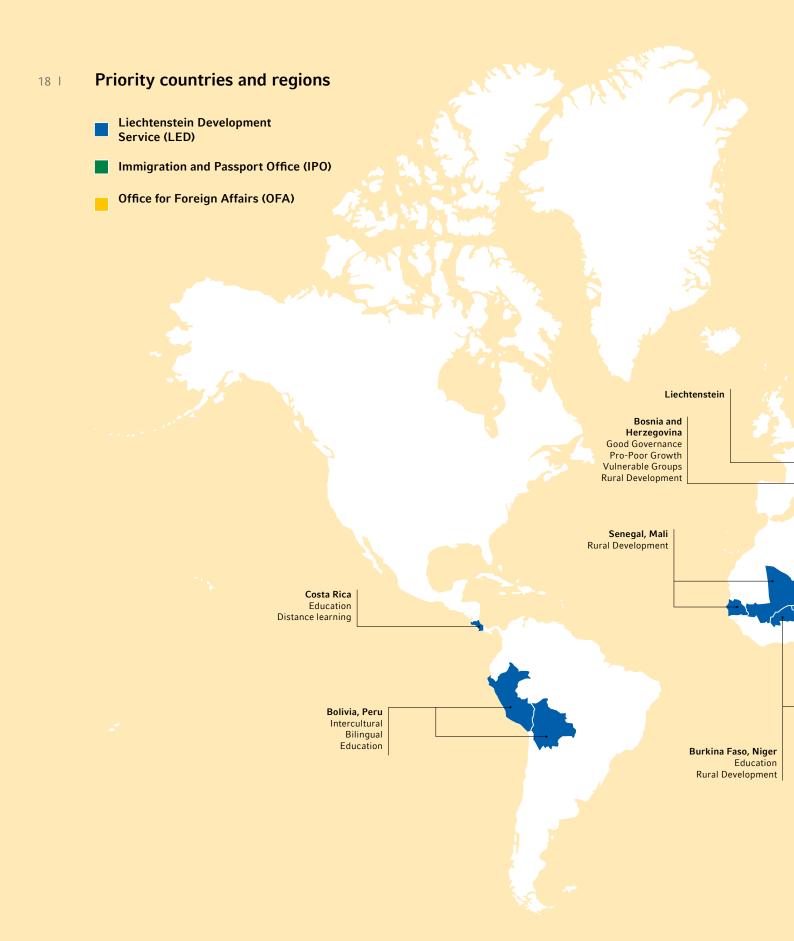
Cooperation between the Liechtenstein Government and LED, a foundation under private law, is governed by an owner's strategy, which is supplemented and further specified each year by performance mandates. The LED foundation council decides on individual projects.

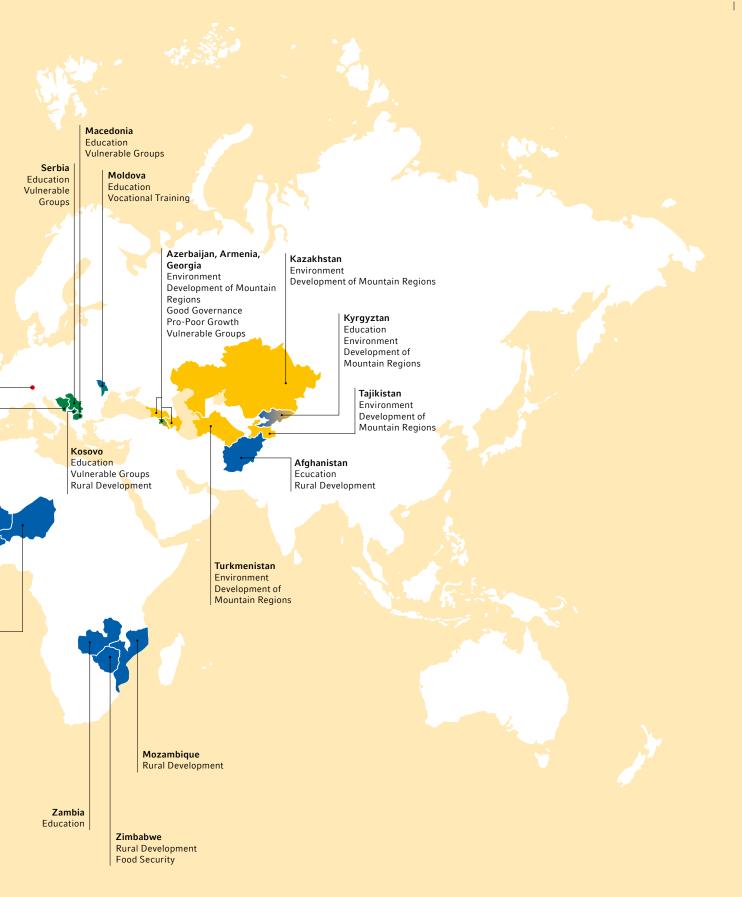
#### Multilateral Development Cooperation

Multilateral Development Cooperation is used to fund projects of international organisations or internationally operating non-government organisations. This type of engagement is useful especially for problems of a global or cross-border nature where the international community jointly seeks solutions. In contrast to LED projects, which act mainly at the local level, this track can also be used to improve national and international framework conditions. Special attention is paid to fostering good governance. This includes advocacy for human rights, strengthening the rule of law and democracy, and combating international crime. Key priorities of Liechtenstein's foreign policy, especially in the area of human rights, are additionally promoted in this way as part of IHCD, which in turn underscores Liechtenstein's credibility. Of note in this regard is for instance Liechtenstein's advocacy of better inclusion of women in peacebuilding processes and the protection of children in armed conflict. Other priorities are health and the fight against HIV/AIDS as well as the environment and sustainable development. In this last priority area, Liechtenstein as an Alpine country is dedicated especially to development in mountain regions, primarily in the Caucasus. 10 % of the IHCD budget is available for Multilateral Development Cooperation.

#### Microfinance Initiative Liechtenstein

The Liechtenstein Government has participated in the Microfinance Initiative Liechtenstein MIL (www.microfinance.li) since it was founded in 2005. Public and private stakeholders jointly dedicate themselves to strengthening microfinance, as an entrepreneurial contribution to reducing poverty in developing countries. Since spring 2012, MIL has had a three-member board, a secretariat, and two working groups in the areas of technical assistance and impact investment.

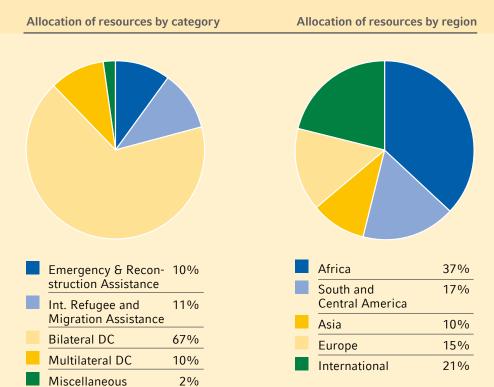




## IHCD 2013 in figures

#### 20 | Expenditures and allocation of resources

In 2013, the State of Liechtenstein expended a total of 25.2 million francs on International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD). About two thirds of these resources were spent on Bilateral Development Cooperation. About 10 % of the total budget was expended on each of the other categories.



#### **Priority countries and regions**

By far the largest share of Liechtenstein IHCD resources goes to Africa. In 2013, the share was 37 %. This especially illustrates the prioritization of Africa by LED, but is also an expression of the numerous armed conflicts and food crises on that continent, often requiring the deployment of emergency funds.

Support is also needed in Europe. About 15% of the budget was used for projects in the Balkans and the poorest country in Europa, Republic of Moldova. In the Balkan countries, especially Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Macedonia, the Immigration and Passport Office (IPO) is engaged in International Refugee and Migration Assistance. The Republic of Moldova has been a priority country of LED for several years.

In Latin America, LED's activities focus on Bolivia and Peru. A small share of the resources is employed in Costa Rica and its Central American neighbours (in total 17 % of the resources).

Liechtenstein's engagement in Asia is limited mainly to the LED priority countries of Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan as well as to environmental and development projects in the Caucasus. The share is 10%.

About 21% of resources were not allocated to specific projects or were invested in transnational programmes. These contributions – listed under »International» – are essential for supporting cross-border activities or underfunded programmes and for covering the basic costs of development organisations.

#### 22 | ODA development

Official development assistance (ODA) encompasses all disbursements of a state for development cooperation and humanitarian assistance according to the criteria of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). To compare ODA among states, an indicator is commonly used to measure ODA as a percentage of gross national income (GNI) of a state.

#### **Development of Liechtenstein ODA percentage**



The international ODA target is 0.7 %. The Liechtenstein Government has repeatedly underscored its commitment to achieving this target as soon as possible. The current available ODA percentage for 2011 is 0.69. This means Liechtenstein ranks 6th worldwide. Only few states have already reached or exceeded the international ODA target of 0.7 %.

Total ODA expenditures, including the disaster fund of the municipalities and the costs for taking care of asylum-seekers in Liechtenstein, amounted to 26.2 million francs in 2013. The definite GNI for the reporting year – and accordingly also the ODA percentage for 2013 – will be available only in autumn 2015.

## Food, climate change, and migration

Panagiotis Potolidis-Beck Office for Foreign Affairs



In many regions of the world, adequate nutrition is hardly ensured. Not infrequently, armed conflicts or natural disasters lead to problems with the food supply or even to famines. Droughts and floods are also increasingly being aggravated by climate change and may occur more frequently in some regions of the world. Agricultural use of the land is no longer possible in many cases, which is why those affected are forced to leave their home countries.

According to the most recent figures of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), there were about 10.5 million refugees worldwide in 2012. The number of internally displaced persons (IDPs) is many times higher as a consequence of violent conflicts or natural disasters. The number is cited as about 28.8 million in 2012 by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC), which means a new negative record. The numbers demonstrate the increasing focus on flight and migration and the need for global action to improve the situation of refugees and IDPs. Liechtenstein can also make an important contribution in this regard.

#### Support for displaced persons in North and West Africa

When supporting refugees, UNHCR is Liechtenstein's key partner. UNHCR's responsibilities include the protection of refugees and their basic needs. UNHCR also advocates on behalf of the interests of refugees vis-à-vis national governments and international organisations. While UNHCR does not have a specific mandate to take care of IDPs, it employs its expertise in dealing with refugees to support a total of about 17.7 million IDPs. In 2013, Liechtenstein made contributions to the regional programmes of UNHCR in North and West Africa.

A refugee child from Mali is checked for signs of malnutrition in the Tabareybarey/Niger refugee camp.



The situation in West Africa has been unstable for years. Uncertainty and turmoil characterize the region, which is why UNHCR is facing major challenges there. About 17 million people were or are affected by recurring droughts and food crises in the Sahel, and many have to flee. In the recent past, unrest has erupted in Mali as well. Depending on the situation, UNHCR offers emergency assistance in the form of protection and registration of refugees, food rations, accommodation in camps, and basic medical care. Additionally, temporary schools are constructed and important infrastructures are repaired.

For many years, the countries of North Africa have been affected by strong migration flows triggered by food crises, conflicts, or poverty in more southern regions of Africa. Many people fleeing from food crises in the Horn of Africa end up in North Africa. Despite the high number of asylum-seekers in the region, no North African country so far has a functioning asylum system. In addition to food assistance, UNHCR therefore also supports the affected countries in the field of asylum by helping to implement international standards into national laws and apply them in concrete cases. Moreover, UNHCR assists with accommodations, medical care, education, and legal aid, and it also facilitates access to vocational training and microcredits.

#### Efforts on behalf of IDPs

Because UNHCR lacks a mandate for IDPs, governments and NGOs did not pay much attention to them for a long time, even though there are significantly more IDPs worldwide than refugees. Liechtenstein therefore places an emphasis on improving the situation of IDPs. The main partner in this regard is IDMC, headquartered in Geneva. The main responsibility of IDMC is to compile and document the causes and effects of worldwide movements of IDPs and to inform and sensitize the humanitarian community regarding the specific needs of IDPs. IDMC maintains the only worldwide database of IDPs and uses this data in a targeted matter to support political decision-makers both domestically and within the UN institutions in developing sustainable policies for IDPs. According to the IDMC's findings, more people are displaced worldwide due to disasters than due to armed conflicts.

Since 2013, Liechtenstein has financed an IDMC project for IDPs in urban areas. The goal is to collect data and facts on the situation of IDPs in urban areas, to compile them in a report, and to derive recommendations for the sustainable improvement of their situation. The results of this report are subsequently to be presented to relevant international organisations and states.

## Rural development as the key to food security

Peter Ritter Director of the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED)



The Liechtenstein Development Service (LED) focuses its work in priority countries mainly on rural areas, promoting their development with its project activities. Education and rural development are the two strategic areas of work.

Food security is not a given for a large part of the rural population around the world, even though small farming families produce a significant share of food. Currently, more than 6 billion people worldwide receive sufficient food each day. According to the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), however, more than 840 million people go hungry. And this is the case even though we already produce enough food worldwide to guarantee each person's right to food. Major challenges are imminent. Currently, about half of the food produced for human consumption is not actually eaten. Increasingly, our actions exhibit more and more negative consequences, and a growing number of people are becoming aware of the imbalance of our global impact.

Together with project partners from the South and the North, the LED takes joint efforts to develop sustainable solutions to these problems and to implement them for the benefit of the population. The LED is also active in our home country in order to raise awareness and sensitize people in regard to the global relationships and to promote understanding for changes leading to a future-oriented lifestyle.

#### LED strategy for food security

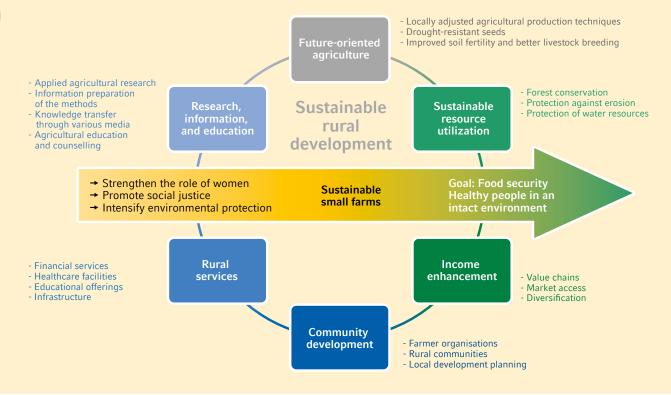
In September 2011, the LED adopted a strategy paper on food security. The starting point for the substantive focus was the worsening of the food situation in many developing countries as a consequence of the food and financial crisis years 2007 to 2011. During this period, the number of people suffering from hunger and malnutrition rose again.

The reasons for the food crises are very complex and multi-layered. Important causes of the recent developments of the global food situation are mainly rising food prices. Moreover, agrarian policy has been neglected over the past decades and accordingly also support for agriculture and rural development. In light of the global challenges of population growth, climate change, resource shortages, and the changing economic order and consumption patterns, the development of agriculture will play a crucial role in the future.

The LED analysed its project portfolio in the area of rural development with regard to its contribution to food security and the promotion of agriculture. The analysis showed that about one quarter of the entire project budget is being spent on projects that directly or indirectly make a contribution to improving the food situation. The portfolio also mainly focuses on project work in African priority countries. On this basis, a strategy was developed to give the topic more weight and coherence in the future and to better address the new challenges through adjusted and sustainable approaches.

#### Bilateral development cooperation

Bilateral development cooperation concentrates on the development of rural regions in 13 priority countries, with special priority in all activities given to the promotion of women, social justice and the environment. Bilateral development cooperation is carried out by the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED), a foundation under private law, on the basis of a service agreement with the Liechtenstein Government.



In its strategy, the LED puts small farming families at the centre of its project work. About 80% of the world population suffering from poverty and malnutrition live in the countryside and are small farmers. Moreover, women are primarily responsible for agricultural food production for their families. For this reason, the LED also pays close attention to the role of women in agriculture.

Most LED projects in agriculture are situated in semi-arid and drought-prone regions. In these fragile ecosystems, the goal is to promote adapted and sustainable agriculture that does not further stress and destroy natural resources.

To engage in future-oriented agriculture, the environment in the rural area must also be included and promoted (see figure on food security above). Only with real prospects for life and the future can rural flight be countered. For these reason, most LED projects pursue an integrative approach to rural development. In this regard, rural measures are important that go beyond merely securing and increasing yields and that offer farming families possibilities for storing surpluses in a suitable way and for gaining access to local and regional markets. To do so, rural regions must also have access to certain services such as infrastructure and financial services. Also for children and young people, opportunities must be available to build up their own future by receiving good education and jobs, such as in agriculture.

Other important aspects of rural development are strengthening farmer organisations and supporting communities in their local development planning. Last but not least, providing information and current research findings is crucial for the further development of sustainable agriculture that indicates paths toward sustainable food habits and lifestyles not only for local inhabitants but also for the entire world population.

According to its strategy, the LED promotes food security projects that are engaged in all these areas. In the following remarks, some of these projects will be presented by way of example.

## Integrated food security programme in the south of Zimbabwe

Matabeleland South Province is one of the disadvantaged regions of Zimbabwe in terms of agriculture and ecology. The area south of the second-largest city in the country, Bulawayo, is characterized by high temperatures, low precipitation, and sandy soil. The population there lives from extensive agriculture, especially rainfed agriculture and goat breeding. Due to recurring droughts, the cultivation of maize as a basic food is hardly possible without irrigation. For this reason, the inhabitants are repeatedly affected by food crises.

The local organisation «Pro Africa Development Trust» headquartered in Bulawayo has worked in the province since 2000 to improve the living conditions of the population. Through resource-saving irrigation facilities and organic farming, Pro Africa supports the members of various communities in cultivating vegetables and other food year-round.

Fields situated slightly lower than the rainwater dams spread throughout the region are irrigated through gravitation. The irrigation systems may be introduced only in technically suited locations, however. Thanks to the support of the LED, the organisation can now also work together with additional members of the community who are not able to participate in irrigation farming. With an integrated approach, Pro Africa supports the communities in several areas of agriculture: For example, improved goat and pig breeding is promoted. Other farming families are trained in «conservation farming» techniques using drought-resistant crops such as millet or sorghum and compost fertilization. For older people, household gardens in very small spaces – «keyhole gardens» – are planted, which use only very little water and can still produce enough vegetables for subsistence throughout the year.



A farmer explains market gardening in a raised mini-garden called a «keyhole garden» due to its form.

#### Dissemination of knowledge on ecological farming in Africa

A fundamental problem of many small farmers is access to current and locally relevant information and to agricultural training and education. Especially in the domain of near-natural, resource-saving farming and low-cost parasite prevention methods, practice-oriented expertise is very much in demand. The LED's partner organisation Biovision conveys application-oriented information about ecological farming to African farming families and agricultural advisors via local media such as newspapers, the radio, and the Internet. The goal is to provide information and advice to poorer small farmers about resources and methods to improve their economic situation without having to make major investments. This is supported by conveying knowledge of ecological farming, which for instance does not require expensive artificial fertilizers or chemical parasite prevention.



East African small farming families benefit from the collected knowledge and deepen their knowledge base through progress reports.

The programme running under the name «Farmer Communication Programme (FCP)» has an innovative character and serves as a role model for other African countries. It is currently being implemented in East Africa, publishing farming newspapers and broadcasting radio programmes but also offering direct advice to farmer groups under the name «The Organic Farmer (TOF)». In Tanzania and Ethiopia, newspapers have likewise been founded, and the Internet platform www.infonet-biovision.org offers extensive information of transregional and international interest.

#### A Peruvian success story

The community of Moro is situated a six hours drive north of Lima, at the entrance to the Andean Rio Loco Valley with an indigenous population that lives spread out in small village communities. Sister Rebecca Frick of the Zams order has worked there since 1992. Her initiatives have led to holistic regional development.

In 1996, LED cooperation began with the construction of a 22 kilometre mountain road into the Rio Loco Valley. The later beneficiaries participated in the construction work and are still responsible for maintaining the road. The road allows mountain farmers who previously lived off subsistence farming to transport their harvests into the valley and sell them there. But low and fluctuating market prices and poor storage resulted in only modest profits and often even losses. To facilitate access by fruit-producing small farmers to safe and fair markets, a value added chain is needed from sowing to marketing of the harvests. With the help of the LED, the company «La Morina» was opened in 2006. A team of about 20 people makes the local products, fruit juices and marmalades, there. More recently, passion fruit and mango juice have also been introduced successfully on the markets. More than 4,000 shops in the region now offer La Morina products. The farming families now have a reliable purchaser of their harvests.



The agricultural products of the local population are further processed and marketed in a modern company.

The provision of agricultural advice is very important. In Moro and in the mountains, the farmers learn how to diversify their farming methods and how to introduce new grain, vegetable, and fruit crops. On demonstration fields, they see that it is possible to cultivate traditional plants more intensively and to grow new plants. Valuable information is supplied by the three weather stations. Essential elements for improving food security are restoration of the water canals, construction of water reservoirs, and introduction of drip irrigation, as well as new storage and conversation methods for

seeds and harvests. Independence is to be achieved with their own seeds adapted to the local circumstances. Additionally, new composting methods are introduced. The programme is supplemented by a veterinarian who assists the farmers with species-appropriate livestock farming and carries out vaccination campaigns.

The programme supported by the LED promotes a holistic approach. The farmers cultivate their fields sustainably so that future generations will likewise be able to live off agriculture in the Rio Loco Tal.

## Improvement of agricultural education in the Republic of Moldova

Moldova is a predominantly rural country. Agriculture is an important sector of the Moldovan economy and Moldovan society. The following numbers illustrate this especially clearly: Nearly two thirds of the population live in rural areas. And about one third of workers are in agriculture. But agriculture in Moldova is characterized by low production. Comparisons with neighbouring countries and various studies testify to the great potential of agriculture in Moldova.

To strengthen education in colleges in the areas of fruit and vegetable growing and processing, the LED launched the project «EdAgri» in 2012. The project focuses on the following areas:

**Education:** Today's education is obsolete. An important part of the activities therefore consists in the further pedagogical development of instructors. Instead of traditional classroom instruction, practical, skill-centred instruction is promoted, with a focus on the learners. But also technical courses on fruit and vegetable growing and processing are organized. An improvement plan is also being developed together with the school administration to define the college's goals over the coming years. It is very important for the LED that the school administrations also participate. Only schools willing to perform receive financial support.

Learning environment and teaching materials: The school rooms and workshops do not meet the minimum requirements and therefore present an obstacle to good learning. Better didactic teaching materials and improved infrastructure create the foundation for more effective instruction.

**Model production site:** On the school grounds, a model production site is being created to implement the theoretical knowledge in practice. The small production units can also be used as demonstration fields for farmers in the surrounding areas.

Better education is one of the factors leading to improvement of agriculture and contributing to higher yields and thus higher profitability of agriculture. This primarily benefits the rural populations affected by poverty.



The fertile soil and continental climate in the Republic of Moldova offer good conditions for profitable agriculture.

The issue of food and food security also affects us in the developed heart of Europe. There are unquestionably global dependencies in the domain of agricultural products. People in developed countries use more resources than they are entitled to. The indispensable transformation of the system must be approached at all levels.

Responsible consumption patterns consist of several components: regional, seasonal, organically produced and resource-saving products on ecological grounds, fair trade products on grounds of solidarity, and prevention of waste on grounds of sustainability. As consumers, we are exposed to massive advertising and driven by our own desires and cravings. It is not an easy thing to make the right choice. At the exhibit «CLEVER – the intelligent buying game» on the Peter-Kaiser-Platz in Vaduz, in cooperation with the Swiss partner organisation Biovision, visitors enjoyed the opportunity to measure their conscious consumption against the benchmarks of prominent people in Liechtenstein. Also representatives of the Liechtenstein Government and Parliament as well as more than a thousand secondary school students learned that conscious buying patterns and the targeted selection of products can make a substantial contribution to sustainable development.

Successful agricultural projects in the South secure survival. Food security for small farming families and the possibility of marketing part of their harvests are essential conditions for social and economic development. The interest of our public up in the North in global interrelationships and especially the growing desire of consumers to eat healthily and sustainably are reasons for optimism and ultimately also help ensure long-term living.

## Dangerous work in the fields

#### 32 | Prevention of violence improves access to food

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) is a good example of how food security is closely tied to physical security. Women here are responsible for both work in the fields and for collecting drinking water and fuel for cooking. But precisely when performing these activities, they often become victims of assault and rape: The way to water sources, fields, and fuel usually leads through rough terrain providing plenty of hiding places for rebel groups. They attack once the women are outside the village.



Kathrin Nescher Office for Foreign Affairs



Women work in groups on community fields of SOS Femmes en Danger.

Since 2012, Liechtenstein has supported the Congolese non-governmental organisation «SOS Femmes en Danger» (SOS FED), which takes care of female victims of sexual violence and offers them the necessary medical and psychological assistance. The organisation also takes several measures to prevent such attacks. It currently maintains two centres in South Kivu Province in the east of the DRC. In the villages of that region, awareness is also raised about the consequences of rape and possibilities for prevention.

#### Reintegration of rape victims

In South Kiva, several rebel groups are fighting each other and regularly commit attacks against the population. The danger for women of becoming victims of violence is therefore high in the mountainous and forested region. Overall, the DRC is one of the countries with the highest rates of sexual and gender-based violence. In 2010, then UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Margot Wallström, called the entire DRC the «rape capital of the world» after assessing the situation of

women locally. Since then, not much has changed. On the contrary: Already in 2011, a study showed that 48 women are raped every hour, and UNHCR figures from 2013 indicate a rapidly rising number of rapes.

In two centres in South Kivu, SOS FED takes in raped women and supports them there for up to three months with professional help. In addition to psychological and medical care, the women receive continuing education on farming methods and food processing as well as cooking and sewing courses. They work together in groups, especially when farming the fields of the organisation, so as to generate higher yields. They can sell or process the surpluses and generate a bit of additional income. Already shortly after the arrival of the victims, staff members of the organisation go into the villages to talk to the families and village elders. Often, it is the case that victims are blamed for the rapes and cast out by their husbands and communities. Especially in large families, this has serious consequences, since mothers are often missing as important suppliers of food, drinking water, and fuel. The village elder, the mwami, continues to have the last word in many affairs, and the organisation's experience has shown that his support is essential.

#### Prevention work begins with the mwami

SOS FED's preventive engagement also begins with the village elder. It quickly became clear that women are usually attacked on their way to the fields or when searching for drinking water and fuel. To reduce this danger, the organisation proposes to the villages that women work together in groups, for instance, and cultivate fields close to the village rather than those several hours walk away. This way, they stay within range of sight and hearing of the village dwellers and are at the same time able to generate higher yields thanks to their collaborative efforts. SOS FED has also leased fields near the villages: The women can keep part of their yields, and they return part to the centres. Together with another non-governmental organisation, SOS FED has also built wells in the villages of Mboko and Fizi that obviate the need for women to walk several hours when searching for fresh drinking water. In both places, the SOS FED makes manioc mills available, and in Fizi it also provides a charcoal burner.

Since implementation of various preventive measures began in 2010, the number of victims seeking refuge in SOS FED centres has been cut in half. At the same time, recognition of the organisation has grown in South Kivu, and acceptance of its measures in the surrounding villages has increased. Both findings show that despite rising numbers of sexual and gender-based violence overall, its work has been very successful. This concerns all areas in which the organisation operates: treatment, continuing education, and reintegration of victims as well as prevention. Through direct and indirect measures, SOS FED reduces and prevents major suffering in the long term and also ensures the water, food, and fuel supply of families and entire villages.

#### Multilateral development cooperation

Multilateral development cooperation addresses problems that, due to their complexity, political sensitivity, or global or cross-border relevance, necessitate the joint engagement of countries, peoples and organisations.

## Closing words

#### 34 | Assistance for sustainable food security

Development assistance is not measured in terms of money, but rather in terms of the added value for those affected. For this reason, it is important in the field of agriculture to help give affected families, regions, and countries the security and dignity to be able to feed themselves from their own yields. As shown in the individual articles of this Annual Report, a stable food situation also helps prevent and overcome conflicts and thus contributes generally to the positive development of individual regions.



Ambassador Martin Frick Director of the Office for Foreign Affairs

As a country with a stable food situation, Liechtenstein is called upon to help those who can only dream of well-stocked refrigerators. Liechtenstein can make a valuable contribution in this regard not only with financial donations but also by conveying practical knowledge and training, as illustrated in the case of Goražde.

As a prosperous country and reliable partner in the international community, it is a matter of course that Liechtenstein makes a contribution to international solidarity. While the State contributes to food security projects through International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD), every person in Liechtenstein can make a contribution on a smaller scale by paying attention to the sustainability of his or her own consumption.



In Goražde, berries are grown with Liechtenstein know-how.

#### Office for Foreign Affairs

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