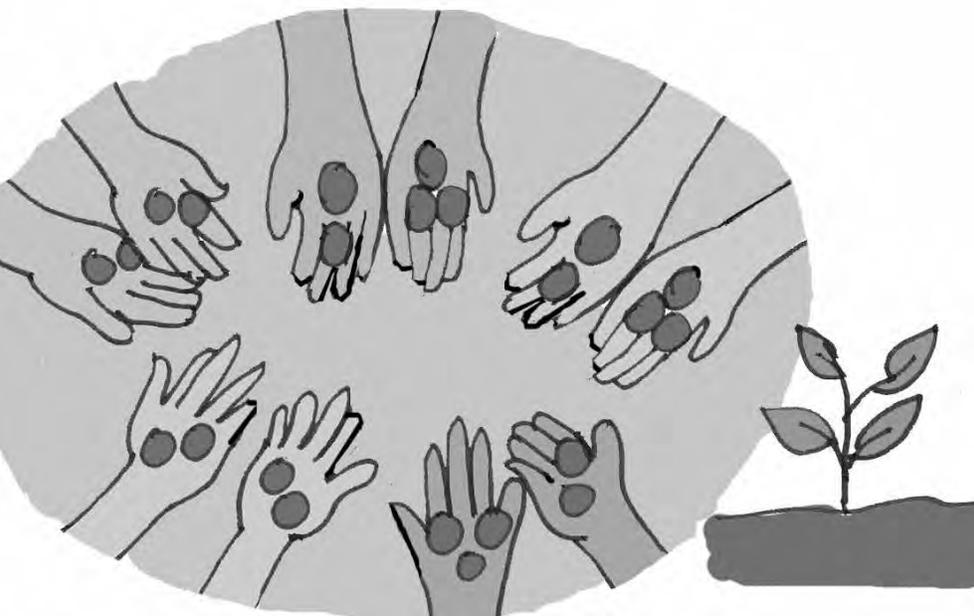




Annual Report 2021

terre des hommes Germany - South Asia



terre des hommes Germany

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Abbreviations

- SGs – Strategic Goals
- CACL – Campaign Against Child Labour
- VW – Volkswagen
- JF – Joining Forces
- CACT – Campaign Against Child Trafficking
- ARC – Action for the Rights of the Child
- DRR – Disaster Risk Reduction
- INGOs – International Non Governmental Organisations
- EVAC - Ending Violence Against Children
- TN – Tamil Nadu
- TDH IF – terre des hommes International Federation
- MOs – Member Organisations
- Tdh NL – terre des hommes Netherlands
- CSA – Child Sexual Abuse
- RC – Regional Coordinator
- UNCRC – United Nations’ Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- HO – Head Office
- GDP – Gross Domestic Product



0. Executive Summary



Situation in the Region

The year 2021 was the year of the Covid Second Wave, which caused immense suffering and left huge social and economic scars over the region. In Afghanistan, the situation was worsened by the unexpected and rapid takeover of Afghanistan by the Taliban which brought the tdh programme to a standstill, with many of the staff having to be evacuated from the country for their own safety. In order to retain contact with the country tdh has begun work in Tajikistan which still has cross border connections with Afghanistan.

Every one of the 5 countries where tdh works, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Afghanistan and Tajikistan, was badly hit, either directly or indirectly. The year began on a hopeful note with the arrival of the vaccine. But then things took a turn for the worse with increase in sickness and rise in fatalities. Children as usual bore the brunt, with the poor being hardest hit. 420 million children have been affected by school closure. 90 million of these will never return with most of these getting into child labour, forced into child marriage and driven on to the streets. The pandemic accentuated poverty, and increased the divide in gender, religion and caste.

Programme Development

This being the last year for the old Strategic Goals, there was need to review the old goals and plan for possible new goals and several meetings of staff and partners were held for this purpose. Implementation of the existing works went on as usual with several new projects to meet emerging needs put up and sanctioned, by IPEG, BMZ and Special Donation Partners.

Strategic Goals (SGs) As usual the SGs were the guiding principles for tdh work in the Region

Promoting a Culture of Peace had special relevance this year, given the crisis in Afghanistan and also the widespread communal disturbances in Assam and Manipur. In India and Nepal, partners ran integrated programmes for children and youth geared to foster communal harmony. In Pakistan shared activities like cycling and play activities had the same result.

Improving Psychosocial and Educational Services is another important SG for the region. In India, a project in UP provides educational and nutrition support to children of families who migrate to work in brick kilns. In Pune, the VW projects support several NGOs providing for the educational needs of school children crèches for infants. In the South, the Sumangali project serves to protect girls who migrate locally and interstate to work in the textile industry. In Tajikistan, several projects are helping Afghan refugees cope with their situation and integrate into society with psychosocial support and legal aid.

Promoting the Child's Right to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment This is a major concern in the Region with almost 20% of the projects designed around this theme. More than eighteen thousand children in India, Nepal and Pakistan

(and even a few in Afghanistan) are involved in Networks dealing with the Environment. In India, the National Chilika Conference was held, with 50 Youth delegates from 18 States meeting to reaffirm their commitment to the environment and their findings and resolutions communicated around the region. In Nepal, the Youth Network has received Government recognition and support. The Signature Campaign to ensure the "Child's Right to a Healthy Environment" was also upheld at the UN. Regional and National Networks of youth are actively participating in efforts to battle Covid through various activities and Campaigns, both online and physically. Their efforts have been recognised and welcomed by communities, the media and various levels of Government authorities.

Fighting Gender Based Rights Violations The Pandemic continued to aggravate gender-based violations and the NGOs tried to ensure that these were prevented and remedied, through direct action as well as through community efforts for awareness to bring about changes in attitudes establishing norms for gender relations, and also lobbying for government initiatives like Helplines for women. A special feature in this sector was the Gender Self-Assessment and Gender Audit conducted for tdh staff and partner organisations. This has led to a heightened awareness in the staff and partner organisations of both, what needs to be done and the means of achieving these objectives.

Visibility and Alliances Despite the limitations and restrictions of the pandemic, Networking combined with Advocacy initiatives, both National and local, through Campaigns dealing with Child Labour and Education, 'Joining Forces', CACT and ARC and CACT have been the priorities of tdh in the region. Online meetings on different topics were held, providing staff and partners the opportunity to hear from eminent experts from Brazil, South Africa and India on ecological rights and their impact on development. In another stream, Prof. Jean Dreze described the effects of the pandemic on children and youth, particularly in education Many short



films were commissioned to depict the effect of the pandemic on children in general and on children working in the mica mines in India in particular. These came in useful for awareness raising among the German people through media campaigns. The South Asia Seminar had to be implemented online with 38 participants, most of the participants being from South Asia. Nevertheless, it was effective in keeping Special Donors and interested individuals in Europe informed about our work and the situation of the people.

Perspective for the Future: We need to have a greater focus on efforts towards a more just and equal society, particularly

for children. Addressing learning deficiencies, gender divides and psychosocial support continue to be important concerns. The climate change factors, and frequent natural calamities demand our attention in preventive measures through DRR projects. Promotion of agency of children and young people towards the above concerns will form part of the future orientation. The strategic goal of Peace and support to the forcibly displaced people and children will continue to be highly relevant for the months to come. The vision of tdh for a just and peaceful world for all children of today and the generations to come is fully relevant in these times!



LEADS-GIZ INDIA 21-22

1. Introduction



South Asian Region

The year 2021 will be remembered in South Asia for the severity of the Second Wave of the Corona virus pandemic. This indeed has been one of the greatest tragedies in some decades. It was also memorable for the sudden collapse of the elected government in Afghanistan and the surprisingly rapid takeover by the Taliban. For tdh, the situation was even more significant because many of the staff had to be evacuated to Germany for fear of their safety under the new regime.

The COVID 19 pandemic has hit the region's economy drastically, causing immense suffering to the people and leaving long term economic and social scars. The already wide social and economic inequalities have further expanded and pushed people down to the poverty line or prevented them from moving above it. Setbacks in human capital accumulation, employment, education, health care services and nutrition for children, have affected children's well-being drastically. 420 million children have been affected by school closures. At least 9 million of these, predominantly girls, will never return to school. Increases in child labour, child marriage, street children and inadequate access to food and nutrition were widespread.

This situation was similar but to different degrees, in all the countries of the South Asia Region where tdh Germany is engaged.

Despite the above-mentioned problems, South Asia has been showing symptoms of resilience and recovery. The economy is expected to grow around 7% in 2021-22. But there are other issues such as the uneven nature of this growth as well

as the fact that this growth figure is based on the very low levels of economic development of 2020. Hence the average anticipated growth between the years 2020 and 2023 is only 3.4%, which is still 3% lower than what it was four years ago.

The countries of India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal and since 2021, Tajikistan, are the focus of the South Asia Region of tdh Germany. The year started with a good vaccination roll out and there was some hope of respite from the pandemic. However, the Covid cases kept rising to an all-time high in April, with high death rates, in part because of shortage of medical oxygen supplies in several parts of the region, causing it to be another very challenging year. The poor, particularly children, were badly affected, as schools continued to work online and children could not attend physical classes. The pandemic further accentuated the poverty, gender, religious and caste divide.

1.1 Important Social, Economic and Political Developments

1.1.1 India

In India, a well-known survey on school children done by Prof. Jean Dreze and others showed that less than 11% of children had attended any online classes. The mid-day meal which is often the only source of nutrition for school going children and was provided in the form of a Take Home Ration (only grains) was accessed by just 11-15% of children among those surveyed. A large number of children were forced to go back to child labour to feed themselves. Most surveyed students who were not attending online classes, were either not studying at all, or studying occasionally on their own. In rural areas, nearly half of these children were not studying at all.

While the Covid Second Wave was ferocious and fatality rate very high, the Third Wave was spreading even faster. Many of the partners and colleagues got infected during the course

of the year, some of them more than once. This also was the situation with the community, especially where there was some resistance to being vaccinated. Hence vaccination awareness and vaccination access became a common and urgent need. Even children were not spared by the virus in many cases. Though there were no national lockdowns as in the previous year, the measures introduced locally and regionally impacted the lives of people tremendously. The schools remained closed and online education could not cover a large section of the children.

In spite of the spread of the pandemic through the two waves, the economy made a recovery from the levels it had fallen to during the year 2020. A growth rate of 8.1% over the 2020 levels was anticipated. But unemployment and under-employment remained very high. Many people who lost their jobs could not find new jobs. A large number of mini and small scale enterprises could not be revived. At the level of the large-scale manufacturing sector and big industrial houses, the situation was different. Industrial growth and the stock market continued to grow, due to incentives from the government. The supply-side incentives were minimal hence the people belonging to the lower economic strata as such



ER Vigyan-IND-COVID-2021

did not benefit proportionately. This had a negative impact on the situation as a whole.

1.1.2 Nepal

Nepal had more or less escaped the first wave of the COVID pandemic with relatively fewer infections and lower loss of lives in 2020. However, the situation was very different in 2021. The spread of the Second Wave of the pandemic and the fatality rate was very high. The poor health infrastructure of the country could not handle the situation which led to greater fatalities. The lack of facilities for the supply of oxygen and medicines were important factors in caring for the COVID affected people. Apart from the Kathmandu valley, the other cities were affected more than the rural areas, as in the rural areas the population are scattered, and infections were limited. The Vaccination Programme was hampered by non-availability of vaccines, due to the country's dependency on India and the Serum Institute for the supply of vaccines.

After the slow-down of the economy in 2020, the situation in 2021 continued to be difficult with a retarded growth rate of 2.1% or even less. However, the monsoon in 2021 was good, which is expected to revive the agricultural sector. International tourism which is the key to the economy of Nepal, had dropped by 80.8% in 2020. Even as it started a slow recovery, the Second Wave again hit harshly and retarded the recovery process. Now this sector is taking time to rebound. The estimated economic growth rate for 2022 is, however better at 4.1%.

As the Second Wave surged, a significant number of children (76942) were also infected. The total number of infections stood at 828431 with 9700 COVID related deaths reported. Due to COVID and also the long monsoon, nutrition, health services and the education system, were disrupted. The national vaccination programme was the flagship scheme of the government to prevent the spread of the pandemic and to support the economy. About 70% of the eligible population

above 18 years were vaccinated with one dose, while about 30% have received both the doses.

This Himalayan country has also been going through huge political changes and structural reorganization with the introduction of a Federal Government and also a change in the overall constitutional arrangement. Recently the Prime Minister lost his majority in the Parliament and a new government under the leadership of the Nepali Congress has taken charge as against the previous leftist government. A large number of the migrant labour who returned to Nepal from different countries due to the pandemic are now trickling back to different destinations as unemployment and poverty within the country prevail.

1.1.3 Pakistan

Pakistan was no exception to the hard realities which faced the other countries in South Asia. The country which strongly resisted a national lockdown during the previous years was forced to take harsh measures during the Second Wave which surged rapidly. The impact on the economy and the social fabric due to high inflation and low levels of support to the



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poor and marginalized sections made the situation quite volatile. The opposition to the ruling government also grew in this context. Towards the end of the year there was some relief as the pandemic settled down and the economy also recovered to some extent.

The impact on children in the sectors of education, health, nutrition and vaccinations were severe and has caused alarm in different parts of the country. Two million children have been impacted by the school closures, loss of employment and livelihood of their parents, lack of nutrition and health care including general vaccinations. Though the ministry of education introduced local audio schools, radio schools and digitalization of education, none of these reached the poor and vulnerable sections of children.

The economy had contracted in 2020 but recovered to 3.5% growth in 2021 as the government focused on keeping economic activities open even while the COVID restrictions were implemented. Vaccination was the main vehicle of fighting the COVID 19 pandemic. At the end of 2021, 45.6% of the population above 12 years were fully vaccinated while 63.4% had received the first dose.

High food inflation continued to adversely and disproportionately impact the poor people.

Pakistan has also been heading towards a political crisis with the opposition parties launching various actions against the Prime Minister, whom they called the Puppet of the Military. The combination of the COVID pandemic impact and the political crisis, led to a fragile economic situation, which disproportionately impacted the lives of the poor and their children.

1.1.4 Afghanistan

The story of Afghanistan is quite different from the rest of South Asia. Even the Second Wave did not strike the country very seriously or rather the country and the people were more preoccupied with other developments and there was no time



Nepal - taking covid patients to health centre

to dwell on the pandemic. The discontent with the erstwhile regime, both locally and internationally, was growing and the surge of Taliban was noticeable during the first half of the year. But unexpectedly there was a sudden and strong surge of Taliban forces starting in the month of May and ending in a complete regime change on 15th August 2021, when the former president unceremoniously fled the country. There was no strong resistance either from military or internal security forces against the Taliban forces. There was no way to oppose them and the Taliban declared themselves as the rulers of the country. This resulted in chaos and confusion with thousands of people, both foreign and Afghan, trying to flee the country. The American army took over the airport to facilitate the exit of all Americans and other foreigners and also their supporters from the country. The scenes from the airport in those days are unforgettable which also led to loss of lives of many people.

The Panjsir group which was fighting against the Taliban was also defeated soon after that and had to find refuge outside the country. The situation settled down by October 2021, with the Taliban setting up their own government and enforcing their rules and regulations. Surprisingly they tried to behave differently from when they had first taken power in 1996. An

amnesty was declared for the former government employees, army and police officers, though there were many reports of individual harassment and violence. The new regime also introduced restrictions against women by disallowing education of girls after the 6th standard and also banned the free movement of women without male accompaniment. The women are still agitating for their rights for education, employment, free movement and so on which is not yet recognized by the Taliban.

As most nations across the world did not recognize the Taliban government and as America froze the Central Bank where the Afghan reserves were deposited, a serious currency and banking crisis has been hampering economic activity and currency exchange in the country since then. This also impacted humanitarian support as transactions became impossible except through direct transfer of currencies which was not acceptable to many nations. However the UN and some of the other large humanitarian agencies managed to bring in cash and support some sections of people. Absence of food and food materials, nutrition, medicine and health care drove a large section of the people into destitution. More than 60% of the people in the country required emergency aid to survive. The situation has not changed much even as we write this report in first quarter of 2022.

1.1.5 Tajikistan

As mentioned above, the developments in Afghanistan during the first half of the year, particularly the factors which were identified during the last visit to Afghanistan from the Coordination Office in April 2021, prompted tdh to think about the future of the engagement in Afghanistan. Simultaneously interactions with officials in the embassies and also BMZ brought tdh into contact with PATRIP foundation which was engaged in supporting cross border projects between Tajikistan and Afghanistan and also Pakistan and Afghanistan. A project including partners in Pakistan and Afghanistan is in the pipeline. In this context, the idea of engaging in Tajikistan was proposed and considered. After initial discussions and

a feasibility study, a decision was taken, that besides cross border projects between Afghanistan and Tajikistan, the South Asia office could initiate projects in Tajikistan itself as well.

Tajikistan is the poorest country in Central Asia and ranks 135 in the HDI list. It is primarily an agricultural country but only around 6% of the total land is cultivable. Though cotton was the main product and major export, making agriculture the main contributor to the GDP, the situation has changed drastically over the years. Weak health infrastructure and health care structure affects the children and the country has a high rate of disability. Though almost all children are enrolled in schools, the learning levels are still low and the schools infrastructure is also poor.

The total population is only 9.5 million. Of this, about 1 million migrate to Russia every year. There is also migration to neighbouring countries like Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and others.

The initial contacts were made through online discussions and two partners were enlisted in the second half of the year, namely SADOQAT and Inson Va Adolat. A third partner was enrolled during the visit by the Consultant in October – November 2021.



Tajikistan partners

2. Highlights of 2021



Youth Convention Chilika

- 2.1 The year 2021 started with plans for various meetings: Partner meetings, youth meetings and staff meetings. At the end of February, a National Youth Meeting was organised in Chilika (Odisha) with the national youth leaders and all the programme staff. It set the tone for the year and the youth were involved in several activities, and plans for the coming year. The youth elected the representatives to participate in the Regional Youth Convention in Nepal which in turn was to elect the Youth Delegate for South Asia to the Delegates Conference 2023.
- 2.2 The Southern zone organised its partner meeting in Vishakhapatnam in March. Later every zone conducted their own partners meetings which were initially online and then physical in the latter half of the year.



- 2.3 The region was able to put up 47 new projects to IPEG. These included new projects which were requested under the Emergency Budget Line. Due to the challenging situation, a number of projects had to be readjusted and hence 35 Alteration Proposals were submitted to IPEG during the year. An appeal was made to the logistics company Dachser and relief projects for both India and Nepal were sanctioned by them. This enabled youth to reach out to others across the country in a big way. Work related to COVID -19 continued during the year in the form of some relief work but mostly in conducting bridge classes to bring children together (with adequate precautions) for education. The work was documented through short Case Studies and Videos which were shared with HO and different donors. Some of the projects supported by the BMZ were also reorganised to meet the needs of people suffering from COVID or impacted by the lockdown due to the pandemic. Hence change requests were sent to the BMZ which were duly sanctioned.
- 2.4 Work in Afghanistan was immensely affected due to the new situation after the takeover by the Taliban. Subsequently the staff along with their families, some partners and their families and some youth, were evacuated for their own safety with the support of the HO and the Foreign Ministry.
- 2.5 Several online youth meetings were organised by the youth both at the regional level as well as the national level using various social media platforms where different relevant topics, such as waste segregation, organic farming and climate change were discussed. Several prominent speakers like Dr. Ashish Kothari and other eminent people were also invited to share their views and knowledge with the youth. State level meetings also organised and the MyPlanetMyRights Campaign was active in the region. Youth participated in partner meetings and in several online meetings with donors throughout the year. The youth and partners also joined online meetings with the fundraising team. The last meeting of the year was with the former CEO of Dachser, Mr. Simon, in which almost 70 youth participated and discussed their issues and presented their work. Youth from Afghanistan, Pakistan, Nepal and India participated.
- 2.6 Children affected by mining have been a focus of tdh for some years now. In a programme supported by GIZ, the project partners and tdh focussed on child labour and education in the Mica mining area which helped to raise awareness on this topic at several levels. Besides this effort, a project supported by Bread for the World in Jharkhand area was completed and a new proposal was prepared. This proposal is being discussed at different levels and is likely to get sanctioned and operations will start soon. There is a need to work on this topic closely with the district and the state administration, particularly the education department, as well as the child protection department.
- 2.7 The project 'Decent Working Conditions in the Textile Supply Chain in South India' reached out to 2703 girls and 1869 women in the areas of Coimbatore, Karur, Dindigul and the surrounding areas. The industry was badly affected by the COVID situation as the textile industries in the area closed operations and the project activities came to a halt. Later funds had to be reallocated towards providing livelihood opportunities for the girls in different forms. The project is supported by the BMZ and Laudes Foundation and will come to an end in the middle of 2023. There have also been challenges in implementing some elements of the project which required close attention and scrutiny. The issue of Sumangali is still very relevant as a large number of girls are lured into the textile industry at very low wages, not only from several parts of Tamil Nadu but also other states of the country. They are then forced to work under exploitative conditions. The project continues to provide them with support and

information about the sector and tries to demonstrate viable alternatives.

- 2.8 The India Office applied to the German Embassy for a project on “Women’s Empowerment” in Madhya Pradesh through the partner Pahal and this has now been sanctioned.
- 2.9 Trainings: During the year many training programmes took place, both online and offline. The Staff Strategic Planning workshop was held in the Sundarbans in August. Most of the staff attended along with an external trainer, to make a synthesis of the situation in the region and determine the way forward while looking for new Strategic Goals for the coming years. However, other Training programmes on ecological rights and on gender took place online.
- 2.10 The Gender Self Assessment as a part of SG 4 was done throughout the region with active participation from staff, partners and youth. The Status Report as well as the Assessment Document provided good insights and helped us strengthen the orientation of our work on gender. Changes to incorporate the suggestions of the consultants in our HR policies and staff contracts are in the process of being implemented. There is a long way to go. However, a start has been made. This assessment and the understanding of the Strategic Goals has encouraged the region to initiate more projects that are based on gender-based violence. Anti-child marriage, anti-dowry, women’s equality and equal rights of LGBTQIA approaches are being integrated into all projects and programmes. A project has been submitted to BMZ by the northern zone to look specifically at gender and will work to change attitude and stereotypes. Yet another project is being developed from the Western Zone along similar lines but focused on tribal women. The COVID situation has resulted in increased violence against women, hence awareness on this and open discussion in women’s groups and self-help groups is the first step. The situation

in Nepal, Pakistan and Afghanistan is very much the same and hence this will form an important part of the work in the region.

- 2.11 “Joining Forces” (the alliance of INGOs focussing on children) remained active and some joint campaigns against child abuse were organised. ‘Joining Forces’ has aligned with the South Asia initiative ‘Ending Violence Against Children (EVAC)’ and is also sharing common concerns in the country. Steps are being taken to activate the ‘Joining Forces’ network in Nepal also. Special efforts were made through various other networks to ensure that the immunization programme of the Health Ministry was reactivated, schools were reopened and that people could access basic health facilities from the Government.



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3. Assessment of the Strategic Goals

This is the last year of implementation of the current Strategic Goals (SGs) of tdh. Hence several online and offline meetings were organised with staff and partners to review the current goals and look at possible new goals for the coming years. The current Strategic Goals are integrated into project work through new projects put up for sanction to IPEG, Special Donation partners, as well as to the BMZ.

3.1. Strategic Goal 1: PROMOTING A CULTURE OF PEACE

The SG, 'Promoting a Culture of Peace' is integrated into project work in different parts of the region. The Goal had special significance this year in Afghanistan and the states of Manipur and Uttar Pradesh in India. The situation in Afghanistan at both the political level as well as at the grass root level, became very challenging and a lot of work on building peace came to a complete standstill. NGOs were forced to stop working for some time. Some members of the staff and partners had to be evacuated and sent to Germany for safety. In spite of the difficult circumstances, several youth participated in online meetings on different topics towards the end of the year. The situation improved towards the end of the year and now the 'peace' and 'human rights' projects are being gradually revived and new staff will be recruited to continue the work there. The work in Tajikistan for Afghan refugees and local Tajik people was also initiated last year with a focus on generating peace, conflict resolution and providing livelihood opportunities. Gradually youth will be involved in this programme and youth leadership will be encouraged.





RSDO-Psychosocial-Individual Counselling-Child Play Therapy



MSEMVS - Children_s group members interacting with community members

Main achievements during the year:

- In the Chilika Youth Convention in Odisha, India, 50 National youth leaders had an intense session on peace building. This momentum was then carried forward to other members of youth networks
- Building peace and conflict resolution initiatives were the main themes of the first partner meeting held in Kabul.
- 50 youth and children in 'conflict with law' in Pune and Bhopal, were trained in conflict resolution and peace education

- State level workshops were organised for youth leaders and Second Line leaders in 3 states each of the Western and Eastern Regions and 5 states in the North
- Sports activities held in all the partners projects in Pakistan were attended by 1200 participant with 40% being girls . 1968 children from the East and West zones are engaged in mix- group (mixed-ethnic & mixed-gender) sports teams
- “Girls’ Café” has been formed in Pakistan and 500 girls have been involved in computer training and peace building activities
- In the Northern zone, 25 staff and youth volunteers of different religious communities from two projects in Uttar Pradesh where there were intense Hindu-Muslim communal conflicts, as also children and youth, were trained in the use of sports as a tool for conflict resolution and community peace building .
- In the northeast of India, where there is widespread ethnic conflict between communities, as part of children’s social & financial education program under ANT BMZ 2018-21, 77 children’s clubs known as “Aflatoun Clubs” have been formed with total of 3333 members. Through the Aflatoun Club activities the children have understood and inculcated the concepts of self, friends and neighbours, gender and cultural diversity, equality, democracy and preserving natural resources

In Assam, a project supported by the BMZ in Assam and in Manipur helped in different ways to unite communities torn apart by ethnic violence. In Pakistan the ARDO project – ‘Lyari Girls Café’, has succeeded in bringing together many girls from different communities in an area which was ‘war torn’ and wracked by violence. The project methodology of cycling

activities and play for children has been effective means of bringing peace to the area.

In India the partners have integrated programmes of communal harmony in all projects that involve children and youth from different communities. Partners in Nepal also ensure that children and youth from different communities, particularly the dalit community, are part of the project activities.

3.2. Strategic Goal 2: IMPROVING PSYCHOSOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL SERVICES FOR FORCIBLY DISPLACED CHILDREN AND YOUTH

In the HAQ BMZ project in the Northern Zone, many communities from Bihar have been forced to migrate to the brick kilns of UP. Children and youth are forced to migrate along with their parents and often miss out on their education. Many are severely malnourished. The project aims to give them non-formal education and slowly enrol them back into mainstream school system. The project mainly provides education, play and nutrition to the children as well as makes arrangements so they would be able to re-enter the school system in their home states once the family returns to their home villages. Apart from working with children at destination where *psychosocial support is often required, there are also projects in the migrants’ home villages to prevent them from migrating in the first place, and these activities are often not considered under this Strategic Goal.*

In the Project titled **‘Decent Working Conditions in the Textile Supply Chain in South India** (Sumangali) psychosocial care is an integrated part of the activities for the girls working in the textile sector. Most of these girls are from different parts of TN while some have come from Chhattisgarh and the North-eastern states. The VW supported projects in Pune also work with children who were forced to migrate from other parts of the country to Pune. Tara Mobile Creches, New Vision and Nirman work with migrant children, providing access to education and making them aware of their rights. They also provide creches to

the children of migrants working in the construction industry, while the others are working with children whose parents have come to the city in search of work. These families come from at least 6 to 7 states of the country; altogether the projects work with 4520 children and youth.

In Afghanistan WASSA worked with around 869 children in Herat who migrated from other parts due to severe drought and were in refugee camps. The project **Promoting the Reintegration of Refugees and Internally Displaced People in Their Regions of Origin in Afghanistan by Improving Education, Employment Opportunities and Peace Education** (JRS) in Afghanistan has ongoing training for its staff and youth on psychosocial care and peace and conflict resolution. In Tajikistan the partners INSON va ADOLAT and 'Refugees, Children and Vulnerable Citizens' (RCVC) worked with Afghan refugees, and provided them with legal aid as well as identity cards, food and other support to ensure that they could continue to live and work in Tajikistan.

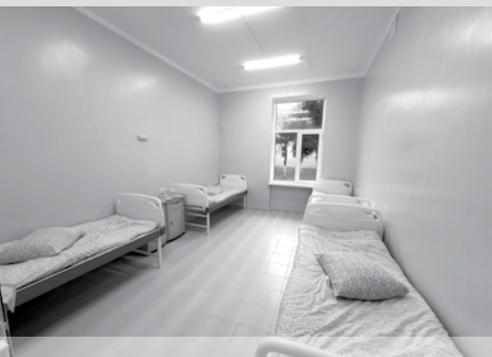
Main achievements during the year:

- Regular psychosocial counselling is provided to 100 children in conflict with law in the Pune city
- 2674 children belonging to 60 communities working in mica mines, have benefited from education and psychosocial support through bridge classes and remedial coaching support
- Access to educational and psychosocial support provided to 4047 migrant street children from Pune and Bhopal.
- Networking with 4 expert organisations (Institute for Psychological Health, Parivartan, Universal Solidarity Movement, Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi Institute of Mental Health, Tejpur, Assam) has been established for training and referral of psychosocial services in Maharashtra Madhya Pradesh and Assam

- Campaign Against Child Labour (CACL) is strengthened with more than 65 new organisations joining from 5 states from the north. There are now 17 state units with a membership of 400 organisations taking an active role in advocacy and education for working children.
- The visibility of the campaign also increased among National platforms such as NACG and global platforms like Alliance 8.7
- Skill development activities for refugees and migrants in Pakistan have not taken place as planned due to the delayed start of the project. However 1800 girls have taken part in various vocational skills, sports and career counselling events. 1263 youth from marginalised households participated in skill training and 710 of them placed in jobs and self-employment in the west and north.
- 5195 children and youth from India have been regularly engaged in sports activities. Psycho-social support was provided to children from mixed ethnic groups in Assam. In Chandel & Tengnoupal Districts of Manipur



New Vision Pune



Children's ward – Sadoqat

Tajikistan:
Children from
remote district of
Devashtich get
access to better
health care.

Tajikistan was one of the poorest countries in Asia, even when it was a part of the Soviet Union. After its Independence in 1991 and the Civil War that followed, the situation worsened with the country unable to maintain even what little infrastructure there was, let alone improve it. This was especially so in the Health Sector and especially with regard to facilities and services for children.

The situation was particularly serious in remote districts like Devashtich of the Sughd. The children wards were of the Soviet era and had never been renovated. The hospital lacked basic hygiene and proper sterilization techniques, leading to serious issues of contamination and infection. The tdh Project 'Access to Quality Healthcare for the Rural Population in Tajikistan' implemented by a local NGO, Sadoqat, has transformed four children's wards, providing access to quality health care. It also will train 45 healthcare providers dealing with children's diseases and 200 local women will be empowered to deal with child nutrition and their well-being.



Sohail's journey with YUVA / Supported by tdh

Sohail Sheikh, 15 years old and a student in the 9th Std, is one of the most active members of the Bal Adhikar Sangrash Sangathan (BASS) (Child Rights Struggle Group) in Malvani, Mumbai. He has a good voice and enlivens the centre with his singing. He takes part in many sports activities and has a knack for crafting artistic creations. Seeing him in action, you might not realize that Sohail Sheikh is blind but his disability has never prevented him from interacting with people and diluted his enthusiasm for life.

Sohail lives in poor housing conditions and is being brought up by his grandmother. At home, as in the Centre, Sohail is a great help to her in taking care of his siblings and looking after the house.

Sohail likes to spend as much time in the Centre as is possible. He believes that since his association with the centre, his personality is developing because, as he says, "everyone here understands me very well. They all love me... and I am able to look at myself differently".



YUVA BMZ



Hamidullah's road to recovery

Hamidullah, a young man of 21 years, from an immigrant family of Baghak Village - Badghis Province in Afghanistan has a major problem with anger management. He is part of a large family of eight and initially the family was well off. Later the father became a drug addict. He lost his job and the family was impoverished. His father used to mistreat his mother and siblings. As the eldest in the family, Hamidullah was now under a lot of stress and he took it out on his siblings. In school too he was aggressive and unruly and the school eventually expelled him for his violent behaviour. The authorities told his mother that he should stay at home and find help and treatment for his problems. After several attempts to find help, the mother was finally referred to the WISE Center for psychological counseling. Initially Hamidullah resisted, but in time began to cooperate with the counselors. His mother was also counseled and in time Hamidullah went back to school and was able to function normally and even take responsibility for the family. He took up a job and had his father admitted to a hospital to treat his addiction.

Hamidullah is now a motivated and active young man. Having overcome the problems and challenges of his life he has a great motivation to study and has high hopes for his future.



Abdulloh Ziyoi –integrates with community

Mr. Abdulloh Ziyoi is a citizen of Afghanistan. He left Kabul in 2021 because of the unstable political situation there to come to Tajikistan in 2021 with his father, mother, and spouse. When Mr. Ziyoi arrived he was unable to find employment because he could not read and write in Tajik, the state language. This is similar to his mother tongue, Dari, but the script is Cyrillic. In January 2022, when TDH launched a project 'Integration of Refugees and Children in Tajikistan' with the support of the implementing partner 'Inson va Adolat', Mr. Ziyoi signed up for a Cyrillic script course with the hope of learning the state language in order to find a job.

Mr. Ziyoi learned how to read and write in the state language. He can already read and write short sentences and as also signs on the streets. He is satisfied with the course of the trainings and gives very positive reviews of the teacher who conducts them. He has also made friends with other people around.

Soon, after completion of the course, Mr. Ziyoi will be able to find a job and support his family. He will contribute to the wellbeing of his family and also teach other family members the Cyrillic script, and thus help them become more integrated with the local community.



300 Children Beat the Odds of Online Learning

The Coronavirus Pandemic in 2020 was a global disaster for almost everyone, but the ones to suffer most were the poor and marginalized communities and especially the children from these communities. School systems closed down and when they did resume partially it was mostly with online programmes which excluded the poorer sections who did not have access to smart phones and other facilities. Many of these children were forced into child labour.

This is the story of how 300 school going children belonging to poor families engaged in agricultural labour or working in the mines near Mirzapur, were able to beat the odds of continuing their education. They did this with the help of a Misereor-aided project in Uttar Pradesh through an alternative mode to online classes. The Youth Federation of the project heard about classes being conducted through loudspeakers in Chattisgarh and decided to replicate this in their villages. They planned an educational programme for children from the 3rd-8th Standards using loudspeakers and with the youth as peer educators. They raised funds for the equipment with the first 'class' run in the open, outside the CRRC Project centre and eventually were running 2 batches in 10 villages. This helped to keep 300 children within the school system and the enterprise was much appreciated by the families of the children, the community as a whole and village and school authorities as well.

3.3.Strategic goal 3: PROMOTING A CHILD’S RIGHT TO A HEALTHY AND SUSTAINABLE ENVIRONMENT

This goal has the major number of projects in the region – 19 out of 98. The South Asian Regional Youth Network and the National Youth Networks in the Region have 18161 youth active in the respective youth networks : India 11972, Nepal 4788, Afghanistan 401 and Pakistan 1000. In India the youth were able to meet in Chilika in Odisha at the beginning of this year where around 50 youth from 18 states met and reaffirmed their commitment to protecting the Environment. Signature campaigns to ensure that “A Child’s Right to a Healthy Environment” were given recognition by the UN. Waste segregation, air pollution, understanding climate change and several other related topics were discussed and understood by them. During the COVID-19 situation the youth were very active in giving authentic information about the virus, encouraging elderly people to take the vaccination. They led many online and offline campaigns during the year. The Youth Network in Nepal has been recognised by the Federal Govt and is active in all provinces. They were able to conduct both online and offline training during the last year. The campaign MYPLANETMYRIGHTS was taken to different areas and youth from Afghanistan and Pakistan were also very active in spreading the message. Youth from Pakistan were engaged in tree planting, clearing areas for public spaces for children and worked with the Government and the Municipal Authorities. They were also recognised by public media and the German Embassy.

Main achievements during the year:

- 7 provincial youth networks in Nepal with membership of 115 active youth were reformed and strengthened and the National Youth Network for Sustainable Development had 44 active youth members

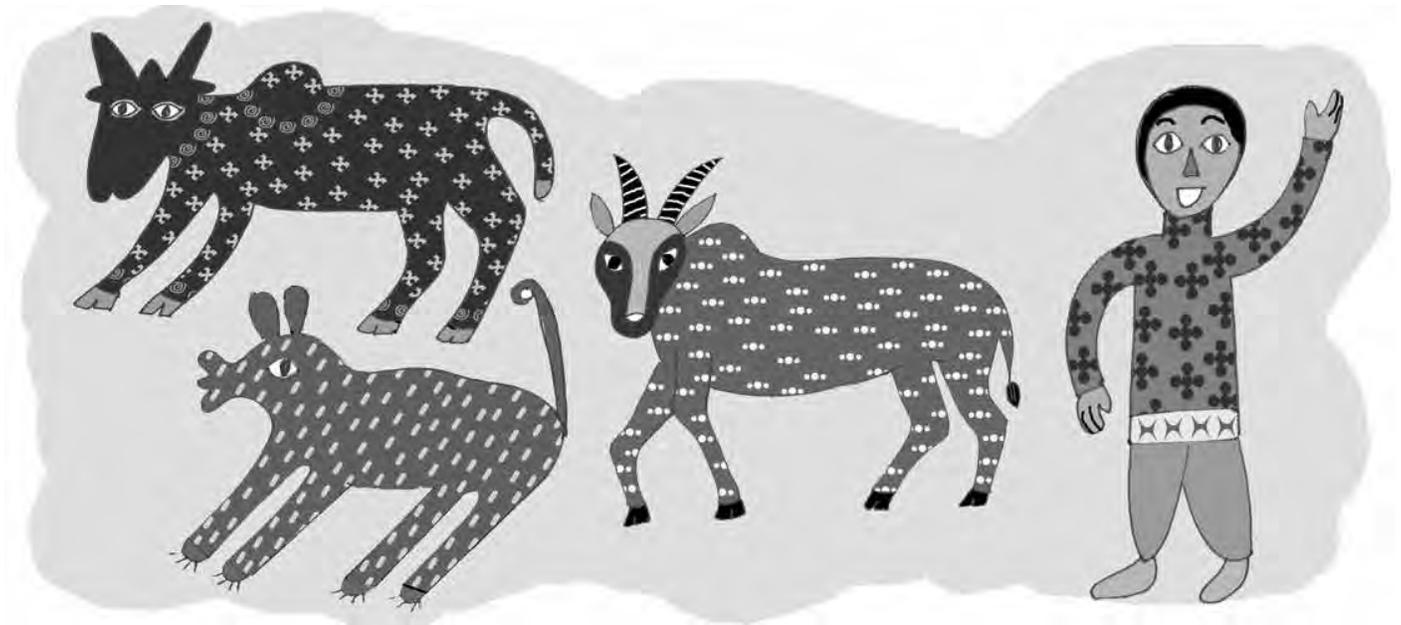
- State & District level networks in 14 states in India were strengthened to build perspectives on ECR and SDGs, and to take initiatives on impact of climate change on children and families.
- An Orientation on “Child’s Right to Healthy and Sustainable Environment” was organized for the leaders of three State level youth networks.
- 8110 youth and children participated in cleanliness drives, tree plantation and waste segregation awareness campaigns in the region.
- 13212 families in Odisha, Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh supported with kitchen gardens to ensure balanced nutrition for children and adolescents.
- 201 small children supported with nutrition through 10 creches in Giridih & Koderma districts, Jharkhand of which 108 children have come out of malnutrition. 998 malnourished children linked with nutrition services and kitchen gardens in the VSS BMZ project, MP.
- 3365 farmers in the east and west have adopted organic farming practices.
- Access to safe drinking water enhanced in 30 brick kilns and 55 villages in northern zone.
- 400 youth participated in the campaign “Call For ART” organised by HO.
- 5048 youth and children participated in campaigns on Voice for Green Earth, My Planet My Rights and Mega Cleanliness drive.
- In all state level youth meetings, the Chilika Youth Convention Charter was discussed and aligned with new local and state level issues. 45 days campaign #voice for green earth was organised in which 369 youth from India participated .
- A South Asia level Youth Meeting on SDGs was organized in Kathmandu and 15 youth members from

South Asia elected the Youth Delegate for the DC, 2023.

- In Tharparkar 10 solar operated water plants are installed to supply water to communities in 10 villages. Moreover, 10 primary schools in Tharparkar, are provided with solar plants which help with lighting, fans and computers.
- In Pakistan 10 villages are provided with solar operating plants which supply water to 13799 persons belonging to 2045 families.
- 50 representations made to the District Administration and other Government Departments in South Zone for utilizing the District Mineral Fund for restoration of mining affected land & water resources and creating a sustainable environment.



Mega cleanliness drive in West Bengal





Shoyeb Resumes School...

Nine year old Shoyeb had been a topper in school doing well in academics and sports. His father is an auto driver and mother domestic worker. Both of them have lost their jobs during the lockdown. Though the family received the food ration from the Government Public Distribution System they needed other essentials and groceries. Shoyeb's parents decided to set up a mobile fruit shop on the pavement of Mysore city. The schools were closed and Shoyeb was made to manage the shop in the mornings while his parents tried to find other low paying jobs and took care of the household chores.

The Childline team of RLHP in Mysore India, found Shoyeb selling fruits on the street and enquired with his parents about his education. Though the parents assured them that he would be continuing his education once the school starts, the RLHP team sensitized the parents that sending him for work even during the holidays is not acceptable as per the rights of the child. Further the team assured the parents that they could seek the help of RLHP if they found it difficult to send children to school in the coming months or required any alternate sources of income. And Shoyeb started going back to school....

3.4. Strategic goal 4: FIGHTING GENDER BASED RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

The pandemic generated strong challenges as regards gender-based rights violations. Violence against women and girls was on the increase as reported in several studies, as well as in newspapers and magazine reports. In India the Government was urged to start Helplines to reach out to women in need and as a result the number of cases in police stations and cases brought to court also increased. Child marriages also went up and many NGOs did their best to ensure that girls were not forced into marriage, despite the fact that schools did not function during the whole year.

A special feature of 2021 was the tdh Gender Self assessment and the Gender Audit which threw light on the challenges that tdh as an organisation faces regarding Gender issues and on the ways to overcome these challenges. The audit covered the whole region in which staff, partners and youth also participated.

Unemployment for the marginalized sections increased greatly, particularly among women in both urban and rural areas, as many jobs in the unorganized sector, including domestic work, became redundant. The pandemic brought more difficulties for women where routine health check-ups and access to health care was not available. Due to the Government suspending the general immunization programmes, many women and children have not been vaccinated for regular illnesses. With almost everyone forced to stay home, the burden of domestic work on women in the family increased greatly. The situation resulted in further awareness and a felt need to focus on the gender issue. Several projects have included gender as a cross-cutting theme and 2 new projects are being submitted this year to the BMZ with the primary focus on gender. In the north of India, one cluster project, with 3 partners, aims to bring about a change in attitude and in norms of sexuality and gender relations. Another project in the tribal areas of north Chhattisgarh ensures better nutrition for women. Besides these, there are

several other projects like Pahal in Madhya Pradesh supported by the German Embassy, which focus sharply on gender empowerment and violence against women. In Nepal too, a project in Surkhet supported by Misereor has just started with a focus on gender. Many online sessions on gender were conducted for the youth during the year to make them aware of the problem and address the issues that they faced. In Afghanistan and Pakistan the emphasis was more on skill training and livelihood measures for women.

Main achievements during the year:

- 70 partners in South Asia have a Gender Policy in place.
- Ensured 50-60% participation of girls in youth networks and project activities in the region
- In Nepal, 11 campaigns were conducted for women and youth to raise their voices for stopping domestic violence and obtaining access to justice in the project area.
- 74 youth were trained on gender discrimination, GBV, information about service providers, existing legal provisions and process and case referral system in Nepal project area.
- 1,869 girls and young women were trained on principles of Gender Equality and Labour Rights by the Sumangali project.
- 73 girls trained in self-defense techniques in MP and Nepal.
- 110 visually impaired girls supported to continue their education in Pune city.
- 1197 child marriages prevented in the India through children and youth initiatives.
- Cases of 54 women and 50 children were documented related to SGBV/GBD in Nepal.

- The youth groups of Nishtha in India, teaming up with the women's groups, directly addressed 118 cases of domestic violence and 5 cases of trafficking of girls
- During the Zonal Partner's capacity building workshops, sharing of good practices regarding gender issues, and training on integration of gender policy at project and organization level was conducted for 47 partners in east and west.
- One study was published and disseminated in a National Seminar under CEC IND- 19-20 on Gender Discrimination and Violence against Female Workers in the Garment Industry".
- 3432 children (1712 girls & 1720 boys) & 1458 youth (748 girls & 710 boys) from Nishtha & ANTI projects have been capacitated on concepts of gender equality and rights of girls. 68 youth in Giridih & Koderma attended a session on understanding of gender. In Odisha, 3 workshops were conducted with 90 men towards understanding and sensitization of gender roles in communities and in families. National training on gender with 90 youth facilitated by Pahal on Gender Rights.
- 1047 girls were trained for employable skills, industrial skill education and non-traditional occupations in the Southern and Western Zone.
- In the south 22 case stories were documented on women empowerment and compensation to prevent exploitative practices against women
- 2703 young women who are victims of labour exploitation were trained in Life Skills as part of a rehabilitation process.
- 1565 women from the east and west were linked for maternal & child health benefits. 256 women SHGs with 997 members are linked to Odisha Livelihood Mission and Mission Shakti to promote

entrepreneurship. In NO, Linkages have been established with Girls Not Brides Campaign, # 30 days of celebrating the girl child and on child marriage in Rajasthan and Bihar.

- Sonia, who is a youth belonging to Nishtha and part of West Bengal Youth Network participated in UNICEF's CY21 Meeting EVAC, on 9th December and presented her statement on child marriage



Pakistan Fisherfolks Forum



AWARE, Pakistan



Struggle to be Self-reliant – Sneha Bankar

Sneha, with her school-going brother was brought up solely by her mother. After she finished school she wanted to find a career which would help support her family and also provide opportunities for her own growth. Sneha heard of the Hospitality Training Programme conducted by Pratham Educational Trust, Aurangabad, a project supported by Volkswagen Employment Foundation, and decided to join the Food and Beverage Service Course. When the course started she found that she was the only girl in the course but she was determined to finish what she had started.

With the support of the Pratham Team she completed the training and was given a placement in a PACE Hotel where she did well. She has been offered a job paying Rs 8000 a month and a free meal. Sneha is now able to contribute financially to the family and is excited about her career prospect in the Hospitality industry.





Hope rekindled- Women stitching the colors in life

Life in Akber Shah colony, the residential area of immigrant Bengali and Rohingya fishermen immigrants has always been miserable, with an open sewage drain cutting through the settlement and infested with houseflies and mosquitoes

Over 150,000 inhabitants live here, mostly of Bengali and Burmese descent, and they occupy the lowest rung in fishing industry.

Fishing has been declining since years but it was almost shut down during the pandemic and subsequent lockdown, leaving the now unemployed men male and women struggling to feed their children and family members. In order to provide alternate means of income, the Pakistan Fisherfolk Forum (PFF) starting a Tailoring Training Programme of 125 women and girls. After their training the women put up little banners on their doors reading: Low Price Stitching Available Here". With the markets closed due to the Covid lockdown, people found this a great opportunity and business boomed during Ramadan as families needed new clothes for their children. The women report that they earned as much as 500 Euros in a few days before EID. "The Corona became a blessing in disguise, I earned more the five thousands Pakistani rupees and in addition was able to make new dresses for my three children," says, Fatima, a 24 years Bengali immigrant who lives in Akber Shah Colony."

17 years Malika, a Rongya immigrant has positively utilized this skill for continuing her education. Malika shares: "I left school when my step father forced me to leave my home. I started living with my married sister who was not able to afford education for me. When the Tailoring Center was started by the Fisher Folk Forum, I applied for training because I wanted to learn a skill for income generation so that I may resume education. It was a joyful day when after completion of the training course, I earned Rs 500 stitching two dresses and told my sister that I wanted to use these earnings for my school fees to resume my education My sister was happy with my decision and I have been consistently attending school and also earning enough money to give my sister to meet the living expenses. "

The Course has also transformed the life of Farzana, a 21 year Bengali immigrant, a divorcee with a 3 year old daughter. Farzana worked as a domestic help, carrying her daughter with her to her place of work where she earned a little over the equivalent of 15 Euros a month. In addition she had to face a lot of mental and physical abuse. Farzana did the training and began tailoring from her own home. Besides earning more than three times what she did as a domestic help, she also can take better care of her daughter and can now afford to send her to school.



Prem's Transformation to a Gender Sensitive Youth

Prem Hasda, 18 years of age, belongs to the Adivasi Tola (tribal community) of Rampur Panchayat in Katihar district of Bihar. He was born and brought up in a family where women are not respected at all. Women in his community and family work on their own or others' land as well as manage all the domestic chores. He had always seen his father beating his mother for very small things and his elder brother disrespecting his mother and sisters. Helping female members in the family to perform household chores is considered to be the matter of shame. Prem grew up with the same set of values of his father, brothers, and other male members in the family and community.

Youth Volunteers from tdh partner organisation Bhoomika Vihar came in contact with him, and invited him for the first meeting of the youth group. He had no idea what the meeting was about but out of curiosity, he decided to attend it. In the first meeting he didn't get much of an idea, but he understood that if he attended the meetings, he would surely learn some new things. He didn't want to be left behind the other boys in his village, who were part of the youth group. The meeting and interactions with the youth group members and youth volunteers gradually gave him new insights. During their chats and interactions, his negative attitude towards women were cleared. He began to feel that his mother and sisters were being treated badly even violently. Regular interactions with youth group members convinced him how the gender-based violence and discrimination is not only harmful for the women, but for the men as well. He decided to take small steps to bring about a change in himself. He started treating his mother, sisters with respect and helping them in the daily household chores, like cleaning of house, clothes and utensils. He was mocked by the male members in the family, but he persisted. He started objecting to the behaviour of his father and brothers with the female members. He also spoke to his other male friends in the community about what he was learning in his group and the need for gender equality. Although changing oneself is challenging Premchand's determination is taking him on the right track and his initiatives are geared firstly towards making his family a better place for both male and females where there is respect for female members, and then gradually taking this to the larger community.

Recognizing his constructive contributions in addressing gender-based discriminations in his locality, he was given an award by the project and his story was printed in a newsletter prepared by youth.

3.5. JOINT CAMPAIGN - INTERNATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO PROMOTE CHILDREN'S ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

The Regional office of South Asia (ROSA) took an active part in this International Campaign in 2021. Despite the pandemic, youth from different parts of the region were engaged in taking the campaign to all the partners and youth in different parts of the Region. The youth network in India and Nepal was able to meet at least once or twice in person to reinforce their commitment to the Charter to which they had committed themselves. There was a gap in the participation of youth from Afghanistan due to the political situation, but they will gradually become active again. Through the International Youth Network, youth connected with each other in all four countries of the Region as well as with those from other countries. Several online meetings were organized through social platforms such as Facebook and Google Meet on issues like climate change. The understanding on climate change is slowly gaining momentum and the organization was able to get good speakers and inputs so that the youth were better informed.

Global Action Month (GAM) was observed with great enthusiasm all over the region. The Youth took the opportunity to plan and then upload their activities on the GAM website. Partners from Pakistan uploaded the most activities on the GAM website where they showcased the work with youth and children in different parts of the country. India, Nepal and Afghanistan also did the same. Altogether there were around 242 activities this year in the GAM map which showed the enthusiasm of youth, staff and partners everywhere.

3.6. Focal Themes

TOWARDS WELL BEING – BEYOND DEVELOPMENT

The current focal theme 'Towards Wellbeing - Beyond Development' envisages a 'development model' based on the needs and happiness of common people rather than only

economic growth. Keeping this theme alive itself is a difficult task, particularly as the space for NGO's engagement in matters beyond delivery of services and development initiatives is getting difficult in the Region. Nevertheless, ROSA partner organisations and colleagues continued their engagement through partner meetings, thematic discussions and online meetings organised at different occasions during the year. The COVID pandemic situation itself also contributed to these debates as it necessitated online discussions, exchanges and learnings. These also extended to the fields of education, training and organisational development.

While there are no projects exclusively based around this theme, the objective is to integrate it into the general discussions, debates and orientation of partner organisations. The partner organisations are also connected with alternate models of development spearheaded by other actors, to promote exchanges based on this theme. During the reporting year, this debate continued in spite of limitations imposed by COVID. The Coordination Office established connections with



Mica mining, Jharkhand

Subject-matter specialists such as Ashish Kothari of Kalpavriksh, SOPPECOM and K J Joy. They also opened links with the Right to Food Movement and the Right to Information initiatives. tdh partner organisations, like ROSE in Tamil Nadu, Vigyan Foundation in UP, HESCO in Uttarakhand, VSS in Madhya Pradesh and ANT in Assam, themselves individually are part of these initiatives. The online Meetings were more effective because of the participation of experienced Resource Persons associated with the India Programme and also the youth organisations YES (Youth for Ecological Sustainability)

3.7 Priority Setting

The strategic goals continued to be the priorities during the year. These goals were contextualized in the COVID 19 pandemic and its impact on social life. The Pandemic had direct implications for children as such, with gender based discrimination and violence reportedly having increased during this period. Gender became a higher priority and it was complemented with a Gender Evaluation and Assessment which the head office had organised during the year. A



Muskaan Bhopal

professional facilitator Ms Anuja Shah supported the staff and partner organisations and engaged them in a complex Gender Audit process. This helped all of us to understand the dynamics of patriarchal domination governing our lives in South Asia. The self assessment by the staff and selected partners were eye openers and led to a concrete action programme for improving the situation. The facilitator helped to clarify various aspects and also suggested possible measures to combat the current situation and move towards more gender-equal positions. These ideas have been incorporated into the programmes of ROSA.

Thus, the main priorities of the year were –the strategic goals of terre des hommes Germany with particular emphasis on the strategic goal, “Fighting Gender Based Rights Violations”.

At the programme level, other factors such as an increase in child labour and potential school drop outs and educational loss of children, and also the early childhood and education concerns of children in aspirational districts marked by the Government of India as the lowest developed states became major concerns. In this context states like Jharkhand, Bihar, UP, and Manipur became priority states for project support.



Anuja Shah on Gender Audit in Mumbai

4. Programme Development

The overall South Asia Programme consists of support to specific projects by partners in different countries and support services to partners. This is coordinated within the countries and zones through close partner interactions, meetings for cross learnings, and exchanges. The relevance of the programme to the changing socioeconomic situation and its impact on children from the marginalized communities is reviewed through the partner meetings, with inputs and assistance from social scientists and senior development professionals contributing to these exercises. Thus a comprehensive programme towards enhancing the rights of children in terms of their health, education, well-being, ecological and gender balances is woven together.



4.1 Project Support

Despite the challenges with the pandemic in the region and the inability of staff to travel, project and advocacy work continued. 13 projects, strictly related to COVID -19, were supported through the Humanitarian FR budget line. Administrative hurdles, particularly in India due to the FCRA Amendment, certainly impacted the work of many organisations. Due to COVID, many programmes, particularly meetings and other workshops, planned by NGOs could not take place. Despite these obstacles, tdh staff and partners, as well as and the youth associated with tdh were able to work with the poor and the marginalized communities, particularly children. tdh in Pune initiated its own project – Samvaad which works with ‘children in conflict with law’. Because of this project, 116 youth are on the way to reintegration into society and vocational training. The project ‘National School for the Blind’ unfortunately could not begin work as the Government in Maharashtra did not reopen hostels and other residential establishments. A total of 98 projects were supported with a total budget of Euro 6543997. Besides the regional budget, funds from ‘Special Donors’ have also been raised. Both Misereor and Bread for the World have agreed to continue their support to the projects in Jharkhand and the national project on child labour in the mining sector which they were supporting earlier. Other donors like Shanti e. V., tdh France AL68, EDGH and PSF from Luxembourg also continued their support. During the year the region also raised funds from the Foreign Ministry in Delhi on the subject of “Gender Empowerment” and a project PAHAL was put up to the Embassy and duly sanctioned.

4.2 Evaluations and Assessments

As is mentioned elsewhere, evaluation and assessments were important components of the South Asia programme. In addition to the comprehensive Gender Audit, there were a number of specific project evaluations, financial assessments, reviews and feasibility studies conducted in different countries / zones. The details are as below:

The learnings from these are to be incorporated into the tdh programme in the subsequent months / years. This is always a challenging task and calls for ever greater diligence from all involved, especially the colleagues and the partners.

Project Evaluations		
Project Code	Project Title	Evaluator
CDS- BMZ -Nepal-19-21	Preserving Biodiversity through Ecosystem Restoration and Revitalization of the Rivers- Sukajor and Ranjor under Participation Capacity Building of Residents Communities	Ramji Bogati, Dinesh Raj Bhujju
YUVA-Ind-BMZ-19-22	YUVA: Strengthening Community Structures and Civil Society Participation to Promote Inclusive, Sustainable, Child-Friendly Cities (SDG 11) in the Slums of Mumbai and Bhopal	Taru Leading Edge
Savera-Samarpan-tdh-Ekjut-BfdW-India-2019-21	Right to Survival: Securing Health, Nutrition and Education for Children and Safeguarding them from the Harms of Illegal Mica Mining in Giridih and Koderma Districts of Jharkhand (India)	Milind Bokil
Lokpanchayat-IND-VWEF-19	Scholarship-based Support for Students of RTTI	Joy Daniel
Feasibility Studies		
Ankur in Delhi, Vigyan Foundation in Eastern and Western part of Uttar Pradesh and Nirantar (as knowledge partner)	Innovative Solutions to Combat Violence and Discrimination Against Women and Girls Through Local Approaches and National Networking	Zaved and Apurva
RLHP	Transnational Project to Combat Child Labour in the Agricultural sector through Education, Resilient Sources of Income, Capacity Building, International Networking and DVOACACY in India and Zimbabwe	Lakshmi Raman
Paryavaran Mitra, LGWCDC, Sarathi Development Foundation, RLHP, CWISH, ARADO	From LOCAL to GLOBAL: Strengthening Networking and Capacity Building of Youth-led Activities for the Right to a Clean and Healthy Environment	CEE

4.3 Partner Meetings

In South Asia, the partner meetings are considered to be an exercise to bring tdh and partners on the same page regarding the changing socioeconomic, cultural and political changes impacting the lives of children. There is a lot of enthusiasm among the partner organisations for these meetings. During the year some of the meetings were held online while others were physical meetings. The first partner meetings in

Afghanistan were organized in Kabul and Herat in April 2021. In India the different zonal offices organized zonal meetings physically and online.

Towards the end of the year, there was also the National Meeting of the elected members from the partner organisations. This was held for doing a SWOT analysis of the current strategic goals and also the election of the delegates to the DC 2023.



National Project Partners' meeting Mumbai

5. Institutional Development

(Staff Development, Financial/ Budget Development/Regional Fundraising)

5.1 Staff Development

During the past year, the crisis in Afghanistan was a dominant concern for a couple of months, resulting in the evacuation of staff and partners to Germany. The region also decided to start support to Afghan refugees in Tajikistan. ROSA with a staff of 27 persons based in 4 countries, is now supporting projects in 5 different countries. One more staff member will be appointed in 2022 to work from Dushanbe to provide immediate support to Afghan Refugees in Tajikistan and later, when the situation improves, to support project development both in Tajikistan and in Afghanistan. The staff continues to remain deeply engaged and committed to the work. During the year several strategic planning exercises were also executed. The first was in the Sunderbans with the entire staff (including one person from Afghanistan) present. With the support of Dr. Milind Bokil they looked at the earlier Strategic Goals and also made suggestions for the new SGs. A SWOT analysis was done which resulted in some guidelines for the future.

A new Consultant for resource mobilisation, Mr. Rohit Aggarwal was appointed in place of Ms Aditi Pandey who resigned early last year. Apart from this, there was no change in the existing staff. During the staff meeting several staff were



felicitated for completing 25 / 5 years in the organisation.

The Branch office status continued, and this enabled tdh to complete its work in India and to maintain administrative compliances with the Government. The Home Ministry conducted an enquiry at the Coordination Office last year and all required documentation was provided to them. The FCRA has come up for renewal; the date for renewal has been extended and we hope that this will be done by the end of March 2022

5.2 Financial/ Budget Development/Regional Fundraising

The Regional Coordinator along with the zonal heads and other staff visited the projects regularly, and did the required financial monitoring. Discussions with the different partners and possible CSR donors were also held. The German Embassy Foreign office has supported a new project on 'Violence against Women' in Madhya Pradesh. Other projects with a focus on ECR and strengthening the youth network in three countries in the region are in the pipeline with BMZ.

The allocated budget has been optimally utilised. A good ratio of 90.86:9.14 of project payments and admin expenses was maintained in the region.

5.2.1 Co-financing:

During the year 2021, contacts with the Embassy in Delhi, in Kathmandu, in Kabul, and in Karachi and Islamabad were strengthened. Staff visited and

reported about projects in the area. The support from BMZ also increased. During the year there were a total of 20 ongoing co-financed projects in the region. Last year 6 concept notes were also prepared, all of which got a good rating A further 5 proposals are planned for 2023, and their concept notes will be completed in 2022.

Inter-country projects, Zimbabwe / India as well as Afghanistan / Pakistan, have been sanctioned and these projects have started and have allowed good exchange between countries and between regions.

5.2.2 Special Donations

A few new organisations have also started supporting projects in the region. In Nepal, Child AID Network has agreed to support a project on Youth and Livelihood in Dholakha. EDGH from Luxembourg will support a new project in Assam, and tdh France F68 and Shanti e.V. support projects in India in the Western zone through local partners. The project cluster in Jharkhand supported by Bread for the World (BftW) came to an end in 2021 and a new proposal with a change in focus has been submitted and awaits sanction. Similarly, the project "Sustainable Development and Decent Employment for Marginalized Workers & Their Families in India" supported by Misereor comes to an end in 2022 and a new proposal is underway which will include new states and new partners but still focus on the sector of children in the mining sector.

Along with the colleagues from the HO we have had discussions on the possibility of support from the Laudes Foundation. However it is not clear whether this support will continue.

ROSA continues to work closely with the Company Dachser, both in India as well as with the Chairman of the Supervisory Board Mr Bernhard Simon. Mr Simon has participated in several online meetings with the youth from different parts of the region. He was particularly impressed with the dedication and the commitment that youth showed during the pandemic, and how they were able to reach out to so many communities and people despite the challenges they themselves faced.

5.2.3 Regional Fundraising

During the year 2021 several attempts were made to do local fund raising through companies and individuals for tdh projects in India. The local

entities that have been registered have also been trying to do the same. In Pune, funds have been raised for a local partner to ensure clean drinking water for schools around Pune. The work done was showcased through social media and some donations were collected. Online events were also organized to raise funds through small performances which provided support to NGOs in Pune, Delhi, Ahmedabad and Chennai and also helped to raise awareness on the work of these NGOs. The websites were active and the work done by the partner organisations were put up through these websites. Although the pandemic and other factors hampered local fund-raising in 2021, a total of INR 10,181,726 (Euros 12211) was raised through individual donations and corporate funds.



Lyari Girls' Café Pakistan

6. Regional, Country Networking and TDHIF Collaboration

- 6.1 Local and national networking and combined advocacy initiatives have been priorities for tdh in the region. In India, cooperation and collaboration with Campaign Against Child Labour, Right to Education campaigns, ProChild initiatives and local networks like Action for the Rights of the Child, were intensified during the year. Partners and colleagues joined in the strategic planning by CACL in order to sharpen the struggle against economic exploitation and abuse of children.
- 6.2 Regular online meetings were organized with the other members of the TDH IF. The MOs active in India are tdh NL, tdh Foundation, and tdh Swiss Geneva. All the 4 tdhs in India are active and there is a good spirit among them. tdh Germany is the largest in terms of funds and geographical spread in India and is the representative of the MOs in India at the Joining Forces meetings. One physical meeting was hosted by tdh Germany in the Delhi office. The Programme Coordinator Northern zone represented tdh at this meeting. Common topics and plans were discussed including a joint campaign with Joining Forces and the future of this campaign. Most of the MOs were very active during the Covid pandemic, reaching out to a large number of communities. JF organized an event in Delhi to release a report on the situation of CSA in the country at which the RC participated. However, the report was not made public. Several plans are afoot to work on the UNCRC alternate report, both from a child's perspective as well as from that of civil society.
- 6.3 Tdh NL and tdh Germany continue to work in the mica mining area of Jharkhand and Bihar and share information and coordinate work in this area.
- 6.4 In Afghanistan and Pakistan, efforts are made to stay in touch with the delegation of tdh Lausanne.



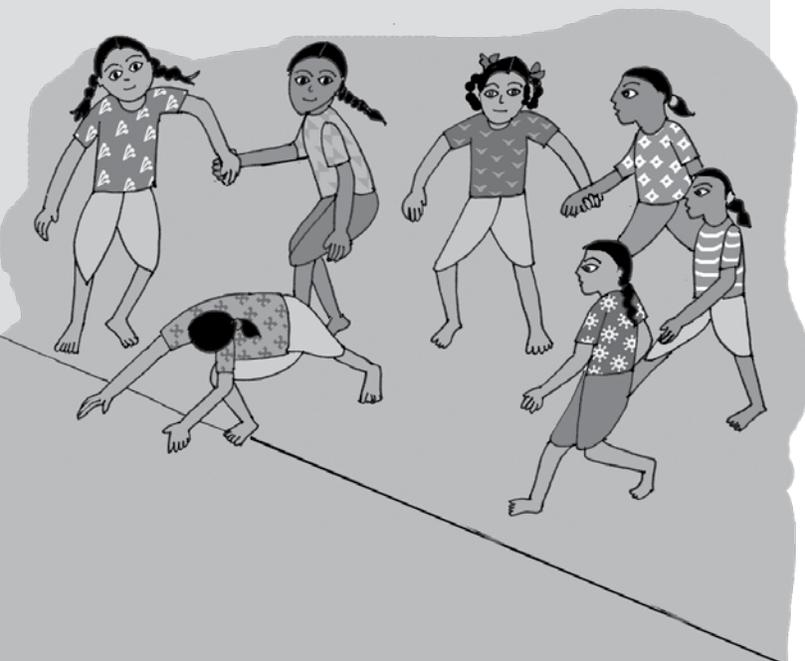
7. Highlights of Public Visibility and Initiatives on Child Rights

tdh took the initiative in different networks like CACL, Joining Forces, ARC, and CACT to encourage NGOs to take up different tasks to support the needs of the poor through awareness and advocacy.

The staff and partners also took part in several online meetings on different topics affecting children and human rights. It was an opportunity to learn also from different regions and from other tdh staff and volunteers in Germany. It was a good learning to hear from speakers from Brazil and from South Africa about ecological rights and its impact on development. Dr. Ashish Kothari also addressed the youth network on this topic. Later Prof Jean Dreze spoke on the problems of the pandemic affecting children and youth, especially on education.

Many short films were commissioned to depict the situation during the pandemic. These were used in HO to explain to the German public about the effect the pandemic had on children and youth. There were online meetings on a regular basis where partners, staff and youth also spoke to donors and staff on the situation. The projects in Jharkhand that focussed on mica also commissioned many studies on the situation of child labour. A videographer and a photographer were commissioned to document the project which was used in HO for their media campaign. The campaign also focused on the work that tdh through its partners is doing in the area, such as bridge schools, health and livelihood programmes.

There were no visitors from HO at all during the last year due to the COVID situation in India and in the region. We hope that in the coming year 2022 HO staff would once more begin to travel. However, staff from the German Embassy- the Head of BMZ Ms Christiane Hieronymus, travelled to the Sunderbans project in December. She had a positive experience. The



RC, along with other German NGOs, was invited to attend a discussion with a Minister of the German Parliament Dr Maria Flachsbarth who was responsible for projects supported by the BMZ. There was a good discussion on the situation in the country relating to women's issues at the meeting.

The RC visited Germany on a personal visit and was able to spend a week at HO and meet staff from different departments to discuss about the work in India. She also visited the office of Misereor in Aachen to discuss about the Nepal project and the situation of child labour in the mining project supported by Misereor. Other donors were met online and several meetings took place with them and also with the staff of tdh and of the partner organizations. Most of the Special Donation donors

were also contacted and were given an opportunity to talk to the communities and youth through the online medium. This enabled them to get an idea about what was happening in the project area without physical meetings.

The South Asia seminar was planned for June in Munich but it took place only online. There were 38 participants. Most of the participants, speakers, partners and youth, were from South Asia itself, and the youth were very articulate in their discussions. This helped in getting people to understand their work directly from them. The South Asia seminar helps to encourage individuals in Germany and in Europe interested in tdh work to understand more about the situation in which people in the Region live.



Devcon Pakistan

8. Summing Up

The year 2021 was a continuum with the previous year as the effects of the pandemic continued to lash through the country and the world. Though there was no total lockdown like in the previous year, the state and local governments were forced to introduce strict restrictions at different places in order to combat the pandemic. Fatalities were much higher. Though the vaccination programme was started, it took time before it reached across the country. There was a slight improvement in the economy but this was based on a very low rate of growth of GDP in the previous year.

Even in such adverse situations the staff and the partner organisations worked hard and took all opportunities to support children and the communities in the project areas. Though there were intermittent travel restrictions, the staff continued to visit projects during the period when travel was allowed. Nevertheless the lack of close monitoring, sometimes led to challenges with regard to transparency and accountability. All the compliances including financial audits were completed in due time.

The pandemic has deeply impacted the children and marginalised communities who are the target group of *terre des hommes* in India. The emphasis on Food security and Nutrition has suffered due to the restrictions or increased focus on pandemic related activities. According to reports, the annual income of the poorest 20% of Indian households went down by 53% during the last five years. This means that the economic situation was impacting the poor, even prior to the pandemic. Over the same period the richest 20% saw their annual income grow at 39%. It is a very challenging situation in which we live and despite all of efforts this gap does not shrink. We need to focus more strongly on changing the situation of these toiling sections of the population and the children in the coming years.



9. Perspectives for the future

As indicated above, we need to have a greater focus on efforts towards a more just and equal society, particularly for children. Addressing learning deficiencies, gender divides and psychosocial support continue to be important concerns. The climate change factors and frequent natural calamities demand our attention in preventive measures through DRR projects. Promotion of agency of children and young people towards the above concerns will form part of the future orientation. The strategic goal of Peace and support to the forcibly displaced people and children will continue to be highly relevant for the months to come. The vision of tdh for a just and peaceful world for all children of today and the generations to come is fully relevant in these times!

Ingrid Mendonca

Regional Coordinator – South Asia

Pune

2021





mica mining Jharkhand



Pratham Maharashtra



AWARE Pakistan



Child club AAJWAJ Bajura Nepal



Synergy Harda



AWARE Pakistan

Annexure I

Organogram of terre des hommes Germany – South Asia As on 30th of April 2022



OFFICE - PUNE

Regional Coordinator - South Asia



Coordinator – Communication,
Admin and HR
Snehal Kulkarni



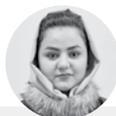
Consultant Project Coordinator
Shuchi Seth Mahobe



Asst. Finance Coordinator
Amos Deep



Consultant Programme
Coordinator - Afghanistan
Sayed Khalid Sadaat



Consultant Accounts
and Admin Officer
Patoni Hamta

EASTERN OFFICE - KOLKATA



Programme Coordinator
Koel Chowdhury



Programme Officer
Soni Sapna Dhan



Accounts and Admin Officer
Bijoy Banerjee

WESTERN OFFICE - PUNE



Programme Coordinator
Sampat Mandave



Programme Officer
Sharmili Basu



Programme Officer
Rohit Rakshit



Accounts and Admin Officer
Rakesh Ghadi

NEPAL OFFICE – KATHMANDU



Country Coordinator
Moni Shreshta



Programme Coordinator
Amrit Devkotta



Accounts and Admin Executive
Monica Shah



Head: Admin and Finance - Nepal
Durendra Bahadur Shahi

Annexure II

PROJECT PAYMENTS IN SOUTH ASIA

For The Period January – December 2021

S. NO.	DETAILS	EURO	EURO	EURO
1	PROJECT PAYMENTS			5,694,124.35
A	INDIA PROJECTS		3,601,642.17	
	Discretionary payments & Workshops	21,829.80		
	Regular Projects	274,730.64		
	VW Projects	538,436.88		
	Emergency Projects	135,903.55		
	Co-financed Projects	2,106,462.87		
	Special Donation Projects	245,427.02		
	Misereor Projects	137,372.84		
	BfdW projects	141,478.57		
B	NEPAL PROJECTS		1,143,701.18	
	Discretionary payments & Workshops	6,110.13		
	Regular Projects	32,227.81		
	Emergency Projects	39,831.00		
	Co-financed Projects	713,157.26		
	Special Donation Projects	352,374.98		
C	PAKISTAN (Humanitarian Assistance)		440,317.00	
	Regular Projects	45,000.00		
	Co-financed Projects	305,317.00		
	VW Projects	110,000.00		
D	AFGHANISTAN+TAJIKISTAN PROJECTS		508,464.00	
	Discretionary payments & Workshops	2,100.00		
	Regular Projects	52,500.00		
	Emergency Projects	2,000.00		
	Co-financed Projects	451,864.00		
II	ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES			528,633.80
A	INDIA ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	436,087.42		
B	NEPAL ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	75,229.41		
C	AFGHANISTAN ADMINISTRATION EXPENSES	17,316.97		
	TOTAL...			5,782,441.15

According to Budget Line

BUDGET LINE	No. of all projects	Payments	No. of new projects	Liability
Regional Budget	35	408737	16	505320
Kofi	20	3519008	6	4437379
HUHI	13	173387	13	240418
VW	13	618715	7	843078
Special Donations	13	536364	4	537113
Regional + Special Donations	4	300119	1	222200
Total	98	5556329	47	6785508

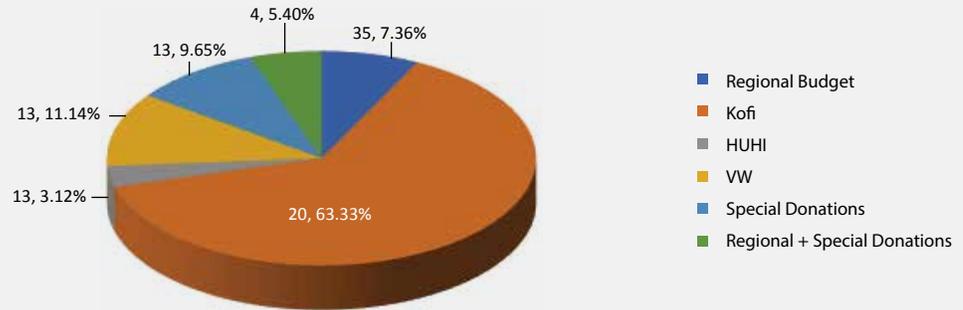
According to Countries / Zones

BUDGET LINE	No. of all projects	Payments	No. of new projects	Liability
Eastern Office	19	1060941	7	911547
Northern Office	16	571897	8	530468
Southern Office	12	727854	7	921791
Western Office	23	707898	11	836361
Cluster	4	490449	2	557803
Afghanistan	6	436275	3	868985
Tajikistan	2	22500	2	40000
Nepal	12	1128199	5	1517010
Pakistan	4	410317	2	601543
Total	98	5556329	47	6785508

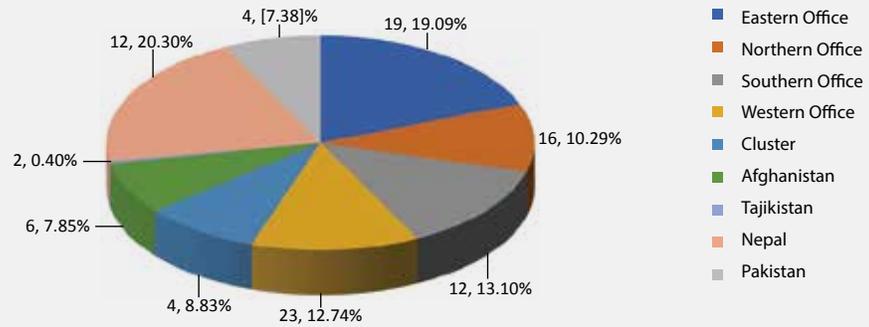
According to Strategic Goals

Promoting Culture of Peace	13	806986	5	1001764
Improving Psychosocial and Educational Services for Forcibly Displaced Children and Youth	13	490872	6	872089
Promoting a Child's Right to a Healthy and Sustainable Environment	19	1891128	4	187068
Fighting Gender Based Rights Violations	15	806661	5	994141
COVID RELIEF - EMERGENCY PROJECTS	14	214928	14	306018
NOT RELATED TO STRATEGIC GOAL	24	1345755	13	1740809
Total	98	5556329	47	6785508

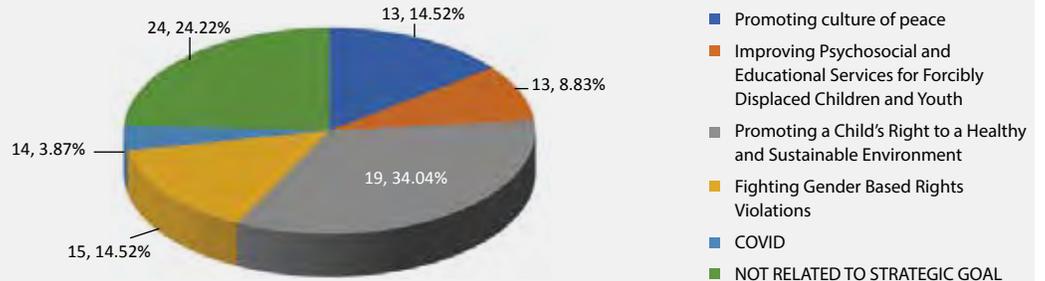
No. of Projects according to budget line



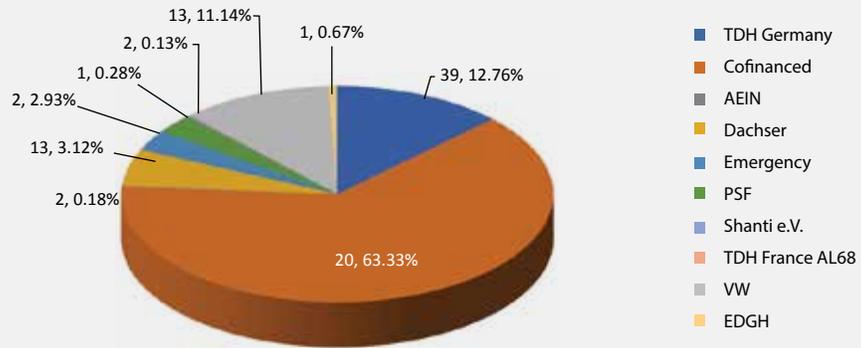
Zone / countrywise budget distribution



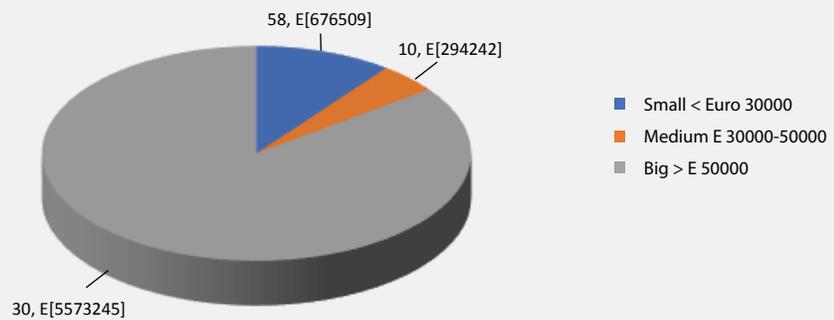
No. of Project according to strategic goals



No. of projects according to Donor



No. of projects according to budget size



Project locations in ROSA

