



# Annual Report 2023



**arche noVa**  
Initiative for People in Need

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## Dear reader,

The dramatic images of the earthquake in Turkey and Syria on 6 February 2023 have since been overshadowed by other disasters, but we want to bring them back into focus with this annual report: A natural disaster devastates an entire region, right in the middle of it, one of our long-standing project areas. In an instant, people in northwest Syria require urgent humanitarian aid.

Our local partner organisations were among the few able to respond immediately because they were already on the ground, and over the years, we had built strong cooperative relationships and not at least logistics routes. We are grateful that we were able to contribute to rapid emergency aid in one of the world’s most hard-to-reach regions, that we received donations and funding for this effort, and that we can continue working on the ground. This is not a given.

However, looming over all of our programmes is the constant threat of cuts in funding from public institutions, which are retreating despite the increasing need for rapid emergency aid, the necessity of global climate policy, and growing poverty on our shared planet. All the more reason for us to be transparent with this annual report. We want to show that humanitarian projects and development cooperation are important and that they make a tangible difference.

The figures speak for themselves: never before has arche noVa implemented a project value of over 24 million euros, reaching more people than ever before. A total of 1,032,000

men, women and children have benefited – and continue to benefit – from our work. Even more importantly: These figures have faces. During my project visit to Mbeja Island on Lake Victoria in Uganda in the summer of 2023, Grace Gwok-yalya shared with me that her children have access to truly safe drinking water for the first time and are therefore much less frequently ill. She herself is incredibly relieved to have the first communal sanitation facilities in the area, where she can not only wash her hands but also take a shower and finally enjoy some privacy.

These project successes are what drive us. Whether in Syria, Uganda, Mali, or elsewhere – we are working with our local partners to provide aid in acute crises, improve living conditions, and build local capacities to better manage future crises and disasters themselves and, ideally, to take preventive action.

For this, we need people like you, who accompany and support our projects.

Yours

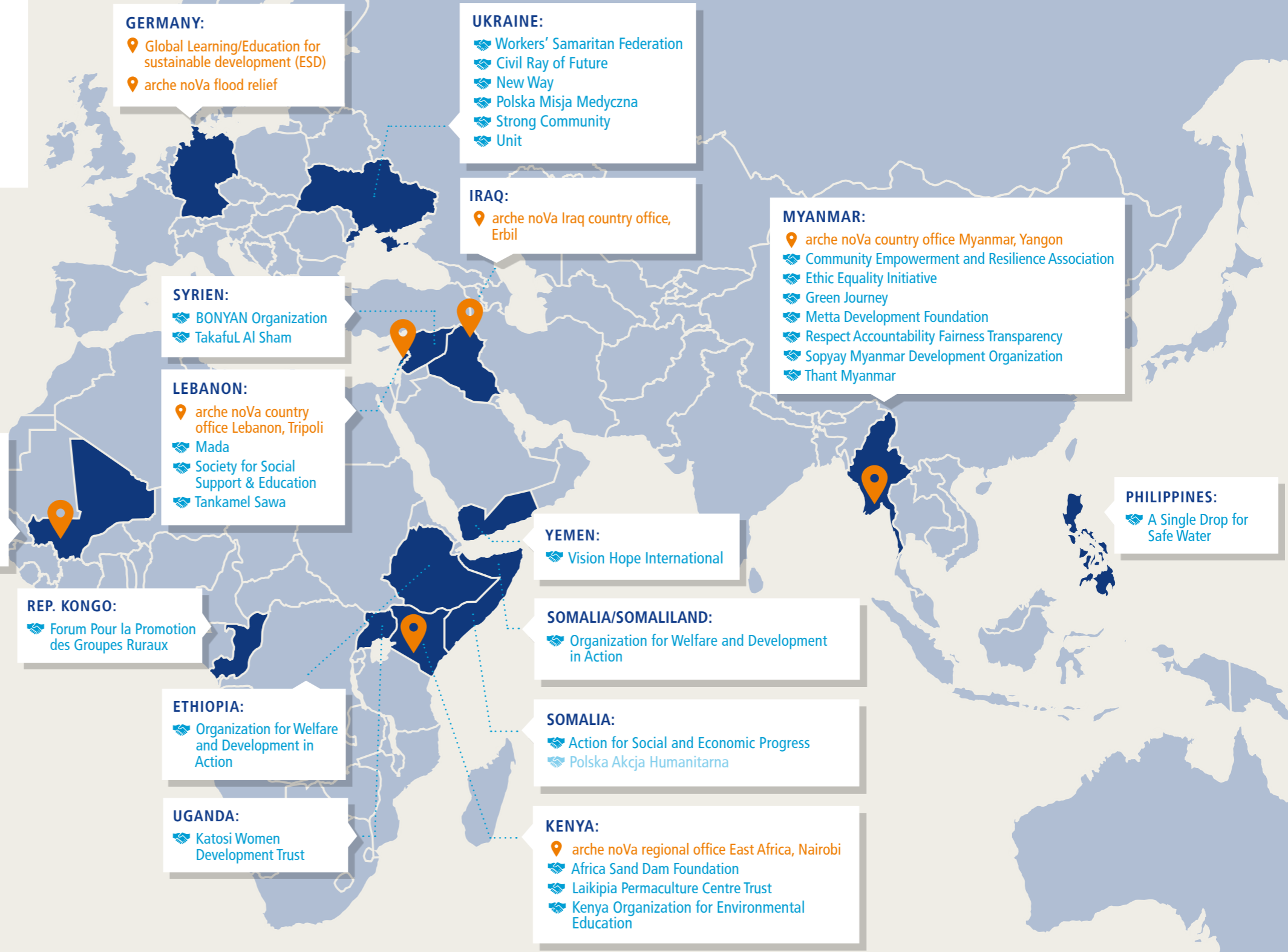
Dr Jens Ola | Managing Director arche noVa e.V.

# arche noVa 2023

## Worldwide

Teams from arche noVa were active in 15 countries in 2023. Our programmes ranged from rapid emergency aid after the earthquakes in Syria to numerous longer-term development cooperation projects and disaster preparedness work in the Philippines. Local partner organisations work alongside arche noVa in almost all project countries.

The total expenditure of arche noVa amounted to 25.2 million euros in the year. Of this, around 23.7 million euros went to international programmes and 498,000 euros to global learning & ESD projects.



### GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

We at arche noVa work on the principle of helping people to help themselves. Cooperation with local partner organisations is particularly important to us. We promote civil society structures and, together with our partners, involve the local population in the projects.

arche noVa country or regional office with its own team

Implementation partner for International Programmes

Partner for individual projects within a consortium

## International programmes

# Workshop in Nairobi focuses on climate and people



At the arche noVa workshop “Greening and Community Engagement” in 2023, representatives from our local partner organisations in West and East Africa came together for the first time. Along with our teams and the speakers, there was extensive exchange of experiences and focused work on specific topics and implementation plans.

How can we, as a humanitarian organisation, fulfil our responsibilities in a globalized and dynamically changing world? Only by addressing two key questions: How do we manage the climate impacts of our actions, and how can we ensure genuine participatory involvement of local communities? In October 2023, arche noVa hosted a groundbreaking workshop centred around these two questions.

Under the title “Greening and Community Engagement”, arche noVa brought together representatives from East and West Africa for the first time in Nairobi to collaborate with experts and teams from our local partner organisations. Together, they developed strategies for more sustainable and participatory development cooperation. The workshop offered a rare opportunity for cross-border exchange, especially between English-speaking and French-speaking partners.

### Sustainability on the agenda

A major focus of the workshop was the development and implementation of “Greening” strategies, which aim to

reduce the ecological footprint of project activities while placing the needs of communities that are already severely affected by climate change at the center. Experts from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) provided valuable insights into the practical implementation of climate adaptation and emission reduction measures. Topics such as energy conservation, waste reduction, and resource efficiency were thoroughly discussed. All participants emphasized the need to tailor climate protection activities and ecological footprint reduction measures to the specific contexts of each region.

Pennina Munguti, the regional coordinator for our East Africa office and the organizer of the workshop, underscored the relevance of the issue once again during the event. “All the countries where arche noVa operates are already grappling with severe climate challenges. Therefore, the goal of our projects is to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen the resilience of local communities to the impacts of the climate crisis,” said Munguti. The event featured activities aimed at achieving these objectives, including the promotion of organic agriculture, tree planting, agroforestry, and the expansion of solar-powered water supply systems. “Further greening is a key objective in the strategic direction of arche noVa in East Africa,” said Pennina Munguti.

### Joint learning and cross-border exchange

The direct exchange between partners from East and West Africa was particularly valuable. Despite facing different challenges and conditions in their respective project areas, participants showed great interest in learning from each other’s experiences, particularly the best practice examples. Our Kenyan partner organisation, Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust (LPCT), explained the principles of permaculture, which adapt ecological cycles in nature for agriculture and gardening. The so-called half-moon technique, used by Nouveaux Horizons in Mali, also sparked significant interest. This technique involves creating semi-circular depressions that allow for the cultivation of forage plants, grains, or vegetables in drought-prone regions. “This technique, which helps save water and prevents soil erosion, could be very useful for our own projects,” said representatives from Action for Social and Economic Progress in Somalia.

In the end, the participants jointly developed an action plan, setting specific indicators for the environmental sustainability of projects and outlining concrete measures that arche noVa will integrate into future collaborations.

### Challenges and solutions in community engagement

Another focus of the workshop was strengthening community engagement, which is considered key to successful development cooperation. But how can this be implemented in practice? Is it enough for local workers to participate in project construction sites in exchange for cash for work, or for local water committees to be established at the end of a project? In exchange between representatives from East and West Africa, it became clear that all local partner organisations strive to involve local communities in every phase of a project – from planning through implementation and evaluation – because this not only increases acceptance but also contributes to the sustainability of the outcomes. At the same time, the discussions revealed that implementation can be time-consuming and challenging. Therefore,

the exchange of best practices and innovative approaches was crucial, including the establishment of complaint and feedback mechanisms. Despite the cultural and infrastructural challenges, which vary across the different countries, participants showed great determination to overcome these barriers through targeted training and capacity-building in this area.

The workshop in Nairobi was more than just an exchange of ideas – it was an important step towards more localized and sustainable project work. The participants left with a clear mandate: to intensify cooperation between the various regions of Africa and to implement the insights gained into practice.

“The opportunity to interact, get to know each other, exchange ideas, and learn from one another has advanced us on many levels. The insights into the approaches of other NGOs, such as the ICRC and IFRC, were also very informative. Overall, the meeting strengthened our networking and collaboration with partners. Such meetings are great, relevant, and encouraging, and should be encouraged.”

Pennina Munguti  
Regional Coordinator  
arche noVa  
East Africa





## Ukraine

# Behind the front line

Intense fighting, massive airstrikes, and widespread destruction characterized the military conflict in Ukraine in 2023, which had become a war of attrition. For the population behind the front line, this meant surviving in constant danger and facing shortages in all areas of life. Housing, food, heating – no aspect of daily life remained untouched by the war. In response to the immense humanitarian need, arche noVa provided emergency relief and engaged in transitional aid activities.

### Context:

The Russian invasion in February 2022 escalated the conflict that had been simmering in eastern Ukraine since 2014. In the year following the invasion, a third of the Ukrainian population was displaced. Due to the massive military operations and the destruction of civilian infrastructure, a large part of the population was unable to meet their basic needs in 2023. The United Nations reported that around 14 million people in the country who were dependent on humanitarian aid.

### Project objectives:

In 2023, arche noVa continued its humanitarian efforts to support the affected population and assisted war-torn communities by revitalizing housing and WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) infrastructure. The most vulnerable groups, including the elderly, people with disabilities, female-headed households, and children, were specifically targeted. Our goal was to improve the lives of those affected and strengthen their resilience.

### Project activities:

In areas of northern and eastern Ukraine that had been recaptured, where the destruction following the invasion was most severe, arche noVa facilitated the repair of more than 200 damaged or destroyed homes by providing tools and materials, or, where necessary, contracting companies to carry out larger-scale repairs. This support particularly targeted households with elderly members or people with disabilities who, fearing a burdensome and uncertain flight, could not easily leave their homes. “Our work makes a huge difference for these people and gives them a sense of stability,” says Dmytro Drizhd, head of the arche noVa country office in Ukraine.

Our activities also addressed the significant need for assistance in schools and kindergartens to enable children and young people to continue learning, playing, and coming together despite the war. In five communities, arche noVa repaired the water and sewage infrastructure in schools and kindergartens. At ten educational institutions, we built air-raid shelters, repaired buildings and renewed equipment.

As immediate and essential aid, arche noVa, in collaboration with local partner organisations, carried out numerous distributions, including food to hygiene kits, clothing and mattresses, washing machines, and stoves. Building on the experience from the previous year, we also supported people in preparing for the second winter of war. This included the above-mentioned repairs to residential buildings, as well as the distribution of stoves, electric radiators, briquettes and other heating materials to particularly vulnerable households.



**Above:** One of the most common repair tasks that arche noVa facilitated in Ukraine in 2023: replacing destroyed windows.

**Right:** Liudmyla Brovko works for the social services in Okhlyrka, which arche noVa supported in 2023. She is out daily, serving her patients. She lost her own home in the war.

**Below:** arche noVa distributed 14 electric bicycles to the community center for social services in Ochtirka, in 2023.



“arche noVa replaced the destroyed windows in our house, renovated the broken roof and repaired the heating system. This support means a lot to us because we can now live in our home again.”

Oleksandr Tkachenko from Hostomel



### Localization:

The projects of arche noVa in Ukraine are particularly distinguished by their precision in targeting. This is made possible by the local knowledge of our Ukrainian team and the close cooperation with local partner organisations that are deeply rooted in their project areas. This enables us to reach even remote locations and learn about specific needs of assistance. In 2023, for example, we distributed 14 electric bicycles to the community centre for social services in Okhlyrka, in north-eastern Ukraine. This allows that the staff to finally reach their patients safely and quickly – help that is truly existential for those in need.

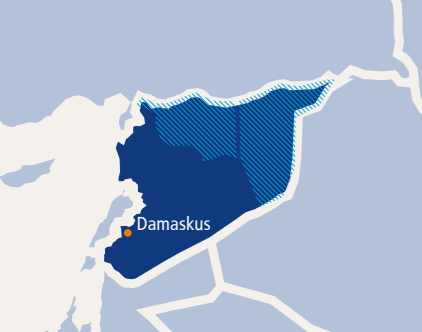
### Outlook:

There is no end in sight to the war in Ukraine. The security situation, the extent of the destruction and the number of people acutely affected can change within a matter of hours. This makes it even more crucial for humanitarian organisations to remain on the ground and be able to respond flexibly to the situation. Currently, arche noVa has planned activities through 2025. Additional projects are also in the planning stage, given increasing need for aid.

## At a glance

Since 2015 arche noVa has been active in eastern Ukraine. In 2022, we were able to start emergency aid activities with our long-standing local partner organisations immediately after the invasion. Our humanitarian work continues and will be expanded further.

- > **Number of projects:** 6
- > **Project regions:** Oblast Charkiw, Donezk, Dnipropetrowsk, Kyjiw, Sumy, Tschernihiw
- > **Partner organisations:** Civil Ray of Future, Good Actions, New Way, Polska Misja Medyczna, Strong Communities, Unit
- > **Focus:** emergency aid, water and sanitation, nutrition, shelter
- > **Beneficiaries:** 61,000 people affected by the war



## Syria

# Disaster in a crisis-prone region

The people of Syria have endured dramatic hardships in recent years: war, destruction, displacement and loss. In 2023, another catastrophe was added to their suffering: On 6 February devastating earthquakes struck the Turkish-Syrian border region. Many people were once again made homeless, and entire villages were reduced to rubble. The need for humanitarian assistance soared even further.

### Context:

After twelve years of war, the resilience of people in Syria was completely exhausted by 2023. Hundreds of thousands had no safe home, large parts of the population lived below the poverty line. There is a huge humanitarian need across the country, but particularly in the north-west and north-east, where military fighting continues. Our project areas in the north of the country are marked by destruction and displacement. Many people live in informal settlements. Host communities are overwhelmed with providing for the internally displaced. There are shortages in water supply, income opportunities, and the education sector. On 6 February 2023, severe earthquakes further struck the crisis region.

### Project objectives:

With six projects and a whole range of activities, arche noVa in Syria is pursuing the goal of improving the living conditions of those who are particularly vulnerable and especially affected by the various crises, including the 2023 earthquake. Our activities range from acute emergency relief to sustainable improvements that ease daily life and offer future prospects.

### Project activities:

Our long-standing project area in north-western Syria was hit by the earthquake disaster in the Turkish-Syrian border region in February 2023. On the very same day, our local partner organisations BONYAN and Takaful Al Sham provided the first situation reports to arche noVa and immediately began emergency response activities. Thanks to the existing project structure and the expertise of the teams, emergency aid got underway quickly. Together, we facilitated the preparation and distribution of hot meals, provided bread as a staple food, and delivered bottled water in the earthquake region. Further distributions of relief items, including children's clothing and hygiene kits, followed.

Throughout the year, the acute emergency measures were integrated into our ongoing projects, which have been supporting internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities since the beginning of the war. Regular emergency water supply was ensured in informal settlements, latrines were built, and hygiene and waste disposal activities were conducted. Additionally, food, winter kits, and other non-food items were distributed, and shelters were renovated. A notable example of our targeted approach in 2023 was the installation of solar-powered lanterns. These lights now protect especially vulnerable people when they are out in the densely populated informal settlements and tent cities after dark.

In addition to humanitarian aid, we were able to continue activities in 2023 aimed at the long-term improvement of living conditions in a country shaped by insecurity, international power politics, and military conflict. In the north-east, an educational programme was established in learning centers for students who had significant learning gaps, had been unable to attend school for a long time, or had never been taught. For youth and young adults, courses were offered in tailoring, hairdressing, plumbing, and the installation of climate and solar systems. Support for entrepreneurship and ongoing business management was also provided. Another focus was agricultural promotion, ranging from the cultivation of fast-growing fodder plants to the distribution of seeds and fertilizers, and cash-for-work programmes for expanding irrigation systems. Furthermore, arche noVa con-



**Above:** In crises, children in particular need support. arche noVa and its partner BONYAN offered educational projects and psychosocial support.

**Right:** Our partner organisations were quick to reach the affected communities after the earthquake disaster and were able to distribute aid supplies, drinking water and hot meals.

**Below:** These water tanks are part of irrigation systems designed to improve the supply situation in the region in the long term.



**Youssef from Gazawiye (Afrin)** has made it: With his own hard work, he can feed his family again. For four long years, the father of five children and his family endured as internally displaced persons in a camp. Then they returned to their home village, and through our project, received seeds, tools and professional guidance. Since then, the family has been able to live off the farm.



tinued the rehabilitation of communal water stations and water networks.

### Focus on the needs of children and adolescents:

In light of the specific needs in the aftermath of the earthquake, arche noVa launched an additional programme in the Idlib region just weeks after the disaster to enable especially vulnerable children and adolescents to exercise their fundamental right to education. Over 4,000 children attended the first courses, which covered core subjects such as Arabic, English, and mathematics. 93% of them were later able to transition into regular schooling. In addition to lessons, the project also offered psychosocial support.

### Outlook:

Emergency relief, including the provision of drinking water, will remain a part of our country programme in line with the ongoing needs. The region continues to suffer from severe food insecurity. Therefore, arche noVa will expand its agricultural activities. From wheat cultivation to the distribution of bread, particularly to vulnerable families, structures will be developed that are sustainable and community-led. Educational activities will round out the programme, which aims to provide prospects in one of the largest humanitarian crises.

## At a glance

In 2012, arche noVa distributed bread and drinking water in Syria for the first time. Since then, we have been supporting people caught between the fronts. This is only possible because we have built up a well-coordinated team over the years and work together with strong local partners.

- > **Number of projects:** 6
- > **Project regions** (governorates): Afrin, Aleppo, Deir Ez-Zor, al-Hasaka, Idlib, ar-Raqqa
- > **Partner organisations:** Bonyan, Takaful Al Sham
- > **Focus:** Emergency aid, water supply and sanitation, livelihood, education
- > **Beneficiaries:** 351,000 people affected



Iraq

## A life after the war

The people living in Iraq have endured the unimaginable hardships for decades. Armed conflicts have repeatedly plunged large parts of the population into poverty, forcing millions of Iraqis to flee. Since 1992, arche noVa has been supporting the population affected by the consequences of these wars, working with them to establish the foundation for a life of dignity. In 2024, arche noVa's project work in Iraq comes to an end.

### Context:

The sanctions imposed on Iraq by the United Nations following the Second Gulf War in 1991 triggered a severe humanitarian crisis in the country. In response to the enormous need for assistance, the founding members of arche noVa launched their first mission in Iraqi Kurdistan the following year. Further interventions in northern Iraq followed in 1994, 2003, 2009 and most recently in 2014.

The seizure of power by the so-called Islamic State terrorist militia in 2014 and its reign of violence, which lasted until 2017, forced more than six million Iraqis to flee their homes. Many of them sought refuge in the autonomous Kurdish region in northern Iraq, finding shelter in informal settlements for internally displaced persons (IDPs). These makeshift camps were often lacking basic water and sanitation infrastructure, and there were very few educational and income opportunities available. The population's already difficult living situation was further worsened by the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020.

### Project objective:

Over the past ten years, arche noVa's projects have primarily been aimed at internally displaced persons and their host communities in northern Iraq, as well as people who have returned to their home region. The central aim of these activities has been to ensure safe water and sanitation supply in shelters for IDPs and to improve hygiene standards. Later, our projects also concentrated on municipal infrastructure and sustainably strengthening the food and income situation.

### Project activities:

Initially, arche noVa's activities in the camps focused on providing emergency relief, including the distribution of hygiene kits to the affected population. It quickly became clear that securing a basic water and sanitation supply was essential to improving the hygiene situation. Consequently, arche noVa launched projects that ensured a constant supply of safe drinking water. A technical team was established to carefully monitor the water quality of the facilities built and operated. This team mainly consisted of people living in the camps. In addition to maintaining water and sanitation facilities in the emergency shelters, arche noVa also improved water infrastructure in host communities. This ranged from household-level filtration systems to complex systems for entire communities.

Furthermore, specially formed and trained hygiene teams worked in the camps to train the population in hygiene practices, helping to prevent the spread of infectious diseases. A medical team of doctors and pharmacists treated sick people in the host communities. During the COVID-19 pandemic, medical activities were intensified (e.g., setting up quarantine and isolation wards).

In recent projects, activities have focused on providing the population with future prospects and enabling a secure income. These activities included repairing WASH infrastructure in schools, rehabilitating agricultural irrigation channels, building greenhouses, distributing livestock, and providing various training on animal husbandry. Additionally, staff from local government were involved in the project



**Above left:** To provide water and sanitation services, our team built numerous facilities like this one in Qahatina. The project sites were generally communities hosting large numbers of IDPs and had significant needs for assistance.

**Above right:** For years, arche noVa has secured the water supply in emergency shelters in Iraq, supporting people who were acutely affected by violence, displacement, and loss.

**Below:** Through activities in horticulture and livestock farming, arche noVa was able to offer new prospects for the future to those who had returned to formerly contested areas.

"We lost everything when we fled: our livelihood and income. I used to be a farmer. Now I only have a job on some days. But the most important thing is water. arche noVa has rebuilt the facility in Sankur, where we now live. Before, we drank water that was salty and polluted."

Ali Hussain Adham  
from Sankur (Kirkuk Governorate)



work to raise awareness of climate change and the importance of environmentally friendly waste management at this level.

### Outlook:

Although many people in Iraq have still unable to return to their home regions, the situation has generally stabilized over the past few years. With the end of projects in the

northern part of the country, arche noVa leaves behind infrastructural foundations and a wealth of knowledge, which the population at the individual project locations can build on in the future, thus further improving their living conditions.

## At a glance

Violent conflicts, displacement, and military confrontations have shaped Iraq for decades. In times of extreme humanitarian need, arche noVa has been able to assist the affected civilian population.

- > **Number of projects since 2014:** 26
- > **Project regions (governorates) since 2014:** Dahuk, Diyala, Kirkuk, Sulaimaniyah, Salah Al-Din
- > **Partner organisations since 2014:** BORDA (Bremen Overseas Research and Development Association), Christian Aid Program, Kurdish Health Foundation, Polish Humanitarian Action, Solidarités International, Terre des hommes
- > **Focus:** water, sanitation, hygiene, nutrition and livelihood
- > **Beneficiaries since 2014:** 870,000 people



## Somaliland

# Escaping the spiral of crisis

Our new project area in Somaliland borders Ethiopia. For generations, people have been moving their cattle across the pastures on both sides of the border. The vegetation is sparse, and dry seasons are long. The frequent droughts and increasing water shortages in recent years are putting traditional ways of life under pressure. arche noVa is improving water supply in southern Somaliland, opening up income opportunities and strengthening disaster management.

### Context:

Somaliland, together with Somalia, is the region in the Horn of Africa most affected by drought and the climate crisis. Recently, three consecutive rainy seasons have been far below average, with severe consequences for the population in rural areas, where life for pastoralist communities is already fraught with challenges. Pastoralism and agro-pastoralism are extremely vulnerable to drought. When the rains fail and the soil dries up, not only do livestock and milk production collapse, but agricultural yields also fail. Livestock deaths and complete crop failure are becoming more frequent. Lack of access to safe water and inadequate sanitary facilities are among the serious issues in the project region, threatening the health and well-being of the population.

### Crisis spiral:

Climate data shows that the annual average temperature in East Africa has already risen significantly since the 1980s. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) assumes that the trend will continue, potentially leading to an increase of up to 3 °C. In our project area in Somaliland, this

means more frequent droughts and extreme weather events, at ever shorter intervals. Unlike previous generations, people now struggle to recover from each shock. With no alternative livelihoods and income sources, losses in livestock and agriculture threaten the survival of families. Their vulnerability to future disasters increases with each crisis.

### Project objective:

The goal of our project activities is to strengthen the resilience and improve the living conditions of pastoral and agro-pastoral communities in the marginalized and underdeveloped districts of Somaliland. In this region, which is particularly affected by drought and lacks year-round flowing rivers, we pursue an integrated and long-term approach. This includes improving access to drinking water and WASH services, as well as diversifying sources of income. All of these efforts together enhance local food security and the supply situation. Additionally, we promote local disaster management.

### Project activities:

In 2023, our long-standing Ethiopian partner organization, OWDA (Organization for Welfare and Development in Action), implemented the first activities in Somaliland in the area of water supply. Four traditional, large rainwater storage tanks, known as Birkaz, were rehabilitated, and two such tanks were newly built. Each of these tanks, built in the ground, holds approximately 800 cubic meters of water, significantly improving the local water supply. Where people previously had to rely on contaminated surface water due to lack of alternatives, and waterborne diseases were widespread, there is now stored rainwater. OWDA has extensive experience with Birkaz and has optimized their construction over the years, including a reinforced foundation, additional settling basins and sand filters, as well as hand pumps for water distribution.

At the project sites, WASH committees were formed, trained, and equipped. They are responsible for maintaining the facilities. In addition, promoters were trained in hygiene and sanitation topics, conducting initial cleaning campaigns and information sessions, educating the population on the connection between water, hygiene, and health.



**Above and below:** Theory and practice in beekeeping were on the curriculum of one of our vocational training courses in the Bali-Gubadle district in 2023. The participants also received an initial set of equipment. Their goal: to generate additional income by selling honey at local markets.

**Right:** Safe drinking water is scarce in Somaliland. Our project ensures the repair and construction of traditional rainwater reservoirs, each with a capacity of around 800 cubic meters.



“For women like me, there have been almost no opportunities to earn our own income. I am very happy to be one of those who received some capital, a sewing machine and training. This has greatly improved my skills, and I can earn money with tailoring.”

Nimco Mohamed Jibril  
from Bali-Gubadle

Our second focus in Somaliland in 2023 was on sources of income. We provided training to 55 particularly vulnerable people in various professional fields and provided initial equipment for their new jobs. Experts taught the participants beekeeping, poultry farming and tailoring. In addition, preparations for our multi-year project in the area of climate-sensitive sustainability of WASH activities and disaster management began at the end of 2023. Initial meetings and consultations were held with the local government, community representatives and other local stakeholders.

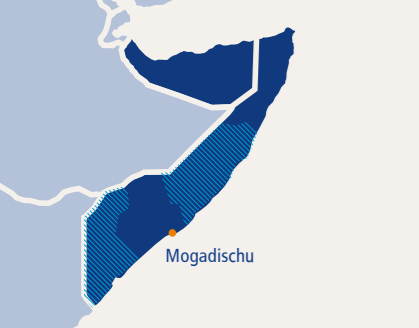
### Outlook:

Through ongoing projects, communities will be better prepared for recurring shocks, such as flash floods, droughts, or the outbreak of infectious diseases, and will become more resilient. Vulnerable populations will be actively involved, and local capacities for disaster preparedness and response will be strengthened. Among other things, this includes establishing early warning systems and emergency plans.

## At a glance

Somaliland joined our areas of operation in 2023. Here, we can combine our long-standing experience with our Ethiopian partner organization and new ideas. Focus: Strengthening the self-help capacities and resilience of the population.

- > **Number of projects:** 3
- > **Project regions:** Maroodi Jeex (Woqooyi Galbeed), Distrikt Bali-Gubadle
- > **Partner organisations:** Organization for Welfare and Development in Action
- > **Focus:** water, sanitation, hygiene, livelihood, disaster preparedness
- > **Beneficiaries:** 350,000 people



## Somalia

# Century flood after long drought

The Shabelle River is the most important lifeline in central Somalia. However, it regularly overflows its banks, though rarely as destructively as in 2023. Entire regions were flooded by the Shabelle and other smaller rivers. Around 2.4 million people were affected. Our local partner organisations were directly on site in Beledweyne (Hirshabelle State) and other locations, provided emergency aid.

### Context:

Somalia is ranked among the least developed countries in the world by the UN. In addition to structural problems, people are facing acute crises resulting from conflicts and the climate crisis. Nearly 40% of the population relies on humanitarian aid, and more than half of the people are affected by water shortages. From 2020 to 2023, Somalia experienced severe droughts, and the country was on the brink of famine. Then, in late 2023, an extremely heavy Deyr rainy season, combined with the El Niño effect, led to the worst floods in years, just months after the severe drought.

### Project objective:

arche noVa supports people affected by various natural disasters and displacement from crisis regions, primarily by building WASH capacities. Our activities in the area of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) are complemented by measures to ensure food security and disaster-preparedness.

### Project activities:

The lack of safe drinking water is one of the biggest problems and health risks in our project areas. Time and again, the lack of water drives people and their herds to flee. For example, around 6,000 residents of Beendarte in the Aadao district (Galmudug) were on the verge of leaving their homes due to the drought. Our intervention at this critical time was essential. In 2023, our partner organisation PAH (Polska Akcja Humanitarna), as part of our cooperation, built a well with solar-powered pump and a trough for livestock, to secure the water supply. This was great relief, especially for the women and girls who previously had to carry water over 13 kilometres.

In addition to water availability, our activities also focus on improving water quality to sustainably improve the supply situation for the people. A prime example is our intervention in the village of Moyko along the Shabelle River, where our partner organisation PAH installed a SkyHydrant filtration system in 2023. Since then, approximately 3,480 people have had safe drinking water near their homes.

Further activities took place in our various project regions, addressing both sustainable changes and acute emergencies. These activities in 2023 included the construction of a waste disposal site, the installation of sanitary facilities, and water deliveries via tank trucks.

Among the acute crises where arche noVa was able to assist were the early-year drought in Southwest Somalia, the El Niño floods in the districts of Jowhar, Beledweyne and Galkayo, as well as armed conflicts, such as in the community of Geriley, where 1,200 families had to flee.

The standard that arche noVa guarantees in emergency aid is 45 litres of safe drinking water per person per day. In 2023, for example, people who had to flee the completely flooded town of Beledweyne received water deliveries by tanker. In addition, food, hygiene kits, and relief supplies such as tarpaulins, mosquito nets, and mattresses were distributed, along with cash transfers to those in greatest need. Temporary sanitation facilities were also set up.



**Above:** Where people have sought refuge in temporary shelters after the flooding along the Shabelle River, our local partner organisation has set up temporary sanitation facilities.



**Right:** As an emergency relief measure, our partner organisation distributed drinking water by tank trucks – for example, in the village of Darusalam.

**Below:** In expanding water supply systems like in Belet Xawoo in the Gedo Region (Jubaland), solar power systems are being installed for energy provision.



“The unconditional cash transfer has changed my life. I received \$220 and opened a small kiosk where I sell snacks, cookies, drinks and small household items. This contributes to my family’s monthly income. I can now send four of my children to school.”

Maymuna Hirsi Osman  
Aadaado District



### South-South knowledge transfer:

arche noVa actively promotes knowledge exchange in the area of WASH, particularly with and between our local partner organisations. In 2023, PAH in Somalia benefited from the experience of our Ethiopian partner organisation, OWDA. Specifically, they received advice on the importance of connecting floating river water pumps with flexible pipes. Initially, rigid constructions were used in Ethiopia, which turned out to be a mistake during flooding. In Somalia, these lessons were applied to the floating pump in Moyko, with success: During the severe El Niño floods in 2023, the system remained intact.

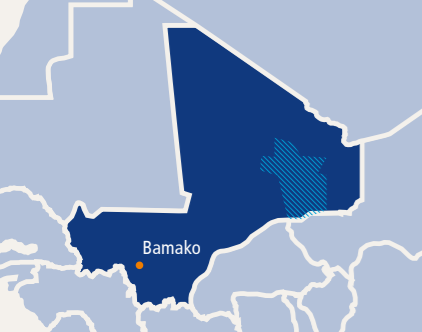
### Outlook:

Given the numerous structural deficits, ongoing conflicts and increasing climate impacts, our local partner organisations and we expect the humanitarian needs in Somalia to continue to rise. Therefore, the focus of arche noVa’s country programme is on strengthening the resilience of vulnerable communities. In the spirit of forward-looking aid, our goal is to reduce or mitigate acute emergencies.

## At a glance

arche noVa has been active in Somalia since 2014, focusing on communities in rural areas that are particularly affected by the impacts of climate change. Vulnerable groups, including people living in extreme poverty, the elderly, people with disabilities, female-headed households, ethnic minorities, and internally displaced persons, are the primary beneficiaries.

- > **Number of projects:** 3
- > **Project regions:** Galmudug states, Hirshabelle, Jubaland
- > **Partner organisations:** Action for Social and Economic Progress, Polska Akcja Humanitarna
- > **Focus:** water, sanitation, hygiene, food security, livelihood, disaster preparedness



Mali

## Strengthening rural communities

Mali is one of arche noVa's long-term project areas. Over the years, we have built expertise and partnerships through multiple projects. What started in 2013 with targeted activities in the desert city of Timbuktu has evolved into a comprehensive engagement in rural areas along the Niger border. After a budget-related pause, arche noVa resumed its work in late 2022, combining tried-and-tested activities with new approaches.

### Context:

Our project area in Mali is located on the southern edge of the Sahara, around the city of Gao. This region is severely impacted by escalating climatic conditions, conflict, and crime. The local economy is extremely weak and access to resources is precarious. A large portion of the population lives below the poverty line, with few households having a secure source of income. Even small problems, such as the illness of an animal in a herd, or more significant threats, such as entire harvests drying up, can jeopardize the survival of entire families. One of the most pressing structural issues is the lack of access to safe water.

### Project objective:

To improve the situation of especially vulnerable groups in remote communities affected by conflict and climate change, and to strengthen their resilience, arche noVa launched a broad, multi-sectoral consortium project in 2022 in partnership with the long-standing local organization Nouveaux Horizons. This cross-border project also includes activities

in Niger, implemented by our consortium partner ASB (Arbeiter Samariter Bund). The project incorporates disaster management and peacebuilding activities, aiming to ease tensions in this conflict-prone border region.

### Project activities:

Building on the experience of previous projects, a key focus of our work in Mali is again water supply. The region faces severe water insecurity due to extreme drought and increasing desertification. The Niger River is the only major river in the region, but its water is not drinkable. In 2023, eight wells were renovated and ten new ones constructed as part of our project. In order to achieve sustainability, management committees were established and trained at all sites to oversee and maintain the newly built infrastructure. In 2023 a total of 98 young people also received specialist training in repairing water infrastructure.

Other activities address the population's food security and income situation. In 2023, ten community vegetable gardens with irrigation systems were expanded. The women's groups involved received seeds and farming equipment for their agricultural activities. Furthermore, 320 women were trained agricultural product processing and preservation.

Based on local needs analysis, our project also supports livestock farming. Camels, cattle, goats and sheep are traditionally the most important source of income for many families. In 2023, a vaccination park was set up as part of the project and a first vaccination campaign (for 11,000 animals) was carried out. Additionally, 176 young people working in livestock cooperatives received training in animal health and nutrition. At the request of the local population, two slaughterhouses were either rehabilitated or newly built.

### Climate crisis prevention:

A major focus of our current project is disaster-risk management. In 2023, embankment and dunes were reinforced, with cash-for-work measures, to protect fields and villages from flooding during heavy rainfall and to prevent soil erosion. Furthermore, 33 early warning and emergency response groups were supported. Information on the dan-



**Above:** Our project improves veterinary care and enables the vaccination of entire herds of livestock.

**Right:** Just like the women's group in Taboye, people celebrate every new well, every water tank and every livestock watering point in our project, as the region faces severe water scarcity.

**Below:** Learning what can be done to prevent evaporation is part of the training on garden cultivation.



"Kel-Tondibi used to be a meeting point for many nomadic communities. With climate change, which has dried up our water pond, people have moved away. Since the water supply was rebuilt, our village has come back to life. The cattle breeders who had left due to the lack of water have returned with their animals. Everything is stabilizing. We are building houses. People are settling down, and we've started gardening. Now, we have potatoes, beans and other vegetables."

Mossa Ag Agaly, Kel-Tondibi (Bourem district, Gao region)

gers of climate risks and damage prevention options were provided through 600 radio messages as well as specialist workshops, in which 250 young people took part. Additionally, 300 young people were trained on the interconnection between peace, development and security.

### Outlook:

Water supply and income generation will remain the focus of our work until the end of the project. Additionally, green infrastructure will continue to be developed, including em-

bankment construction and the greening of dunes and riverbanks. The project also aims to create a multiplier effect, enabling the people involved to acquire knowledge and share it with others in the region. This is crucial for the sustainability of the project, particularly in the areas of disaster prevention and peacebuilding.

### At a glance

Our project is only possible due to the trusting cooperation with our local partner organisations. International staff do not have access to the region. Numerous security risks threaten the people on the ground. Strengthening their livelihoods remains the primary focus of our engagement.

- > **Number of projects:** 2
- > **Project region:** Gao region
- > **Partner organisation:** Nouveaux Horizons
- > **Cooperation:** Cross-border project with ASB in Niger
- > **Focus:** water, livelihood, disaster preparedness
- > **Beneficiaries:** 79,000 people

Our focus: Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)

## Breaking the taboo: Menstruation belongs to the conversation!

As an aid organisation focused on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), arche noVa implements activities related to menstrual hygiene in numerous project regions. We address three key areas: awareness-raising and education, access to menstrual hygiene products, and the improvement of water and sanitation facilities. Our goal is to ensure that menstruating individuals can experience their periods in safety and dignity.

Globally, menstruation presents a significant challenge for over 500 million people every month. In addition to the lack of toilets and access to hygiene products, inadequate education and societal taboos are particularly impactful on the lives of those affected.

With our partners, arche noVa specifically supports menstruating individuals in both emergency relief and development cooperation projects. For example, sanitary pads, in line with international standards for humanitarian aid, are regularly included in hygiene kits distributed during emergencies.

In many of our project countries, menstruation is a key issue. We ensure that our approach is sensitive to socio-cultural norms, the personal preferences of those involved and the local context, providing targeted offerings. This is particularly true in Myanmar, where arche noVa specifically addresses the needs of menstruating individuals in the improvement of WASH infrastructure. Additionally, we introduce young people to topics such as puberty and menstrual hygiene

through various offerings, including a specially developed comic book. With humour, empathy, and modern design, the educational book addresses changes in the human body during puberty and raises awareness about menstruation. Open questions are also addressed in hygiene workshops. In 2023, 17-year-old student Ma Theingi Win was one of the participants. "I didn't know how to use pads or how to dispose of them properly," she shared. She's certainly not alone in this. Many adults also feel unsure about the topic. "Now, I wrap the pads up and dispose of them in trash cans," Ma Theingi Win explained.

Societal taboos and stigmas not only lead to health consequences but also result in menstruating people losing economic opportunities, and menstruating adolescents missing school. This is also the case in our project area in Uganda. "Many women and girls simply cannot afford sanitary pads," said Betty Nakato, who was trained as a hygiene promoter through our project. Since then, she has been offering affordable, locally-made reusable pads on Sowe Island by Lake Victoria and educating the community about menstruation. She also engages men and boys, as menstruation concerns everyone.

Betty Nakato is particularly concerned about another issue impacting the lives of menstruating people: "In Uganda, there is a lack of sanitation facilities – in schools, workplaces, and public spaces." As a result, girls and women often miss out on educational and career opportunities because they have no means of taking care of themselves in the places where they wish to learn or work. By building gender-sensitive toilets in communities around Lake Victoria, arche noVa has been combating this injustice for many years.

An interview about menstrual hygiene? For 17-year-old Ma Theingi Win from the Shan State in Myanmar, this is no longer an issue since attending the awareness event hosted by arche noVa

## 2023 at a glance



**65,700 bottles**

with 1.5 litres of water were distributed during the acute emergency response following the earthquake in Syria.



**29 health stations**

in Ethiopia received cholera medication after the flooding along the Shabelle River.



**11,000 doses**

of vaccine were administered to livestock in Mali.



**2,530 metres**

of irrigation canals for fruit orchards were renovated in Lebanon.



**152 households**

from Udachne and Serhiyyka in Ukraine received briquettes to help them survive winter.



**4 boats**

were provided to local disaster preparedness teams in Myanmar for emergency relief operations.



## Saving the world – without despair



Climate crisis with floods and droughts, poverty, wars, displacement and devastating environmental pollution: The challenges for the next generation are immense. Many young people face mental health issues after leaving school. How can we address these challenges without falling into despair? This was the approach for “Vijana na Afya – Let’s create a healthy world”, our exchange project with young adults from Kenya and Germany.

The polycrises burdening young people today are considerable. Growing up in a world dominated by alarming crisis narratives, many suffer from mental health disorders – according to the World Health Organization (WHO), one in seven young people are affected. “The profound impact hinders their ability to perform academically and professionally, as well as maintain relationships,” writes the WHO. Young people with mental health problems tragically are more likely to fall into drug abuse or suicidal behavior. Mara Kayser, project manager of “Vijana na Afya” at arche noVa, explains: “In both Germany and Kenya, the mental well-being of young people is becoming an increasingly urgent issue for public health.”

### Real encounters foster understanding and tolerance

What role can youth exchange play in promoting crisis resilience? “The challenges are similar all over the world,” says Mara Kayser. “An international exchange genuine face-

to-face encounters, far from the screen, can be incredibly enriching, alleviate fear, and offer new innovative ideas that provide a fresh, positive perspective on the future.” Dr Dorcas Beryl Otieno, Executive Director of the Kenya Organisation for Environmental Education (KOE), also sees great benefit: “Youth encounters are key to exchanging knowledge and experiences, understanding both shared and differing viewpoints, and promoting cultural diversity.”

### Health must be considered globally

In developing the project, arche noVa focused on the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), particularly the third goal related to health and well-being. “The global community seeks to ensure healthy lives for all people of all ages and promote well-being,” says Mara Kayser. “COVID-19 showed us that health is a global concern. It is not enough to think about it on an individual or national level.”

“The ‘Vijana na Afya’ project provided an excellent framework for integrating health, well-being and sustainability into the everyday realities of young people with different economic, geographical and social backgrounds from Kenya and Germany.”

Dr Dorcas Beryl Otieno  
OGW, Executive Director Kenya Organization  
for Environmental Education (KOE)



The project was much more than just professional development, like a typical training course. “The Vijana na Afya project took me on an enlightening learning journey,” said Kenyan Faith Kilonzo. She gained a “deeper understanding of global dynamics and interdependencies”.

Project coordinator Mara Kayser believes in the potential of exchange programmes: “Meeting and truly perceiving one another is a crucial element in how we want to live together and engage empathically.”

### Target group: Young people in education work

The “Vijana na Afya – Let’s create a healthy world – Health and well-being at the heart of youth work” project ran from May 2022 to December 2023 and was implemented with the Kenyan partner organisation Kenya Organization for Environmental Education (KOE). The target group was young people in youth and education work who act as multipliers and are interested in sustainability and health. Participants included Anna Ahmadi, a social worker from Dresden, Selma Weidensdörfer, a volunteer with the PrimaKlimaAG at the Free Alternative School Dresden, and Faith Kilonzo, Deputy Coordinator for the Makueni District Government, who is among the Top 20 Global Young Women dedicated to sustainable development. In total, the programme included 14 participants, seven from Kenya and seven from Germany. An open call for applications was posted on social media, via email, and through networks in both countries.

### Urban gardens in Kenya and Germany

The participants completed seminars in their respective countries and visited each other – once in Nairobi and again in Dresden. This included one week of hosting their tandem partners. The core content of the exchange focused on topics such as community-built urban gardens, their function and vision, and a seminar on the connection between beauty ideals and the continuities in colonialism. Other topics included: racism, the relationship between humans and animals, consumer behaviour, health and climate change, and self-care.

### Positive feedback after the exchange

“This exchange was a journey that changed me on so many levels and taught me so much. My awareness has shifted. I’ve started to understand global interconnections better” is how Anna Ahmadi from Dresden sums up the exchange.

### Outlook

Building on the positive experiences from “Vijana na Afya”, arche noVa continues its international work in education for sustainable development (ESD). Another exchange project with KOEE in Kenya is already in concrete planning, and we are also aiming to implement an ESD initiative with our long-standing partner organisation KWDT in Uganda.



## ESD & GLOBAL LERNING – Project list 2023

Title	„Eine Welt = Deine Welt“	Service Point ESD arche noVa	Subject promoter position of global learning/ESD in Saxony	Vijana na afya – Youth for Health
Description	School project days on the topic of “Global Learning/Education for Sustainable Development (ESD),” providing of materials, training and further education for multipliers	Long-term support for educational institutions in establishing ESD and sustainability in their structures and offerings	Consulting and conducting professional development for educators on ESD and sustainability in schools; creating, publishing, and distributing ESD teaching examples; working in committees to further develop ESD in Saxony	ESD youth exchange on UN SDG 3 (Health) with participants from Germany and Kenya
Duration	01/2023 – 12/2025	06/2023 – 05/2025	01/2022 – 12/2027	05/2022 – 12/2023
Region	Saxony/Brandenburg	Saxony (Landkreis Meißen, Landkreis Nordsachsen, Stadt Dresden)	Saxony	Germany (Dresden)/Kenya (Nairobi)
Beneficiaries	1,277 participants from school classes or voluntary groups	4 educational institutions from primary school to vocational school	667 counselled or trained persons from the Saxon education sector	14 participants in international exchange
Funding	BFDW, BMZ, FS, KF	FS	BMZ, FS	BFDW, BMZ, FS, KF, SNSB
Partner	Public libraries in Saxony, DHMD, Stadtentwässerung Dresden	Cambio e.V., LaNU, LVNS e.V.	ENS, LASUB, SMK	KOEE
Annual Budgets for 2023	€145,942.17	€74,670.00	€51,000.00	€101,020.01

Abbreviations: BFDW: Brot für die Welt, BMZ: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, DHMD: Deutsches Hygiene-Museum Dresden, ENS: Entwicklungspolitisches Netzwerk Sachsen, ESD: Education for sustainable development, FS: Free State of Saxony, KF: Katholischer Fonds, KOEE: Kenyan Organization for Environmental Education (Kenia), LaNU: Sächsische Landesstiftung Natur und Umwelt, LASUB: Landesamt für Schule und Bildung (Sachsen), LVNS: Landesverband Nachhaltiges Sachsen e.V., SDG: Sustainable Development Goal, SNSB: Stiftung Nord-Süd-Brücken, SMK: Sächsisches Kultusministerium/Saxon Ministry of Education and Culture

## Our network 2023

At arche noVa we work in partnership with numerous national and international institutions. Knowledge exchange and coordination are central to our work. We see ourselves as part of a global network that is committed to humanity and the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

	<b>Aktion Deutschland Hilft</b> – Germany’s Relief Coalition		<b>German Toilet Organization</b> – GTO – German Toilet Organization e.V., the German theme organisation for sustainable sanitation solutions worldwide
	<b>Auswärtiges Amt</b> – Foreign Office – of the Federal Republic of Germany, esp. Humanitarian aid coordinating committee (KoA)		<b>BNE SACHSEN</b> – ESD state working group in Saxony – working group for the further development and implementation of the federal ESD strategy and quality assurance of the measures taken
	<b>agl</b> – The Association of One World Regional Networks in Germany		<b>Dresden Ditzgen</b> – State Capital Dresden – esp. Action Alliance Dresden Helps
	<b>BMUV</b> – Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection		<b>RWSN</b> – Rural Water and Supply Network global – Network for technical and professional competence in practice and politics in rural water supply
	<b>BMZ</b> – Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development		<b>stiftung nord-süd brücken</b> – North-South Bridges Foundation – Representation of interests of East German non-governmental organisations
	<b>BÜNDNIS GEGEN RASSISMUS</b> – Alliance against racism – Alliance for a just and humane Saxony under the umbrella of the ENS		<b>sustainable sanitation alliance</b> – Sustainable Sanitation Alliance – international network whose members share the vision of sustainable sanitation
	<b>DER PARITÄTISCHE UNTER SPITZENVERBAND</b> – The Paritätische/Paritätischer Landesverband Sachsen – Welfare association of independent members doing social work for others or as self-help		<b>tolerantes sachsen</b> – tolerant saxony – Network for democracy and against racism in Saxony
	<b>Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection</b> – Echo – European Humanitarian Aid Office – supports the work of aid organisations in the event of major disasters		<b>OCHA</b> – UN OCHA – United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Part of the United Nations Secretariat, responsible for bringing together humanitarian actors in disasters and crises
	<b>ENGAGEMENT GLOBAL</b> – Engagement Global gGmbH – Central contact point for the diversity of development policy engagement as well as information and education work at the BMZ		<b>UNICEF</b> – UNICEF – the United Nations Children’s Fund
	<b>ENS</b> – Development Policy Network Saxony – Association of associations, groups and initiatives that work for sustainable development and global justice		<b>VENRO</b> – VENRO – Association of Development Non-Governmental Organisations in Germany
	<b>SACHSEN</b> – Free State of Saxony – esp. Saxon State Chancellery, Saxon State Ministry for Culture, State Directorate of Saxony, Saxon State Office for Education and Schools, Saxon State Foundation for Nature and the Environment		<b>WASH NETZWERK</b> – WASH Network – Initiative of German non-governmental organisations that are committed to the provision of water, sanitation and hygiene
	<b>giz</b> – Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH – a state company that provides services in the field of international development cooperation and international education work.	<b>FURTHER PARTNERS 2023</b>	
	<b>WASH Cluster</b> – Global WASH Cluster – International Alliance for the Coordination of Emergency aid in the fields of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	Numerous national and local partner organisations in our project countries, as well as further institutions in Germany, including, among others: aha – anders handeln e.V., Brot für die Welt – Evangelisches Werk für Diakonie und Entwicklung e.V., Cambio e.V., EPIZ e.V. Berlin, ESF – Europäischer Sozialfonds, Katholischer Fonds, TU Dresden, Sächsische Landesfachstelle für Bibliotheken, Stiftung Deutsches Hygiene-Museum	

## Supporting schools and municipalities

Child labour in mines, container ships on the oceans, deforested rainforests for palm oil, plastic goods at knockdown prices – the world is complex, and environmental and climate protection are becoming harder to navigate. The Service Point ESD brings clarity to this complexity.

arche noVa supports schools, libraries, local authorities, associations, foundations and other institutions in education for sustainable development (ESD). At one of eight service points in Saxony, our ESD expert Claudia Fischer raises awareness of sustainable lifestyles and helps various institutions become more sustainable learning environments. “We aim to provide not only knowledge but also a basic understanding of one’s own privileged position,” explains Ronny Keydel, Head of “Global Learning and ESD” at arche noVa.

The service point at arche noVa works closely with pilot institutions, provides teaching materials, organizes project days and workshops, and supports interested institutions. Among these are: the Community School Campus Cordis and the 92nd Elementary School in Dresden, the Vocational School Centre “Karl Preusker” in Großenhain, the Christian Gymnasium “Rudolph Stempel” in Riesa and libraries in North Saxony.

### Sustainability concerns everyone

The shift from the fossil-fuel age and the throw-away society towards a more resource-conscious lifestyle permeates all areas of life and affects everyone – from daycare centres to administration and businesses. That’s why arche noVa not only advises schools but also other institutions, such as Diakonie Sachsen, in developing their sustainability strategies. “Our goal is to create sustainable spaces, especially in rural areas, and connect them locally,” says Claudia Fischer, responsible for the districts of North Saxony, Meißen and the city of Dresden.

All ESD service points in Saxony are funded by the Ministry of Education and Cultural Affairs. They are coordinated by the Saxon State Foundation for Nature and the Environment.

# Public engagement and campaigns

Our mission and the work of the project departments are the core of our external communication, which we design creatively, targeting specific audiences and adapting to various media formats. This approach helps arche noVa meet the demand for transparency, a principle we hold especially dear as a humanitarian organisation. In 2023, we communicated our core messages across various channels and collaborated within networks to spread them further.



## In the heart of action: World Water Day at the Dresden Frauenkirche

What is happening to our life-giving water? This question drew people to the Dresden Frauenkirche on March 22, 2023, for World Water Day. arche noVa was a beneficiary partner for the event, organised by the Saxon Ministry of the Environment. Large-scale images of our water projects were displayed in the Lower Church. In the evening, arche noVa's Managing Director Mathias Anderson participated in a discussion moderated by Michaela Koschak and Dr. Eckart von Hirschhausen. Last but not least, arche noVa ambassador and jazz singer Esther Kaiser, along with her pianist, contributed music focused on the theme of water.

## On point: Mayor with a toilet brush

Unexpectedly, Mayor Dirk Hilbert found himself holding a toilet brush from arche noVa at the "Dresden is(s)t bunt" event on September 4, 2023. He had the opportunity to aim at our action toilet three times, drawing the attention of passers-by to a globally urgent issue. arche noVa regularly uses public events as opportunities to raise awareness about the worldwide sanitation crisis. Our toilet brush target challenge was a crowd-puller at the event on Dresden's Augustus Bridge and sparked many conversations.



## Viral impact: Menstrual hygiene campaign

arche noVa ambassador Mike Zaka Sommerfeldt helped us gain attention for the important issue of menstrual hygiene on May 28, 2023, World Menstrual Hygiene Day. In a short video with the simple message, "Without menstruation, none of us would be alive," he debunked the misconception that this issue only concerns women. The video went viral on social media, supporting our campaign to destigmatize this important WASH topic. We also used World Menstrual Hygiene Day to launch further awareness initiatives and a fundraising appeal for projects related to menstrual hygiene.



## Overwhelming: WDR charity marathon

The arche noVa projects in Uganda and Lebanon were among the projects supported by the WDR charity marathon 2023. On the first Sunday of Advent, we had the opportunity to report live from the Glass Studio in Düsseldorf about how crucial it is for Syrian refugee families to ensure that their children can attend school at their place of refuge. Our report on the educational project in Lebanon, along with many other stories from the Aktion Deutschland Hilft coalition, contributed to the overwhelming fundraising total of approximately €11.3 million euros from the WDR event.

## Multifaceted: Water topic at SachsenEnergie

With a multi-part campaign, SachsenEnergie AG raised awareness in 2023 about the fact that safe drinking water, like that from Saxon taps, is not a given for everyone. In the company's customer magazine, Andrea Bindel, WASH Advisor at arche noVa, was given the opportunity to discuss arche noVa's water projects and her personal connection to water. Lorenz Ewers, Emergency Relief and Logistics Officer at arche noVa, also shared his expert knowledge in an interview.



## Committed: Fundraising run by the Freie Alternativschule Dresden

Children may not often be the biggest donors, but what they excel at is collective commitment that leads to impressive amounts raised. A prime example of this was the 2023 fundraising run for water by the Freie Alternativschule Dresden. Around 60 children and young people, from first graders to high school students, took part. They gave their all on the 400-meter track. "Some of them completed 28 laps," said teacher Claudia Jobst. "Parents came to cheer and even ran along – and some brought their dog too!" We thank them for their incredible commitment, which resulted in a donation of 7,211.26 euros.

## Empowered: Photography workshop for teams on the ground

In line with our mission to strengthen the capacities of those we work with, arche noVa developed a photography workshop in 2023. The online training is aimed at our local teams and the teams of our local partner organisations. Photographer Axel Fassio led the two-day workshops, sharing his expertise in photographing in humanitarian contexts. He also introduced participants to basic rules of photography and image composition. During the inaugural session in 2023, participants from the Middle East showed particular interest in best practice examples.



# Transparency and accountability at arche noVa

Respect for human rights is at the core of arche noVa’s mission. Our goal is to protect and promote them. That is why we maintain the highest standards of quality, integrity, transparency and accountability in all our activities. Responsible and credible work, for us, means adhering not only to our own clear commitments but also to the guidelines and standards of the networks and partner institutions with whom we collaborate.

## Global policies

Our organisation, our projects and our work are based on shared values and principles. The cornerstone of our Global Policies is the Code of Conduct. This document outlines the principles to which all staff members commit upon joining the organisation. Staff are ambassadors of arche noVa in every aspect of their work and are expected to refrain from any form of abuse of power. Our complaint management guidelines are part of the Code of Conduct, and any violations are thoroughly investigated. Additional Global Policies cover specific topics such as:

- > Child protection
- > Inclusion and diversity
- > Security
- > Anti-corruption
- > Anti-gender-based violence

To standardize and legalize our internal processes, arche noVa has also developed guidelines, procedures, and standards, which are continuously improved.

## External guidelines and standards

As a member of the Association of German Non-Governmental Development Organizations (VENRO), arche noVa is committed to the network’s guidelines:

- > VENRO Code of Conduct on Transparency, Organisational Management and Monitoring
- > VENRO Code on Children’s Rights
- > VENRO Code on Development-Related Public Relations

arche noVa also adheres to the Code of Conduct of the international Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement in its work.

We align our actions with the standards and guidelines of the Sphere Project, which defines, promotes, and applies humanitarian principles and minimum standards to ensure life-saving, protective, and accountable humanitarian aid.

arche noVa actively contributed to the Sphere Project's publications in the field of water and sanitation. The Sphere Standards include:

- > Humanitarian Charta
- > Protection Principles
- > Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response

## Humanitäres Cluster

As part of the humanitarian reform, international organisations introduced the so-called Cluster Approach in 2005 to improve coordination within different humanitarian sectors. arche noVa is a member of several WASH Clusters and other relevant clusters, adhering to the standards set for each country individually.

## Signing the Climate and Environmental Charter

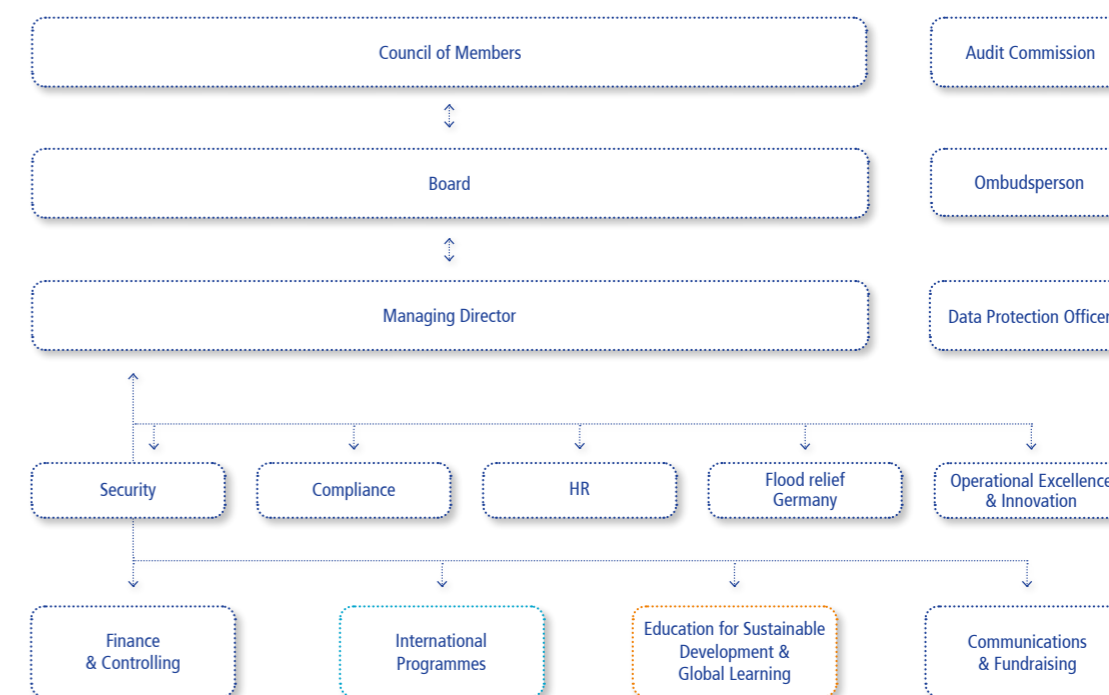
In 2023, arche noVa signed the “Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations”. Through this, we express our concern about the scale of the global climate and environmental crisis and take responsibility for our actions. arche noVa commits to enhancing its efforts to address the growing demand for humanitarian aid and the impacts of climate change, while striving to operate in the most environmentally friendly and sustainable way possible.

## Transparent Civil Society

arche noVa has joined the self-commitment declaration of the Initiative for Transparent Civil Society (Initiative Transparente Zivilgesellschaft) launched by Transparency International Deutschland e.V. In this regard, arche noVa makes the ten required pieces of information about our organisation easily accessible and understandable on our website: [www.arche-nova.org](http://www.arche-nova.org).



# Organisational structure



arche noVa – Initiative für Menschen in Not e.V. is a registered, non-profit and charitable association. Its governing bodies are the Council of Members, the Board of Directors, the Managing Director, and the Audit Commission.

**Council of Members:** The Council of Members holds an annual general assembly. It is the highest body within the organisation and determines the association's policies. Key tasks include deciding on the discharge of the Board of Directors, amending the statutes, deciding on the exclusion of members, electing Board members, electing the Audit Commission, and approving the annual budget. The Council of Members consist of 48 members, who engage on a voluntary basis.

**Board:** The Board of Directors is elected for a term of three years and consists of at least three and no more than five members. Roles within the Board are allocated among its members. Based on a factual and financial annual report from the Board and the yearly evaluation by the independent Audit Commission, the General Assembly grants discharge to the Board. The Board makes decisions regarding the admission and exclusion of members. Board members work on a voluntary basis. In accordance with the statutes, the Board manages the organisation’s affairs, either through its own members or by delegating tasks to an employed Managing Director or a special representative. Currently, the Board consists of: Stefan Mertenskötter (Chairman of the Board), Cornelia Trentzsch (Vice Chair of the Board), Clivia Bahrke (Treasurer), Tina Wünschmann (Board Member).

**Managing Director:** Since January 1, 2024, Dr. Jens Ola has served as the full-time Managing Director. The Managing Director is responsible for the day-to-day administrative operations of the organisation and is appointed by the Board of Directors. He is supported by two deputies, Mathias Anderson and Frank Engel, who form the Executive Management team alongside him.

**Audit Commission:** The Audit Commission is elected by the Council of Members every two years and operates on a voluntary basis. The Audit Commission has the right to access all organisational documents at any time.

**Data Protection Officer:** The external Data Protection Officer, Ms Kerstin Herschel, monitors compliance with the data protection provisions of the European General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and the German Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG) throughout the organisation.

**Ombudsperson:** The ombudsperson, Dr Christian Holtermann, is an external and independent person for complaints about all activities of arche noVa. The ombudsperson intervenes when an individual feels affected by misconduct within the organisation, when there is suspicion of corruption or improper benefit-taking, or when individuals reporting incidents of sexualized harassment or gender-based violence seek support.

Version 09/2024

## Setting the course



Since 2023, the board of arche noVa consists of four members (from left to right): Tina Wünschmann (Member), Cornelia Trentzsch (Vice Chair of the Board), Stefan Mertenskötter (Chairman of the Board), Clivia Bahrke (Treasurer).

In response to the increasing challenges faced by arche noVa as a humanitarian organisation, we continued to advance our organisational development process in 2023. What is the focus of arche noVa? How far can and should growth go? What funding sources can be explored? These strategic questions were closely monitored by the Board, while also ensuring the smooth operational work of the organisation in close cooperation with the Managing Director and the team.

In 2023, our operations in Ukraine and Syria played a particularly significant role. The ongoing violence in both countries and an earthquake disaster in Syria necessitated additional emergency relief activities. From the board's perspective, both humanitarian crises once again shown how meaningful and effective our cooperation with local partner organisations is. Together, we can reach those who are among the most vulnerable in a crisis region – whether they live in remote areas, belong to disadvantaged groups, or are unable to flee. These are just a few examples of the specific target groups we address.

### Core Compass

Human dignity is inviolable – regardless of origin or place of residence. This is our core compass, from which we derive our commitment to act. As long as human dignity is disregarded in so many places, our work remains vital, both in humanitarian

aid and development cooperation, as well as in education for sustainable development. Our main focus in the international programme is on WASH (Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene), as we view these areas as existential. Projects in this and related sectors, such as food security and disaster preparedness, will increasingly shape our programme in the future. Therefore, we will continue to expand our expertise in this area.

### Risks in Focus

One of the greatest risks in our ongoing work is the threat of security situations in our project regions. The Managing Director and the Security Office regularly inform the Board about the current situation. Necessary responses are decided accordingly, as in the case of the outbreak of violence in Sudan in April 2023, which led to the evacuation of one of our staff members. The well-being of project participants is always our top priority.

We are also deeply concerned about the increasing strain on the resources of humanitarian organisations. While humanitarian needs continue to rise, operations by both international and local aid organisations are often underfunded. This particularly affects forgotten crises, such as those in Mali or Myanmar. How do we address this? What contribution can arche noVa make in times of growing man-made crises and existential climate consequences? How do we secure our resources?

### Setting the Course for the Future

To best meet these challenges and further improve our structures and ways of working, arche noVa launched a structured organisational development process in 2023, supported by an external consultant. The goal was to formulate strategic development goals together and define the necessary steps and changes within the organisation. This process will continue.

A key focus is securing of financial and human resources. arche noVa is aiming for a diversified funding structure to ensure long-term stability. Equally important is our role as an employer, as the lack of skilled workers can also jeopardize our mission. We aim to provide all employees with opportunities for development, thereby improving both recruitment and staff retention. To this end, arche noVa will develop a leadership framework in 2024.

In 2023, a Compliance Office was established across the organisation. This strengthens the integrity and reliability of our work and provides all employees with a secure framework for action.

### Commitment to Sustainability

In 2023, arche noVa took further steps toward greater sustainability. We signed the Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organizations, which covers aspects of climate protection and inclusion, but also calls for greater localization and strengthening of local actors. In the future, our projects will increasingly take climate impacts into account and prepare local populations for impending disasters. All activities will be designed to be climate-sensitive in order to avoid further damage to the ecosystem. As an organisation, we are committed to acting as environmentally friendly and sustainable as possible. Employees from various departments collaborate in a Sustainability Working Group to implement this cross-cutting task across all programmes, country offices, and the headquarters.

### Governing Body

The Board of Directors of arche noVa works on a voluntary basis and meets quarterly with the Managing Director and department heads. In addition, regular internal board meetings and consultations are held. In November 2023, the Board was re-elected by the General Assembly.



Solar technology as an energy source for water supply systems, as seen in this image from Somalia, is a step towards greater sustainability in arche noVa's work. This approach is actively promoted by the Board.

In December, the Board made the decision to appoint Dr. Jens Ola as the new Managing Director, effective January 1, 2024. As a result of this decision, he stepped down from the Board. The Board has since operated with four members.

Author: Cornelia Trentzsch, Vice Chair of the Board

## Introduction

The challenges in humanitarian aid and development cooperation have not diminished in 2023. Acute, ongoing, and complex crises led to a growth in global humanitarian needs, for which public funds were insufficiently available at the international level. At the same time, private donors became increasingly cautious. Nevertheless, arche noVa was able to implement the largest project volume since the organisation's founding. This was made possible primarily by funding institutions that were convinced of the quality of the projects.

Compared to the record year of 2022, arche noVa's donations decreased by about 16% to €2,011,821.51. Among other factors, donations for Ukraine projects, which were particularly strong in 2022, saw a decline. This decrease in donations was more pronounced in 2023 than the contributions for emergency aid following the earthquake disaster in Syria. A positive note is that the share of unrestricted remained nearly constant in absolute numbers and made up over 56% of total donations in 2023. Excluding disaster-related donations, there was even a slight increase in the overall result.

Through telephone marketing, arche noVa was able to gain 200 new regular donors in the reporting year. For this and all other services, as in previous years, there were no performance-based remunerations in fundraising or public relations. External service providers in 2023 included Benefit Informationssysteme AG, Wikando GmbH, dialog4good GmbH, dataform dialogservices GmbH, CleverReach GmbH & Co. KG, and Meltwater Deutschland GmbH.

Contrary to the trend of increasing cuts to international projects in the federal budget, arche noVa received more public funding in 2023. This was particularly true for large humanitarian emergencies in Syria and East Africa, regions to which we have been dedicated for many years. Additionally, thanks to support from the Federal Foreign Office, we were able to launch an innovative global project focused on green humanitarian aid. Furthermore, our activities in transition aid, crisis management, and development cooperation were also supported. Notably, our local partner organisations contributed to the financing of the projects. In 2023, this contribution amounted to approximately €400,000. A significant portion of the funding for arche noVa's projects once again came from the relief coalition Aktion Deutschland Hilft.

arche noVa is aware of the risks involved in project implementation and therefore insists on adherence to both internal guidelines and donor regulations. In the reporting year, despite changing security conditions in several project countries,

most project goals were successfully achieved. This reflects the effectiveness of our project management and our ability to quickly adapt to changing circumstances. This, in turn, positively impacts the prospects for collaborations with grant providers and partners at both national and international levels. However, from a current perspective on the federal budget, there is generally little cause for optimism regarding institutional support for humanitarian work and projects aimed at achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals. This limits future scenarios for humanitarian organisations. arche noVa remains in close dialogue with funding bodies and actively participates in networking efforts to contribute to rationalization of political discussions and expand its room for maneuver.

To ensure the long-term financing of our work, we continue to diversify our funding structure. This task remains a priority for arche noVa and is included in Goal 2 of our Strategic Development Goals, which are to be realized by 2028.

The situation in the national labour market, as well as the international market for skilled workers, remains tense and presents additional challenges for arche noVa, particularly in terms of effective financial management. In 2023, the finance department achieved a milestone in digitalization by implementing new software for project accounting. This continued the ongoing professionalization process at arche noVa and increased the potential for future successful and trusted collaborations with grant providers and private donors.

As the only East German organisation like one with our focus and a mid-sized humanitarian organisation, we must invest considerable effort into operating efficiently and with foresight to remain competitive in the landscape of large non-governmental organisations. This is efficiently true for fundraising, which, according to donation market analyses, presents a particular challenge in the new federal states, where most of arche noVa's donors are located. Gaining permanent private donors and securing continuous donation revenue is a key goal. Strategically, arche noVa sees the sharpening of its profile in the WASH sector as a unique selling point and an opportunity.

## Balance sheet 2023

ASSETS		2023   EUR	2022   EUR
<b>A</b>	<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>		
	I. Intangible assets		
	1. Concessions, licenses, etc.		
	II. Tangible assets		
	1. Other assets, operating and business equipment		
	Vehicles, means of transport	-	-
	Other assets and equipment	17,597.00	8,990.00
	III. Financial assets		
	1. Other loans	5,661.30	5,661.30
<b>B</b>	<b>WORKING CAPITAL</b>		
	I. Receivables, other assets		
	1. Accounts receivable	910,513.87	167,516.69
	2. Other assets	2,849,025.43	3,475,224.13
	II. Cash in hand, bank balances	6,873,219.23	7,435,437.74
<b>C</b>	<b>PREPAID EXPENSES</b>	13,169.39	3,527.07
		<b>10,669,186.22</b>	<b>11,096,356.93</b>
LIABILITIES		2023   EUR	2022   EUR
<b>A</b>	<b>ASSOCIATION ASSETS</b>		
	I. Association capital	199,085.52	199,085.52
	II. Reserves		
	1. Committed reserves	9,843,877.31	10,276,429.94
	2. Free reserves	467,203.11	379,952.65
<b>B</b>	<b>PROVISIONS</b>	72,153.20	59,153.20
<b>C</b>	<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
	1. Liabilities to banks	-	-
	2. Trade accounts payable	72,596.79	86,142.62
	3. Other liabilities from unused funds	9,927.63	18,703.26
	4. Other liabilities	4,342.66	76,889.74
		<b>10,669,186.22</b>	<b>11,096,356.93</b>

The **balance sheet total** of arche noVa e.V. decreased to €10.7 million in 2023. This reduction was mainly due to the dissolution of project-related reserves.

The **fixed assets** primarily consist of tangible assets such as office furniture and IT equipment. The current assets, amounting to €10.6 million, mainly consist of funds available as of the balance sheet date from institutional grant providers, which must be readily accessible to finance the project work.

The **association's assets** remained unchanged and amounts to €199,085.52, the same as the previous year.

The **reserves** show a total of €10.3 million as of the balance sheet date. Of this, €9.8 million are **committed reserves**, created for unspent project funds and reserves for emergency relief operations. The **free reserves** are not subject to immediate use and can be freely allocated according to the organisation's statutes. **Provisions** amounting to €72,153.20 relate to liabilities from 2023, the exact amount of which is uncertain. These mainly include vacation accruals, costs for preparing and auditing the 2024 annual financial statements, and outstanding operating cost payments to landlords.

In total, the **liabilities** amount to €86,867.08.

## FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

### Explanations of revenue

In the 2023 financial year, arche noVa e.V. recorded **total revenue** of €24.9 million, enabling the financing of the largest project volume in the history of arche noVa.

**Donations** amounting to €2.01 million were raised in 2023, which represents a decline of €391,553 compared to the record figure of the previous year. This decrease is primarily due to the reduction in earmarked donations for emergency relief in acute disasters and crises, such as the situation in Ukraine.

Bequests contributed €30,382.21 to the revenue. Membership fees remained nearly constant at €1,025.00. Additionally, arche noVa received €8,250.00 in fines.

Public sector **grants** amounted to €19.5 million in 2023, primarily from the Federal Foreign Office and the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. Furthermore, arche noVa also received funding from GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH).

**Other grants**, totaling €2.9 million, mainly consist of funds from Aktion Deutschland Hilft.

## Income & expenditure in 2023

INCOME	2023   EUR	2023   %	2022   EUR	2022   %
Donations	2,011,821.51	8.07	2,403,374.85	11.11
Donations in kind	-	0.00	-	0.00
Expense allowances	472,851.18	1.90	272,554.26	1.26
Bequests	30,382.21	0.12	37,241.96	0.17
Membership fees	1,025.00	0.00	1,087.50	0.01
Allocations of payments	8,250.00	0.03	12,677.44	0.06
Contributions from public authorities	19,473,248.76	78.08	16,585,858.38	76.68
Other contributions	2,910,518.91	11.67	2,228,207.85	10.30
Economic income special purpose enterprise	11,589.50	0.05	10,478.00	0.05
Taxable economic business operation	178.50	0.00	7,456.50	0.03
Revenue from interest and assets	6,284.38	0.03	-	0.00
Other income	14,911.45	0.06	71,090.94	0.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>24,941,061.40</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>21,630,027.68</b>	<b>100.00</b>

EXPENDITURE / EUR	2023   EUR	2023   %	2022   EUR	2022   %
Programme expenditure	24,028,979.31	95.03	15,691,887.94	92.51
Campaign, education and awareness work	499,025.13	1.97	647,517.84	3.82
Advertising and general public relations	325,946.80	1.29	341,662.34	2.01
General administration	432,412.33	1.71	282,075.11	1.66
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,286,363.57</b>	<b>100.00</b>	<b>16,963,143.23</b>	<b>100.00</b>

## FINANCIAL REPORT 2023

### Explanation of expenditure

In the 2023 financial year, arche noVa e.V. recorded **total expenses** of €25.3 million.

The **programme expenses** include the funds allocated directly to the projects of the International Programme Department in 2023. These expenses amount to €23.7 million, accounting for 93.9% of the total expenditure, making them the largest category.

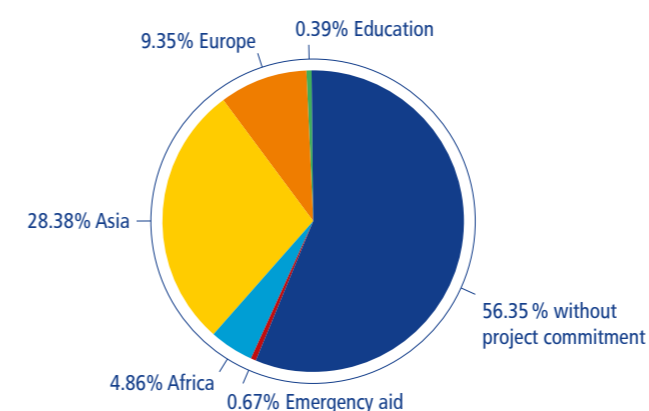
The **expenses for campaign, education, and awareness-raising** totaled at €0.5 million and relate to the project expenses of the Global Learning / Sustainable Development Education department. Expenses for public relations and advertising decreased to €325,946.80, reflecting a 4,6% reduction. General administrative expenses rose to €432,412 due to an increase in staff positions. These expenses are related to the overall association and ensure the basic functions of organisational operations and business processes.

**Staff:** Salaries in the head office are based on an in-house collective pay system. In 2023, the following gross annual

salaries applied for a 40-hour workweek: Assistants/Clerks Group A (€31,700–€41,562); Junior Advisors/Group B (€33,813–€43,675); Advisors/Group C (€38,040–€47,902); Country Advisors/Staff positions/Group D (€41,562–€51,424); Department Heads Group E (€46,493–€56,355); Management, Head of International Programmes (€59,390–€65,695). The typical workweek is a maximum of 36 hours. Members of the board serve on a voluntary basis. Project staff employed abroad receive local customary wages, which are thoroughly researched in advance to avoid distorting in local wage structures.

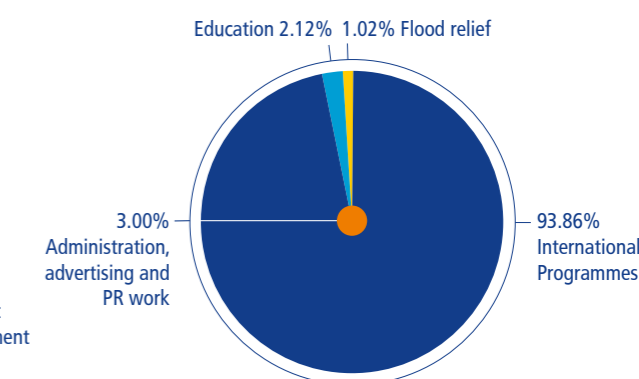
As of the balance sheet date, arche noVa employed 51 full-time staff members, including part-time staff and employees abroad. Three freelance workers and two volunteers were also involved in the head office.

### Distribution of income from donations



Donations without project commitment 56.35%	€1,133,591.16
Emergency aid 0.67%	€13,387.50
Africa 4.86%	€97,866.36
Asia 28.38%	€570,912.28
Europe 9.35%	€188,198.31
Development education 0.39%	€7,865.90

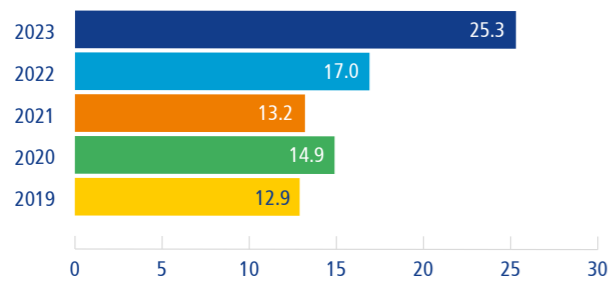
### Distribution of expenses



International Programmes – Humanitarian aid, reconstruction, development cooperation 93.86%	€23,730,929.61
Educational work in Germany 2.12%	€535,146.55
Flood relief in Germany 1.02%	€257,854.80
General administration, advertising and PR work 3.00%	€758,359.13

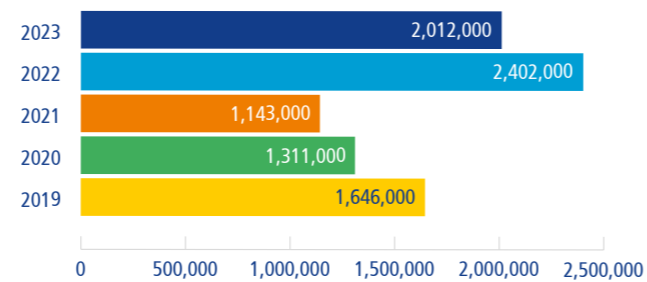
# Development of expenditure and donations

**Total expenses**  
in EUR million (rounded up)



In 2023, **total expenditures** at arche noVa increased by €8.3 million compared to the previous year. This record amount is due to an increase in project expenses in both humanitarian aid and development cooperation.

**Donation income**  
in EUR (rounded up)



In the reporting year, arche noVa saw a decline in **donations** compared to the record year of 2022, with a decrease of approximately €390,000. This is mainly attributed to a reduction in earmarked donations for emergency aid. In contrast, unrestricted donations remained stable, accounting for around 56% of the total donations.

## Auditor's Report

The auditor, Ulrich Paserat, has examined the annual financial statement of arche noVa, consisting of the balance sheet, income statement, and notes, incorporating the accounting and management report. An unqualified audit opinion has been issued. The audit confirms that the financial statements, in all material respects, comply with the applicable German commercial law provisions to corporations.

Furthermore, the financial statements, prepared in accordance with the German Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP), provide a true and fair view of the organisation's financial position and performance. It is also confirmed that the management report presents an accurate view of the organisation's situation overall and appropriately reflects the opportunities and risks of future developments.

In accordance with Section 322, Paragraph 3, Sentence 1 of the German Commercial Code (HGB), the auditor states that the audit did not result in any objections regarding the regularity of the financial statements and the management report. Additionally, the regularity of the management was examined.

The auditor's report was issued by Dipl.-Wirtsch.-Math. Ulrich Paserat on 6 September 2024.

Since 1993, arche noVa e.V. has continuously held the DZI Seal of Approval (DZI Spenden-Siegel). The German Institute for Social Issues (Deutsches Zentralinstitut für soziale Fragen, DZI) is an independent scientific documentation centre supported by public authorities. For the financial year 2022, the DZI determined that the share of advertising and administrative expenses in relation to total expenses was 4.21% (0-10% low, 10-20% appropriate, 20-30% acceptable). At the time of publication, the audit for the 2023 fiscal year had not yet been conducted.



**COMPANIES:** Abihome GmbH, Adenso Industrial Services GmbH, Alphavis, Arztpraxis Jung, Berndt Rohr- und Kanalservice GmbH, BLANCO GmbH + Co KG, Büchting + Streit AG, CAMONDAS Online GmbH, CSD Transport Software GmbH, DEAXO GMBH, DIAMTEC Büssow, Dietmar Haupt Sicherheitstechnik Löbau, Dreiturm GmbH – better-by-less, Econum Unternehmensberatung GmbH, event lab. GmbH, Fairsicherungsbüro, Falk Müller Lindenmuellerhof-Landwirtschaft, Finnigans Irish Pub, Funke Management + Bauberatung, Gelsenwasser AG, GEO-NET Umweltconsulting GmbH, GLOBALFOUNDRIES Management Services LLC & Co. KG, greybee GmbH, Großenhainer Geflügelhof GmbH & Co KG, GlaxoSmithKline GmbH & Co. KG - Biologicals Dresden, Gutshof Friedrichswalde, Hamann+Krah Part GmbH, Hartkorn Gewürzmühle GmbH, Hasicevic Industrieservice GmbH, IDUS Biologisch Analytisches Umweltlabor GmbH, Industriebedarf Kümmelberger, Ingenieurbüro EigenEnergieVersorger, Ingenieurbüro für Medizintechnik Dresden GmbH, Ingenieurbüro Schütze, Institut für Wasser und Boden Dr. Uhlmann, Inter Office GmbH, ITB-Dresden GmbH, ITM Gesellschaft für IT-Management mbH, JS Qualitätsmanagement Beratung, Jürgen Semmelmann Transport GmbH, Juwi GmbH - Büro Wörrstadt, Karl Pfankuch & Co. Auktions-

haus, Kindorf Consulting, - Musik zwischen den agentur GmbH, Living Leischnig, Ludwig Pfeiffer Co. KG, Make love and aid you GmbH, Marquard & zung-Sanitär Weber, mgp Goldemund+Hofmann MESSTECHNIK GmbH deutscher Praxisverbund Omsewitzer Psychotherapie- staltungslogistik und Kul-Physiotherapie Roggen-GmbH, Planungsbüro med Petra Sahn, Rich-KG, SachsenEnergie AG, den GmbH, Stadtwerke Studio 1 Kommunikation Thermo-Glas-Service Neu-GmbH, UCI KINOWELT GmbH & Co. KG, UTK - VerkehrsConsult Dres-





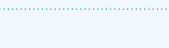










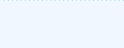


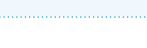

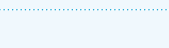

















brauchergemeinschaft Dresden, Verkehrs-Grün-GmbH Landschaftsbau, Verskonzept Haas GmbH, VSX - Vogel Software GmbH, W. Porstendorfer-Dachdecker, Zahnarztpraxis Dr. Kühn Dresden, Zahnarztpraxis Dr. Winfried Mohr Bad Düben, Zahnarztpraxis Schörken und Rosiak  
**SUPPORTING FOUNDATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS:** EDeo Gracias Stiftung Dresden, FONDAZIONE ELENA TREVISANATO ONLUS Stiftung, GenuG - Stiftung für Entwicklung und Umwelt, ISO-ELEKTRA Heinrich Piepho Stiftung, Knorr-Bremse Global Care e.V., La Loba Stiftung, Reiner Börner Stiftung - Stiftergemeinschaft der Ostsächsischen Sparkasse Dresden, Rittal Foundation - gemeinnützige Stiftung der FRIEDHELM LOH GROUP, Sächsische Jugendstiftung - GenialSozial, Siemens Caring Hands e.V., Stiftergemeinschaft der Sparkasse Chemnitz, Stiftung Frieden leben, Viega Foundation, Wilo-Foundation  
**ASSOCIATIONS & SERVICE CLUBS:** Diakonissenanstalt Dresden e.V., Filmfest Dresden e.V., Friends of Dresden Deutschland e.V., Johannishöhe Natürlich Leben & Lernen e.V., Lions Förderverein des Lions Club Radeberg e.V., Lions Hilfswerk Dresden Käthe Kollwitz e.V., Torpedo Hecht e.V.  
**CULTURAL INSTITUTIONS:** Semperoper Dresden, Staatskapelle Dresden, Staatsschauspiel Dresden  
**SCHOOLS & EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:** 30. Oberschule Dresden, 144. Grundschule Dresden / Klasse 2b, Christliche Schule Dresden, Eigenherdschule Kleinmachnow, Evangelisches Kreuzgymnasium Dresden, Ferdinand-Sauerbruch-Gymnasium Großröhrsdorf, Freie Alternativschule Dresden, Freie Waldorfschule Dresden, Hort der 51. Grundschule „An den Platanen“ Dresden, Internationale Schule Dresden, Max-Weber-Schule Gießen, Sächsisches Landesgymnasium für Musik Carl Maria von Weber Dresden  
**CHURCH COMMUNITIES:** Auferstehungskirche Dresden-Plauen, Evangelisch-Freikirchliche Gemeinde Limbach-Oberfrohna, Evangelisch-Freikirchliche Gemeinde Schmiedeberg, Evangelisch-Methodistische Kirche/ Gemeinde Crottendorf, Evangelisch-reformierte Gemeinde zu Dresden, Kirchengemeinde Dresden Gruna-Seidnitz, Kirchengemeinde Pirna, St.-Bartholomäus-Kirchengemeinde Waldenburg  
**SPECIAL NETWORK PARTNERS:** Unsere Botschafter\*innen Prof. Esther Kaiser und Mike Zaka Sommerfeldt, Bündnis Dresden hilft – Stadt Dresden mit Oberbürgermeister Dirk Hilbert, BDEW Bundesverband der Energie- und Wasserwirtschaft e.V., DVGW Deutscher Verein des Gas- und Wasserfaches e.V. – Landesgruppe Mitteldeutschland, Fundbüro der Stadt Dresden, Gemeindeverwaltung Moritzburg

The projects of arche noVa would not be possible without the support of our donors. Thanks to them, we are able to respond swiftly in emergencies and create lasting, positive change through our work. We are deeply grateful to everyone who contributes to our mission.

# THANK YOU!

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2023 International Programmes Projects									
	Country	Region	Title	Project Partner	Sectors	Beneficiaries	Funding	Duration	Total Budget
AFRICA	Ethiopia	Somali Regional State	Strengthening resilience in agro-pastoralist communities through WASH and food security	OWDA		26,300	BMZ PT, ADH	01/2019-05/2023	€787,000
		Somali Regional State	Multisectoral approach to food security and resilience of (agro-)pastoralists	OWDA		38,800	BMZ (SEWOH), ADH	03/2023-03/2027	€1,578,000
	Kenya	Nairobi	Improving access to WASH at the St. Juliet School in Kibera	St. Juliet School		1,570	BMZ PT, ADH	06/2022-01/2023	€67,200
		Kitui, Laikipia, Machakos, Makueni County	Water supply, reforestation and food security by means of climate-resilient agriculture and DRR	ASDF, LPCT		3,430	BMZ PT, ADH	11/2022-01/2025	€1,543,000
		Kitui, Machakos, Makueni County	Improving the productivity of existing resources, protecting production resources from environmental damage, securing water sources	ASDF		4,160	BMZ, ADH	12/2021-11/2024	€783,000
	Mali	Gao Region	Multisectoral approach to WASH supply, income and food security of conflict-affected communities	NOUV		79,000	BMZ TA (project within a consortium with ASB)	09/2022-12/2025	€4,800,000
	Republic of Congo	Brazzaville	Improving the learning environment at the Jacques Opangault secondary school	FPGR		2,350	GS	03/2022-02/2023	€100,000
	Somalia	Gedo, Jubbaland	Strengthening resilience in communities affected by conflict and natural hazards	ASEP		11,330	IKI, ADH	08/2022-07/2024	€852,000
	Somalia/Somaliland	Maroodi Jeex	Strengthening resilience in pastoral and agro-pastoral communities by improving livelihoods and WASH	OWDA		4,770	BMZ PT, ADH	11/2022-05/2025	€541,000
	Uganda	Mukono District	Resilience building of fishing communities in Mukono District on Lake Victoria	KWDT		15,880	BMZ PT, ADH	10/2021-03/2024	€382,000
ASIA	Iraq	Diyala, Kirkuk, and Salah al-Din Governorates	Strengthening the resilience of returnee and host communities through multi-sectoral reconstruction of basic infrastructure, capacity building of local structures			40,000	BMZ TA	06/2020-05/2024	€4,348,000
	Lebanon	Governorates: Akkar, Beirut, North Lebanon	Improving income and food security as well as water supply for host communities and Syrian refugees	TKS, Mada		37,400	BMZ TA	11/2021-10/2025	€4,120,000
		Bekaa Governorate	Education for children affected by the Syrian crisis in Lebanon	SSSE		1,590	SSK, ADH	09/2022-08/2024	€884,000
		Bekaa Governorate	Education for children affected by the Syrian crisis in Lebanon	SSSE		2,460	BMZ PT	10/2021-08/2023	€510,000
	Myanmar	Rakhine State	Strengthening of disaster-affected communities and IDPs through WASH, basic infrastructure, capacity building, DRR	CERA, GJ, RAFT, Thant		34,700	BMZ TA	12/2021-11/2025	€2,990,000
		Rakhine State	Emergency aid after Cyclone Mocha	GJ, Metta		1,340	ADH	05/2023-08/2023	€83,000
		Shan, Kachin State	Supporting schools by expanding WASH infrastructure, strengthening community resilience	EEl, Metta, SMDO		8,200	BMZ TA	10/2019-03/2025	€3,250,000
	Philippines	Palawan	Funding for partner ASDSW to provide infrastructure in the event of a disaster	ASDSW				01/2020-12/2024	€10,000
	Syria	Governorates: Deir Ezzor, Raqqa	Facilitating access to education, rehabilitation of WASH/basic infrastructure for IDPs and host communities			162,300	BMZ TA	12/2019-11/2024	€4,232,000
		Governorates: Al-Hasakah, Deir Ezzor, Raqqa	Multi-sectoral humanitarian aid for IDPs and host communities (access to water, distribution of food and NFI)			5,940	GFFO, ADH	08/2021-12/2023	€3,621,000
Governorates: Deir Ezzor, Raqqa		Multi-sectoral project for food security among IDPs and host communities			10,830	BMZ TA	08/2021-07/2025	€4,170,000	
Governorates: Aleppo, Afrin, Idlib		Multi-sectoral humanitarian aid for people in need in informal settlements, IDPs and host communities	BONYAN, TAS		151,100	GFFO, ADH	01/2022-12/2023	€5,668,000	
Governorates: Deir Ezzor, Raqqa		Promotion of climate-friendly agricultural practices, irrigation, soil management and feed production			18,180	GIZ	12/2022-07/2023	€1,418,000	
Idlib Governorate		Access to primary education and psychosocial support for people affected by the earthquake	BONYAN		2,550	KB, SSK	05/2023-12/2023	€352,000	
Yemen	Al Mahwit Governorate	Strengthening the resilience of the population of Al Qarn through infrastructure measures and WASH	VHI		840	ADH	01/2023-08/2023	€97,000	
EUROPE	Germany	Federal states: Nordrhein-Westfalen, Rheinland-Pfalz	Emergency aid, reconstruction of flood effected non-profit institutions, e.g. kindergartens, sport clubs	ASB, various		15,200	ADH	07/2021-06/2024	€1,172,000
	Ukraine	Oblasts: Charkiv, Dnipropetrovs, Donetsk, Kyiv, Lviv	Multit-sectoral emergency assistance for people affected by the war including distribution of provisions, cash assistance, winter	NW, PMM, SC, Unit		36,200	ADH	02/2022-05/2024	€2,150,000
		Oblasts: Chernihiv, Kyiv, Sumy	Activities for rebuilding and supporting resilience in liberated regions in northern Ukraine	CRF, NW		24,500	BMZ TA	08.2022-08.2025	€3,500,000
REGIONAL AND GLOBAL PROJECTS	Ethiopia, Somalia, Somaliland, Sudan	Various	Humanitarian response in WASH and food security for people affected by multiple natural hazards and conflicts in East Africa (Regional Project)	ASEP, FPDO, OWDA, PAH		156,900	GFFO, ADH	07/2022-06/2025	€9,032,000
	Ethiopia, Lebanon, Mali, Myanmar, Somalia, Somaliland	Various	Strengthening local climate-sensitive and universal WASH capacities by applying and disseminating the green humanitarian aid approach (Global Programme)	ASEP, EEI, Mada, NOUV, OWDA, SMDO, TKS		92,500	GFFO, ADH (project within a consortium with ASB, GTO)	11/2023-10/2026	€5,395,000
	Germany, Jordan, Kenya		Training programmes on WASH in emergency aid with a regional and international approach, online sessions and the compilation of a specialist compendium	GTO		1,375	GFFO	01/2023-12/2025	€266,000
Explanation of SECTORS:  Water,  Sanitation,  Hygiene,  Education,  Nutrition,  Disaster preparedness,  Livelihood,  Shelter									
Abbreviations: ADH: Aktion Deutschland Hilft, ASB: Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund e.V., ASDF: Africa Sand Dam Foundation, ASDSW: A single drop for safe water, ASEP: Action for Social and Economic Progress Somalia, BMZ: Bundesministerium für Wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung (PT: Private Träger, TA: Transitional assistance, SEWOH: Sonderinitiative Eine Welt ohne Hunger), BONYAN: Bonyan International Organization, CERA: Community Empowerment and Resilience Association, CRF: Civil Ray of Future, EEI: Ethnic Equality Initiative, FPDO: Friends of Peace and Development Organization, FPGR: Forum Pour La Promotion des Groupes Ruraux, GFFO: German Federal Foreign Office, GIZ: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit, GJ: Green Journey, GS: „genialsozial – Deine Arbeit gegen Armut“ der Sächsischen Jugendstiftung, GTO: German Toilet Organization, IKI: Internationale Klimaschutzinitiative, KB: Knorr-Bremse Global Care e.V., KWDT: Katosi Women Development Trust, LPCT: Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust, Mada: Mada, Libanon, Metta: Metta Development Foundation, NOUV: Nouveaux Horizons, NW: New Way, OWDA: Organization for Welfare and Development in Action, PAH: Polska Akcja Humanitarna, PMM: Polska Misja Medyczna, RAFT: Respect Accountability Fairness Transparency Myanmar, SC: Strong Community, SMDO: Sopay Myanmar Development Organization, SSK: Sächsische Staatskanzlei, SSSE: Society for Social Support & Education, TAS: Takaful Al-Sham, Thant: Thant Myanmar, TKS: Tankamel Sawaw, TT: TERRA TECH Förderprojekte e.V., UN OCHA: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, VHI: Vision Hope International									

## arche noVa – Initiative für Menschen in Not e.V.

### Our Vision

Our vision is a world without need, in which people can live independently and with dignity. Access to clean drinking water and sanitation as well as good education are important fundamental issues for us.

### Our Mission

We support people in gaining the knowledge, skills and resources to make this vision a reality.

We ensure sufficient and safe water supply, sanitary facilities and adapted hygiene measures (WASH) and improve living conditions in regions affected by natural disasters, crises and poverty. In this way, we provide emergency and transitional aid as well as longer-term development cooperation.

We promote good education at home and abroad, and enable people to take on responsibility for each other and their environment. Our educational work in Germany focuses on global learning and Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). In the project countries, we primarily support education for children and young people – mostly in connection with the water and sanitation supply at schools.

More information is available online at:

[www.arche-nova.org](http://www.arche-nova.org)

Improving access to drinking water is a central component of arche noVa's international project work. Here we see Fathi Omer Insher from Budle in the Kelafo Woreda in the Ethiopian Somali Region. In her hometown, arche noVa built a rainwater harvesting tank in collaboration with the partner organization OWDA. Before, people in the area had to walk up to four hours to collect water.





**We work with local partners.**

**We leave the knowledge in the country.**

**We help others to help themselves.**

**arche noVa –  
Initiative für Menschen in Not e.V.**

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