



arche  
nova



# Annual Report 2024

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## Dear reader,

We all remember that at the end of 2024, someone took over the most important position in the world. For him, everything is very simple because he believes he is the measure of all things. The American president prioritizes his country, his environment and himself over others. Anyone who does not support his agenda or is not useful to his business interests is considered a nuisance or is degraded to a geopolitical pawn. That is not our world view. On the contrary, arche nova believes that every human being is valuable – regardless of where they live, what they believe or whom they love. Every woman, man, and child has inalienable human rights, to which we are committed. We will not cease to emphasise and advocate for this. You can read about our efforts in this report.

In 2024, arche nova was once again active in numerous humanitarian crisis areas and disadvantaged regions. Whether in Mali, Ukraine or Myanmar, we reached people whose livelihoods are under existential threat. The fact that we have succeeded and continue to succeed in this is largely because we do not decide alone what is done where and how in our projects. Cooperation and participation are an integral part of our organisation's DNA.

An outstanding example is our global programme, which focuses on regions particularly hard-hit by the climate crisis. What these regions need most is a secure water supply and resilient communities. We actively promote this with a strong network because we are convinced that complex challenges can only be overcome together and through participation.

We all know that these challenges are not only complex but also enormous. Our world is on fire – literally through forest fires and droughts, but also through wars and man-made crises. Seeing humanitarian needs continue to rise brings us close to despair. However, giving up is not an option because every single human life counts.

It is the small signs of hope that make it easier for us to carry on: when farmers can irrigate their fields, when children can go to school, when a village receives clean drinking water. The unexpected fall of the Assad regime in Syria at the end of 2024 also gives us hope. Although the situation in Syria remains uncertain, we can expand our work with and for civil society at a local level. Together, we provide training, secure water supplies, and contribute to food security – from the ear of corn to the loaf of bread.

We know that our influence is limited compared to major political and economic powers. However, we are convinced that change is possible when all those who defend humanity and human rights work together. This is why we strongly criticize the global budget cuts in humanitarian aid and the slowdown in implementing global development goals.

arche nova is committed to participation and human dignity – values that we live by in all our projects, particularly in Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). We invite you to read this report and look forward to your continued support.

Dr. Jens Ola, Managing Director, arche nova

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Cover picture: In 2024, in Moyko Village, Somalia, arche nova installed a water supply system with a filtration unit in cooperation with its local partner PAH, benefiting, among others, Luul Mohamed Amir.

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# arche nova 2024

## worldwide

arche nova was active in 15 countries in 2024. Our international programme ranges from rapid emergency aid, such as after the floods in Czechia, to development cooperation, including disaster preparedness.

arche nova's total expenditure amounted to 25.9 million euros. Of this, around 20.6 million euros went to international programmes and 538,000 euros to Global Learning & ESD projects.

**MALI:**

- arche nova – country office Mali, Bamako
- Nouveaux Horizons
- Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund

### GERMANY:

- Global Learning/Education for Sustainable Development (ESD)
- arche nova flood relief

### CZECH REPUBLIC

- City Administration Ostrava

### SYRIA:

- BONYAN Organization
- Takaful Al Sham

### LEBANON:

- arche nova – country office Lebanon, Tripoli
- Naba'a
- Mada
- Multi-Aid Programs
- Society for Social Support & Education
- Tankamel Sawa
- Johanniter-Auslandshilfe

### ETHIOPIA:

- Organization for Welfare and Development in Action

### UGANDA:

- Katosi Women Development Trust

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## International programmes

# Global project with a green compass



The climate crisis is fundamentally changing the conditions for humanitarian aid. On the one hand, because the need for both acute interventions and prevention is increasing enormously, and on the other hand, because all activities themselves also have environmental impact. With its global project, arche nova addresses the climate- and environmentally friendly design of WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) measures. The aim is to strengthen local structures so that they can prepare for the effects of climate change, act with foresight, and systematically consider ecological sustainability.

The climate crisis exacerbates water shortages, flooding and the spread of waterborne diseases worldwide. This particularly affects regions where poverty, political instability or inadequate infrastructure already make living conditions difficult for people. This is particularly evident in the arche nova project countries, where the climate crisis is not a distant threat but a serious reality.

In Somalia, for instance, prolonged droughts are increasingly followed by floods, which contaminate wells and promote diseases such as cholera. In Myanmar, the humanitarian situation is repeatedly exacerbated by conflicts and

natural disasters, while in Lebanon, the economic crisis is causing the public water supply to collapse.

### Focus: the challenges on the ground

Our global project addresses precisely these challenging living conditions and is based on the fundamental idea that humanitarian measures must not only address short-term needs but also help build structural capacities to cope with future crises. Sustainable WASH solutions support vulnerable communities in protecting themselves against climate-related risks. WASH is not only a matter of survival, but also a matter of human dignity.

'Our approach aims to put communities at the centre of climate adaptation efforts,' says Stefanie Knörr, project manager at arche nova. 'Because only when solutions are locally oriented, inclusive and sustainable can they have a long-term impact.'

### Cooperation in a new dimension

arche nova is implementing the project as part of an international consortium together with Arbeiter Samariter Bund (ASB) and the German Toilet Organisation (GTO). The project's particular strength lies in its close cooperation with our local partners in Ethiopia, Lebanon, Mali, Myanmar, and Somalia/Somaliland. These partners not only contrib-

ute expertise and key contacts with stakeholders, but also ensure that measures are truly tailored to local needs.

All organisations involved in the project have agreed to comply with and implement the Climate and Environment Charter. In practice, this means that project teams learn to systematically record environmental impacts. For example, the NEAT+ screening tool is launched and used as a standardized environmental assessment instrument in all arche nova missions involved. In addition, training courses on climate risks and sustainable resource management are provided. The global project is characterised by its vertical integration: measures at the community level are complemented by training, dialogue at the regional level and international

## Hussein Youssef's journey: From traditional farming to agroecology

For more than two decades, Hussein Youssef from Fneideq in Lebanon's Akkar District supported his family through traditional farming. However, increasing problems – excessive weed infestation, plant diseases, water shortages, and rising costs – threatened his livelihood despite his years of experience.

A way forward presented itself when he was selected by our local partner organisation, the Mada Association, to convert 1,000 m<sup>2</sup> of his land to agroecological practices. For the 44-year-old farmer, this was a leap into the unknown. As the sole provider for his family of nine, he was initially hesitant. However, with practical support and technical guidance from Mada, he embarked on a learning journey whose positive effects extend far beyond his own fields.

### New ways of thinking and farming

One of the most important changes was the redesign of his land. He learned to organize his fields into raised beds, install a drip irrigation system, and create structured paths. Not only did his land look different; it also required less water, so that his small pond could once again meet the needs of his farm without drying up.

Perhaps the most profound change was Hussein Youssef's approach to soil health. He stopped using chemical pesticides and fertilisers. Instead, he learned how to make plant extracts and organic fertilizers from compost, cow manure, and chicken manure.

### A source of inspiration for others

His farm quickly became a learning center for other farmers in Fneideq who want to understand the techniques behind his successful harvests. Hussein Youssef is happy to share his knowledge and give them tips on how they too can make the transition.



networking. To date, over 2,700 people – including specialists, community representatives, and government actors – have already been trained in WASH, DRR (Disaster Risk Reduction), and environmental issues. The knowledge management systems established in the project enable cross-regional learning processes and the exchange of good practice examples.

All of this contributes to an overarching goal: the establishment of local and regional structures that can respond to environmental changes in a proactive and independent manner. In technical terms: promoting resilience and localisation.

#### What has been achieved so far

Since the project began at the end of 2023, important measures have already been initiated or implemented – often under difficult conditions and with considerable impact. Here are a few examples:

#### Greener working

Mali: Construction of a solar-powered water supply system with a water tower and distribution network in the municipality of Kossaye.

Ethiopia: Ecological redesign of the premises of the local partner organisation OWDA (Organisation for Welfare and Development in Action) with tree planting, gardening, and a greenhouse.

#### Inclusive WASH solutions

Somaliland: Construction of accessible, gender-sensitive latrines at a primary school, including hygiene training.

Ethiopia: Hygiene promotion for health improvement in eight villages, including topics such as menstrual hygiene, the importance of handwashing, and waste disposal.

#### Strengthening local structures

Somalia: Strengthening the environmental awareness in local communities and training hygiene promoters in IDP (internally displaced persons) settlements.



Myanmar: Training of local implementation partners and village committees in disaster management and risk analysis.

#### Outlook and challenges

The global project is designed for the long term – by 2026, it aims to reach over 470,000 people in 118 communities. Building sustainable structures takes time, trust, and flexibility. The project faces two conflicting priorities: on the one hand, the climate crisis is intensifying, increasing the need for adaptation and prevention; on the other hand, fragile political conditions – such as those in Myanmar or Somalia – repeatedly make implementation challenging.

At the same time, it is clear that the path we have chosen is working. The combination of technical solutions with participatory processes, local knowledge, and sustainable thinking is leading to viable solutions. ‘For me, one of the main goals of the project is for our project partners and teams to see everything through “green glasses” at the end of the project – that is, to have internalised a sustainable way of thinking and to always consider new projects and activities from the perspective of sustainability,’ says Stefanie Knörr.

#### At a glance

**Project title:** Strengthening local climate-sensitive and universal WASH capacities using and promoting the green humanitarian assistance approach

**Implementation in the consortium:** arche nova, ASB Deutschland e.V. (lead), German Toilet Organization

#### Project areas:

arche nova in: Ethiopia, Lebanon, Mali, Myanmar, Somalia/Somaliland; ASB in: Bangladesh, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Iraq, Nicaragua, Niger, Philippines

**Local partner organisations arche nova:** Action for Social and Economic Progress (Somalia), Ethnic Equality Initiative (Myanmar), Nouveaux Horizons (Mali), Organisation for Welfare and Development in Action (Ethiopia and Somaliland), Tankamel Sawa and Mada (Lebanon)

#### Project focus:

- Climate-adapted and inclusive water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)
- Strengthening disaster preparedness
- Promotion of green humanitarian aid
- Capacity building at local, regional, national and international level

**Beneficiaries:** 476,000 people in 118 municipalities

**Funding:** Federal Foreign Office, Aktion Deutschland Hilft

**Duration:** November 2023 to October 2026

Water scarcity as a result of the climate crisis is one of the greatest threats in the regions involved. The project approach addresses this challenge and combines infrastructure measures with disaster preparedness activities and capacity building.

## 2024 at a glance



**200,000 people**

have been reached in Somalia since 2012.



**77 latrines**

have been built for families in Myanmar.



**128 villages**

are participating in our global programme.



**16,202 women**

in Syria have received menstrual hygiene products.



**1,200 meals**

were distributed as emergency aid to displaced persons in Lebanon.



**1,550 girls**

in Somalia can now use gender-sensitive toilets at their schools.



# Confronting crises, shaping the future

There were no plans to install temporary showers in school buildings, yet in 2024 this became an important activity in our Lebanon country programme. arche nova responded quickly and decisively to the acute worsening of the humanitarian situation, while at the same time pursuing the goal of creating long-term prospects in the crisis-ridden country.

## Initial situation:

For years, Lebanon was the neighboring country most affected by the war in Syria. In addition, there were and continue to be numerous internal crises – political instability, climate shocks, hyperinflation, and high unemployment. In 2024, the situation escalated further due to military fighting in the border area with Israel, which triggered another large wave of displacement and exacerbated the already tense humanitarian situation.

## Project objective:

The aim of our country programme in Lebanon is to strengthen the resilience of the population in particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged regions of the country. The focus is on access to drinking water, school education and food security, as well as disaster preparedness. The target groups include both refugees from Syria and host communities. In view of the multiple crises in the country, we also repeatedly implement emergency aid operations, such as in the wake of the military conflicts with Israel in 2024.

## Project activities:

WASH activities play a central role in our Lebanon country programme. Therefore, arche nova cooperates with local authorities, community representatives, and partner organisations. One of the project locations in 2024 was the small

community of Ain El Teni, where the water supply network was expanded, filtration was secured, and households were connected directly for the first time. The community was supported in establishing a fee system for the maintenance and upkeep of the facilities.

Another example of successful infrastructure measures and capacity building was our work in the community of Chan in 2024. Here, a solar power system was installed to ensure the operation of the pump and, thus, the water supply. This measure is essential for the 4,300 people in Chan and the neighboring village of Khirbet El Jurd. Previously, they only had access to water for a few hours a day and were dependent on contaminated alternative sources and expensive bottled water.

Another important pillar of our work in Lebanon is promoting small-scale farming in northern Lebanon. Here, harvests have declined significantly in recent years at almost all locations as a result of the climate crisis. To support affected farmers, our project promotes effective irrigation and climate-resilient farming methods. In 2024, demonstration areas were set up, training courses were held, seeds and tools were distributed, and drip irrigation systems were installed. In addition, our long-standing partner organisation Mada inspected several kilometers of irrigation canals from previous projects in Minnieh and Bhanine as part of its monitoring activities and repaired any damage found.

These and other ongoing activities were scaled back in September 2024 with the outbreak of military conflict in favor of urgently needed emergency aid. Support was provided as quickly as possible to people fleeing from the fighting in the south of the country toward Beirut and northern Lebanon. arche nova provided hot meals for internally displaced persons for a month, distributed mattresses, hygiene kits, and water canisters, and helped set up schools as emergency shelters. Among other things, solar heating systems were installed, school toilets were expanded, and temporary shower facilities were set up. All this was done to improve basic services for people who had to flee in a hurry – often with nothing but the clothes on their backs.



"Our entire village suffered from water shortages for 20 years, but water is a human right. The main problem was the power supply to the plant in neighboring Khan. Water was only pumped for two hours a day and did not even reach all households. It was extremely difficult for our family of eight to prepare food, do laundry, and maintain basic hygiene – let alone shower regularly."

**Souliama Khoder Hammoud**  
from Khirbet El Jurd in the North Lebanon Governorate



**Top left:** Municipal water supply systems are one of the focal points of arche nova's work in Lebanon. Whether it's water treatment, new pipe systems and storage facilities, or climate-friendly solar energy for pumps, the focus is always on local needs. **Top right:** Freshly prepared meals were part of the emergency aid provided to IDPs in 2024 following the escalation of military violence. **Bottom left:** arche nova promotes sustainable agriculture, among other things with drip irrigation systems.

## At a glance

Our projects in Lebanon are exemplary of arche nova's work: water supply plays a central role. Education and livelihoods are also important areas of work. Last but not least, ecological aspects and sustainability are taken into account, and local partnerships are continuously expanded.

### Number of projects: 4

**Project regions:** Akkar, Beirut, Bekaa, North Lebanon Governorates

**Partner organisations:** Mada, Naba'a, Society for Social Support & Education, Takaful Al-Sham

**Focus:** water, hygiene, livelihoods, education

**Beneficiaries:** 54,600 people

### Education project for Syrian schoolchildren

Since 2015, our second focus in the Lebanon country programme has been education for children whose families have fled Syria. In 2024, our project with our long-standing partner organisation SSSE (Society for Social Support & Education) enabled 815 children to attend school. The premises of two Lebanese schools are used during afternoons for this purpose. The educational programme is based on the curriculum and specifically addresses the needs of children and young people whose families often struggle with extreme poverty, exclusion, and a lack of prospects in their places of refuge in Lebanon.

### Outlook

Despite the ongoing instability in Lebanon, arche nova plans to expand its current activities. Our aim is to contribute to local resilience through multi-year activities in water supply and agriculture.

## Under new circumstances

For Syria, 2024 was one thing above all else: the year that marked the end of Assad's rule and, thus, a major step toward freedom and hope. However, as before, large parts of the population remain dependent on humanitarian aid. arche nova continued to provide urgently needed emergency aid, responded quickly during the transition phase, and continued to participate in the reconstruction process.

### Initial situation:

More than 13 years of war came to an end in Syria in 2024, and together with the devastating earthquake in 2023, large parts of the country, its economy, and infrastructure were destroyed. Even basic supplies of water, food, and medical services are not guaranteed for large parts of the population. Malnutrition and stunted growth in children are not uncommon. The situation is particularly dire for the millions of people who were displaced from their homes during the military fighting. Many families have been living in informal settlements for years. The escalation of violence surrounding the overthrow of the regime triggered another wave of displacement at the end of 2024.

### Project objective:

Our goal is to contribute to the basic provision of essential services for particularly affected people in Syria by securing drinking water and sanitation supplies, distributing relief goods, and promoting good hygiene practices. At the same time, we aim to strengthen people's future prospects in Syria and build their resilience through education, promoting agriculture, and expanding income opportunities.



### At a glance

Given the enormous need for aid, arche nova will remain active in Syria beyond 2024. Our work ranges from humanitarian aid to reconstruction. The cornerstones of our projects are close cooperation with local partner organisations and our long-standing presence on the ground, which began in 2012.

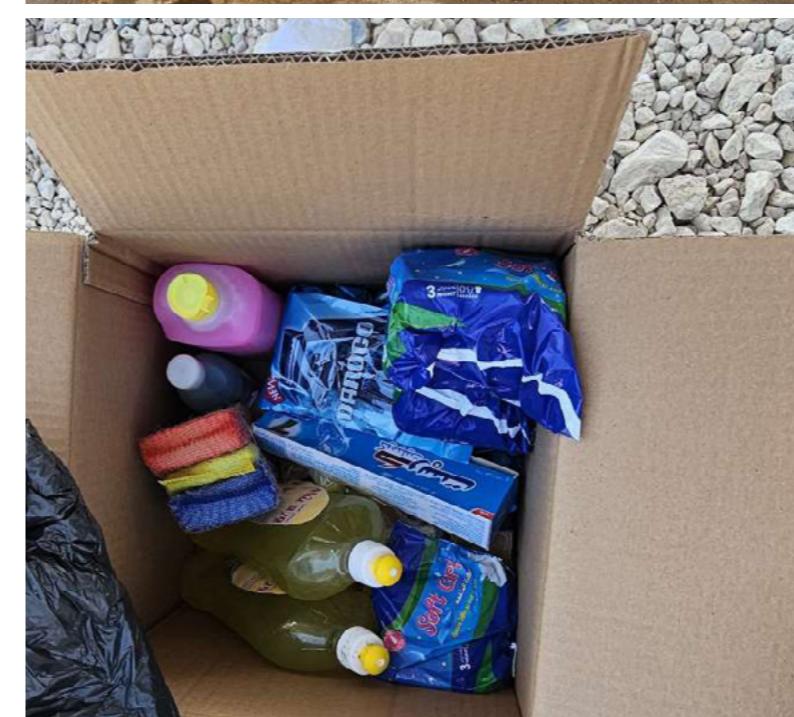
#### Number of projects: 6

**Project regions:** Governorates of Afrin, Aleppo, Al-Hasakah, Deir Ezzor, Idlib, Raqqah

**Partner organisations:** BONYAN, Takaful Al Sham

**Focus:** water, sanitation, hygiene, education, nutrition, livelihoods

**Beneficiaries:** 443,170 people



"In recent years, we have had great difficulties due to the high cost of fertilisers and water shortages. Thank God I received a drip irrigation system, as well as seeds, fertiliser and seedlings. And we have learned how to process animal waste and food scraps into organic fertiliser. Now the harvests are good again, so we can even share a little with our neighbours."

#### Mohammed Hanif Abdo

comes from Ain Dara in Afrin, 'the land of pomegranates and apples', as he likes to call it. He spends most of his time on the farmland he inherited from his grandparents.



**Top left:** arche nova works in remote villages that have been severely affected by fighting and displacement. Our mission is to provide water to particularly vulnerable people. **Top right:** From the ear of corn to the distribution of bread – arche nova contributes to improving income and nutrition. **Bottom left:** arche nova regularly distributes aid packages containing detergent, cleaning cloths, soap, sanitary towels and other products that enable good hygiene practices even in challenging living conditions. This is an important contribution to health care and a major boost to dignity.

aim of these activities was to stabilise the income situation for those involved and the food situation at regional level. Last but not least, arche nova implemented measures to improve the drinking water supply in a sustainable manner. In Harmoushiyah, the filter system of a water station was renewed, in Al Kasra the raw water pipeline was renovated, and in Zahir Jazireh the supply network was repaired, to name just a few locations.

#### Outlook:

The situation in Syria remains serious and the need for humanitarian aid is immense. This makes the loss of international aid funds, especially from the USA, all the more

serious. As a result of funding gaps – including at arche nova – emergency aid must focus on the most vulnerable population groups, even though more than 90 per cent of the population is considered to be in need.

arche nova has funding commitments until 2028 for the implementation of multisectoral projects. We are striving to expand the donor landscape for our work. Some activities have become easier with the opening of borders in 2024 and the lifting of some sanctions in 2025. We will continue to pursue our path of localisation and seek new partner organisations with specific sector expertise or local access.

## Making rainwater usable

Rock-hard soil, parched fields and no grass for livestock – this is increasingly becoming the bitter reality in the Somali Region. Our projects reach people whose livelihoods are under serious threat. They focus on access to water, promoting hygiene, income-generating measures and disaster preparedness.

### Initial situation:

The Somali Region is one of the most unstable regions in Ethiopia and is severely affected by environmental degradation, prolonged conflicts and the effects of climate change. Since the end of 2020 alone, four rainy seasons have failed. In 2024, over 3.5 million people were affected by water shortages, food insecurity and increased health risks – partly because water and sanitation services in many places are inadequate, dysfunctional or non-existent. In addition to recurring droughts, flash floods and rising temperatures are threatening the livelihoods of people who live predominantly from livestock farming and agriculture.

### Project objective:

Through various activities, particularly in the WASH sector, our projects in Ethiopia aim to address acute humanitarian crises and achieve sustainable stabilisation of livelihoods. The overarching goal is to improve the resilience of the communities we reach. They should be able to assess risks in an informed manner, better identify future crises and cope with emergencies.

### Project activities:

Improving the water supply is central to our country programme in Ethiopia because the infrastructure is so urgently

needed and can have such a significant impact. Technologically, we are focusing on two approaches in particular: river water filtration and rainwater harvesting. Filtration plants are being built at our project sites along the Shabelle River. Solar-powered pumps are used for this purpose. The river intake systems are located so that they are easily accessible to as many residents as possible. This makes everyday life easier, especially for women and children, who often spend several hours a day fetching water.

Away from the Shabelle, the only river in south-eastern Ethiopia that carries water all year round, arche nova focuses on storing precious rainfall in the best possible way. In remote project locations where there are neither developed roads nor power lines, traditional birkads are being expanded. In 2024, the team from our partner organisation OWDA built four of these large, underground, brick-lined and covered reservoirs, each with a capacity of around 800 cubic metres. In addition, eleven existing facilities were renovated and expanded. In 2024, our country programme also included the construction of a sand dam, modelled on our projects in Kenya. In the future, it will secure the water supply in the surrounding area, enrich the groundwater and allow the neighbouring vegetation to flourish.

arche nova continued its efforts to improve sanitation in our long-standing project region in 2024. Six public latrine blocks were built, mainly at schools and health stations. The facilities are barrier-free and gender-sensitive. Cesspits and hand-washing facilities contribute to improving hygiene. This also applies to numerous other activities, including awareness campaigns, community dialogues, waste management and the distribution of hygiene kits including menstrual products among other items.

In addition to expanding infrastructure, the local people's greatest wish is to stabilise their livelihoods. Our country programme therefore includes numerous activities to strengthen agriculture and livestock farming and to diversify income. In 2024, for example, cooperatives for plant cultivation were promoted, livestock herds were vaccinated, and savings and credit groups were established.



## At a glance

In Ethiopia's Somali Region, the climate crisis has drastically reduced grazing land, water availability and crop yields in recent years. Since our first mission there during the severe drought of 2017, our projects have been reaching people who are particularly vulnerable.

### Number of projects: 3

**Project regions:** Adadle, Denan, Gode, Kalafo Woreda, Shabelle Zone, Somali Region

**Partner organisations:** Organization for Welfare Development in Action

**Focus:** water, sanitation, hygiene, livelihoods, disaster preparedness

**Beneficiaries:** 44,200 people

**Top left:** Musadon is one of the places where arche nova has facilitated the construction of sanitary facilities.

**Top right:** Safe drinking water is far from guaranteed in the Somali Region. This makes new water supply systems, such as this rainwater reservoir in Buddle, all the more important. **Bottom left:** Seedlings are an important step towards successful plant cultivation. Trees and vegetable plants are grown in cooperatives.

### Anticipating drought or flood:

People in the Somali Region must reckon with increasingly long periods of drought and catastrophic flooding. Knowing when and where rainfall will occur, which water levels will rise and where the groundwater is not salinated can save lives in an emergency. Knowledge management and disaster preparedness are therefore another focus of our work in Ethiopia. We promote data collection, the establishment of DRR committees, the creation of early warning systems and disaster management plans. All relevant stakeholders are involved in this process – from village communities to national ministries.

### Outlook:

Working in our project region presents numerous challenges. Every component and every tool have to be transported to the site across rough terrain and at a great expense. This makes it all the more important to work as resource-efficiently as possible and to take ecological aspects into account. Our local partner organisation plays a central role in this. In 2024, OWDA also took major steps towards 'green aid' on its own premises. Together, we want to continue on this path.



## More water, more time

Access to water is a matter of survival. Because water is so essential and at the same time becoming increasingly scarce, people in our project areas in Kenya spend many hours a day carrying canisters. A lot of their precious time is lost in the process. Our projects alleviate the water supply crisis, promote good hygiene practices and create prospects for the future.

### Initial situation:

The counties of Machakos, Kitui, Makueni and Laikipia in Kenya are semi-arid areas where, over the course of a year, more water evaporates than falls as precipitation. The resulting water shortage is steadily increasing as a result of the climate crisis. Droughts are becoming more frequent, as are sudden floods. People are dependent on seasonal water sources, some of which are far away and often contaminated. At the same time, their main source of income, which is agriculture, is under threat. There are crop failures of up to 75 percent as a result of drought lead to food shortages and hunger. Added to this are growing conflicts over scarce resources and a lack of disaster preparedness.

### Project objective:

arche nova's goal is to strengthen the resilience and adaptability of rural communities in the affected regions. The focus is on community-based solutions to improve water and sanitation, promote climate-resilient agriculture and strengthen local structures. The aim is to secure livelihoods, improve the food situation and make communities less dependent on humanitarian aid in the long-term. The measures are based on national strategies such as Kenya's Climate Change Act and local development plans.



### At a glance

Kenya is one of the economically stronger countries in East Africa. However, especially in rural areas, the supply situation for the people is anything but secure and is affected by the climate crisis. Water projects, disaster prevention and capacity building, which are promoted by arche nova, are essential to the communities reached.

#### Number of projects: 5

**Project regions:** Kitui, Laikipia, Machakos, Makueni County

**Partner organisations:** Africa Sand Dam Foundation, Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust, St. Juliet School

**Focus:** water, hygiene, nutrition, livelihoods, disaster preparedness

**Beneficiaries:** 19,020 people

### Project activities:

In 2024, numerous measures were implemented to significantly improve local living conditions. The focus was on the construction of nine sand dams with ten shallow wells and hand pumps, as well as a solar-powered water supply system for three schools.

Four water committees were established and trained to ensure the sustainable use and maintenance of the facilities. Schoolchildren received hygiene and climate change training, planted trees and thus became multipliers in their communities. To promote local structures, two community-based organisations (CBOs) were also established and trained in lobbying and disaster preparedness. Since then, the organisations have been actively promoting the interests of their communities and working closely with local authorities. Two self-help groups (SHGs) have established savings and credit programmes, received training in marketing and are gradually opening up sales markets for their products.

Knowledge transfer was promoted through exchange visits to sand dam construction projects and through expert advice on sustainable land use and agroforestry. Three delegation trips to local authorities strengthened the exchange on the topic of disaster prevention. Two youth groups received start-up capital for projects in horticulture and poultry farming. The continuous cultivation of seedlings and the construction of terraces for soil conservation are also part of our activities aimed at climate-resistant agriculture.

### Sand dam construction: a recipe for success

Sand dams are a relatively simple construction for retaining rainwater runoff in semi-arid areas and using it as a permanent source of water. To do this, a reinforced concrete wall is built across the bed of a dry river that only carries water during the rainy season. Water and sand accumulate behind the wall during the rainy seasons.

Eventually, the sand reaches the top and serves as a storage medium for up to 20 million litres of water. The sand in front of the dam fulfils three functions. It protects the water from evaporation and contamination, acts as a filter, and serves as a reservoir for the surrounding land, slowly releasing water. This allows trees and other plants to thrive near the dam.



"We used to have to walk long distances to fetch water from the river. It often dried up. Wild animals, especially lions and elephants, were also dangerous at the watering holes. My life has become much easier with the sand dam. The water is now close to my home. That's why I have more time for cattle breeding and bead embroidery, which is how I earn my living. I can even arrive on time for school assemblies."

**Monica Siangau** from the Naserian Women's Self-Help Group, who helped build two sand dams in Ilmotiok



**Top left:** The project locations are struggling with increasingly shorter rainy seasons. The rivers are drying up. Nevertheless, water remains available at the sand dams. It is stored in the sand, does not evaporate and can be pumped up at any time. **Top right:** Janet Wavinya Kyalumbi from Nthangathini is delighted with the vegetable harvest, which is so abundant thanks to the ability to irrigate. **Bottom left:** The people of Nthangathini have access to clean drinking water from the hand pump that belongs to the sand dam.

### Challenges:

Our project work in 2024 was associated with various challenges. For example, the construction of sand dams in Laikipia was delayed due to extreme weather conditions: sometimes there was a lack of water, sometimes heavy rainfall led to flooding. Technical adjustments were necessary at some locations, such as converting a well system from wind to solar power. And there was a need for additional training before disbursing start-up capital to youth groups. Such hurdles show how important flexibility and close cooperation with local partners are.

### Outlook:

arche nova will remain active in the region beyond the current project. The focus will be on expanding local partnerships and promoting ownership in the communities. Successful models of community-based adaptation are to be further developed and transferred to neighbouring areas. The aim is to strengthen people's resilience in the long-term.

# In a seemingly endless war

Since 2022, arche nova has been providing emergency aid in Ukraine in response to the unprecedented humanitarian crisis triggered by the large-scale military attack on the country. In 2024, the arche nova team in Ukraine, together with local partner organisations, extended the project area to the south of the country, enabling them to reach more people.

## Initial situation:

By 2024, Ukraine had already been affected by hostilities for a decade, including three years of full-scale war. The ongoing attacks were and are not limited to individual regions, resulting in heavy losses, widespread displacement and a lack of basic services.

The situation is particularly devastating in areas where hostilities have taken place or are still ongoing. Many people live without reliable water, access to gas or electricity. Important infrastructure such as hospitals and schools has been severely damaged in some cases. The seemingly endless war is also taking an enormous psychological toll on the Ukrainian people.

## Project objective:

The aim of our projects is to meet urgent humanitarian needs in particularly affected regions and to strengthen the well-being, resilience and ability to survive of the people affected by providing vital aid, as well as to promote local actors and self-help measurements.

## Project activities:

In 2024, arche nova and its local partner organisations were present for the first time along the entire 1,000-kilometre-long front line stretching from north to south in eastern Ukraine. We reached people who had remained in the area despite the hostilities, as well as those who had returned to places where fighting had previously taken place.

In view of the enormous humanitarian aid needs, arche nova continued the measures that had already begun in 2022 and 2023. At the same time, our Ukraine team sought new partnerships and funding opportunities. Additional funding enabled arche nova, among other things, to support communities affected by the war in the Kharkiv Oblast and to help local civil society organisations strengthen their capacity to provide humanitarian aid in their communities.

In addition, thanks to new project funding, the arche nova team reached around 24,000 of the most vulnerable residents of communities on the front line and was able to support communities affected by the war in the southern Oblasts of Mykolaiv and Kherson for the first time.

In line with our expertise, the country programme focused on the following areas: WASH, reconstruction, distribution of non-food items and psychosocial support. Specifically, we supported households severely affected by the war by repairing their damaged homes and providing essential goods, including heating fuel, household appliances and hygiene items, as well as specific items for people with disabilities. At the community level, local utilities were supported with materials and equipment to improve the quality of WASH services.

In addition, schools and kindergartens were supported with repairs, particularly to water and sanitation facilities, to improve learning conditions. Air raid shelters were also built at some educational institutions.

The projects aimed to meet the needs of the most vulnerable local populations, including internally displaced persons, people remaining in the war zone and returnees, with a particular focus on older people and people with disabilities. These target groups were also the focus of



"The arche nova team always keeps its promises. When they say, 'We will repair your roof, windows and doors,' everything is done on time. But the most important thing is that arche nova is always there to support us in every way."

**Antonina Harbuz and Inna Mishchenko**  
from the local partner organisation "Inaton" in the village of Ivanivka in the Chernihiv Oblast. "Inaton" works in 17 villages and supports families who have been and continue to be particularly affected by the occupation and destruction.



**Top left:** At the Kazka kindergarten in Okhtyrka, hand washing is finally possible again despite massive bomb damage to the building. In 2024, we repaired the sanitary facilities and made them barrier-free. **Top right:** Olga Karashchuk from Novopetrivske had to endure five months of occupation. She has found it difficult to recover since then. Last winter, she received briquettes from arche nova. 'That saved my life.' **Bottom left:** Bullet holes and shattered windows are ubiquitous in our project area. House repairs are therefore part of our humanitarian work.

psychosocial support in the form of individual and group counselling.

The measures were based on comprehensive partnerships with national and local organisations, which enabled direct implementation on the ground, including the distribution of material goods in hard-to-reach areas near the front line. This enabled the residents of over 20 local communities to meet their acute humanitarian needs.

## Outlook:

Despite the global trend towards reducing humanitarian aid, our Ukraine team plans to continue supporting the war-affected population in Ukraine, adapting its working methods and structure as necessary and seeking new funding opportunities.

## At a glance

The ongoing violence and uncertainty have taken a deep toll on Ukrainian society. In addition to providing concrete assistance in the form of construction measures and distributions, arche nova focuses primarily on cooperation, exchange and the promotion of local actors.

**Number of projects:** 5

**Project regions:** Charkiw, Cherson, Dnipropetrowsk, Donetsz, Kiew, Mykolajiw, Sumy, Tschernihiw

**Partner organisations:** Civil Ray of Future, Good Actions, Inaton, New Way, Okhtyrka Youth Centre, Rokada, Strong Communities

**Focus:** water, sanitation, hygiene, shelter

**Beneficiaries:** 88,600 people

Czechia

## Emergency aid after the floods in Ostrava

After the catastrophic floods in Central and Eastern Europe in September 2024, arche nova provided short-term emergency aid to social institutions in Ostrava, Czechia, a twin city of Dresden. In cooperation with the city of Dresden and other partners, industrial dehumidifiers and nursing beds were provided, among other things. Two aid transports reached Ostrava in September and October.

In September 2024, torrential rains hit numerous regions in Central and Eastern Europe. The situation was particularly dramatic in Ostrava, Czechia. Within a few hours, severe flooding occurred there – several dams could not withstand the masses of water and broke. At times, up to 100 cubic metres of water per second poured into the city at the breach points. Entire streets, social facilities and residential areas were flooded. Firefighters and the military rescued people from flooded houses using inflatable boats. When the water level dropped again, the extent of the destruction became apparent.

### Industrial dehumidifiers for social institutions in the flood area

To respond quickly to the emergency, arche nova activated 10,000 euros from its own emergency aid fund. This enabled help to be provided swiftly and efficiently, bypassing bureaucracy. The close cooperation with the city of Dresden, which has been twinned with Ostrava for many years, was particularly valuable in this regard. Dresden immediately provided 5,000 euros for emergency aid as part of the 'Dresden hilft' alliance. The city also provided support in planning and

organising the operation. In coordination with the authorities in Ostrava, an aid transport was quickly prepared. Direct communication made it clear that industrial dehumidifiers were urgently needed to make damaged buildings usable again as quickly as possible – especially social facilities such as nursing homes and schools.

The city's initiative was followed by broad support from Dresden: SachsenEnergie AG donated 5,000 euros, and the organisers of the Kraftwerk concert and the City Biathlon each contributed 1,000 euros. A collection was also held in Dresden's Frauenkirche church for those affected, raising 1,404 euros.

On 21 September, arche nova was able to hand over a total of 30 industrial dehumidifiers to the Dresden Volunteer Fire Brigade, which took care of transport to Ostrava. Once there, the equipment was used in the districts of Slezská Ostrava and Mariánské Hory.

Another aid transport followed in October. This time, five additional industrial dehumidifiers – including three large industrial units – were brought to Ostrava. The shipment also included nursing beds and a medicine cabinet, provided by the Volkssolidarität Dresden-Gorbitz nursing home. The delivery arrived in Ostrava on 21 October. The nursing beds went to two retirement homes in Ostrava that were severely affected by the floods.

This relief effort demonstrates the effectiveness of partnership, commitment and solidarity in times of crisis. Thanks to the rapid cooperation of many parties, targeted, concrete help was provided in an unbureaucratic manner that aligned with the needs of the local people and had a significant impact.

With combined forces, the industrial dehumidifiers for use in the partner city of Ostrava were loaded at the arche nova headquarters in Dresden.



**COMPANIES:** Adenso Industrial Services GmbH, Alphavis Ronny Herrmann, Arztpraxis Jung, Bernd Aust Kultur Management GmbH, Berndt Rohr- und Kanalservice GmbH, Better by less GmbH, bioFrische GmbH, BLANCO GmbH + Co KG, Celron GmbH, CMM SRL, DAS Environmental Expert GmbH, DIAMTEC Büsow, Dietmar Haupt Sicherheitstechnik Löbau, e.qua Services GmbH, Econum Unternehmensberatung GmbH, EHK – Eletro-, Haus- und Kommunikationstechnik GmbH, EIBS GmbH, Eigentümergemeinschaft Olfert, Fairsicherungsbüro Dresden GmbH, Falk Müller Landwirtschaftsbetrieb Lindenmuellerhof-Landwirtschaft, Funke Management + Bauberatung, Gelsenwasser AG, Gesellschaft für Grundbesitzverwaltungen mbH, GlobalFoundries Dresden Module, Gutshof Friedrichswalde, Hamann+Krah PartG mbB stadtplanung architektur, Hartkorn Gewürzmühle GmbH, Haus des Stiftens gGmbH, Hetzner Online GmbH, IBK Dresden GmbH, IDUS Biologisch Analytisches Umweltlabor GmbH, IKG-Ingenieurbüro für Energie- und Gebäudetechnik UG, INTERCONTACT Gesellschaft für Studien- und Begegnungsreisen mbH, ITB-Dresden GmbH, IWB - Privates Institut für Wasser und Boden GmbH, Raum, Karl Pfankuch Kindorf Consulting, Kulinair Catering UG Lange Uhren GmbH, GmbH, LIMNOSA, LSA GmbH Leisch-Automatisierungstechnik GmbH, Malmichbunt Maxwell Customz-ung-Sanitär Weber, schaft Goldemund + sport GmbH, PAN Ver-Kulturgastronomie Brücken-, Ingenieur-Platinion GmbH, Pr-SachsenEnergie AG, GmbH, Siegert Sanitär/serung Dresden GmbH, Wasser GmbH, Struck-GmbH, SVEVIND Energy GmbH, SZ-Reisen & Service GmbH, Thermo-Glas-Service Neumann GmbH, Tiegel GmbH, Tom Effler GmbH, TT Datenschutz GmbH, Tyclipso GmbH, UTK - EcoSens GmbH Zeitz, VCDB VerkehrsConsult Dresden-Berlin GmbH, VG Verbrauchergemeinschaft für umeltgerecht erzeugte Produkte eG, VIC Planen und Beraten GmbH, VSX - Vogel Software GmbH, W. Porstendorfer-Dachdecker, Werbefotografie Katharina Grottke, Wilhelm Ewe GmbH & Co. KG, Zahnrarztpraxis Dr. Kühn, Zahnrarztpraxis Dr. Winfried Mohr **Supporting FOUNDATIONS & ASSOCIATIONS:** Bürgerstiftung Dresden, Cellex Stiftung, Deo Gracias Stiftung Dresden, ELZET-Stiftung, GenuG - Stiftung für Entwicklung und Umwelt, Knorr-Bremse Global Care e.V., La Loba Stiftung, Reiner Börner Stiftung, Stiftung Frauenkirche Dresden, Stiftung Frieden leben, Wilo-Foundation **ASSOCIATIONS & SERVICE CLUBS:** DVGW Bundesverband e.V., Filmfest Dresden e.V., Förderverein Kirchenmusik St. Michael Dresden-Bühlau e.V., International Friends Dresden e.V., Lions Hilfswerk Dresden Käthe Kollwitz e.V., Ring deutscher Pfadfinderinnen- und Pfadfinderverbände - AG Sachsen e.V., Umweltzentrum Dresden e.V. **CULTURAL & SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTIONS:** Fraunhofer-Institut für Keramische Technologien und Systeme, Institut für Siedlungs- und Industriewasserwirtschaft an der TU Dresden, Konzert- & Theateragentur – Musik zwischen den Welten, Programmkinostadt Evolution **SCHOOLS & EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS:** Evangelisches Kreuzgymnasium, Dresden, Freie Alternativschule Dresden e.V., Gymnasium Südstadt, Halle, Kita St. Valentin – Dresden **CHURCH COMMUNITIES:** Evangelisch-Freikirchliche Gemeinde Schmiedeberg, Kirchengemeinde Pirna, Kirchspiel Radeburg – Gemeindegebiet Bärnsdorf, Vereinigung vom gemeinsamen Leben im Ökumenischen Christusdienst e.V. **SPECIAL NETWORK PARTNERS:** Unsere Botschafter\*innen Prof. Esther Kaiser und Mike Zaka Sommerfeldt, Bündnis Dresden hilft - Landeshauptstadt Dresden mit Oberbürgermeister Dirk Hilbert

The support of our partners is the foundation of our work. Thanks to their commitment, arche nova can respond quickly in crises and bring about lasting change in its projects.

**THANK  
YOU!**

We would like to thank everyone who has joined us on this journey! We would particularly like to thank the following companies, schools, foundations and associations:

## Focusing on tomorrow's teachers today



Two projects by arche nova: the Global Learning & ESD Promoter and the project 'One World = Your World' – work closely together, combining theory with practice. This collaboration creates synergies that bring educational work to life, making it practical and effective. By taking a combined approach, we reach a wide range of target groups, including teacher training students.

arche nova has been committed to establishing Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) and Global Learning (GL) in Saxony for many years. Our commitment is especially impactful when different projects in our education department work closely together. An outstanding example of this is the cooperation between the Global Learning & ESD Promoter and the 'One World = Your World' (EWDW) project. Here, sound technical expertise and many years of practical experience come together to create more than the sum of their parts.

### Practical relevance in the seminar at TU Dresden

The focus of the cooperation in 2024-2025 was on training and supporting teacher training students at TU Dresden. arche nova brought together two areas of expertise here:

Global Learning & ESD Promoter provided in-depth knowledge, theoretical foundations, current challenges and didactic approaches to ESD. The EWDW team contributed tried-and-tested methods and a wealth of practical experience from educational work in schools. This made the seminar events informative, lively and participatory, and closely related to the participants' lives and future careers.

One of the EWDW speakers, a primary school teacher by profession, demonstrated how the Sustainable Development Goals can be taught in a child-friendly manner, even in the early years of education. Another speaker shared his experience in political education, discussing how democratic coexistence and critical thinking can be integrated into everyday school life. The students were able to set their own topics of focus in the course and benefited from the diversity

"Teacher training students are the ones who will accompany our future decision-makers in business, politics and society on their journey to adulthood. To do this, they first need support and guidance on how to make the confusing, seemingly unpredictable, digitalised and globalised world comprehensible and tangible for their students."

**Sita Buchberger**  
Global Learning & ESD Promoter in Saxony



of perspectives. Together, they reflected on topics such as privilege, discrimination and global power relations.

arche nova created an open space where uncertainties could be acknowledged and potential actions could be explored. Participants reported a motivating atmosphere in which they felt valued and inspired.

After the seminar, the students had the opportunity to experience arche nova's educational work first-hand during work shadowing at schools and putting Global Learning methods into practice.

The synergies between the subject promoter and "One World = Your World" extend far beyond the TU seminar. The participants gained confidence, inspiration and methodological skills for their future careers. They were empowered to educate their future pupils about global issues and encourage them to seek opportunities for positive change.

### Positive feedback from participants

The students gave the arche nova programme excellent reviews. A survey conducted at the end of the seminar yielded consistently positive feedback.

Among the comments received were the following:

'I actually wanted to choose a different module, but now I'm really glad I chose this one. I enjoyed really getting to grips with the topic of ESD and was surprised at how interesting it all was.'

'It was a very exciting and informative seminar. The relatively small number of participants and your relaxed manner created a pleasant working atmosphere.'

'Very pleasant atmosphere, you don't want to miss a single session :'

### Focus on future generations

arche nova is constantly developing its ESD offerings for various target groups and will continue to focus on integrating projects within our education department. All of this is focused on the overarching goal of making an important contribution to social transformation towards greater sustainability and global justice.

### Global Learning & ESD promoter

Sita Buchberger, Global Learning & ESD Promoter at arche nova, strengthens knowledge and skills relating to sustainable development in Saxony. She advises, networks with, and trains stakeholders from schools, associations, teacher training and education administration, with the aim of embedding ESD in society on a structural level. To this end, the participating institutions receive intensive support and advice in all areas.

### 'One World = Your World'

For over 20 years, the 'One World = Your World' (EWDW) project has been bringing ESD & Global Learning into everyday lives in schools and other institutions in Saxony. It offers short educational units and one-day or multi-day workshops on topics such as water, climate, nutrition, migration and globalisation. These highlight global interrelationships and opportunities for sustainable action in a practical and interactive way, with the aim of creating a future that is worth living for everyone. There are also teaching materials and further training courses available.

## ESD & Global Learning – Project List 2024

Title	'Eine Welt = Deine Welt'	ESD service centre arche nova	Global Learning & ESD Promoter in Saxony	ESD Practitioners going global
Description	Project days for Global Learning/ Education for Sustainable Development (ESD); provision of materials; training and further education of multipliers	Process support for organisations/ educational institutions to establish ESD and sustainability in their structures and services	Consulting on ESD programs and financing options; implementation of further training for teachers on ESD and Global Learning in schools; advice on financing options for ESD activities	Exchange project for already active ESD multipliers in Germany and Kenya
Duration	01.2023 - 12.2025	06.2023 – 05.2025	01.2022-12.2025	11.2024-12.2025
Region	Saxony and online throughout Germany	Saxony – Meissen & North Saxony districts and the city of Dresden	Saxony	Saxony/Kenya
Direct beneficiaries in 2024	1,672 participants (school students, volunteers, university students, teachers, multipliers)	4 educational institutions in Dresden, Meissen district and North Saxony, participants in workshops and further training (teachers, multipliers and school students)	356 participants through training courses, consultations and lectures	12 already active multipliers of ESD in Germany and Kenya
Co-financing	BFDW, BMZ, FS, KF	FS	BMZ, FS	BFDW, BMZ
Partners	AHA, public libraries in Saxony, Cambio e.V., DHMD, LASUB, Stadtentwässerung Dresden	LaNU, Cambio e.V.	ENS, LASUB, SMK,	EWDW, KOEE
Financial volume in 2024	€ 132,620	€ 78,320	€ 51,000	€ 9,750

**Abbreviations:** AHA: aha - anders handeln e.V., BFDW: Brot für die Welt, BMZ: Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung, BNE: Bildung für nachhaltige Entwicklung, DHMD: Deutsches Hygiene-Museum Dresden, ENS: Entwicklungspolitisches Netzwerk Sachsen, FS: Freistaat Sachsen, KF: Katholischer Fonds, KOEE: Kenyan Organization for Environmental Education (Kenya), LaNU: Sächsische Landes-stiftung Natur und Umwelt, LASUB: Landesamt für Schule und Bildung (Saxony), LVNS: Landesverband Nachhaltiges Sachsen e.V., SDG: Sustainable Development Goal, SNSB: Stiftung Nord-Süd-Brücken, SMK: Sächsisches Staatsministerium für Kultus/State Ministry for Culture and Education in Saxony

## ESD goes international – Learning from Kenya

Following the 'Vijana na Afya' youth exchange that we organised with our Kenyan partner organisation, KOEE (Kenyan Organization for Environmental Education), in 2023, we were inspired to further expand our educational work internationally. The feedback from young people in Kenya and Germany clearly demonstrated the importance of such exchanges. They help to break down prejudices and stereotypes and promote global thinking and action.

So why not offer a 'train the trainers' programme? In this programme, ESD multipliers learn to develop international encounter formats themselves. This gives them the necessary skills and enables them to build their own partnerships. This gave rise to our new project: 'ESD Practitioners going global'. With KOEE, we have a reliable and professionally competent partner organisation at our side.

In January 2025, we launched an exchange project combining online modules and face-to-face meetings with six Kenyan and six German ESD practitioners. Ideas about concepts and (online) methods of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) are exchanged between all partners. Participants learn about project management and financing options and

engage intensively with the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as well as civil society engagement and democracy education.

Interestingly, Kenya is expected to largely achieve its SDG goals by 2030, whereas Germany will not.

The highlight of the project is a 16-day face-to-face meeting in Saxony in October 2025. There, the participants work in pairs to develop their own international exchange projects. arche nova will guide and support them in this process. Additionally, we will reflect on and develop a culturally and power-sensitive form of cooperation together.

The exchange meetings also offer the opportunity to learn about diverse challenges and solutions in the areas of climate change, education, waste management and water conservation. Planned activities include visits to a sewage treatment plant with environmentally friendly cleaning processes and a renaturalised landfill site in Dresden.

## Our network 2024

arche nova works in partnership with numerous experts and institutions both nationally and internationally. Knowledge exchange and coordination are central to our work. We see arche nova as part of a global network that is committed to humanity and the Sustainable Development Goals.



Aktion Deutschland Hilft – Germany's Relief Coalition



Global WASH Cluster – International Alliance for the Coordination of Emergency aid in the fields of Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)



Foreign Office – of the Federal Republic of Germany, esp. Humanitarian aid coordinating committee (KoA)



agl – The Association of One World Regional Networks in Germany



BMUV – Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Nuclear Safety and Consumer Protection



BMZ – Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development



Alliance against racism – Alliance for a just and humane Saxony under the umbrella of the ENS



The Paritätische/Paritätischer Landesverband Sachsen – Welfare association of independent members doing social work for others or as self-help



Echo – European Humanitarian Aid Office – supports the work of aid organisations in the event of major disasters



Engagement Global gGmbH – Central contact point for the diversity of development policy engagement as well as information and education work at the BMZ



Development Policy Network Saxony – Association of associations, groups and initiatives that work for sustainable development and global justice



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



Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH – a state company that provides services in the field of international development cooperation and international education work.



GTO – German Toilet Organization e.V., the German theme organisation for sustainable sanitation solutions worldwide



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



State Capital Dresden – esp. Action Alliance Dresden Helps



Rural Water and Supply Network global – Network for technical and professional competence in practice and politics in rural water supply



North-South Bridges Foundation – Representation of interests of East German non-governmental organisations



Sustainable Sanitation Alliance – international network whose members share the vision of sustainable sanitation



tolerant saxony – Network for democracy and against racism in Saxony



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



UNICEF – the United Nations Children's Fund



VENRO – Association of Development Non-Governmental Organisations in Germany



WASH-Netzwerk – Initiative of German non-governmental organisations that are committed to the provision of water, sanitation and hygiene



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, Katholischer Fonds, Sächsische Landesfachstelle für Bibliotheken, Stadtentwässerung Dresden GmbH, Stiftung Deutsches Hygiene-Museum, TU Dresden

## Inspire, inform, and engage

Our communications department ensures that arche nova's activities are visible, whether through our website, social media, brochures or press relations. We use clear language and compelling content to connect with our audience and reach different target groups. Last but not least, we promote the public relations work of our partners to increase their reach and impact.



### In good spirits: deposit donations at the film nights

The principle is very simple: first celebrate, then donate your deposit bottles. That's exactly what hundreds of visitors to four selected concerts at the Film Nights on the Banks of the Elbe 2024 in Dresden did, donating to our work. On some evenings, our collection teams were literally overwhelmed. The deposit donation campaigns for arche nova on the banks of the Elbe will continue as part of our long-standing cooperation with PAN Veranstaltungsslogistik und Kulturgastronomie GmbH, which also includes free advertising spots.



### Striking a chord: Thank-you event for donors

It was not only the music from the Dresden intercultural project choir and students from the music academy that touched the audience at our "Blaue Stunde" in 2024. Above all, it was the information about our projects and the personal conversations that found open ears and hearts among the donors and supporters of arche nova. The highlight of the event was a video about the water projects in Ethiopia. All in all, it was a wonderful evening to say thank you to those who support our work in a special way and make it possible in the first place.



### Provoking: Menstrual hygiene discussed in front of the Frauenkirche

The fact that millions of women worldwide do not receive adequate care for their periods is a cause of concern for arche nova. As an aid organisation focusing on water, sanitation and hygiene, we implement numerous projects that address the needs of menstruating women, and we regularly raise public awareness of the issue. In 2024, our Menstrual Hygiene Day campaign took place in front of the Frauenkirche in Dresden on 28 May. Our motto: "Let's break the taboo – periods are a natural part of life!"



### Reliable: Ukraine project at 'Musik zwischen den Welten'

Our projects require perseverance. Hardly anyone understands this as well as Andreas Grosse. The concert organiser has been committed to our Ukraine projects for years, demonstrating his own staying power. At every event in his "Musik zwischen den Welten" series, he invites the audience to donate to our work. In 2024 alone, we were able to set up our donation boxes eleven times in Dresden. 'We must not relent in our efforts to support those who have been attacked. We must not become numb. The crimes will not stop if we look away,' he says, explaining his commitment.



### Committed: Statement in favour of democracy and humanity

In the 2024 election year, arche nova's public relations work was characterised by a clear commitment to democracy and human rights. We joined the nationwide wave of civil society protests against right-wing extremism with various campaigns, including the large-scale rally "Wir sind die Brandmauer" ("We are the firewall") on 8 June. Our ESD team flew the flag at the International Weeks Against Racism, and within the german network of international aid organisations, arche nova protested against plans to cut humanitarian aid and development cooperation.



### Visibly present: arche nova at the Humanitarian Congress in Berlin

In October 2024, arche nova was present at the Humanitarian Congress in Berlin. Our presentation and information offering invited the specialist audience to exchange ideas. Pennina Munguti, head of the arche nova regional office in East Africa, also moderated one of the numerous discussion rounds at the two-day event. Like the event as a whole, this panel also addressed the challenges of humanitarian work against the backdrop of multiple crises. In particular, it focused on the needs of people with mental illness and how to meet these needs in the face of drastic budget cuts and limited access to crisis areas.

### Celebrated: Flood relief at school in Ahrweiler

On 24 September 2024, more than three years after the devastating flood disaster in the Ahr Valley in the western federal state of Rhineland-Palatinate, the time finally came for the Boselager secondary school in Ahrweiler to open its new sports facility, complete with a tartan track, long jump areas, and an indoor climbing wall. This was an important contribution to rebuilding the region's infrastructure after the devastating destruction. For arche nova, it was one of the last activities in the flood relief effort, for which there was an enormous willingness to donate in 2021. Since then, we have reported on the many local locations and facilities on social media, in press releases and on our website. The photos from the handover ceremony in Ahrweiler were a great way to conclude the project.



# Strategic development goals and WASH expertise at arche nova

In 2024, arche nova continued to drive forward its comprehensive organisational development process, defining specific medium-term strategic development goals (SDGs) to be implemented by 2028. All employees are actively involved in this process to increase the impact and stability of the organisation. Our long-standing WASH expertise remains the foundation of our work and will be further expanded in the strategy process.

The process of setting and implementing strategic development goals began in November 2023. Throughout 2024, the goals were developed and prioritised based on a comprehensive analysis and broad discussions in a transparent and participatory process. All employees, from all departments and with a variety of backgrounds, various career paths and different lengths of service, have been and continue to be actively involved in the process.

## Organisational development: participation and implementation

Since August 2024, cross-departmental working groups have been working on specifying the strategic development goals (SDGs). Since then, the groups have developed milestones and measures. The process is enriched by a special method: innovation workshops in which employees from outside the working groups contribute their knowledge and ideas. All progress is documented and communicated transparently throughout the organisation, thereby promoting internal knowledge exchange.

## Challenges in the humanitarian environment

The overall conditions for humanitarian organisations are becoming increasingly complex. The sector is facing geopolitical crises, shifting funding landscapes and increasing demands for efficiency and impact. arche nova is responding to these challenges by diversifying its funding sources, streamlining internal communication, and enhancing its personnel and knowledge management systems.

Our strategic development goals also include topics such as monitoring and evaluation, expanding partnerships and further developing external communication. Initial measures, such as the revision of the corporate design, have already been implemented.

## WASH – core competence and strategic development area

We have defined WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) as the primary development goal of our mission in 2024. As a result, arche nova will raise its profile even further as a WASH specialist and take on an innovative leadership role among German NGOs. This strategic development goal is the logical continuation of a path we embarked on more than 25 years ago.

Since its first water project in Kosovo in 1999, arche nova has built up extensive WASH expertise. Since then, more than 1.4 million people have gained access to clean drinking water and basic sanitation through our projects. Our solutions are context-specific, ranging from simple bio-sand filters made from clay pots to well construction and mobile water treatment plants with ultrafiltration. Hygiene practices and behavioural change are integral components.

We focus on rural areas, as this is where particularly vulnerable target groups live, who are struggling greatly with the consequences of the climate crisis, and where the need for WASH projects is constantly increasing. One of our regional priorities is East Africa. Since 2012, arche nova has built 206 water storage and rainwater harvesting systems, 104 wells and over 1,200 sanitation solutions in this region alone, and has trained 395 committees in the operation and maintenance of WASH infrastructure.

## Medium-term strategic development goals in the WASH sector

arche nova is pursuing three key priorities in relation to the organisation's core development goal for 2028:

- **Innovation:** Developing and piloting new sustainable WASH solutions, setting up an innovation portal and strengthening our role as a thought leader through specialist publications.

- **Integration:** Systematically linking WASH with food security, sustainable agriculture and the empowerment of women. Development of a measurement system to evaluate synergies and impacts.

- **Influence:** Expansion of research collaborations, active participation in expert committees and advocacy work, and targeted capacity development.

Clear milestones and key performance indicators have already been defined for the strategic development goal of establishing ourselves as WASH specialists and taking on an innovative leadership role.

One of the flagship activities within the SDG on WASH is the development of a system for measuring the synergies of integrated projects. Our goal is to improve the sustainability and impact of projects by integrating different fields of action. We aim to quantify this to enable optimal management. By implementing integrated components, arche nova intends to expand its own activities and develop cross-sector partnerships.

## Outlook

arche nova is well aware of the internal and external challenges in an extremely volatile environment. We are actively and strategically steering our course into the future with clear development goals, greater efficiency in our processes and the expansion of local and international partnerships. Our goal is to stabilise the organisation as a prerequisite for increasing the impact and sustainability of our work.



## Nuances

By Stefan Mertenskötter,  
Chairman of the Board

In view of current global developments, looking back on 2024 already seems a long way off. The seemingly hopeless situations in Gaza and Ukraine, the ever-increasing nationalism, and the downplayed climate crisis are causes for concern and reflection.

Where can we find guidance in this confusing situation? For a long time now, Immanuel Kant's three questions have helped me in this regard as well as in my work on the board of arche nova. What can we know? What can we do? What can we hope for?

Knowledge can be acquired, even in the field of humanitarian aid. This requires diligence, prudence and an open mind. After research comes action in the form of concrete projects: providing access to water where it is lacking; giving the bare necessities to those who are otherwise overlooked; and facilitating education in places where it is not readily available. We see this as our mission. It is crucial that we combine knowledge with practical experience and ethical reflection, and that we realistically assess our resources, qualifications and administrative capacities.

And hope? That is both simple and complicated. If we carefully address the first two questions, then we can hope that our projects will achieve their goals. It is largely in our hands to make a tangible difference for the people reached. That is what we are working towards. The examples in this report demonstrate our success in this regard.

When it comes to the big issues of our time, however, I increasingly lack the belief that we can expect positive developments soon. I fear instead that violent conflicts, war, flight and displacement, and climate change, which can hardly be stopped, will become our constant companions.

These developments will have a significant impact on the work of arche nova. Nevertheless, I am confident that we will find a way to tangibly improve living conditions in our project areas.

## Development of the financial situation

For arche nova, the 2024 reporting year was characterised by ongoing tense situations in the international humanitarian sector. There is a growing worldwide need to support people in crisis areas and disadvantaged regions, while the available funds are declining overall. These developments pose major challenges for relief organisations – and arche nova is no exception. Nevertheless, we succeeded in securing a solid financial basis for our work in 2024 while proactively setting the course for the future.

Reported income amounted to €25.9 million, with the majority continuing to come from institutional funding. These funds were allocated to regions where there were high levels of humanitarian need and where the funding landscape was comparatively stable. arche nova further expanded its strategic cooperation with partner organisations and consortia to implement cross-sectoral approaches and larger project volumes. This approach increases our attractiveness to funding providers, builds trust, and creates implementation synergies.

The development of donations at arche nova in 2024 reflected the broader trends observed in the German donation market. As there were no major international disasters, media attention for humanitarian crises was therefore low, and donation income was below previous years' levels. According to market surveys, donations for emergency and disaster relief fell by more than 20%. A small exception was the flooding in southern and eastern Europe, which led to a temporary slight increase in donations to arche nova. In 2024, the average amount of individual donations fell significantly compared to previous years, while the total number of donations increased overall. In particular, the proportion of donations without project commitment rose. The trend towards recurring donations is noteworthy: more and more people are opting to support arche nova on an ongoing basis, which is leading to more stable income. Our key objectives are to continue attracting and retaining supporting members, diversifying our donor structure to reduce risk and increase stability, and ensuring the continuous financing of our project work. To further develop our fundraising activities, we created a position in the area of corporate donations and foundation fundraising in 2024.

The following external service providers were commissioned by arche nova in 2024 to implement its communication and fundraising activities: Benefit Informationssysteme AG, WikandoGmbH, dataform dialogservices GmbH, CleverReach GmbH & Co. KG, pixx.io GmbH, news aktuell GmbH, Katrin Tominski, SAXOPRINT GmbH, dieUmweltDruckerei GmbH, Christine Holzmann, pbdirekt Praun, Binder und Partner GmbH, Wings Experience UG, dotfly GmbH und Fairpicture AG.

The risks facing arche nova are manifold and reflect global developments: the security situation in many project countries is deteriorating, and our employees are operating under increasingly more difficult conditions. arche nova is addressing these challenges with clear internal guidelines and consistent risk management. Despite the changed conditions, ongoing projects in 2024 were implemented reliably, with a flexible response ensured to new needs.

However, the overall economic situation gives little cause for optimism. Only low growth rates can be expected in the coming years. This means that financing projects remains a major challenge for arche nova, especially as institutional donors are currently not prioritising humanitarian aid and development cooperation. Looking ahead to the coming years, the financing of arche nova's work can no longer be taken for granted. Although the current financial commitments for medium-term projects still offer stability, securing the project volume in the long-term is challenging. Nationally and internationally, there are signs of increased competition between aid organisations for scarce funds.

arche nova is responding to these challenges by undergoing a consistent organisational development process. A central element of this is the targeted sharpening of its profile in the WASH sector, which creates the basis for continuing to exist as a reliable partner for funding agencies and donors. In addition, internal structures and processes are continuously being professionalised. Increased efficiency and targeted investment in strategic human resources development help to ensure the organisation's workflow and the quality of project implementation. Partnerships and consortium projects are also being examined, with some already implemented, enabling arche nova to raise its profile further as a WASH specialist. Looking ahead to the coming years, arche nova remains determined to maintain its ability to act, facing the challenges of the times with vision and innovative strength. The transparent presentation of financial developments and internal strategies in the annual report is an expression of our commitment to building trust and securing our work for people in need in the long-term.

## Balance sheet 2024

	2024	2023
<b>ASSETS (in euros)</b>		
<b>A FIXED ASSETS</b>		
I. Intangible assets		
1. Concessions, licences, etc.		
II. Tangible assets	0	0
Other assets and equipment	30,474.00	17,597.00
III. Financial assets		
1. Other loans		5,661.30
<b>B WORKING CAPITAL</b>		
I. Receivables, other assets		
1. Accounts receivable	1,842,911.40	910,513.87
2. Other assets	3,675,957.05	2,849,025.43
II. Cash in hand, bank balances	10,398,251.64	6,873,219.23
<b>C PREPAID EXPENSES</b>	151,331.54	13,169.39
	<b>16,098,925.63</b>	10,669,186.22

	2024	2023
<b>LIABILITIES (in euros)</b>		
<b>A ASSOCIATION ASSETS</b>		
I. Association capital	199,085.52	199,085.52
II. Reserves		
1. Committed reserves	13,519,797.73	9,843,877.31
2. Free reserves	494,961.10	467,203.11
<b>B PROVISIONS</b>		
1. Other provisions	67,653.20	72,153.20
<b>C LIABILITIES</b>		
1. Liabilities to banks	-	-
2. Trade accounts payable	59,600.79	72,596.79
3. Other liabilities from unused funds	1,525,376.65	9,927.63
4. Other liabilities	108,672.64	4,342.66
<b>D ACCRUED EXPENSES</b>	123,778.00	-
	<b>16,098,925.63</b>	10,669,186.22

The **balance sheet total** of arche nova increased to €16,098,925.63 in 2024. This is mainly due to project-related reserves.

The **fixed assets** primarily consist of tangible assets such as office furniture and IT equipment. The working capital, amounting to €15,917,120.09 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 capital** remained unchanged and amount to €199,085.52, the same as the previous year.

The **reserves** show a total of €14,014,758.83 as of the balance sheet date. Of this, €13,519,797.73 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 €67,653.20 relate to liabilities from 2024, the exact amount of which is uncertain. These mainly include vacation accruals, costs for preparing and auditing the 2025 annual financial statements, and outstanding operating cost payments to landlords.

In total, the **liabilities** amount to €1,693,650.08.

## Explanatory notes on income

In this financial year, arche nova recorded **total income** of €25.9 million rounded. This enabled the financing of the largest project volume in the history of arche nova.

**Donations** amounting to €1,295,885.69 were raised in 2024. This represents a decrease compared to the previous year's figure of €715,935.82. This change is primarily due to the absence of an international disaster event with significant media coverage.

arche nova did not receive any funds from **bequests** in 2024. Income from membership fees remained almost constant at 1,125.00 euros. arche nova also received 2,350.00 euros from monetary penalties.

**Public sector grants** amounted to €22,175,424.95 in 2024, 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 contributions** totalling to €1,895,322.23 mainly consist of funds from Aktion Deutschland Hilft.

## Income & expenditure 2024

Income (in euros und percent)	2024	2024	2023	2023
Donations	<b>1,295,885.69</b>	<b>5.01</b>	2.011.821,51	8.07
Donations in kind	-	<b>0.00</b>	-	0.00
Expense allowances	<b>467,036.53</b>	<b>1.80</b>	472,851.18	1.90
Bequests	-	<b>0.00</b>	30,382.21	0.12
Membership fees	<b>1,125.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	1,025.00	0.00
Allocations of payments	<b>2,350.00</b>	<b>0.01</b>	8,250.00	0.03
Contributions from public authorities	<b>22,175,424.95</b>	<b>85.64</b>	19,473,248.76	78.08
Other contributions	<b>1,895,322.23</b>	<b>7.32</b>	2,910,518.91	11.67
Economic income special-purpose operations	<b>13,160.00</b>	<b>0.05</b>	11,589.50	0.05
Taxable economic business operation	<b>678.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>	178.50	0.00
Revenue from interest and assets	<b>33,977.52</b>	<b>0.13</b>	6,284.38	0.03
Other income	<b>8,973.46</b>	<b>0.04</b>	14,911.45	0.06
<b>Total</b>	<b>25,893,933.38</b>	<b>100.00</b>	24,941,061.40	100.00

Expenditure (in euros und percent)	2024	2024	2023	2023
Programme expenditure	<b>20,879,984.81</b>	<b>94.10</b>	24,028,979.31	95.03
Campaign, education and awareness work	<b>537,800.85</b>	<b>2.42</b>	499,025.13	1.97
Advertising and general public relations	<b>375,539.99</b>	<b>1.69</b>	325,946.80	1.29
General administration	<b>396,929.32</b>	<b>1.79</b>	432,412.33	1.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>22,190,254.97</b>	<b>100.00</b>	25,286,363.57	100.00

## Explanatory notes on expenditure

In this financial year, arche nova recorded **total expenditure** of €22,190,254.97.

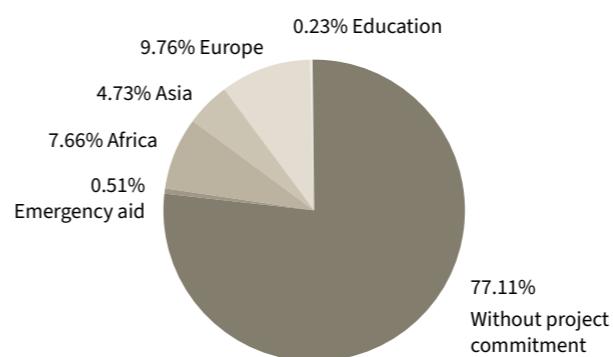
The **programme expenditure** includes the funds allocated directly to the projects of the International Programme Department in 2024. These expenses amount to €20,879,984.81, accounting for 94.1% of the total expenditure of arche nova, making them the largest category. The expenditure for **campaign, education, and awareness-raising** totalled at €537,800.85 and relate to the project expenditure of the Global Learning / Sustainable Development Education department and projects in cooperation with the WASH Network.

The **expenditure for public relations** and advertising increased to €375,539.99, a rise of 15%. **General administration expenditure** decreased to €396,929.32. These expenses are related to the overall association and ensure the basic functions of organisational operations and business processes.

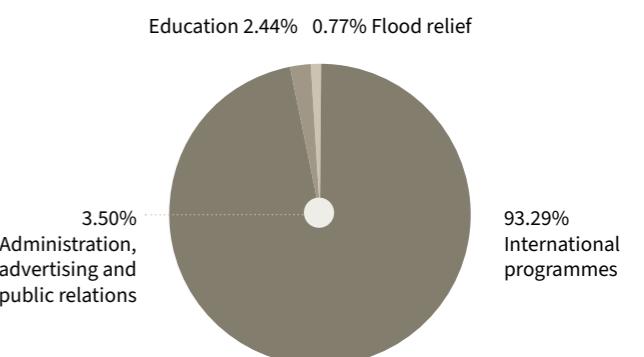
**Staff:** Salaries in the head office are based on an in-house collective pay system. The following gross annual salaries applied to full-time employment: Assistants/Clerks Group A (31,700 – 41,562 euros); Junior Advisors Group B (€33,813 – €43,675); Advisors Group C (€38,040 – €47,902); Country Advisor/Staff positions Group D (€41,562 – €51,424); Department Heads Group E (46,493 – 56,355 euros); Management, Head of International Programmes (59,390 – 65,695 euros). The weekly working time for many employees is a maximum of 36 hours per week. 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 58 full-time staff, including part-time employees and staff abroad. Twenty-eight freelance staff and two volunteers worked at the head office.

### Distribution of income from donations



### Distribution of expenses

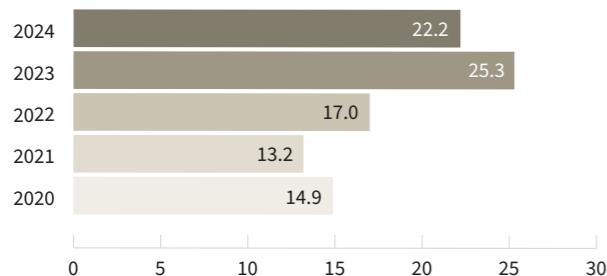


Donations without project commitment (77.11%)	<b>€999,234.26</b>	International programmes – Humanitarian aid, reconstruction, development cooperation (93.29%)	<b>€20,604,553.29</b>
Emergency aid (0.51%)	<b>€6,621.50</b>		
Africa (7.66%)	<b>€99,295.94</b>		
Asia (4.73%)	<b>€61,281.19</b>		
Europe (9.76%)	<b>€126,465.05</b>		
Development education (0.23%)	<b>€2,987.75</b>		
General administration, advertising and public relations (3.50%)			<b>€772,469.31</b>
Flood relief in the Germany (0.77%)			<b>€170,654.94</b>
International programmes –			
Humanitarian aid, reconstruction,			
development cooperation (93.29%)			
Education work in the Germany (2.44%)			<b>€537,800.85</b>

# Development of expenditure and donations

## Total expenses

in millions of euros (rounded)

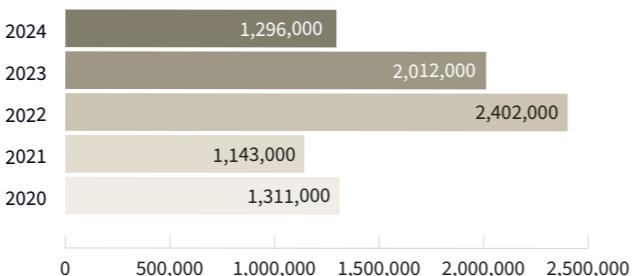


In 2024, arche nova's total expenditures fell by 3.1 million euros compared to the previous year.

The lower figure is due in particular to the decline in project expenditure in the International Programme Department.

## Donation income

in millions of euros (rounded)



In the reporting year, arche nova recorded a significant decline in donations compared to the previous year, amounting to around 716,000 euros. This is mainly due to a decline in earmarked donations for acute emergency aid.

In contrast, the proportion of non-earmarked donations rose significantly to 77% of the total donation amount. In 2023, the proportion was 56%.

# Auditor's Report

The auditor, TAXON GmbH – Wirtschaftsprüfungsgesellschaft, Steuerberatungsgesellschaft (auditing and tax consulting firm), has examined the annual financial statement of arche nova – Initiative for People in Need e.V., consisting of the balance sheet, income statement, and notes, incorporating the accounting and management report for the 2024 financial year. A clean 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 (Handelsgesetzbuch/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 audit opinion was issued by O. Schlenker, auditor, and M. Thormeyer, auditor, on 17 July 2025.

Since 1993, arche nova 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 2023, the DZI determined that the share of advertising and administrative expenses in relation to total expenses was 3.35% (0-10% low, 10-20% appropriate, 20-30% acceptable). At the time of publication, the audit for the 2024 fiscal year had not yet been conducted.



## Guidelines and standards

# Transparency and control at arche nova

Respect for human rights and the dignity of each individual are at the heart of our work. Our goal is to promote their implementation. That is why we apply the highest standards of quality, integrity, transparency and accountability to all our activities. To meet these requirements, arche nova has established its own guidelines, which are evaluated on a regular basis. We are also committed to recognised guidelines and standards of networks and partners with whom we collaborate nationally and internationally.

### Global policies at arche nova:

Our organisation, our projects and our work are based on shared values and principles. The Code of Conduct forms the core of our global policies. It sets out the guidelines to which all employees commit themselves when they join the organisation. Employees are ambassadors for arche nova in all aspects of their work and are required to refrain from any form of abuse of power. Complaint management guidelines are part of the Code of Conduct. All reports of violations are investigated immediately.

The Code of Conduct is supplemented by specific guidelines that specify our commitment in key areas, including:

- Child protection
- Inclusion and diversity
- Safety
- Anti-corruption and fraud prevention
- Protection against sexual violence

These internal guidelines are continuously evaluated and further developed to ensure that our processes are legally compliant and impact-oriented.

### Humanitarian sector standards:

As a member of the Association of German Development Non-Governmental Organisations (VENRO), arche nova is committed to the network's guidelines:

- **VENRO Code of Conduct** on Transparency, Organisational Management and Control
- VENRO Code on Children's Rights
- VENRO Code for Development-Related Public Relations

arche nova also undertakes to comply with the **Code of Conduct for the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement** in its work.

We are working towards the implementation of the **Core Humanitarian Standards**. These standards set out nine commitments to ensure that people and communities affected by crises and emergencies are supported in a manner that respects their rights and dignity and promotes their primary role in finding solutions to the crises.

arche nova is guided by the standards and guidelines of the **Sphere** Project. This defines, promotes and applies humanitarian principles and minimum standards to ensure life-saving, protective and responsible emergency aid. arche nova has actively collaborated on the Sphere Project's publications in the field of water and sanitation. The Sphere Standards include:

- Humanitarian Charter
- Protection Principles
- Minimum Standards in Humanitarian Response

With the so-called humanitarian reform, international organisations introduced the cluster approach in 2005 to better coordinate their work in the various humanitarian sectors. arche nova is a member of various **WASH clusters** and also participates in other relevant clusters.

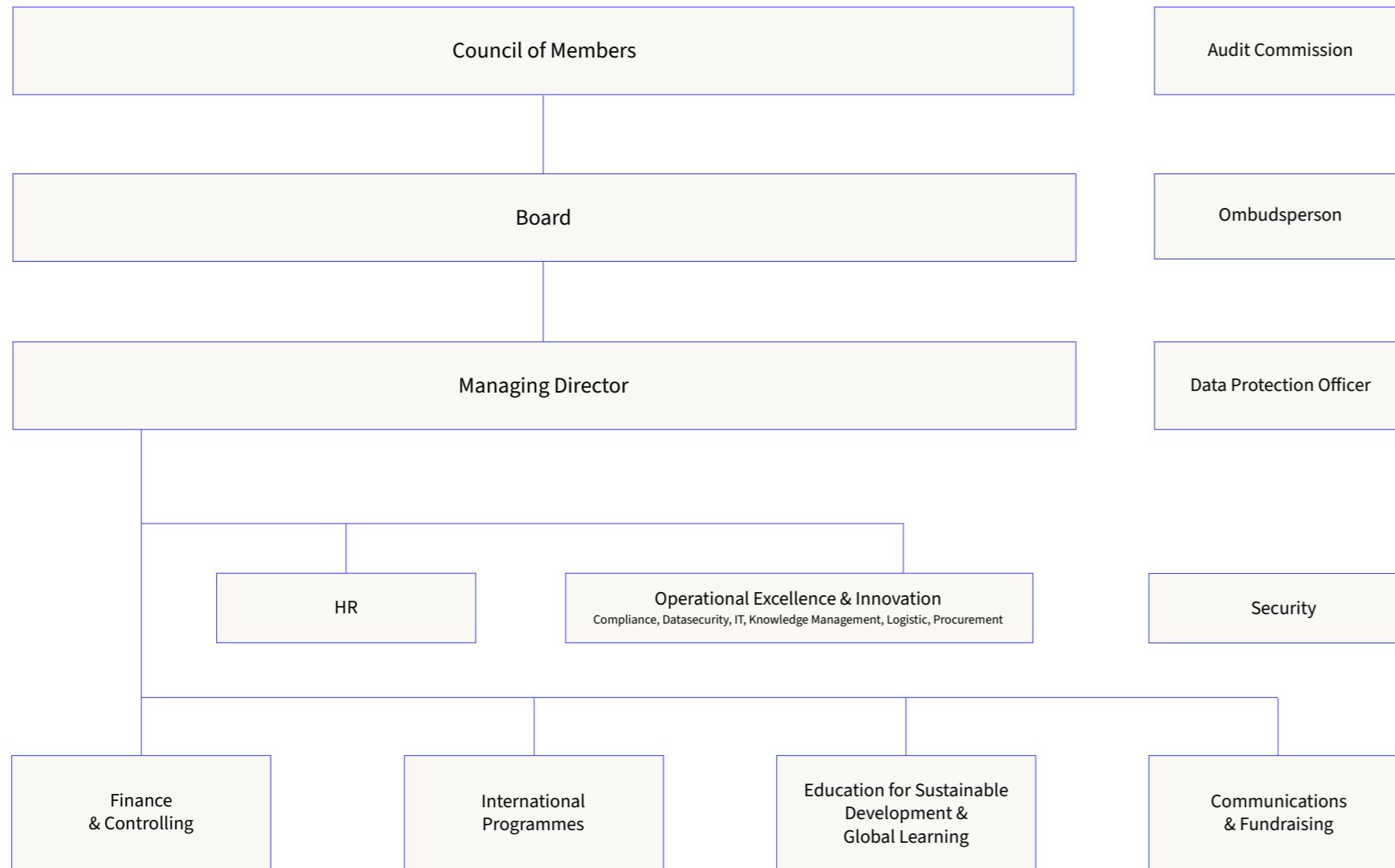
arche nova has signed the '**Climate and Environment Charter for Humanitarian Organisations**'. In doing so, we express our concern about the extent of the global climate and environmental crisis and take responsibility for our own actions. arche nova is committed to strengthening its own measures to meet the growing need for humanitarian aid and address the consequences of climate change, while acting as environmentally friendly and sustainably as possible.

### Transparent civil society

arche nova has signed up to the voluntary commitment of the Transparent Civil Society Initiative. In line with this, we publish the 10 relevant pieces of information about our organisation required by the initiative in an easily accessible and understandable form on our website [www.ache-nova.org](http://www.ache-nova.org).



# Organisational structure



**arche noVa – Initiative for People in Need e.V.** is a registered, non-profit charitable association. Its governing bodies are the council of members, the board, the management and the audit committee.

**Council of Members:** The Council of Members assembly is the highest body of the organisation and determines the association's guidelines. Its main tasks include setting the basic working guidelines, deciding on the number of board members to be elected, electing and extraordinarily dismissing board members, electing the auditors, approving the budget, discharging the board, deciding on appeals against the rejection of membership applications, electing the board members, electing the audit committee

and deciding on the annual budget. There are 44 honorary members.

**Board:** The association's Board is elected for a term of three years. It has a minimum of three and a maximum of five members. Individual functions are assigned within the Board. The association discharges the Board based on an objective and financial annual report from the Board and the Council of Members of the independent audit committee. The Board is responsible for implementing the resolutions of the general meeting, convening and preparing the general meeting, chairing the general meeting, drawing up the budget, keeping the accounts, preparing the annual report, appointing and dismissing the special represent-

ative in accordance with § 30 BGB (German Civil Code) and admitting and expelling members. The members of the Board work on a voluntary basis. In accordance with the Articles of Association, the Executive Board manages the association's affairs. This may be done by the members of the Executive Board themselves, by a full-time managing director appointed by the Executive Board, or by a special representative. The Executive Board is currently composed as follows: Stefan Mertenskötter (Chairman of the Executive Board), Cornelia Trentzsch (Deputy Chairwoman of the Executive Board), Clivia Bahrke (Treasurer), Tina Wünschmann (Member of the Executive Board).

**Managing Director:** Dr. Jens Ola has been appointed as full-time Managing Director since 1 January 2024. The Managing Director man-

ages the day-to-day administration of the association and is appointed by the Executive Board. He is represented by Frank Engel, Head of Finance & Controlling. Together with Betty Brauer, Head of International Programmes, they form the management team.

**Audit Committee:** The Audit Committee is elected by the General Assembly every two years and works on a voluntary basis. The Audit Committee may inspect all documents of the organisation at any time.

**Ombudsperson:** The ombudsperson, Dr Christian Holtermann, is an external and independent person for complaints about all activities of arche nova. He or she takes

action when someone feels affected by misconduct for the organisation, when there is suspicion of corruption or undue advantage, or when victims of sexualised violence report incidents and wish to seek support.

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

**Security:** Christian Grau supports arche nova as an external global security advisor.

**Staff units and departments:** Operational work is the responsibility of the management. It is carried out by two staff units and four departments. The Human Resources staff unit is responsible for colleagues sent abroad as expats. The Operational Excellence & Innovations staff unit has been newly established. It brings together emergency aid, the WASH cluster, IT support, procurement, logistics, knowledge and change management, and compliance.

All international and national projects (except ESD projects) are designed, managed and supervised by the International Programmes Department (IP Department). The focus here is on networking and cooperation with all partner organisations. The Education for Sustainable Development/Global Learning Department (ESD/GL) is involved in educational projects in Saxony and in countries of the Global South.

The Communication & Fundraising Department (C&F) looks after all arche nova supporters and is responsible for the organisation's external image in analogue and digital media.

The Finance & Controlling Department (F&C) manages all processes related to the association's financing. The department has now also taken over the accounting for international projects, which was previously handled by the IP Department. One of its most important tasks is project controlling in the project countries and with the project partners.

# 2024 International Programmes Projects

Country	Region	Title	Project Partner	Sectors	Beneficiaries	Funding	Duration	Total Budget*
Africa	Somali Regional State	Multisectoral approach to food security and resilience of pastoralists and agro-pastoralists in Somali region	OWDA		38,800	BMZ (SEWOH), ADH	03/2023-03/2027	€1,540,000
	Ethiopia	Somali Regional State	OWDA		5,000	FE	02/2024-07/2024	€65,000
	Somali Regional State	Establishment of tree nurseries lead by women cooperatives	OWDA		400	FE	03/2024-09/2025	€42,000
	Kenya	Counties: Kitui, Machakos, Makueni	ASDF		4,160	BMZ, ADH	12/2021-11/2024	€783,000
	Kenya	Counties: Kitui, Laikipia, Machakos, Makueni	ASDF, LPCT		3,430	BMZ PT, ADH	11/2022-01/2025	€1,558,000
	Kenya	Counties: Kitui, Laikipia, Machakos, Makueni	ASDF, LPCT		6,600	BMZ PT, ADH	10/2024-09/2027	€1,117,000
	Mali	Nairobi	St. Juliet School		1,400	GS	01/2024-07/2024	€74,900
	Mali	Region Gao	NOUV		79,000	BMZ TA (Consortia Project with ASB/Niger)	09/2022-12/2025	€4,800,000
	Mali	Region Gao	NOUV		40,600	GFFO (Consortia Project with ASB/Niger)	08/2024-07/2026	€1,026,000
	Somalia	Region Gedo, State Jubaland	ASEP		11,330	IKI, ADH	08/2022-07/2024	€858,000
Asia	Somalia	Regions: Banadir, Bay, Galgaduud, Mudug, Middle Shabelle	PAH		33,770	ECHO, ADH	05/2024-05/2025	€128,000
	Somalia	Regions: Bakool, Banadir, Bay, Lower Juba, Middle Shabelle, Mudug	PAH		216,340	BMZ TA, ADH (Consortia Project with AM, JUH)	11/2024-06/2028	€4,202,000
	Somalia/Somaliland	Maroodi Jeex	OWDA		4,770	BMZ PT, ADH	11/2022-05/2025	€541,000
	Uganda	Mukono District	KWDT		15,880	BMZ PT, ADH	10/2021-03/2024	€382,000
	Uganda	Mukono District	KWDT		500	ADH	05/2024-10/2024	€47,100
Asia	Iraq	Gouvernements: Diyala, Kirkuk, Salah al-Din			40,000	BMZ TA	06/2020-05/2024	€5,248,000
	Lebanon	Governorates Akkar, North Lebanon, Beirut	TKS, Mada		37,400	BMZ TA	11/2021-10/2025	€4,120,000
	Lebanon	Governorates: Akkar, Bekaa, Beirut, North Lebanon, South Lebanon	JUH, Mada; MAPS, NA		15,600	BMZ TA, ADH (Consortia Project with JUH)	11/2024-10/2028	€10,188,000
	Lebanon	Governorate Bekaa	SSSE		815	SSK, ADH	09/2023-08/2024	€472,000
	Lebanon	Governorate Bekaa	SSSE		800	SSK, ADH	09/2024-08/2025	€370,000
	Myanmar	Rakhine State	CERA, GJ, RAFT, THANT		54,070	BMZ TA	12/2021-04/2026	€3,240,000
	Myanmar	Rakhine State	GJ		10,600	LIFT	12/2024-11/2026	€487,900
	Philippines	Shan State	EEI, MDF, SMDO		17,600	BMZ TA	10/2019-03/2025	€2,345,000
	Nepal	Nuwakot District	GEYC		510		02/2024-07/2024	€38,300
	Philippines	Palawan	ASDSW				01/2024-12/2024	€10,000
Europe	Syria	Governorates: Deir ez-Zor, Raqqa			162,300	BMZ TA	12/2019-11/2024	€4,231,000
	Syria	Governorates: Deir ez-Zor, Hassakeh, Raqqa			27,400	BMZ, ADH	08/2021-12/2025	€5,120,000
	Syria	Governorate Idlib	BONYAN		1,750	KB	12/2023-03/2024	€100,000
	Syria	Governorates: Afrin, Aleppo, Deir ez-Zor, Hassakeh, Idlib, Raqqa			18,200	GFFO, ADH	01/2024-10/2025	€7,987,000
	Syria	Governorates: Deir ez-Zor, Hassakeh			109,482	GIZ	07/2024-08/2025	€798,000
	Syria	Governorates: Aleppo, Deir ez-Zor, Raqqa	BONYAN, TAS		124,040	BMZ, ADH	11/2024-01/2028	€6,463,000
	Germany	Federal states: Nordrhein-Westfalen, Rheinland-Pfalz	ASB, diverse		18,900	ADH	07/2021-06/2025	€1,172,000
	Czech Republic	Ostrava	CO		1,000	ADH	09/2024-02/2025	€65,000
	Ukraine	Donetsk Oblast	SC		5,590	ADH	05/2023-04/2024	€397,136
	Ukraine	Kharkiv Oblast			1,425	ADH	07/2023-05/2024	€386,000
Regional and Global Projects	Ukraine	Oblast: Chernihiv, Kharkiv, Kyiv, Sumy	CRF, NW		35,000	BMZ TA	08/2022-08/2026	€6,000,000
	Ukraine	Oblast: Kherson, Mykolaiv	AWO, NW, RD		15,000	GFFO, ADH	08/2024-08/2026	€4,027,000
	Ukraine	Oblast: Donetsk, Kharkiv	GA, SC		31,584	OCHA (UHF)	04/2024-02/2025	€1,801,000
	Ethiopia, Somalia, Somaliland, Sudan	Diverse	ASEP, FPDO, OWDA, PAH		156,900	GFFO, ADH	07/2022-06/2025	€9,034,000
	Ethiopia, Lebanon, Mali, Myanmar, Somalia, Somaliland	Diverse	ASEP, EEI, Mada, NOUV, OWDA, TKS		92,500	GFFO, ADH (Consortia Project with ASB, GTO)	11/2023-10/2026	€5,676,000
Regional and Global Projects	Diverse	Diverse	Borda, ENPHO, German Jordanian University, GTO, MERU, SH		120,000	GFFO	03/2022-12/2025	€266,000

Key to the SECTORS: Water, Sanitation, Nutrition, Disaster preparedness, Livelelihood, Shelter

Abbreviations: ADH: Aktion Deutschland Hilft, AM: Deutsches Medikamenten-Hilfswerk action medeor e.V., ASB: Arbeiter Samariter-Bund Deutschland, ASDF: Africa Sand Dam Foundation, ASDSW: A Single Drop for Safe Water, ASEP: Action for Social and Economic Progress Somalia, AWO: Arbeiterwohlfahrt e. V., BMZ: Bundesministerium für Wirtschaft und Entwicklung/Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (PT: Private Träger/Civil Society Grant, SEWOH: Sonderinitiative Eine Welt ohne Hunger, TA: Transitional assistance), CERA: Community Empowerment and Resilience Association, CO: City Council Ostrava, CRF: Civil Ray o Future, ECHO: European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations, EEI: Ethnic Equality Initiative, ENPHO: Environment & Public Health Organization, FE: Fondazione Elena, FPDO: Friends of Peace and Development Organization, GA: Good Action, GEYC: Gerkhut Youth Club Nepal, GFFO: German Federal Foreign Office, GIZ: Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit/German Agency for International Cooperation, GJ: Green Journey, GS: „genialsozial - Deine Arbeit gegen Armut“ der Sächsischen Jugendstiftung, GTO: German Toilet Organization, GWN: German WASH Network, IKI: The International Climate Initiative, JUH: Johanniter-Unfall-Hilfe e.V. (International Assistance), KB: Knorr Bremse Global Care e.V., KWT: Katosi Women Development Trust, LIFT: Livelihood and Food Security Fund Myanmar coordinated by United Nations Office for Project Services, LPCT: Laikipia Permaculture Centre Trust, MAPS: Multi-Aid Programs, MDF: Metta Development Foundation, MERU: Meru University of Science and Technology, NA: Naba'a - Development Action without Borders, NOUV: Nouveaux Horizons, NW: New Way, OCHA: United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UHF: Ukraine Humanitarian Fund), OWDA: Organization for Welfare and Development in Action, PAH: Polska Akcja Humanitarna, RAFT: Respect Accountability Fairness Transparency Myanmar, RD: Rokada Charitable Foundation, SC: Strong Community, SH: Sign of Hope, SMDO: Sopay Myanmar Development Organization, SSK: Sächsische Staatskanzlei/State Chancellery of Saxony, SSSE: Society for Social Support & Education, TAS: Takaful Al-Sham, THANT: Thant Myanmar, TKS: Tankamal Sawa

\*The budget figures refer to the entire project duration. In the case of consortia projects, arche nova's share is indicated.



## 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)

**We work with local partners.  
We leave the knowledge in the country.  
We help others to help themselves.**

arche noVa –  
Initiative for People in Need e.V.

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