



Annual Report 2022



**HEKS
EPER**
Bread for all.

Editorial

Dear Readers,

We are pleased to present the first Annual Report since the merger of HEKS/EPER and Bread for all. No longer are there two separate reports, but just one, and it has a new look. This reflects the reality: two organisations have become one. We have managed to implement the merger without dislocations. Working in mixed teams, staffers assume joint responsibility, and the association of programme work with development work is also yielding new and exciting action possibilities.



In this way, we remain true to our core issues, namely, the right to land and food, climate justice, flight and migration, and also integrating marginalised population groups into our society, a process we now call "inclusion". By pursuing those priorities, we strive to realise our vision of a more just world in which the dignity of all people is respected, peace prevails and our natural environment is protected and preserved.

This vision also informed the Strategy we have elaborated for the years ahead. In a well-nigh unprecedented manner, the pandemic and the war in Ukraine brought home to us that the unthinkable can suddenly become reality. This year saw an abrupt end to a long period of peace in Europe. Once again, both the mindset and rhetoric of war are shaping thoughts and actions. We do not know what lies ahead. But we have given thought to what our organisation needs to be able to function in these uncertain times. The new Strategy has now been published and is available for all to see.

In the year ended, however, our programmes and projects in Switzerland and worldwide were our principal focus. HEKS/EPER provided emergency aid in Ukraine, but also remained active away from the limelight. Cases in point are Syria and Lebanon, where millions of people still live in precarious conditions and are intent on just one thing – leaving the country. Or in East Africa, which is plagued by hunger, drought, locusts and civil wars. In Switzerland, the large number of refugees from Ukraine – and also from other war zones – has confronted our teams with major challenges. By providing legal advice and effective support in often protracted integration processes, HEKS/EPER, together with churches and authorities, is contributing substantially to coping with the asylum-related tasks at hand.

Public solidarity and the substantial support of our donors were also crucially important for HEKS/EPER in 2022. For this we are very grateful.

Walter Schmid, President, HEKS/EPER Board of Trustees
Michèle Künzler, Vice-President, HEKS/EPER Board of Trustees
Jeanne Pestalozzi, Vice-President, HEKS/EPER Board of Trustees

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Point of focus: HEKS/EPER – Bread for all merger

Successful merger

Growing together, focusing on four priority areas, associating programme work with development policy at home and abroad: the first year following the merger has been a success. The 2023-2027 Strategy points the way forward.

The merger of HEKS/EPER and Bread for all became legally binding on 22 November 2021, with the inscription of the new foundation in the commercial register. The newly formed organisation launched operations on 1 January 2022 under the name “Swiss Church Aid” (HEKS/EPER).

HEKS/EPER focuses on the four priority areas of “climate justice”, “right to land and food”, “flight and migration”, and “inclusion”. The overarching goal is systemic change at the social, economic and political levels – in Switzerland and worldwide. Humanitarian aid and the Ecumenical Campaign are still vital cornerstones of ongoing collaboration between HEKS/EPER and “Fasten-aktion”.

Associating programme work with development policy

The merger enhances the position of HEKS/EPER in an increasingly competitive environment. More specifically, the linking of programme work with development policy is giving rise to synergies. To cite just one among many examples, in 2022, HEKS/EPER worked with affected people in 13 countries to develop solutions for adapting to the consequences of global warming, for example, by promoting agroecology or the planting of mangroves as a means of flood control. At the same time, HEKS/EPER, drew media attention to the climate issue through the “Call for Climate Justice” campaign launched in support of the climate litigation initiated by four Indonesians against the Swiss cement group Holcim in July 2022 (www.callforclimatejustice.org).

In the reporting period, HEKS/EPER successfully consolidated its commitment to social and development policy, and embedded it thematically more firmly in the four priority areas. This



positioning is to be further refined – in dialogue with society, politicians, business, and churches.

Growing together

For the merged entity, the year 2022 was one of growing together. A key element was the wide-ranging process of drawing up the 2023-2027 Strategy, which systematically lays out the rights-based work of HEKS/EPER and points the way forward by means of an overarching transformation model.

The members of the merged bodies, such as the Board of Trustees, the Audit Committee and the Finance and Personnel Committee, benefited from each other during the familiarisation phase and supported the process of

growing together through their mutual strategic support. The operational, cross-divisional working groups are off to a good start. Their effectiveness will be reviewed after one year.

The year 2022 was also devoted to the challenges of merging the financial systems as well as data and address management, transferring employment contracts and developing the new corporate design. Experience could be garnered, errors eliminated and simplifications introduced in all areas.

Lastly, and importantly, events and celebrations provided opportunities for staff in Switzerland to get to know and share expertise with one another – across linguistic and erstwhile organisational lines.

2022 in figures

HEKS EPER works on the four priority areas of "Climate justice", "Right to land and food", "Flight and migration", and "Inclusion".



Submissions by the HEKS/EPER legal advice centres led to the approval of **84** family reunifications in 2022. In the federal asylum centres, HEKS/EPER supported **1040** asylum seeking minors.
→ page 13



HEKS/EPER projects abroad secured access for **20 000** people to **92 000** hectares of land.
→ pages 10/11

61 224 people gained better market access thanks to HEKS/EPER and were thus able to boost their incomes.
→ pages 10/11



In 2022, HEKS/EPER, supported some **27 000** people who had fled Ukraine for Switzerland. HEKS/EPER emergency aid reached **650 000** people in Ukraine and in surrounding countries. HEKS/EPER provided humanitarian aid worth **29 260 679** francs worldwide.
→ pages 16/17



There were **323** HEKS/EPER intercultural interpreters in service in 2022, and they reached **87 138** people. Their work goes far beyond the purely linguistic, to build bridges between professionals and their foreign language-speaking clients.
→ page 15



217 509 people signed the petition "Versprechen halten" (Keeping the promise), launched by the Coalition for Corporate Responsibility and co-sponsored by HEKS/EPER. It calls for a strong corporate accountability law similar to what is planned for the EU.
→ www.konzernverantwortung.ch



The climate litigation initiated by four Indonesians and supported by HEKS/EPER, calls on the Holcim cement group to reduce its CO₂ emissions by **43 per cent** by 2030 and by **69 per cent** by 2040.
→ page 8

In 2022, HEKS/EPER assisted **1427** foreign language-speaking mothers and fathers and reinforced their parental role through information and awareness-raising and also through practical guidance and intercultural mediation during discussions with teachers or doctors.
→ www.heks.ch/unser-angebot/fuer-kinder-und-familien





**Protecting and managing the doum palm,
Maradi Region, Niger**

Craftspeople process doum palm leaves to make baskets, floor mats and hats. HEKS/EPER helps them market their products.



Priority area: climate justice

In 2022, HEKS/EPER supported the climate litigation brought by four Indonesians against the Holcim cement group. They are demanding more climate justice. In projects in 13 countries, HEKS/EPER worked with affected people to develop solutions for adapting to the consequences of global warming.

Switzerland witnessed three heat waves and severe drought in the summer of 2022. It was the warmest year since records began in 1864. Global warming is triggering ever more extreme weather around the world, and sea levels are rising and causing the gradual submersion of low-lying coastal areas. The industrialised nations are the main contributors to global warming, but it is chiefly the people in poor countries in the Global South who are feeling the consequences. This explains HEKS/EPER's commitment to greater climate justice.

Through the "Call for Climate Justice" campaign, HEKS/EPER and two partner organisations are supporting the climate lawsuit filed in July 2022 by four

Indonesians against the Swiss Holcim cement corporation, which bears a considerable share of responsibility for climate change owing to its high level of CO₂ emissions. Their homeland, Pari Island, is being flooded ever more frequently. The four plaintiffs are therefore demanding that Holcim provide compensation for damage done, help fund flood protection measures and rapidly reduce its emissions. The demands are well-grounded in law and in fact.

Climate change adaptation

"Loss and damage" was also a topic at the COP27 World Climate Conference held in Egypt in November 2022. After decades of efforts by civil society and

countries of the Global South, a fund was finally set up to compensate for damage caused by climate change. Saleemul Huq, Director of HEKS/EPER partner organisation ICCCAD, played a key role in this.

Huq's home country of Bangladesh is among those being severely impacted by climate change. HEKS/EPER provided support to particularly vulnerable minority communities in that South Asian country through two climate change adaptation projects. The onus was on introducing alternative climate-resilient farming methods to secure livelihoods. In 2022, HEKS/EPER implemented 39 projects in 13 countries that included such components.

<https://en.heks.ch/climate-justice>

Ethiopia

Cultivation with little soil and water

Ethiopia experiences repeated droughts that result in water shortages and crop failures. The Borana region in the south of the country is especially vulnerable to these harsh climatic conditions. HEKS/EPER and its partner organisations are promoting a systemic change in animal feed and milk production in this region, thereby contributing to climate change adaptation and more secure livelihoods for pastoralist families.

Improved access to fodder

Some 350 livestock farming households (60% women) were assisted in the use of hydroponic fodder production techniques. This entails growing plants using a mineral nutrient solution with little soil and water, a method particularly suited to drought-prone areas. The project also reinforced the supply chain for milk production, and supported small businesses run mostly by women and young people.

Besides the 500 households that benefited directly from the project, the systemic changes are expected to benefit



another 15 000 families indirectly, for instance, through improved access to animal feed, more regular supplies of high-quality milk, and numerous business opportunities along the value chain. In 2022, some of the projected results were undermined by a drought that has been affecting southern Ethiopia since late 2020. It is the worst drought in 40 years. Altogether, HEKS/EPER reached some 400 000 people in Ethiopia in 2022 through 18 projects.

www.heks.ch/was-wir-tun/aethiopien/projekt-706402

Canton of Vaud

Ecological transition Income

In Switzerland too, low-income people are also among those being hardest hit by climate-related upheavals – despite contributing the least to CO₂ emissions. An economic change is therefore needed, one that respects the limits of the planet, while allowing for the weaker members of society to be included. One means to this end is through employment that is guided by the concept of “Ecological Transition Income” (Revenu de transition écologique) (RTE).

HEKS/EPER tables study

The concept was developed by Sophie Swaton. She is a philosopher and economist at the University of Lausanne and President of the Zoein Foundation. RTE is a tool that supports employment-generating initiatives to promote environmental and/or social change, and offers income and mentoring to persons engaging in a relevant activity. HEKS/EPER collaborated with the Zoein Foundation in 2022 to conduct a study



that laid the groundwork for an RTE pilot project in the Canton of Vaud.

The study gave rise to recommendations for implementing the pilot project, which facilitates inclusion for socially vulnerable people in activities that foster environmental change, and also in new business ventures. It is intended to trigger initiatives in areas such as sustainable food, circular economy, renewable energies, living space, mobility and the conservation of the biodiversity. This work is part of HEKS/EPER's claim to link social and ecological challenges with its projects.

www.heks.ch/rte



Priority area: right to land and food

Whether through humanitarian aid, long-term development projects or development policy interventions – HEKS/EPER advocated for the rights of rural communities and for greater food security worldwide and at all levels.

Hardly had the worst effects of the COVID-19 pandemic been overcome, when the war broke out in Ukraine. It sent agricultural markets into a tailspin in 2022 and triggered record price hikes for many food items. As a result, even more people around the world are suffering from hunger. In 2022, the hunger crisis was especially acute in HEKS/EPER countries such as Niger, Syria, Haiti, and in East Africa. HEKS/EPER provided extensive humanitarian aid in Ethiopia, for example, and was able to shield some 26 000 families from the worst.

In 20 countries of Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe, HEKS/EPER

assisted approximately 50 000 people and many communities in claiming their rights, securing access to land, water, sustainable food systems and natural resources, and in finding and developing outlets for selling their products at fair prices. In Armenia, for example, 4500 people increased their income substantially thanks to improved ways of storing their fruit and of processing it into juice or dried product.

Success in Sierra Leone

In 2022, HEKS/EPER also recorded successes at the development policy level. The fight against land grabbing is crucial to the right to land and food.

A new land law was passed in Sierra Leone, granting farmers more rights. The work of HEKS/EPER's partner organisation Silnorf – among other things, publishing five studies on the subject, jointly with HEKS/EPER – played a key part in this success.

Access to local seeds is crucial to food security for rural communities. In 2022, Anafae, a HEKS/EPER partner organisation in Honduras, successfully filed a motion with the Constitutional Court challenging a law that criminalises farmers for reusing seeds – a major victory for farmers' rights and seed diversity.

<https://en.heks.ch/right-land-and-food>

Brazil

Promoting sustainable lifestyles

The Cerrado savannah region is home to several communities that practice traditional agriculture and harvest local products. The region is also home to a “Globally Important Agricultural Heritage System” (GIAHS) recognised by the United Nations, that of the flower gatherers. The HEKS/EPER project supports communities in defending their rights, accessing land, marketing their products, and also promoting agroecology and the biodiversity.

In 2022, altogether 25 830 people benefited from the diverse range of HEKS/EPER project activities. For example, the federal government legalised land ownership by the Quilombos community. Baru nuts, which are endemic to the Cerrado, were successfully brought to market, earning higher incomes for many families. The installation of 24 demonstration plants for the treatment and use of “greywater” for irrigation and food production launched a debate on wastewater disposal in rural areas. The municipality of Rio Pardo de Minas also prepared a water flow chart (a tool developed by the Swiss Water



Research Institute, EAWAG), which is contributing to more equitable and sustainable water use.

The highlight of the year was the major flower-gathering festival staged as part of the plan to secure the GIAHS label. Thousands of people attended the event, where a documentary film (<https://youtu.be/28RZws9396s>) about the now protected traditional working practices was also screened.

www.heks.ch/was-wir-tun/brasilien/projekt-812387

Niger

Peaceful coexistence

Cattle farming is paramount in Niger’s Sahel region. The climate is such that owners of large herds migrate from the north, during the dry season, along “cattle corridors” that cross the agricultural areas of the South, in search of sufficient feed and water for their animals. But there are often conflicts between settled residents and migrating pastoralist families.

The HEKS/EPER project aims to secure access to vital resources for all groups, thereby averting conflicts. Cattle corridors and pastureland along migration routes are being restored, marked and mapped with the help of GPS data. Authorities thus have a better basis for settling disputes. Since the project began in 2020, 300 kilometres of corridors and over 1000 hectares of pastureland have been secured, 100 land commissions have been established – they can act as mediators and arbitrators in the event of conflicts – and 15 cattle wells have been upgraded.

Meanwhile, the project also supports the creation of an interest group to represent cattle breeders’ associations,



and raises public awareness as to the legal situation. Monitoring data confirm a marked decline in violent conflicts, despite the greater number of herders from elsewhere in the country. About a million people, including some 300 000 nomadic herders, use the corridors, grazing areas and wells secured by HEKS/EPER every year.

www.heks.ch/was-wir-tun/niger/projekt-756338



Priority area: flight and migration

Conflicts around the world left a sad legacy in 2022: there were over 100 million displaced people on the move, 32.5 million outside their home country. HEKS/EPER faced particular challenges in alleviating the plight of displaced and fleeing people.

In 2022, HEKS/EPER provided CHF 29 260 679 in emergency relief, including for displaced people from South Sudan and the Congo in Uganda (see box), for Rohingya in Bangladesh, for internally displaced people in Syria, Iraq or the Congo, as well as for people seeking refuge in Ukraine itself and in neighbouring eastern European countries. HEKS/EPER provided humanitarian aid in Lebanon, Ethiopia, Haiti, Venezuela and Honduras.

In Switzerland, 2022 showed how quickly and unbureaucratically help can be provided for refugees, where there is solidarity and the political will. Shortly after the onset of the war, Ukrainian refugees were granted protection status S and hence access to the labour

market, extensive freedom of travel and also the right to family reunification. The new protection status S also spawned discussions about the current unequal treatment being meted out to refugees – especially regarding the status of “provisionally admitted persons”. HEKS/EPER therefore continues to advocate politically for all war refugees to be granted a positive protection status that safeguards their fundamental rights and allows for rapid and lasting integration.

Major SAJE success

The six HEKS/EPER legal advice centres conducted a total of 14 897 counselling sessions in 2022. Besides advice and representation in asylum procedures,

the legal advisers also advocate for family reunifications. In 2022, 84 applications were approved. Reuniting families is crucial to supporting and integrating forcibly displaced people.

The obstacles to family reunification are considerable, especially for provisionally admitted persons. A significant partial success was scored in this area in 2022. As a result of an appeal by the HEKS/EPER legal advice centre in Lausanne (SAJE), the Federal Administrative Court has adapted its case law on family reunification for provisionally admitted persons. Now, the right to a family must be weighed up in each specific case before expiry of the three-year waiting period.

<https://en.heks.ch/flight-and-migration>

Uganda

Humanitarian work, development and peace

UNHCR records show Uganda to be the world's third largest receiving countries for refugees, who numbered almost 1.5 million at the end of 2022. Originating mainly from South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), these people are fleeing to Uganda to escape political divisions, strife, insecurity and ethnic violence. The ongoing insecurity and fighting in the DRC drove up refugee numbers significantly in Uganda in 2022. This has had an impact on HEKS/EPER's operations, and efforts have had to be redoubled in regard to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) so as to respond effectively and efficiently to the needs of refugees.

Concentrating on WASH activities

HEKS/EPER's activities in Uganda are located in the north-west of the country, where the majority of refugees from South Sudan are to be found. They also extend to the surrounding host communities. The aid focuses on WASH activities and on livelihoods. This is done following a



holistic, triple-nexus approach that encompasses humanitarian issues, development assistance and participation in conflict transformation. Taking account of the security environment is paramount in this region.

In 2022, HEKS/EPER's was observed to be better integrated into the local context and network through increased collaboration with State agencies and the UN, and to be partnering better with local organisations.

www.heks.ch/nothilfe-uganda

Altstätten (SG)/Basel

Legal protection at two federal asylum centres

Following the outbreak of the war in Ukraine, the HEKS/EPER legal protection service put together specialised teams at the federal asylum centres in Altstätten (SG) and Basel in very short order. In 2022, these teams assisted more than 24 000 Ukrainians seeking protection, providing them with initial information on the procedure and helping them navigate brief written and oral interviews. As the daily business of regular asylum applications continued in parallel, the situation called for a considerable effort at all levels.

The number of asylum applications increased exponentially in the second half of the year. The State Secretariat for Migration (SEM) reacted by introducing fast-track measures. The legal protection service monitored the quality of the procedures and intervened in cases where an abridged hearing seemed inadequate considering the complexity of the case.

In 2022, an unprecedented number of unaccompanied asylum-seeking minors reached the federal asylum centres.



Most are from Afghanistan. They need especially close monitoring. HEKS/EPER legal protection service staffers are thus acting also as persons of trust.

Besides representation during the asylum procedure, the legal protection service may also file appeals where warranted. Given the dramatic situation of displaced persons in Greece, HEKS/EPER staff systematically challenged deportation orders in that country, on behalf of particularly vulnerable persons. A landmark ruling by the Federal Administrative Court in March 2022 confirmed that this procedure was warranted.

<https://en.heks.ch/node/783/legal-advice>



Priority area: inclusion

Pursuing its commitment to inclusion in 2022, HEKS/EPER assisted disadvantaged people in realising their potential and exercising their rights. Politically, HEKS/EPER strives for the dismantling of exclusionary structures and for measures to combat discrimination.

In 2022, HEKS/EPER worked for the social, political and economic inclusion of Roma in Romania, Serbia, Hungary and Kosovo. The widespread discrimination against them and violations of their human rights were actively tackled. In Bangladesh, HEKS/EPER facilitated the marginalised Dalit and Adivasi minorities in standing up for their political and economic inclusion (see box page 15). In the Democratic Republic of Congo, HEKS/EPER joined efforts with local players to combat sexualised violence against women. In Cambodia, Armenia, Georgia, Niger, Senegal, Ethiopia and Brazil, HEKS/EPER assisted farming families and small-scale producers in accessing local markets, selling their products profitably, and securing their livelihoods.

In Switzerland, HEKS/EPER supported around 98,000 people in 44 programmes in actively participating in society. 87,000 of them benefited from interpretation services. The need for language and job integration schemes has increased substantially, with over 60,000 Ukrainians seeking protection in Switzerland in 2022. HEKS/EPER expanded its programmes and adapted them to the needs of the new target group – comprising many women and children. In 2022, the “New Gardens” continued to facilitate social exchange, structured daily routines, and provide abundant harvests for people with migration or refugee backgrounds. HEKS operates a total of 38 gardens in Switzerland, 4 were opened in 2022.

With “Diversi’team”, HEKS/EPER launched a project for integration through sport in the Lausanne region. HEKS/EPER put migrants in touch with local clubs, as a way of enhancing life in community, and also health.

To sustainably enhance the daily routine and quality of life of the socially deprived, HEKS/EPER also acted politically to promote inclusion in Switzerland. In June 2022, HEKS/EPER handed the petition “Für eine gerechte Sozialhilfe” (For fair Social Welfare) to Parliament. People without a Swiss passport suffer discrimination as regards social welfare. With over 8500 signatures, the petition sent a strong signal against poverty and exclusion.

<https://en.heks.ch/inclusion>

Bangladesh

Inclusion for Dalits and Adivasis

In north-western Bangladesh, the Dalit and Adivasi ethnic minorities (about 1.5 million and 350,000 people, respectively) live on the fringes of society. They have endured social, economic and political discrimination for generations, and hardly benefit from the country's economic growth. Poverty, illiteracy, joblessness and malnutrition are hallmarks of their daily lives.

HEKS/EPER assists and strengthens these communities so that they can claim their own rights. The project aims to achieve greater social inclusion for Dalits and Adivasis and other ethnic communities.

Access to land, resources and services

The key to inclusion for the Dalits and Adivasis lies in mobilising and enhancing organisation within communities, powerful lobbying at the local, regional and national levels, and access to land, gainful employment, and income. Political participation favours cultural and social equality – especially for women and young people.



In 2022, HEKS/EPER projects in the Thakurgaon and Dinajpur districts reached 46,000 Dalits and Adivasis who were directly involved in project activities. Another 237,200 people benefited indirectly from the projects. Some 10,000 people gained access to land, natural resources or to public services. In addition, 70% of households were able to increase their income.

www.heks.ch/was-wir-tun/bangladesch/projekt-610420

Switzerland

Inclusion through language

Language is pivotal to participation in society – whence the variety of language courses offered by HEKS/EPER for migrants, including literacy courses, language courses for beginners and advanced learners, conversation courses and mother-and-child language courses. In 2022, 1593 foreign language speakers attended a HEKS/EPER language course, and 377 persons underwent a language proficiency test. HEKS/EPER also facilitates communication between professionals and foreign language speakers by training and supplying intercultural interpreters.

Intercultural interpreting and mediation

“HEKS/EPER Linguadukt” supplies intercultural interpreters in over 70 languages. They ease communication between professionals and foreign language speakers. Their work far exceeds the merely linguistic, as they also take cultural backgrounds into account. The work of the interpreters, for example, helps doctors make correct diagnoses, or aids communication between teachers and



foreign language-speaking parents. In 2022, 323 HEKS/EPER intercultural interpreters were in service, and they reached 87,138 people.

The HEKS/EPER “MEL” programme trains migrants who are familiar with two cultures to become intercultural interpreters and mediators. It also offers continuing and advanced training for persons already trained as intercultural mediators and for professionals in the fields of health, education and social work. MEL celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2022.

<https://en.heks.ch/heks-language-courses>

Point of focus: Ukraine

Humanitarian aid for war victims

The war in Ukraine has turned the lives of millions of people upside-down. Having been active in the region before the crisis, HEKS/EPER and its partners – from existing church cooperation and humanitarian aid work – have been joining their efforts in Ukraine, in surrounding countries and in Switzerland, with a budget of CHF 10 million.

Shortly after 24 February 2022, HEKS/EPER was able to deploy teams, resources and expertise to support its partners locally. In Ukraine, many people fled to Transcarpathia in the south-west of the country to escape the bombs. HEKS/EPER's partner, the Reformed Church, immediately extended its services to the displaced who had sought refuge there. Bread and soup distributions were stepped up, and shelters and care facilities were made available.

25000 people helped in neighbouring countries

In Romania, Hungary and Moldova, assistance was initially provided to

people fleeing the bombing and heading for other countries. It consisted of supply points, the distribution of clothing, and the provision of advice and temporary shelter at border points, railway stations and airports.

From emergency aid to integration

In Romania and Hungary, special attention was paid to people who stayed behind. Initially, this took the form of cash distribution and supplies of hygiene items, and emergency aid was gradually transformed into integration support, which included house-hunting, language courses, school enrolment for children, job search support, and psychological and medical care.

In September 2022, HEKS/EPER launched activities in northern Moldova, where Moldovans are hosting refugees. The organisation supported both the displaced persons and their host families by supplying the basic necessities. In the Czech Republic, HEKS/EPER support went mainly to its partner church, which was providing sleeping space, where possible on a long-term basis, integration support and counselling.

In all these countries, HEKS/EPER undertook special distributions of items for the cold season. Winter packages containing blankets, jackets and footwear were distributed, as well as stoves and wood briquettes for home heating.

<https://en.heks.ch/emergency-aid-ukraine>



Placement with host families

Switzerland: emergency aid for Ukrainians

After the start of war, the Swiss public showed a stunning readiness to help, as thousands of homes opened their doors to give shelter to fleeing Ukrainians. HEKS/EPER and other aid agencies were tasked by the State Secretariat for Migration (SEM) with placing fleeing persons with host families.

In just days, HEKS/EPER set up placement offices at the Basel and Altstätten federal asylum centres, and recruited and trained staff. Using a database, HEKS/EPER staff identified suitable lodgings for every person or family who preferred private lodgings. The work called for thoughtfulness, patience and intuition, as most of the people were exhausted and distraught. In 2022, HEKS/EPER found private lodgings for a total of 2242 displaced Ukrainians in the asylum regions of north-western and eastern Switzerland. Host family placement by HEKS/EPER and other agencies ended at the close of 2022, and that responsibility passed to the cantons.



Over 75 000 Ukrainians have sought protection in Switzerland since the start of the war. Almost half of them have found accommodation in private households. Private accommodation significantly eases the logistical challenge facing cantons and municipalities and facilitates the long-term social integration of displaced persons. The host family model does much to foster mutual understanding and inclusive community life. HEKS/EPER would therefore like to see the possibility of placing refugees with host families maintained and encouraged in the future, irrespective of their origin.

<https://en.heks.ch/emergency-aid-ukraine/switzerland>

Southern and Eastern Ukraine

Distributions on the front line

HEKS/EPER was one of the first NGOs to work close to the combat zones from the start. Operations began in Kharkiv in the east, with food being distributed in the underground and elsewhere; aid was then extended to the south of the country, close to the front lines, to support the most vulnerable population groups who were unable to flee.

Working with communities

In a very tense security situation, where people often have no choice but to flee their homes and keep moving around because of the fighting, HEKS/EPER takes a pragmatic approach by learning from community leaders what the needs are. HEKS/EPER worked closest to the front line in six oblasts, including Mykolayev and Kherson. In December, its team comprised 42 people, including 16 expatriates. It implemented most of the project itself, but also worked with community organisations and volunteer groups.



Winter distributions to ward off the cold

Besides distributing hygiene and food packages and arranging for supplies of water, HEKS/EPER handed out cash and provided winter aid in the form of blankets, warm clothes, and also stoves and wood briquettes to provide warmth in unheated summer houses. There are also countless damaged houses with shattered windows. Repair kits are being distributed to enable displaced people or residents to patch up the gaps and cover windows that have lost their panes. Aid was delivered to more than 450 000 vulnerable Ukrainians in Ukraine.

<https://en.heks.ch/emergency-aid-ukraine/ukraine>

HEKS/EPER makes a difference worldwide

Project countries 2022

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Europe | Asia |
| ● Armenia | ● Bangladesh |
| ● Czech Republic | ● Cambodia |
| ● Georgia | ● Iraq |
| ● Hungary | ● Palestine/Israel |
| ● Italy | ● Lebanon |
| ● Kosovo | ● Myanmar |
| ● Moldova | ● Syria |
| ● Romania | |
| ● Serbia | Latin America |
| ● Slovakia | ● Brazil |
| ● Ukraine | ● Colombia |
| | ● Haiti |
| Africa | ● Honduras |
| ● DR of the Congo | ● Venezuela |
| ● Ethiopia | |
| ● Niger | Legende |
| ● Senegal | ● Development Cooperation |
| ● South Sudan | ● Church Cooperation |
| ● Uganda | ● Humanitarian Aid |



Javier Espino, Honduras

"I am a farmer and live with my wife Ledys and our two children in my mother-in-law's house in the Nacaome community. I got to know HEKS/EPER when I was invited to undergo training in organic farming methods. I found the training very interesting. We applied the newly acquired knowledge straight away in our garden and shared our experiences with other people in the community. I now chair the local agricultural research committee. We advocate for the preservation of indigenous seeds and create seed reserves. My dream is some day to own a house with a garden."

Project 835.361: Smallholder families adapt production and water use to climate change



Stojana, Serbia

"My husband and I worked in agriculture until an advanced age. After his death, I found myself alone. I am 87 years old, I can no longer walk properly, and I suffer from high blood pressure, diabetes, frequent dizziness and anaemia. My caregiver helps me keep my flat clean and prepares light meals for me. She brings me food and medicines and in the winter she makes the fire. Her visits give me warmth and the chance to talk with someone. I am very grateful for the home care service."

Project 927.334: Home care service for the sick and elderly



Babel Qudeeh, Palestine

"I am 22 years old and I have a young son. For a while now I have been providing cell phone repair services from home. Thanks to the financial support of HEKS/EPER, I was able to rent a small shop and buy the furnishings and equipment. My business is now more visible. Women, especially, are very keen to use my services, as they prefer to be advised by a woman rather than a man. I would like to expand my business in the future. Many of my customers, for instance, would like to design their cell phone cover using their own photo. I will be able to fulfil this wish for them as soon as I can afford to buy a printing machine for cell phone covers."

Project 605.347: Helping young adults launch small start-ups



Tiv Hath, Cambodia

"I am 55 years old and live in the eastern part of Trang village. For a long time we did not have enough water to irrigate our rice fields. There have also been repeated conflicts over the unfair distribution of the water from the main canal. Together with HEKS/EPER, we looked at the problem collectively and decided to convert a strip of land along an old road into a canal. I myself own farmland next to this road. As there is no water source here for my rice field, I am very grateful that I can now irrigate it with water from the new canal."

Project 652.326: Rural communities regulate access to land and water



Habsatou Lawali, Niger

"I am a mother of four. My husband has left the village in search of work and I therefore need an income urgently. Thanks to HEKS/EPER, I am able to help produce bales of animal fodder. There is strong market demand for them. I now have five goats and would like to buy some more animals and a cart. I could then earn extra income from transporting goods. I have also improved my cultivation techniques. In the past, our harvest lasted us just two months. Now we can live longer from it."

Project 756.351: Stable food sources for humans and animals

Lourdes Laureano, Brazil

"I am one of the coordinators of the Articulação Pacari women's network. We defend the right to practice traditional medicine in the Cerrado. We grow medicinal plants and food in our backyards and supply people through community pharmacies. Traditional knowledge is passed down through the generations and is part of our way of life. The HEKS/EPER project provides us with information about our rights, public measures, national laws and current issues."



Project 812.385: Land rights and protection of cultural and biological diversity

HEKS/EPER makes a difference in Switzerland



Ana María Posada

"I studied computer science, I have over 10 years' work experience and eventually want to become a university professor. HEKS/EPER MosaiQ has helped me get into the job market here in Switzerland. The advisers are highly professional. They addressed my specific career aspirations, helped me to get my diploma recognised, to find an internship, and to send out applications."

HEKS/EPER MosaiQ Berne, Berne Branch Office
<https://en.heks.ch/project-explorer/mosaiq-berne>

Branch office Berne

Branch office Romandie

Mirian Dias Santana

"As part of Operation Papyrus, and with the help of Glaucia Ribeiro, a collaborator of 'HEKS/EPER Permanences volante' I applied for the regularisation of my status, and was able to prove that I have been working for the past 10 years. When I look at the identity card, I cry. A dream has become reality. I see the permit as an extension of my identity."

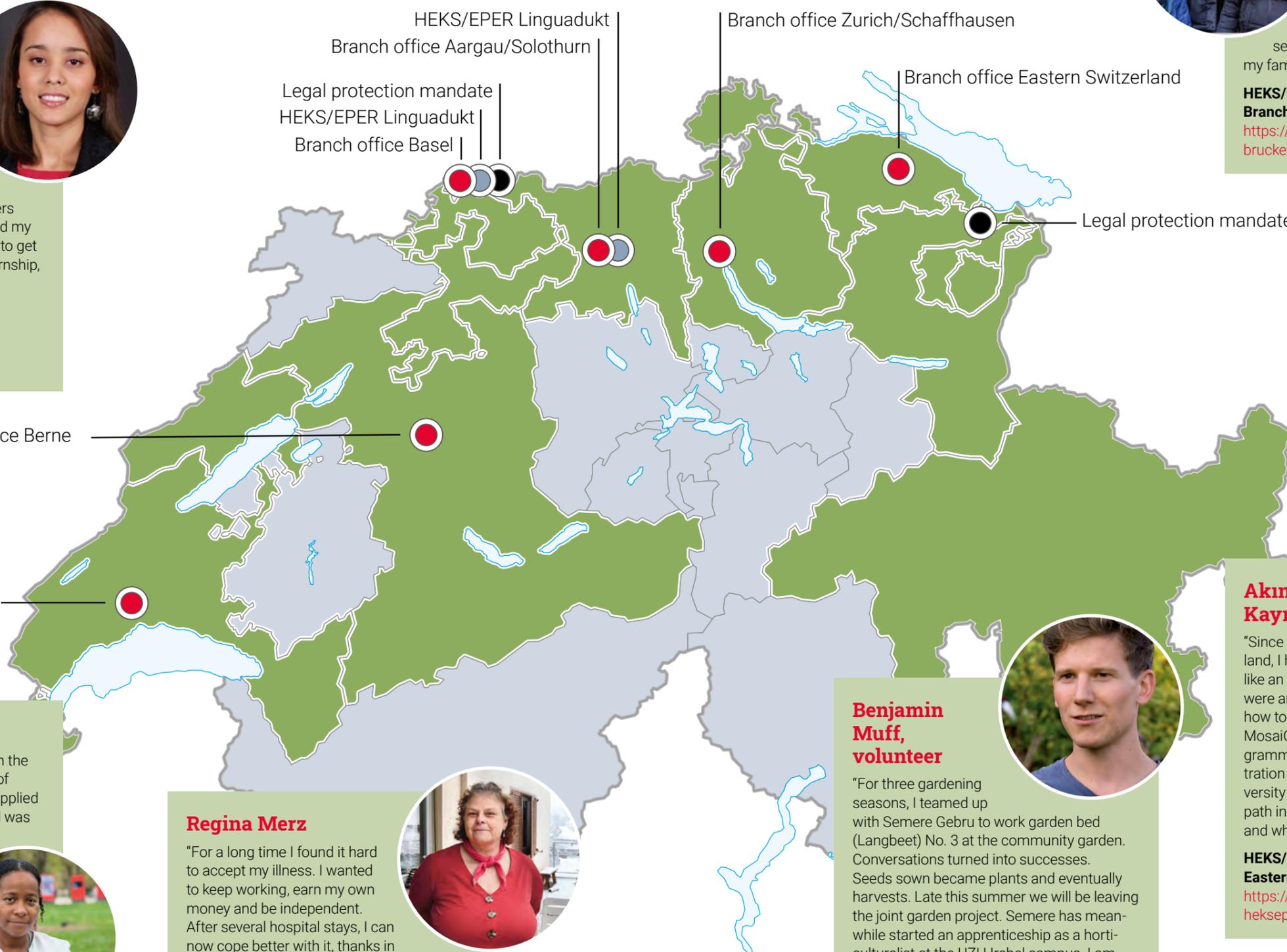
HEKS/EPER Permanences volante, Romandie Branch Office
<https://en.heks.ch/project-explorer/permanences-volantes>



Regina Merz

"For a long time I found it hard to accept my illness. I wanted to keep working, earn my own money and be independent. After several hospital stays, I can now cope better with it, thanks in large part to my residential supervisor from HEKS/EPER. He knows me, as well as the symptoms, and can sense how I feel. As I know that he comes by regularly, I try to tidy up my flat. But he is also understanding when I am not able to do so."

HEKS/EPER Wohnen Aargau, Aargau/Solothurn Branch Office
<https://en.heks.ch/was-wir-tun/heks-wohnen-aargau>



Esther Alanes Vargas

"The 'Brückenbauer:innen (Bridge-builders)' programme is both very helpful and necessary: newly arriving families can become quickly integrated. When I have questions, I know that I can rely on the programme, I receive the necessary support and, above all, I get guidance and help with school-related matters. That gives security and confidence to me and my family."

HEKS/EPER Bridgebuilders, Branch Office, both Basels
<https://en.heks.ch/project-explorer/brueckenbauerinnen-gundeli>



Akın Levent Kayrahan

"Since coming to Switzerland, I have felt somewhat like an outsider in the society. As though I were an alien looking on. I did not know how to fit in again. Thanks to HEKS/EPER MosaiQ, I am now in the Master's programme 'Executive Master in Arts Administration – Cultural Management' at the University of Zurich. I have finally found a career path in which I can invest for the long term, and which will help me achieve my goals."

HEKS/EPER MosaiQ Eastern Switzerland, Eastern Switzerland Branch Office
<https://en.heks.ch/project-explorer/hekseper-mosaiq-eastern-switzerland>



Benjamin Muff, volunteer

"For three gardening seasons, I teamed up with Semere Gebru to work garden bed (Langbeet) No. 3 at the community garden. Conversations turned into successes. Seeds sown became plants and eventually harvests. Late this summer we will be leaving the joint garden project. Semere has meanwhile started an apprenticeship as a horticulturalist at the UZH Irchel campus. I am happy to have been part of his journey. The friendship will continue."

HEKS/EPER New Gardens Zurich, Zurich/Schaffhausen Branch Office
<https://en.heks.ch/node/457>

Organisation and principles

Strategy 2023–2027

In 2022, HEKS/EPER staff members, managers, executive board and board of trustees drew up Strategy 2023–2027, which revolves around certain key issues. Using an overarching transformation model, the Strategy systematically lays out our rights-based work: the supreme goal is systemic change at the social, economic and political levels. An organisational transformation is also needed in order to effectively and efficiently implement the transformation model and the corresponding performance mandate. Implementation begins in 2023 with five strategic initiatives and one cross-cutting initiative. In the future, HEKS/EPER will focus its activities on the four priority areas of “Climate justice”, “Right to land and food”, “Climate justice”, “Flight and migration”, and “Inclusion”. Experiences gleaned from projects and programmes in some 30 countries and in Switzerland will feed into our policy work.

2030 Agenda

For the current decade, the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) constitute a key frame of reference for the work of HEKS/EPER. In Switzerland, HEKS/EPER projects that facilitate social inclusion for underprivileged people contribute to realising Goal 10 (reduce inequality), while the HEKS/EPER legal advice offices ensure that asylum seekers and other socially disadvantaged people enjoy equitable access to justice, thereby contributing to Goal 16 (Peace, justice and strong institutions). HEKS/EPER projects abroad have contributed primarily to SDGs 1 (no poverty) and 2 (zero hunger), and also significantly to SDGs 10 (overcome discrimination), 3 (health – mainly through humanitarian projects), and 16 (peace). Furthermore, work abroad targets the most vulnerable in the countries concerned, fully in keeping with the guiding principle of the 2030 Agenda: “Leave no one behind”.

Accountability

For years now, HEKS/EPER has relied on a range of compliance tools for the effective discharge of its obligation towards donors, contracting entities, staff and programme participants to engage in transparent and responsible governance. Because shortcomings can never be entirely ruled out even where there are high standards in project management, controlling and compliance programmes, HEKS/EPER maintains a feedback and complaints system that provides channels for feedback and complaints for project participants, collaborators of HEKS/EPER and partner organisations, and also for third parties. With the “HEKS/EPER Integrity line”, the organisation thus provides an independent reporting system through which misbehaviour or breaches can be reported anonymously and simply. Every HEKS/EPER country office also has a compliance officer to whom staff members, partners and programme participants may address complaints. HEKS/EPER looks into every complaint and gives feedback to the party filing it.

Equality & Safeguarding

One aspect of compliance of which HEKS/EPER was especially mindful in 2022 was “Equality & Safeguarding”. The dignity and protection of every person constitute a core concern of HEKS/EPER. The organisation therefore revised and upgraded the guidelines on the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation, Abuse and Harassment (PSEAH), child protection and gender & diversity. In 2022, all HEKS/EPER staffers worldwide completed the “PSEAH & Child Protection” e-learning course in order to ensure that they understand and practise zero tolerance of any form of sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment in the organisation. The “Equality & Safeguarding” action plan assigns high priority to regular awareness-raising exercises for staff and the use of context-specific measures in the coming years.



Responsible Communication

Through their communications and fund-raising campaigns, development organisations influence the public perception of the Global South and the way the Swiss public visualises development cooperation. Aware of its responsibility in this regard, HEKS/EPER therefore joined forces with the members and partners of Alliance Sud, the coalition of Switzerland’s leading development agencies, to draw up a “Manifesto for responsible communication on international cooperation”. Together with nine other development agencies, HEKS/



Key institutional and financial figures

In **30** countries, HEKS/EPER actively ran programmes and projects in 2022.

81,2 mn francs went to projects in Switzerland and abroad.

13,8 per cent represented the share of administrative costs, incl. fundraising (ZEWO maximum: 25%).

43,1 mn francs accrued to HEKS/EPER through donations and bequests.

13 per cent of the proceeds comprised contributions from church sources).

451 people were permanently employed by HEKS/EPER in Switzerland.

100 per cent of HEKS/EPER staff successfully completed the PSEAH & Child Protection Training in 2022.

EPER has subscribed to the manifesto, which lays out seven intra-industry principles intended to provide guidance to NGO staff members.

Results-oriented action

Through its projects, HEKS/EPER aims to achieve the greatest possible impact and systematically reviews the outcomes and effectiveness of its work. Project monitoring is done through visits to projects, digital surveys (some 15 000 interviews in 2022) and regular assessments of country programmes and key projects. Furthermore, the annual

project reports contain not just what has been achieved, but also offer a critical analysis of aspects that will have to be improved upon in the future. HEKS/EPER also conducts in-depth impact assessments with outside support. The reports on Palestine/Israel and Bangladesh were completed in 2022. The HEKS/EPER governance website (www.heks.ch/meal) provides further information about impact assessments in international work.

Quality control

HEKS/EPER has been a member of the "Core Humanitarian Standard on Quality and Accountability" alliance (the CHS Alliance) since 2018, and is therefore committed to observing the nine standards of the voluntary code for enhanced quality and effectiveness in all its projects abroad. Each member of the alliance must undertake an internal self-evaluation that can objectively gauge the extent to which the standards have already been successfully implemented, and also identify any existing shortcomings. In 2021, HEKS/EPER conducted such self-evaluations in Bangladesh, Niger, Georgia/Armenia and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. An initial assessment yields gratifying results. On a scale of 0 to 4, HEKS/EPER scores 3 for five of nine CHS standards, signifying full implementation of the standards. Compared with other aid agencies, HEKS/EPER is sometimes well above the average for eight out of nine standards. The feedback and complaints system can still be improved upon. In this regard, HEKS/EPER is hoping for further amelioration in 2023 by means of a new guideline, mandatory action plans per country relating to the gathering and processing of complaints, and also through training for the staff of HEKS/EPER and its partners.

Transparency

To HEKS/EPER, transparency means comprehensively informing the general public, and more particularly its donors and contracting entities, about its work,

its structures as well as the origin, use and impact of the resources deployed. In this connection, HEKS/EPER has laid out its principles in its own Transparency Code. On the one hand, it constitutes action guidelines for HEKS/EPER personnel and, on the other, informs the public about HEKS/EPER's understanding of transparency. HEKS/EPER verifies compliance of the guidelines every year. In 2022, HEKS/EPER fully achieved 39 of its 50 transparency goals, and 11 goals in part.

More about HEKS/EPER:

<https://en.heks.ch/about-us/portrait>

Board of Trustees



Walter Schmid, President, Winterthur; Dr. iur., Lawyer, lecturer at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts, and visiting lecturer at the University of Lucerne.



Michèle Künzler, Vice-President, Vernier; Theology Studies, currently responsible for the Department of Business Taxation of the Municipality of Thônex, former State Councillor of the Canton of Geneva.



Jeanne Pestalozzi, Vice-President, Dietikon; lic. phil. I.; President of "Compagna Schweiz" and "compagna conviva"; former Chair of the Board of Trustees of "Bread for All".



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Elisabeth Bürgi Bonanomi, Berne; Dr. iur., Lawyer; Lecturer in Law & Sustainable Development; Joint Head of Sustainability Governance Impact Area, University of Berne; former Board of Trustee member at "Bread for All".



Jean-Luc Dupuis, Semsales; IT engineer; Senior project manager of a major bank; former President of several church parishes.



Simone Fopp Müller, Köniz; Dr. theol. at the University of Berne in Practical Theology; Pastor, Zollikofen Parish, Protestant Church in Switzerland.



Barbara Hirsbrunner, Scharans; Registered nurse; Specialist teacher of religion; Church Councillor of the Cantonal Evangelical Reformed Church in Graubünden; former Board of Trustee member of "Bread for All".



Pierre Jacot, Lausanne; Graduate psychologist, University of Lausanne; former Head of Stiftung CEP, former Board of Trustee Member at "Bread for All".



Daniel Reuter, Zurich; Parliamentary Secretary; MAS ZFH Supervision and Coaching in Organisations; former member of the Board of the Protestant Church in Switzerland (PCS).



Fritz Schneider, Bremgarten, Berne; Agric. Engineer ETH; Master's degree programme, University of British Columbia in Vancouver, Canada; Development cooperation consultant.



Christoph Sigrist, Zurich; Honorary Professor, Faculty of Theology, University of Berne; Pastor, Grossmünster, Zurich.

Executive Board



Peter Merz, Director; Diploma in Rural Engineering ETH, Postgraduate Diploma in Business Management ETH, Diploma of Advanced Studies in Leadership.



Bernard DuPasquier, Vice President (as of 1 January 2022); Theologian; Certificate of Advanced Studies "Happiness in Organizations", HEG, Geneva; former Director, "Bread for All".



Bernhard Kerschbaum, Head of Global Cooperation; Graduate economist; banker; advanced studies in security/crisis management, international negotiations and conflict transformation.



Carmen Meyer, Head, National Division; Teacher of children with special needs and Doctor of Medicine, MSc Tropical Medicine; MAS ETH Development and Cooperation.

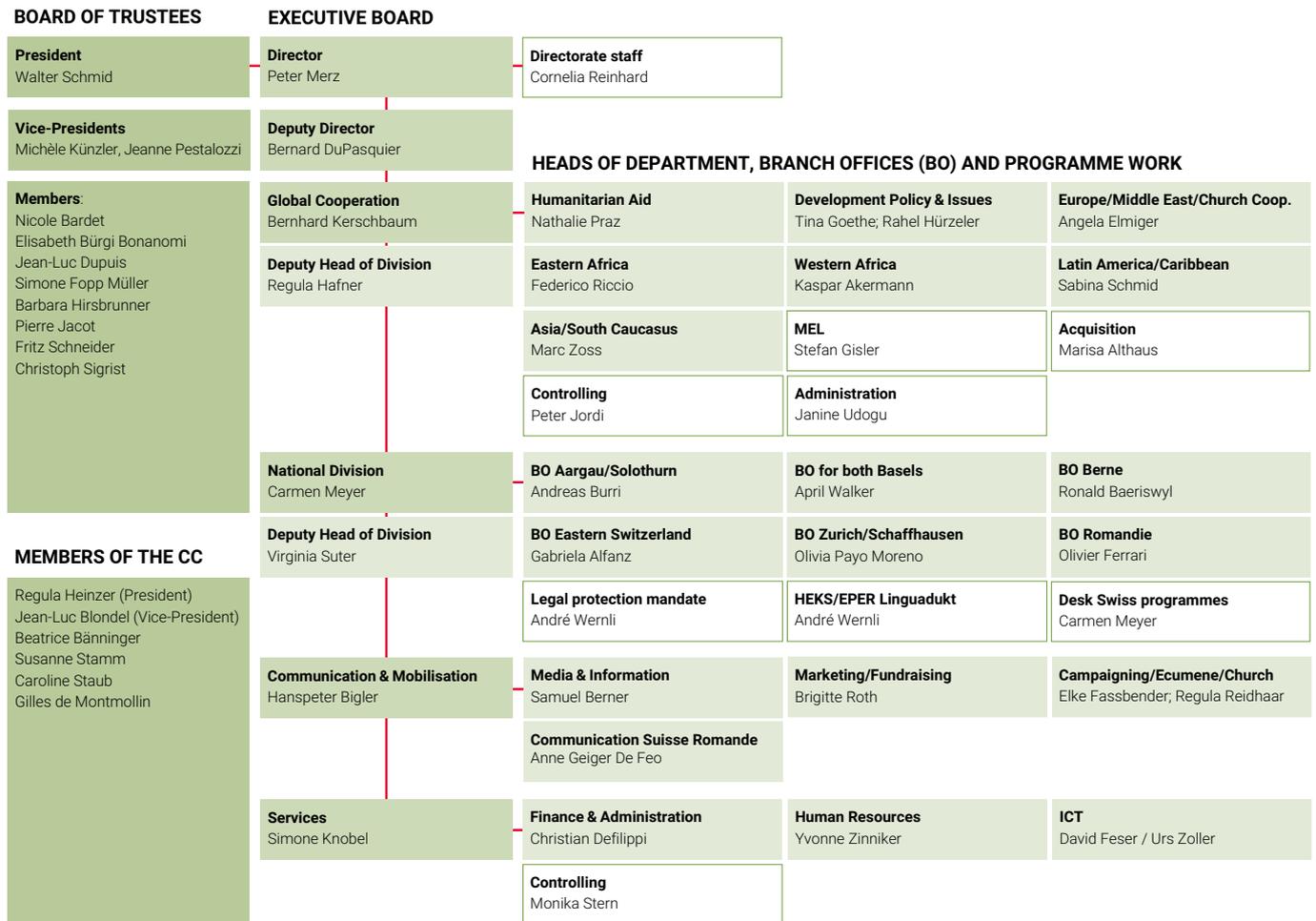


Hanspeter Bigler, Head of Communications & Mobilisation; Lic. phil. History and Philosophy, Dipl. NPO Management, Master of Advanced Studies in Communication Management.



Simone Knobel, Head of Services Division; Master in Strategy and International Management HSG; Master in Compliance; Master of Advanced Studies in Applied Ethics.

Organisation chart As of 1 January 2023



Networks, partners and partnerships

HEKS/EPER collaborates with the following national and international umbrella organisations and working groups, among others:

- ACT Alliance (network of 125 churches and church institutions)
- Aguasan
- Alliance Sud
- Beam Exchange
- Blue Community Network (network for implementing the human right to water as a public good)
- CHS Alliance (Core Humanitarian Standard Alliance)
- CLARA (Climate Land Ambition and Rights Alliance) Network
- Conflict Sensitivity Community Hub
- SDC networks (various)
- Diakonie Schweiz
- Swiss Protestant Women
- Eurodiaconia
- FAO NGO Working Group
- Friends of the UNDROP
- GISF – Global Interagency Security Forum
- Global Network for the Right to Food and Nutrition
- Swiss Solidarity
- humanrights.ch
- ICCA Consortium
- International Land Coalition
- INTERPRET
- IRAS COTIS (Interreligiöse Arbeitsgemeinschaft in der Schweiz)
- Climate Alliance Switzerland
- KOFF/Swisspeace (peace-building platform of Swiss organisations)
- Landwirtschaft mit Zukunft
- Max Havelaar Foundation
- National Age and Migration Forum
- NGO Human Rights Platform
- NPO Finanzforum
- Palm Oil Coalition
- Swiss 2030 Agenda Platform
- Sans-papiers platform
- proFonds
- SCCJ – Swiss Coalition for Corporate Justice
- SEVAL (Swiss Evaluation Society)
- SRC Swiss Refugee Council
- SKOS – Swiss Conference of Welfare Organisations
- Swiss Forum on Rural Advisory Services
- Swissfundraising
- Swiss NGO DRR Platform
- Swiss NGO Platform
- Swiss Water Partnership (SWP)
- Transparency International Switzerland
- Verband Arbeitsintegration Schweiz
- Verein Gleichstellungs-Controlling
- WCC World Council of Churches
- WIDE Switzerland

More information on networks partners, partnerships:
<https://en.heks.ch/about-us>

Financial report

Notes to the annual financial statements

Overview

The repercussions of Russia's war of aggression against Ukraine are also apparent in the 2022 Annual Financial Statements. Hence, based on additional income, considerably more project work was done in the form of humanitarian aid and work in Switzerland to assist fleeing persons. HEKS/EPER operates altogether 303 projects abroad and in Switzerland. Operating income rose to 114,0 million francs, and expenditure to 108,1 million francs. Some 17,8 million francs went to supporting development cooperation projects in Africa, Asia, Latin America and Europe. Another 2,3 million francs went towards church cooperation in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. HEKS/EPER provided CHF 29,3 million worth of humanitarian aid in the wake of droughts and natural disasters, and in conflict zones. HEKS/EPER spent 31,9 million francs in Switzerland: 17,7 million francs on projects to promote inclusion for socially underprivileged people, and 11,8 million francs on the provision of legal advice services for asylum seekers, persons recognised as forcibly displaced, and other target groups.

Income

Income from operations was a gratifying 5,8 million francs. Funds could therefore be further built up for work in Switzerland and abroad. 15,1 million francs (11%) of the revenue came from Cantonal Churches, church parishes and other church organisations. Contributions from the Confederation, cantons and communes accounted for 20,6 million francs (18%), from private persons, 20,4 million francs (18%), and from Swiss Solidarity, 2,8 million (3%). Income from services in the five Branch Offices in German-speaking Switzerland and the

Romandie Branch Office contributed 25,0 million francs (22%) to the overall result. Miscellaneous income and contributions from foundations accounted for 30 million francs (26%).

Expenditure

In development cooperation, project spending in Europe was 5,0 million francs (versus 3,8 million francs the prior year). The increase took place more specifically in Romania and in South Caucasus. Spending in Latin America was 2,9 million francs (2,3 million francs the previous year). The increase occurred mainly in Brazil and Honduras. In Asia and Africa, project spending increased by 2,4 million to CHF 12.2 million francs, especially in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia and Cambodia.

Compared with the prior year, humanitarian aid spending varied from one project country to the next. Overall expenditure rose by 12,0 million francs, including in the Democratic Republic of the Congo DRC (2,8 million francs), Ethiopia (1,9 million francs), and Venezuela (0.8 million francs). Owing to the impacts of the war, new humanitarian aid was provided in Ukraine (6.5 million francs), Romania (2.8 million francs) and Hungary (1.7 million francs). In other programme countries, by contrast, fewer projects were implemented, for example in Bangladesh (down 3,1 million francs), Cambodia (down 0,6 million francs), Lebanon (down 0,6 million francs), and Uganda (down 0,2) million francs).

Work in Switzerland expanded substantially through additional projects mainly to assist people fleeing Ukraine; this led to a spending increase of 4.5 million francs, to a total of 34.2 million francs (prior year, 29,7 million francs).

Administrative costs

The share of administrative costs in total expenditure (14,9 million francs) was 13,8% (Zewo guideline). This places HEKS/EPER considerably below the maximum for ZEWO-certified non-profit organisations (25%).

Financial and real estate income

Income from real estate contracted by 0,1 million francs. The reason was the sale of the property on Rheinländerstrasse in Basel in 2021). The war in Ukraine and the energy crisis have put pressure on global financial markets. Asset investments consequently recorded a net book loss of 4,5 million francs. The sum of 0,7 million francs was released from the value fluctuation reserve for the benefit of the operating result.

Funding trends

Thanks to the difference between expenditure and income, 5,3 million francs (8,7 million francs in 2021) from operating income could be allocated to the capital of existing funds for work in Switzerland and abroad. The new fund capital therefore stands at 54,3 million francs: 18,8 million francs for work in Switzerland, 24,3 million francs for work abroad, and 11,1 million francs for humanitarian aid.

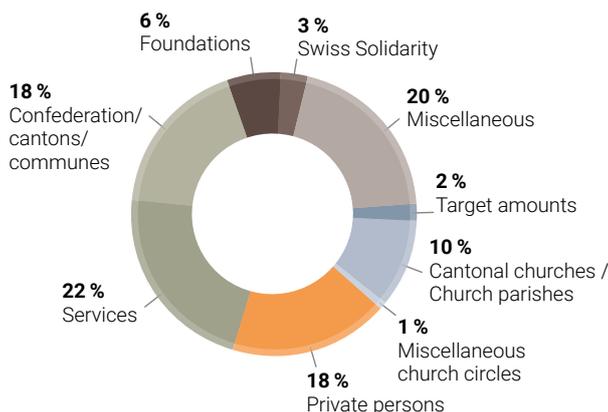
Result

In addition to releasing the value fluctuation reserve (0,7 million francs), an amount of 3,1 million francs was withdrawn from free capital. This balances the annual result.

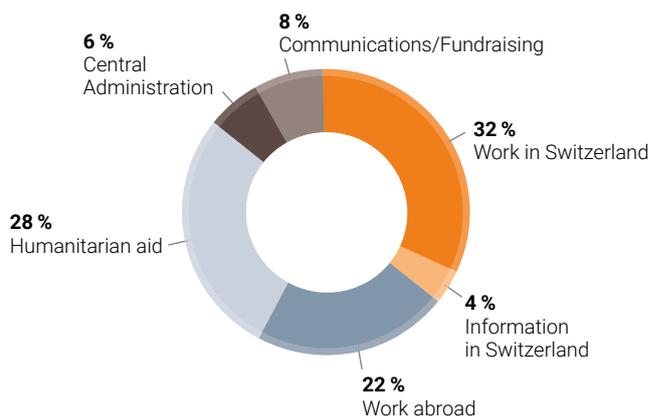
PDF version of full Financial Report at:
<https://en.heks.ch/financial-report>

Origin and use of funds 2022

Total income: CHF 114,0 million



Total expenditure for provision of services: CHF 108,1 million



Balance sheet in CHF

	31.12.21	31.12.22
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	40'388'719	48'198'377
Securities listed on a stock exchange	34'754'745	31'430'608
Receivables	6'851'825	13'673'425
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	2'240'214	5'446'379
Total current assets	84'235'503	98'748'790
Financial assets	2'649'876	3'342'123
Property, plant and equipment	4'899'195	4'821'080
Intangible assets	432'610	255'433
Total non-current assets	7'981'682	8'418'636
TOTAL ASSETS	92'217'184	107'167'426
LIABILITIES		
Trade accounts payable	1'514'090	6'202'384
Other short-term liabilities	7'040'432	6'839'885
Accrued expenses and deferred income	4'699'879	14'732'823
Total short-term liabilities	13'254'401	27'775'092
Long-term financial liabilities	1'000'000	0
Provisions	991'366	931'456
Total long-term liabilities	1'991'366	931'456
Total earmarked funds	49'044'209	54'299'808
Total liabilities including fund capital	64'289'975	83'006'357
Foundation capital	300'000	300'000
Unrestricted capital	18'996'044	15'937'356
Tied capital	8'631'165	7'923'713
Total capital of the organisation	27'927'209	24'161'069
TOTAL LIABILITIES	92'217'184	107'167'426

Remuneration of the board of trustees and executive board

In 2022, the Board of Trustees was paid 57'950 francs, of which 22'500 francs went to the Presidency.

The remuneration of the Executive Board in 2022 (including employer contributions) amounted to 1'004'045 francs, of which 160'223 francs went to the Directorate.

The ratio between the lowest and the highest monthly wage at HEKS/EPER in 2021 was 1: 3,29.

Thank you

We warmly thank all donors who have supported our work with large and small contributions as well as their personal commitment, for their involvement and their trust. We use donations conscientiously and effectively – for a more just and a more humane world.

Statement of operations in CHF

	2021	2022
Income for work in Switzerland	31'951'330	37'409'406
Income for work abroad (excl. humanitarian aid)	24'169'267	27'530'673
Income for humanitarian aid	18'548'678	30'988'647
Non-earmarked income	24'124'986	18'040'364
TOTAL INCOME	98'794'261	113'969'090
Expenditure for work in Switzerland	29'718'319	34'235'270
Expenditure for information in Switzerland	3'313'849	4'464'670
Expenditure for work abroad (excl. humanitarian aid)	23'854'290	24'217'766
Total expenditure humanitarian aid	17'412'051	30'318'372
TOTAL EXPENDITURE PROJECT WORK	74'298'509	93'236'078
Central Administration	5'437'573	5'963'113
Communications (net expenditure)	4'362'668	4'589'569
Fundraising (net expenditure)	5'130'712	4'334'079
Administration and communications	14'930'953	14'886'762
TOTAL EXPENDITURE FOR PROVISION OF SERVICES	89'229'462	108'122'839
OPERATING RESULT	9'564'799	5'846'250
Financial income on investments	3'066'505	937'393
Financial costs of investments	-348'488	-5'447'837
Real estate performance	135'997	153'654
Extraordinary, non-recurring or prior period expenditure and income	-820'000	0
RESULT BEFORE CHANGE IN FUND CAPITAL	11'598'813	1'489'460
Fund changes: increase (-) / decrease (+)	-8'740'070	-5'255'600
Total fund changes	-8'740'070	-5'255'600
ANNUAL RESULT (BEFORE ALLOCATIONS TO ORGANISATIONAL CAPITAL)	2'858'744	-3'766'139
Change in tied capital (allocation - / withdrawal +): Strategic development projects organisation-wide	1'690'584	-1'138'282
Change in tied capital (allocation - / withdrawal +): Value fluctuation reserve	-1'265'833	0
Change in free capital (allocation - / withdrawal +)	-3'283'494	4'904'422
	0	0

Publishing information

Overall responsibility: HEKS/EPER Management
 Drafting: Lorenz Kummer, Joëlle Herren, Stefan Schauer, HEKS/EPER
 Photo editing: Ester Unterfingler, HEKS/EPER
 Design: Stefan Schauer, HEKS/EPER
 French translation: Camille Ducros, HEKS/EPER
 English translation: Richard A. Dunkley



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