Helvetas provides support. We enable people to change their own lives and the life of their community. Our approach is to build local capacities to manage all aspects of projects – from planning to implementation to evaluation. In emergency situations we provide humanitarian assistance on the ground as well as supporting sustainable reconstruction efforts.

EDUCATION AND INFORMATION
Helvetas informs the Swiss public. We highlight global connections and focus attention on social and environmental inequalities. At schools and events, in exhibitions and publications, we point out to Swiss citizens the positive steps that they can take, whether as consumers, volunteers, donors or voters.

DEVELOPMENT POLICY
Helvetas takes a stand. Through petitions and campaigns we seek to influence development policies, whether in Switzerland as a supporting organisation in Alliance Sud, and internationally as a member of Alliance 2015.

CONSULTING
Helvetas provides effective assistance. Our experts advise and support private, state, multilateral and civil society organisations – providing professional expertise, skills training, and sharing experiences more widely through international networks.

FAIR TRADE
Helvetas promotes fair trade. We bring together producers in the South and organisations and companies in the North. At our FAIRSHOP we sell goods from developing countries that are produced using fair and ecologically friendly practices.

WHERE WE WORK
Helvetas, an international network of independent member organisations, is working in the fields of development cooperation and emergency response. We provide the lead agency in terms of planning and organise and strengthen governments and often also businesses in their own country’s pressure, building upon six decades of development experience. With 1600 collaborators in about 30 countries, of whom 1400 are national staff, the network members share a common vision and mission and subscribe to common working principles and policies. We jointly implement development programmes and adhere to a common strategy, working approaches and thematic areas of intervention. In Switzerland, Helvetas is structured as an association of 100,000 members and donors and has offices in Zürich, Bern, Geneva and Balerna.

Source of funds 2015: CHF 130.9 million
1 Income from fundraising 22.6%
2 Contributions SDC 53.7%
3 Project funding from organisations 17.5%
4 Other earnings 6.2%

Use of funds 2015: CHF 130.6 million
1 Services outside of Switzerland 84.8%
2 Services within Switzerland 6.9%
3 Head office 3.6%
4 Fundraising 4.7%

Programme expenditure by continent
1 Africa 28.3%
2 Asia 38.7%
3 Latin America 17.9%
4 Eastern Europe, Caucasus, Central Asia 15.1%

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At a glance
Our vision is a just world where all men and women determine the course of their lives in dignity and security, using environmental resources in a sustainable manner.

OUR MISSION
Working with our partners, we support the efforts of disadvantaged people and communities in developing countries to determine the course of their own lives. Therefore, Helvetas is committed to strengthening the capacity of the people to act. We promote a spirit of solidarity among the people and advocate for coherent policies that benefit people in developing countries.

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**SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION**

Women have less job opportunities than men, resulting in a gender gap in employment and earnings. Where there are more opportunities, women may be more negatively affected. Helvetas works towards a society of equal opportunities for all, strengthening the position of women. Helvetas provides vocational training for 500,000 girls and boys. We assist state agencies in training teachers and developing teaching materials. In all these efforts, we attach particular importance to the inclusion of girls and women.

**RURAL ECONOMY**

Primary school education and vocational training enable young people to take charge of their own lives. Helvetas provides vocational training to help 500,000 men farmers to access agricultural advisory services and to markets, thereby helping them to raise their crop yields whilst respecting the environment.

**WATER AND INFRASTRUCTURE**

From 2013 to 2017 we will provide access to better basic sanitation for at least 100,000 people and to clean drinking water for at least 500,000. We will help 500,000 people around the world go hungry every day. Helvetas helps small farmers improve yields while opening the way to new markets and new job opportunities. We train teachers and develop teaching materials and create school-based apprenticeships. Helvetas trains teachers and develops teaching materials. In all these efforts, we attach particular importance to the inclusion of girls and women.

**ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE**

Global climate change threatens the livelihoods of those who are most vulnerable, particularly in developing countries. Helvetas works towards a sustainable future. We call for those chiefly responsible for climate change to take on their duties as a world citizen. In this, we aim to make participatory planning, transparency and reliable services a prerequisite for a healthy life and for regional development. Infant mortality is reduced, women and children are protected from arbitrary seizure, they can no longer have the burden of carrying water long distances, and productivity increases. Con­structing water supply systems and latrines, provision of microloans open up new production opportunities for rural communities. In this way, farmers and small businesses can become drivers of rural development.

**GOVERNANCE AND PEACE**

When people feel that the fruits of their labour are distributed unfairly, there can be no peace. Where the state is weak, corruption and violence are rife, and there is little possibility of making a living. Helvetas works towards a society of strong and just institutions, where the ability of men and women is recognized and to assist them be safe. We assist government agencies in building their responsibilities in service delivery, to ensure the right to a healthy, safe and just life. Where people feel that the fruits of their labour are distributed unfairly, there can be no peace. Where the state is weak, corruption and violence are rife, and there is little possibility of making a living. Helvetas works towards a society of strong and just institutions, where the ability of men and women is recognized and to assist them be safe. We assist government agencies in building their responsibilities in service delivery, to ensure the right to a healthy, safe and just life.