

## Living without hunger: helping hundreds of thousands of people to help themselves

With the 2013 Annual Report





## Dear reader

SWISSAID focuses firmly on nutrition. Our funding provides support for agricultural schools and farmers to be self-sufficient due to the adoption of organic cultivation methods. We also offer help to identify new marketing strategies, for example, for honey from Guinea-Bissau in West Africa.

The campaign against hunger has proved successful. The number of those in dire need has been in decline for a long time, especially in Asia, and in Africa too. In future, however, improving nutrition will be more challenging. In its latest report, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change warned of the “enormous, far-reaching and irreparable impacts” of climate change. The risks for agriculture are especially acute due to “lower rainfall, storms and floods”. Famine and climate disasters will increase.

Farmers in Third World countries have positive experiences if they convert to organic farming methods. SWISSAID offers them substantial support. Thanks to modern organic farming methods, the farmers are producing excellent harvests. Our latest campaign was therefore conducted under the slogan “End hunger – the organic way”. Since organic farming uses more greenhouse gases than conventional agriculture, organic cultivation is climate friendly.

What troubles me, in particular, about climate change is the stoic attitude – or perhaps we should say: indifference. The energy sector has devised effective strategies against the impending threat of a climate disaster, but the wheels of politics turn slowly.

That’s why small-scale successes are twice as rewarding. In spring, Swiss parliament restricted the sale of agro-fuels. After five years of hard work, the ridiculous idea of using food to produce fuel has been taken off the agenda.

We also need comparable successes in the fight against climate change!

Rudolf Rechsteiner, President

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**Cover picture:**  
Learning outdoors: farmers in Myanmar (Burma) learn how to cultivate rice more successfully on the test fields.

Photo: SWISSAID Myanmar office

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Caroline Morel,  
Executive Director

## New impetus in Myanmar with risks and opportunities

One of last year's highlights in early February was the Swiss parliamentarians' visit to Myanmar (Burma). Eight Swiss members of parliament, including four citizens' representatives, accompanied us to the country that is gradually emerging from decades of military dictatorship. And the change is tangible: the Burmese people are freer to express their opinions and civic society plays an active role in the process of democratisation. While business is flourishing in urban

areas, in the rural districts the living conditions are far from improving – quite the opposite. The compulsory acquisition of land and exploitation of natural resources by foreign companies are existential problems that farmers have to overcome.

Back in Switzerland, the Swiss members of parliament lobby at least for Swiss companies planning to invest in Myanmar to take corporate responsibility. With three lobbying proposals, they asked the Swiss Federal Council what



measures could be taken to respect environmental standards and guarantee human rights.

The diplomatic responses emphasise the significance of this work. The Federal Council concentrated on voluntary solutions and had no plans for special support for investments in Myanmar. On behalf of relief organisations we will continue our activities to encourage companies to accept corporate responsibility as part of our campaign "Justice without borders".

**First-hand information:** Swiss members of parliament consult with representatives of SWISSAID's Burmese partner organisations.

## Testing times in SWISSAID country office

Last year, some successes were intermingled with challenging situations. In spring our SWISSAID office manager in Chad reported how, by chance, he had come across some forged receipts. An invoice for car tyres was submitted with his signature and his office administrator's. The only problem was that he hadn't ordered or even seen the tyres. His signature as office manager had been forged. A rapid investigation uncovered other cases of fictitious payments, which the administrator was involved in for a whole year, with the help of an accomplice. The staff member in question was sacked immediately. Thankfully, the embezzled funds did not amount to more than 15,000 Swiss francs and we managed to claim some of the money back.

This unfortunate episode prompted us to discuss the matter at the annual meeting for other office managers from the individual countries and to learn some lessons. We identified that our anti-corruption guidelines and internal controlling system are effective. However, where criminal intent is involved – like forged receipts or signatures – our measures are tested to the limit. In addition to the various anti-corruption prevention strategies, our employees have a key role to play. Thanks to their dedication, reliability and conviction, our funds can be used as efficiently as possible to combat poverty. Fortunately, our office personnel are normally dedicated and reliable.

## Wind of change for top executives



Jeremias Blaser



Jon Andrea Florin

In early summer 2014, Werner Küng, head of our Information + Fundraising Department, as well as Ruedi Fischer, our head of Development Cooperation, both retired from our executive management team. We'd like to express our warmest gratitude for their dedication and successful work for

SWISSAID. Jon Andrea Florin for fundraising and Jeremias Blaser for overseas cooperation now join our team as two experienced managers with excellent skills and expertise. We look forward to their contributions of new initiatives as the incoming department managers.



## Successful emblem sales

At the end of October, four school classes from Langnau (Canton of Bern), Wetzikon (Canton of Zurich), Aarau (Canton of Aargau) and La Chaux-de-Fonds (Canton of Neuchâtel) were guests of Swiss Federal Councillor Ueli Maurer at the Swiss parliament. The reason for this special honour was that together with 20,000 other schoolchildren, they sold

bag emblem tags handmade in India. The children had the opportunity to bombard the Swiss President with questions. He thanked them for their voluntary work for disadvantaged people in the Third World.

In 2013, schoolchildren from around Switzerland sold 200,000 emblems and raised approximately 900,000 Swiss francs.

## End hunger – the organic way

Organic farming is gentle on the soil, the climate and the environment. This isn't a luxury in poor countries, but quite simply an intelligent subsistence strategy for farmers who can only live from their land. Thanks to modern organic farming methods farmers need not buy chemical fertilisers or pesticides – and this goes for harvests that are just as good as those achieved with conventional agriculture. The farmers and their families therefore have more money in the kitty at the end of the month. SWISSAID teaches the required expertise for successful organic

farming in special courses outdoors, on test fields and in the classroom.

In 2013, the slogan for SWISSAID's fundraising and public awareness work was "End hunger – the organic way". Notable highlights were events with organic farmer, Ilda Maria Chicaiza, from the Ecuadorian Andes. At the invitation of SWISSAID, she visited West Switzerland and Zofingen where she joined in discussions with representatives of Migros, Swiss women organic farmers as well as female politicians to talk about agricultural policy and organic farming. In the autumn, the discussion rounds continued at an event with Jean Feyder, former Ambassador of Luxembourg at the WTO as well as Frances Moore Lappé, holder of the Alternative Nobel prize. Amidst this illustrious circle, the importance of organic farming to feed the world's population also became obvious. Swiss Federal Council President Maya Graf and Federal Councillor Markus Ritter, President of the Swiss Farmers' Association, also participated with the overseas guests.

**Ilda Maria Chicaiza knows what she's talking about: organic farming is her life.**



## More transparency for natural resources industry



**Debating in front of packed audiences: how can trade in natural resources become more transparent?**

In 2013, the global movement for more transparency in the natural resources sector took some important steps forward. In summer, the EU passed new rules for companies in the extractive industries. In future, these companies must disclose all payments to governments in excess of 100,000 Euros per country and per project. The new law closely follows US legislation, though this is still blocked due to legal action brought by the oil lobby. In Norway and Canada, similar laws were passed, or are in process. The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) also defined a new standard and for the first time this incorporates the rules governing the oil trade.

Switzerland is the only country that is lagging behind. Early in the year SWISSAID made this the topic of two well-attended conferences in Bern and Geneva. International representatives from civic society called for Switzerland, as the world's biggest trading centre for natural resources, to take responsibility and regulate the sector. Senior government representatives, Yves Rossier, State Secretary of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (EDA) and Marie-Gabrielle Ineichen-Fleisch, Head of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), revealed how in future Switzerland plans to put greater emphasis on voluntary agreements.

This was also echoed soon afterwards with the publication of the Federal Council's report on natural resources. While the report made 17 recommendations, it mentioned few concrete measures. Nevertheless, an 'examination' was announced of a transparency law similar to the EU's recently passed rules. The National Council clarified that this should also extend to the regulation of trade in natural resources.

LK



# Water and lavatories for hundreds of people

Before and after: the difference is striking especially for water and hygiene projects. An overview of El Matazano, a village in San Ramón region.



**Social taboo:** in many places, going to the toilet is associated with shame. But that has improved, as Doña Reyna (pictured) finds out.

In many of Nicaragua's villages, people have no access to clean drinking water. The water is often taken from dirty pools, rivers or out of hand-dug springs in the ground. The women first have to carry the water back home.

That's not the case in three villages in the region of San Ramón. For example, in El Matazano the residents managed to repair and develop the drinking water system with

SWISSAID's assistance. As a result, 275 families now have their own supply of drinking water. This not only notably improves general health, especially for children, but also significantly reduces the women's workload.

## Sewage and waste

At the same time, the village residents also built lavatories. Was this a popular innovation? Local water committee member Doña Jerónima remarks, "Consultations and visits from the hygiene inspectors helped improve our knowledge about using drinking water and the toilets. Now, the families no longer do their 'business' outdoors."

Doña Reyna from the neighbouring village of Buena Vista also comments that people are behaving differently. "As well as learning how to use the toilets, we've also learnt how to treat wastewater more carefully and to keep the village much cleaner."

All houses were fitted with water meters enabling the beneficiaries to monitor their water consumption. Doña Reyna actively helps with the management of the village water committee in charge of ensuring an effective supply of drinking water and the collection of monthly water rates of seven Swiss francs. "But we plan to increase the water rate tariff so that we can guarantee maintenance of the water supply", says Doña Reyna.

SWISSAID's support for all water projects helps set up independent water committees that guarantee sustainability. At the same time, the committees also ensure that people actually change their approach to personal hygiene which helps improve their health. Success has already been achieved in the villages of San Ramón.

*Daniel Ott Fröhlicher  
Programme leader*

## Nicaragua in figures



Current projects at the end of 2013	29
Approved projects in 2013	16
Approved funds (CHF)	1,205,069
People benefiting directly	73,400

Photo: SWISSAID Nicaragua

## WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES



### 170 francs

170 Swiss francs enables you to fund a study in **Nicaragua** to help identify a community's water requirements and existing resources and to devise proposals for sustainable solutions. It costs 50 Swiss francs to procure and install a water meter. This enables households to control consumption and save money by using water sparingly.

**SWISSAID – Inspiring courage.**



# How women can triple their income

**Organic farming convinces the farmers – and consumers enjoy the products. Thanks to direct access to the market with their organic products, 160 families are finding it much easier to make ends meet.**



In 60 Ecuadorian villages in Cotopaxi, Chimborazo, Tungurahua and Bolívar provinces, SWISSAID is supporting farmers groups to introduce mixed cultures and convert to organic cultivation methods. In recent years, they also managed to increase production.

The farmers groups are now going to learn how to regularly sell some of their produce and for a fair price. Until recently, the families sold their vegetables, maize and beans to middlemen for extremely low prices.

For example, María Cunalata from Nitón used to receive less than three Swiss francs from the middleman for one sack of maize. Now she sells her products direct at the weekly market in Pelileo – and she earns up to

nine Swiss francs per sack, or three times as much. This is not the only reason why the farmer is so enthusiastic, “With SWISSAID, we’ve learned to produce and use organic fertiliser, to practice crop rotation and to care for the soil. We’ve set up a marketing group and learned to display and pack our products such as rabbits, maize, turnips, eggs and beans.” Every month she earns up to 130 US dollars and can fund her daughter’s education.

## Biogranjas – an own brand for best quality food

The products are marketed under the label “Biogranjas – products without chemicals”. SWISSAID still owns the brand, although it will be assigned to the groups during the next few years.

Word has got out among consumers that the “Biogranjas” quality seal products are very tasty. Fausto Morales, for instance, goes to Pelileo market every two weeks to buy Biogranjas products. “The quality of the organically grown vegetables and meat is simply better than what you find at the wholesaler’s. And I appreciate buying direct from the farmers”, he comments.

During the week many of the men from Ecuador’s poorer villages try to make a living in the cities. The women usually offer their produce for sale at the region’s ten weekly markets. This is a big step for the 160 women farmers that means much more than an independent income. For example, they have

learned to negotiate with clients. At first, they needed lots of persuading. This is because in Ecuador the power distinction between urban middle classes – female consumers – and women sellers, who are usually Indios and from rural areas, remains as

strong as ever. Nevertheless, it was possible to boost the women’s self-confidence and to improve the economic situation for 160 families.

Currently, the aim is to extend this positive experience so more groups can achieve the same results at more weekly markets.

*Marco Cedillo, Project leader  
Sabina Schmid, Programme leader*

## Ecuador in figures



Current projects at the end of 2013	11
Approved projects in 2013	5
Approved funds (CHF)	1,392,180
People benefiting directly	7800

## WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

### 450 francs

With this donation you can fund production in Ecuador of 3,000 biodegradable carrier bags with the “Biogranjas” logo or one month’s radio advertising for organic produce.

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## Rice cultivation: sharing success

**Life on Colombia's Pacific coast is defined by poverty, violence and malnutrition. In this case, converting to organic farming offers a ray of hope.**



In their narrow dugout canoes the farmers stake the river course with long sticks. They have to paddle for hours to reach their plots further along the river. They take machetes, cooking pots, young children, dogs and food with them. They will be spending the next ten days with other AVAL association members in a simple palm hut and they will cultivate the fields together. It is hard graft: the plots have to be freed of weeds, which grow rapidly, and the harvest collected. That needs many hands. "We join forces to process one field at a time. It's quicker and we can encourage each other",

says Maria Galizia, treasurer of the organisation.

### One village makes a start

Each of the 30 families owns one field of one to two hectares where they mainly plant local rice varieties. Yucca, sugar beat, plantain and other vegetables grow alongside. Things haven't always been like this. It all started five years ago when several families clubbed together to sell their agricultural products at the local market. At that time only food from other parts of the country was available here. Even rice and small quantities of vegetables were supplied from the nearest big town of Buenaventura.

At first, the farmers organised exchange visits and courses in organic cultivation among themselves. They were successful. Today the farmers combat disease and pests on their plots using organic methods and pesticides. The use of organic fertiliser also improves the fertility of the soil. The farmers have successfully converted to mixed cultures. What's still missing are fruit trees which should introduce more diversity on the fields.

In addition, a broken rice mill in the village – gifted by a politician after being elected – was re-started and now belongs to the association. AVAL members have already ground 35 tonnes of rice that earned them 14,000 Swiss francs. But they still don't have the suitable and cost-effective

equipment to dry the rice in the damp and hot climate. The drying method, which was previously used, is no longer appropriate in the era of the car: before, the rice kernels were laid out on untarmacked roads. The plan is for a pilot attempt using a drying unit on rollers with a strong plastic cover that can be pulled in or out depending on the weather.

AAVAL is doing everything it can to expand sales channels. Although in this beautiful region tourism is still in its infancy, some restaurants are already among the farmers' regular customers.

*Petra Engelhard  
Programme leader*

### Colombia in figures



Current projects at the end of 2013	20
Approved projects in 2013	13
Approved funds (CHF)	1,484,827
People benefiting directly	8500

Photo: Petra Engelhard, SWISSAID

### WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES



#### 90 francs

With this donation you can make a difference in **Colombia**, by introducing other plants to a rice field, like fruit trees, to increase diversity.

**SWISSAID – Inspiring courage.**





## A new rice cultivation method: hard work, but successful

**If improving rice cultivation is successful using simple methods, plenty can be achieved in the fight against hunger. In Myanmar (Burma) the farmers are well on the way to this.**

Since the turn of the millennium SWISSAID has supported more widespread use of the "System of Rice Intensification" (SRI) in Myanmar. Meanwhile, seven partner organisations are training farmers to use this method.

Adopting the SRI method means planting young shoots individually after eight to twelve days, and with a bigger gap between rice plants than for conventional cultivation. The soil is kept dry which promotes crop growth. If the technique is applied correctly, the farmers need less seed, water and chemicals. They invest less and achieve higher yields.

Farmer Tu Aung also confirms this. Last year, he and nine other farmers experimented with monsoon rice. He used the SRI method on two hectares of land and organic fertiliser. "We managed to harvest 50 baskets of rice from this field. We only had 25 to 30 baskets using the traditional growing method." The bigger harvest also helped boost his family's income. "That's why I'll continue to use these new methods on my own fields next season", says Tu Aung.

method. This deters farmers who do not have enough help or have to employ day workers to do the job.

To enable more farmers and their families to adopt the SRI method, this year SWISSAID is investing in advanced training for partner organisations. The aim is to improve the experimental learning processes conveyed to farmers so the SRI method can be adapted to suit different agricultural conditions. The training also includes preparing a profit and loss account. This should highlight how the extra work for SRI is more than compensated for by higher revenue.

*Sarah Mader  
Programme leader*

### Myanmar in figures



Current projects at the end of 2013	18
Approved projects in 2013	10
Approved funds (CHF)	1,272,223
People benefiting directly	11,200

### Learning outdoors

SWISSAID'S partner organisations teach the SRI method in farmer field schools. The field schools embrace the philosophy that farmers learn new techniques more effectively by trying them out on the field. They can then discuss how the harvest and eco system develop.

In spite of excellent results with SRI, not all farmers are convinced from the word go. As the field needs regular weeding, the SRI method is more time consuming than the conventional

### WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

#### 90 francs

**In Myanmar** every year the farmer field schools from 24 villages meet up to share their experiences. It costs 90 Swiss francs to organise this meeting.

**SWISSAID – Inspiring courage.**



# Domestic violence is not a private matter

Since 2008, a SWISSAID campaign focus is against domestic violence in India. During recent years thousands of victims have sought advice and practical help – and sometimes even justice.

It is hot and humid in the small office at Sahil – an advice centre for victims of violence. The brightly coloured saris and women's jewellery make it easy to forget for a moment that all the women here have a long-suffering story to tell. For example, a young woman called Nambrata relates how domestic violence controlled her daily routine for many years. Her husband now works in Mumbai like many of the men from this region. However, he left her and their three children behind with his parents and rarely returns home. But now her parents-in-law want to evict Nambrata from the house. Should she return to her own parents? That's unthinkable in rural India because her parents already had to pay a lot of money as her dowry. The young mother has no income of her own either.

In her desperation Nambrata sought and found help from Sahil – an organisation set up

## India in figures



Current projects at the end of 2013	25
Approved projects in 2013	18
Approved funds (CHF)	1,594,798
People benefiting directly	58,400

Photo: SWISSAID India



Women demonstrate for their cause. In India, it's still by no means common knowledge that domestic violence is illegal.

in all the region's villages over the last few years by groups of committed citizens. First of all, a group contacted the husband and parents-in-law to make it clear that Nambrata had rights to a home and financial support. This proved unsuccessful, however. One of the voluntary women lawyers was then instructed and the court decision was ultimately in Nambrata's favour. Today, half of the house belongs to her and the husband occasionally even sends some money.

## Already active in over 70 villages

Without the many years of effort to set up SWISSAID partner organisation Chetna, none of this would have been possible. Thanks to the educational work and advanced training courses about violence against women, groups of courageous men and women were formed in over 70 villages. These groups do not turn a blind eye or treat domestic violence as an internal family matter. At the same time, many advice and contact centres like Sahil were set up.

Since 2005, legislation has existed in India to protect women against domestic violence. It is mandatory for the state to take measures to support those who are affected. However, a lack

of political will, patriarchal attitudes as well as inadequate knowledge among judges and the police are delaying implementation of the law. Chetna therefore also runs courses for policemen, judges and the health authorities. Practising women's rights and equal opportunities represent a global challenge. Unfortunately, there is still a lot to do in India despite the progressive legislation.

*Petra Engelhard  
Programme leader*

## WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

### 70 francs

With this donation you can fund a year of training in **India** for 140 men to work actively in support groups in a local village.

SWISSAID – Inspiring courage.





# Training is essential for organic farming

**Out on SWISSAID partner organisation test fields, thousands of farmers learned which procedures for organic cultivation methods will help them secure a better future. The Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) supplied some of the learning materials.**

The leaves of a tomato plant are withered on the ground, the fruits are rotting and a locust hops away – these and similar situations repeatedly confront farmers in the south of the country. “That’s the locusts!”, is the opinion of many farmers. But they’re wrong. A fungus has attacked the tomato plant because it was not staked high enough.

It is difficult to identify diseases out on the fields. This is especially the case if, like most farmers, at best education stopped at primary school and farming knowledge has been handed down from father to son. Only a few farmers know how to improve soil fertility without using expensive chemical fertilisers or how to keep pests at bay without pesticides that are harmful to the environment. But a better

understanding of organic agriculture is essential if the situation is to improve permanently for the farmers and their families.

## Positive – the high number of women

SWISSAID has therefore teamed up with a new partner, the Tanzanian Organic Agriculture Movement (TOAM). During an initial six-month phase, 2,335 farmers and 150 representatives from farmer associations and partner organisations attended courses. Participants could learn outdoors on test fields and try out the mixed cultures that they planned to grow later in their own fields.

The result was varied. A positive factor was the high number of women participating in the training courses as farmers or tutors. However, the project leaders identified the different starting situations as a major challenge. In some villages the training method was familiar on the field and local trainers succeeded in conveying the techniques and principles of organic agriculture. In other places the TOAM teachers observed how new attendees were constantly turning up for the courses, making it difficult to communicate the information coherently. Overall, however, 70 per cent of course participants are now using organic farming methods.

In future, TOAM plans to put more emphasis on training for tutors. In addition, learning materials provided by the Research Institute of Organic Agriculture (FiBL) and adapted for farming in Africa were translated into Swahili with support from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC). Furthermore, TOAM focuses on advanced training about the principles of organic agriculture and understanding the basic foundations of organic farming. All farmers should be able to identify diseases, pests and



Farmers – men and women: all SWISSAID partners in Tanzania learn the basics of organic farming outdoors.

## Tanzania in figures



Current projects at the end of 2013	15
Approved projects in 2013	14
Approved funds (CHF)	1,036,891
People benefiting directly	3,200

beneficial insects. In future, this should ensure that they don’t blame locusts for withered tomato plants.

*Pia Wildberger, Editorial*

## WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

### 83 francs

This donation enables you to fund the weekly fees in **Tanzania** for two local course leaders who teach farmers the modern techniques of organic agriculture.

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# Organics: knowledge at a premium even overseas

**The women from Djoga are working hard in their vegetable gardens. But the hard toil is worth it – in every sense.**

Aminata Douramane, aged 52, is President of Cernafa, the farmers' association in Djoga village. Like the other women in the village, she used to weave mats from millet grasses to earn a bit of money at the weekly market. "We'd had enough of this painstaking work which wasn't paying. That's why twelve years ago we founded the association."

With the support of SWISSAID – especially courses in modern cultivation practices – the women were able to produce enough vegetables and also to adopt organic methods. "I now have a good income, thanks to growing the vegetables", explains Aminata Douramane. "Last season, I earned more than a million West African CFA francs (CHF 2,000)." This enables her to send one of her children to a private school in a bigger village about five kilometres away,



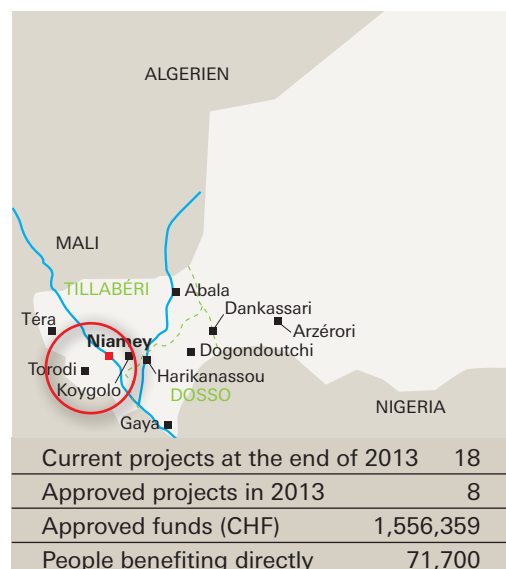
**Thanks to the initiative of the women from Djoga: succulent vegetables are now growing where there was once brown desert.**

and to buy him a bicycle. She even had enough money to buy a few animals. "In the village, being able to keep animals means you're rich!" Her family is doing better than ever, she says. "My husband helps me a lot with the animals and to collect manure which we use as fertiliser for our vegetables." This year, Aminata Douramane expects a profit of two million CFA francs (CHF 4,000). "In that case, with God's grace, I'll go on a pilgrimage to Mecca."

The local community proudly confirms that Suba Se can meet four-fifths of the vegetable requirements. The association will soon also pass on its knowledge overseas: two Suba Se members have accepted an invitation from an organisation in Benin that wants to compile a study of the success in organic agriculture in West Africa. They want to offer the same training. Both Suba Se members are certain to return with new ideas, ready for the next challenge.

*Haouaou Elhadji Tondi, Project leader  
Carine Pin, Programme leader*

## Niger in figures



## Women's opinions count

In addition to the courses, SWISSAID supports its partner organisations to upgrade their internal structures. The success of Cernafa led to 20 associations joining forces to form the umbrella association, Suba Se. With 1,186 members in 17 villages, Suba Se enables them to exchange diverse experiences and to motivate each other.

Thanks to the income from growing vegetables, the women have attained a new position in their households and the village. The General Secretary of Suba Se explains, "Nowadays, when the officials from the capital call a meeting in the village, the men acknowledge this. They then tell the officials that they want to consult the women for their opinion before making a decision."

## WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

### 96 francs

With 96 Swiss francs you can fund a new member of a farmers' association in **Niger** to attend a three-day course on cultivating vegetables. A power pump for a well in the vegetable garden costs 480 Swiss francs.

**SWISSAID – Inspiring courage.**



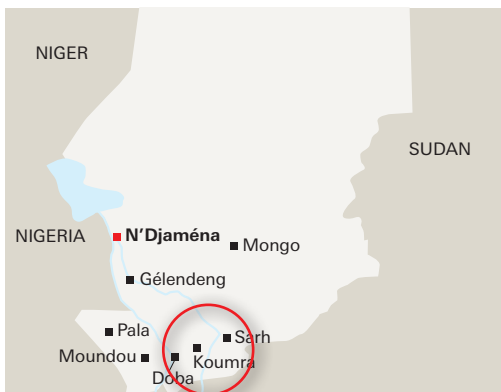


## Promoting women: three strategies to boost independence

**In southern Chad women have positively enhanced their self-confidence and independence – against all sorts of opposition.**

“Thanks to SWISSAID’s supervision and support, this women’s organisation has developed extremely well over the past three years of collaborative work”, comments the mayor of Koumra. He should know: he is also a member of the patronage committee that supports the women’s association.

### Chad in figures



Current projects at the end of 2013	11
Approved projects in 2013	10
Approved funds (CHF)	978,481
People benefiting directly	41,700

The committee comprises respected male personalities from this small town. Many things are difficult, if not impossible, for the women to achieve independently in the male-dominated society of southern Chad. The women can count on the committee’s help if something is overlooked or to be postponed.

Jean Laoukolé, local SWISSAID programme leader, really has at heart the six women’s groups with 2,000 members in the southern part of the country. He constantly encourages the women to “join in, contribute and participate!” They should join the organisation, regularly pay their subscriptions and become actively involved. This strengthens them, their self-confidence and independence.

Indeed, what was still unthinkable a short while ago has happened only recently. In two cases, the members de-elected their autocratic women presidents, endorsing as leaders democratically-minded women whom they trusted.

### High illiteracy rate

Alongside its close supervision of these organisations, SWISSAID focuses on literacy and income support. 90 per cent of the women in the rural areas can neither read nor write.

**Out on the field and under the mango tree: women definitely have more of a say now than they did before.**



The women have various options to earn a higher income. Small loans are the most popular – and most profitable. Rearing small animals, using better seeds or irrigating the vegetable fields also enables them to boost their earnings. They particularly appreciate animals like working oxen that help plough larger plots of land. Handcarts or trolleys also make work easier and bring in a little extra income.

In summary, the women have their own income as well as being in charge of production resources. They structure their organisation independently and can have a say – all this enhances their self-confidence and respect in society. The women can cope on their own and are less dependent on men’s help. They learn to speak out in public and represent their interests. This earns them the men’s respect. SWISSAID therefore contributes to making society adopt equal opportunities, as well as being economically viable and embracing democratic principles.

*Frank Haupt  
Programme leader*

### WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

#### 300 francs

With this donation you can purchase 50 textbooks for women’s groups in Chad. A tutor earns 40 Swiss francs per month.

**SWISSAID – Inspiring courage.**



# Opposing deforestation

**The village forests in Guinea-Bissau are supposed to belong to local communities and be there for them to use and conserve. This is an urgent priority, as exploitation of valuable timber reserves began a long time ago.**



**What's that? A farmer presents medicinal plants which he gathered from the village forest.**

During the past 30 years the small West African country of Guinea-Bissau was deprived of one third of its forests. Recently, this was due to deforestation by international timber companies, as well as long-standing and illegal charcoal burning or 'slash and burn' methods. In this notoriously unstable country, protecting the forests is not a political priority – quite the reverse. Despite parliamentary decisions that prohibit lumbering, during recent years corrupt rulers issued generous licences to fell timber. They thus squandered the country's resources and exploited its impoverished population. There is inadequate expertise in forestry management, utilising the forest and environmental conservation at a local and national level.

For several years, SWISSAID has therefore campaigned to protect the forests. For the village communities in Cacheu, Oio and Bafata regions the forests mean much more than just

**"The farmers have succeeded in ejecting illegal lumberjacks from international timber companies."**

a handful of trees. For the poor farmers and their families in currently 185 villages, the trees are a key source of income, timber, medicinal plants and food. It is important to conserve and ensure their expansion.

## **8,300 hectares of forest should belong to the local communities**

First of all, however, the village communities have to secure ownership of the forests. The forest project, which the experienced partner organisation, Kafo, is implementing in three regions, mainly aims at creating 37 new so-called "Forêts communautaires" covering a total area of 8,300 hectares. In other words, the aim is to assign legal rights for existing forests to the local village communities. This would then enable the village population to defend its forest against major international groups' illegal timber trade. In some forests the farmers are therefore keeping watch, and in at least one case they succeeded in driving away lumberjacks from China.

To use the forests sustainably and to learn how to protect them, about 550 farmers are trained in forest management and reforestation. In the preceding phase, several tree nurseries were successfully established. This commitment is to be expanded. By spring 2015 the village

communities will re-plant about 55,000 saplings, 20 per cent more than in 2012 to 2013.

The local people rely on the forest not only for fruits and honey. A key line of business is also charcoal production. The introduction of new and more efficient charcoal burning methods made it possible to reduce timber consumption. To produce charcoal the farmers no longer fell any trees, but use dead wood.

All's well that ends well? Assessing the value of a forest is only possible by becoming more familiar with it. For the very first time, the village communities are using GPS to map the forests. They are drawing in boundaries, rivers and pathways. This enables them to make an inventory of the stock of trees, plants and animals that is indispensable for the sustainable and long-term use of the forest. This sort of map is also a great asset in the fight against the raids that international timber companies presently carry out to the detriment of Guinea-Bissau.

*Pia Wildberger, Editorial*

## **Guinea-Bissau in figures**



Current projects at the end of 2013	16
Approved projects in 2013	10
Approved funds (CHF)	1,357,992
People benefiting directly	86,600

## **WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES**

### **35 francs**

With 35 Swiss francs you can finance a radio programme that broadcasts information about the long-term use and conservation of the community forests.

**SWISSAID – Inspiring courage.**



## Balance sheet

Assets	Appendix	2013	2012
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	11,576,493	11,378,409
Securities	5.2	18,318,535	16,952,147
Accounts receivable + finance pledges	5.3	309,817	376,861
Stocks of merchandise		460,530	397,129
Deferred assets		250,887	424,429
<b>Operating assets</b>		<b>30,916,262</b>	<b>29,528,975</b>
Loans	5.4	250,100	250,100
Participations	5.5	4	4
Tangible assets	5.6	1,278,956	1,352,639
<b>Fixed assets</b>		<b>1,529,060</b>	<b>1,602,743</b>
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>32,445,322</b>	<b>31,131,718</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Creditors		110,132	92,532
Project-related commitments to programmes in the Southern Hemisphere	5.7	15,964,119	15,811,638
Deferred liabilities		44,521	41,847
Reserves	5.8	163,487	165,340
<b>Short-term borrowed capital</b>		<b>16,282,259</b>	<b>16,111,357</b>
Loans	5.9	230,000	230,000
Fund for the Third World	11	195,697	274,725
<b>Long-term borrowed capital</b>		<b>425,697</b>	<b>504,725</b>
Fund for the future		185,000	28,500
Fund for sponsoring the organic farming project		7,100	1,500
Water project sponsorship fund		1,910	830
Fund for sponsoring the women's project		990	170
SDC fund	12	0	0
<b>Earmarked funds</b>		<b>195,000</b>	<b>31,000</b>
Southern Hemisphere programmes fund		6,548,837	5,740,028
SWISSAID infrastructure fund		673,122	673,122
Fluctuation reserve for securities and foreign currencies	5.10	2,708,614	2,464,760
Free capital		5,605,000	5,605,000
Free capital - Swissaid Geneva	2	6,793	1,725
<b>Organisation capital</b>		<b>15,542,366</b>	<b>14,484,635</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>32,445,322</b>	<b>31,131,718</b>



Monika Uhlmann,  
head of the Finance +  
Logistics Department;

## Explanatory notes on the annual accounts

SWISSAID looks back over a successful year in 2013. The effects of the financial and economic crisis were still perceptible in many European countries as well as in the US. Despite the related uncertainties, our donors have stayed loyal to us.

In the financial year 2013, operating revenue rose in comparison to the previous year by 12.4%. This was due to pleasing results for legacies, generous donations from institutional funding sources as well as a considerable contribution from Glückskette (Swiss Solidarity) to fund a water project in Guinea-Bissau. In addition – and we are highly delighted about this – our loyal donors made a substantial contribution to the positive annual result. We interpret this as a mark of appreciation for our work to benefit the most impoverished members of the population in the Southern Hemisphere. At the same time we understand this solidarity as an incentive to continue making sustained investments to boost quality and efficiency.

For our Southern Hemisphere programmes we were able to approve projects worth approximately 12 million Swiss francs and to implement these at grassroots level together with our local SWISSAID offices and partner organisations. Alongside the main aims, the respective professionalisation of these organisations and ongoing improvement of administrative processes represent important aspects of the self-help projects. In small, yet gradual steps, we pursue the objective of optimising our project implementation, thus guaranteeing that the maximum amount of every donated franc reaches the beneficiaries in the southern hemisphere.

Thanks to the positive annual accounts we have the opportunity of slightly strengthening our sound capital basis. This means we are in a position to realise our obligations at any time and to act flexibly where necessary.

These annual accounts for 2013 were compiled in accordance with SWISS GAAP FER, ZEWO and SWISS NPO Code principles. The auditors Von Graffenried AG have audited the accounts in accordance with the statutory guidelines and found them to be correct. The audit report is available to view on our website, [www.swissaid.ch](http://www.swissaid.ch).



# Income statement

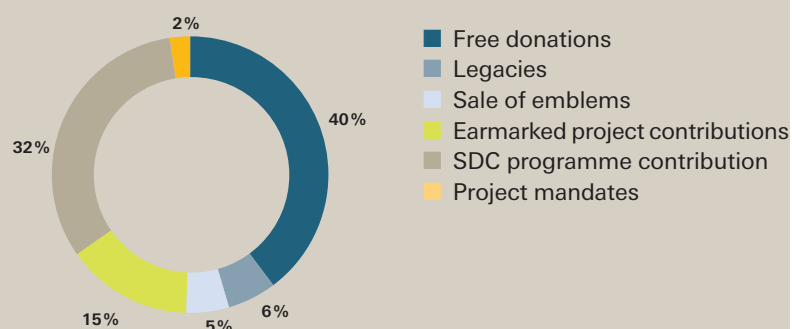
Revenue	Appendix	2013	2012
Free donations		7,542,187	6,670,823
Legacies		1,094,625	688,765
Sale of emblems		899,841	937,110
Earmarked donations & contributions to projects	7.1	2,577,540	2,082,677
Contributions to projects from Notre Jeune fédéral		0	26,272
Contributions to projects from FEDEVACO		96,456	153,991
Contributions to projects from FGC		155,749	126,873
Contributions to projects from Glückskette (Swiss Solidarity)		454,076	105,000
<b>Proceeds from collections</b>		<b>12,820,473</b>	<b>10,791,512</b>
SDC programme contribution		6,200,000	5,800,000
Domestic contributions from other federal agencies		-45,467	299,121
Other operating revenue	7.2	91,957	55,104
<b>Total operating revenue</b>		<b>19,066,964</b>	<b>16,945,737</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
<b>Projects overseas</b>		<b>11,982,449</b>	<b>11,980,760</b>
<b>Expenditure for programme support</b>		<b>1,287,184</b>	<b>1,313,177</b>
Personnel-related expenditure		1,158,649	1,202,998
Expenditure on materials	7.3	128,535	110,179
<b>Expenditure for the overseas programme</b>		<b>13,269,633</b>	<b>13,293,937</b>
<b>Information and public-awareness programme in Switzerland</b>		<b>2,112,873</b>	<b>1,951,882</b>
<b>Expenditure for programme support</b>		<b>1,099,268</b>	<b>1,037,159</b>
Personnel-related expenditure for the domestic programme		935,201	898,147
Expenditure on materials for the domestic programme	7.3	164,066	139,012
<b>Expenditure for the domestic programme</b>		<b>3,212,141</b>	<b>2,989,041</b>
<b>Administrative expenditure</b>		<b>3,704,603</b>	<b>3,307,566</b>
Personnel-related expenditure		1,269,315	1,088,484
Expenditure on materials	7.3	592,974	590,351
Collective expenditure		1,842,313	1,628,731
<b>Total operating expenditure</b>		<b>20,186,377</b>	<b>19,590,544</b>
<b>Operating result</b>		<b>-1,119,413</b>	<b>-2,644,808</b>
Financial earnings (realised)		645,049	444,131
Financial earnings (not realised)		126,656	756,408
Financial expenditure		196,402	148,309
<b>Financial result</b>	7.4	<b>575,303</b>	<b>1,052,230</b>
Expenditure on real estate		9,306	10,790
Revenue from real estate		81,888	83,404
<b>Non-operating result</b>	7.5	<b>72,582</b>	<b>72,614</b>
Funds freed from project settlements		1,691,093	1,467,232
Other profits carried over from previous periods	7.6	11,545	9
<b>Result carried over from previous periods</b>		<b>1,702,638</b>	<b>1,467,241</b>
<b>Result prior to the change in fund</b>		<b>1,231,110</b>	<b>-52,722</b>
Use of ring-fenced funds		7,611,513	6,980,518
Allocation of ring-fenced funds		-7,775,513	-6,755,275
Change in free funds	8	-1,067,110	-172,521
<b>Income carried over in favour of processed funds</b>		<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>

## Cash-flow analysis (Appendix 9)

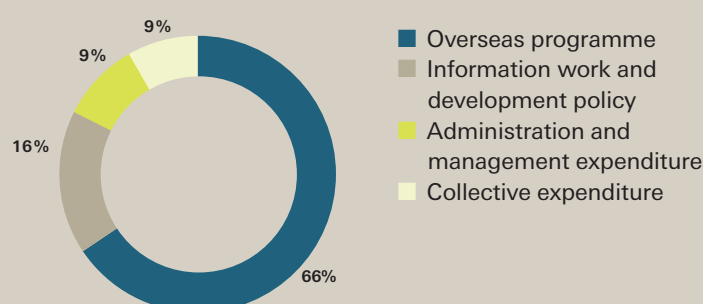
Cash flow from operational activities	2013	2012
<b>Annual result prior to the changes in funds</b>	<b>1,231,110</b>	<b>-52,722</b>
Decrease/increase (-) foreign currencies in credit overseas	-9,379	-13,153
Depreciation on tangible assets	157,928	147,477
Liquidation of reserves	-1,853	-42,371
Subtraction/addition (-) of accounts receivable and finance pledges	67,044	379,593
Subtraction/addition (-) Stocks	-63,401	-56,086
Subtraction/addition (-) Deferred assets	173,542	-141,169
Subtraction (-)/addition of creditors	17,600	-62,540
Subtraction (-)/addition of project commitments for Southern Hemisphere programmes	152,481	-1,015,873
Subtraction of reserves for domestic work	0	0
Subtraction (-)/addition of deferred liabilities	2,674	20,463
<b>Cash flow from operational activities</b>	<b>1,727,746</b>	<b>-836,381</b>
<b>Cash flow from investment activities</b>		
Investment (-) / disinvestment of tangible assets	-84,245	-53,024
Investment (-) / disinvestment of real estate	0	0
Investment (-) / disinvestment of loans	0	0
<b>Cash flow from investment activities</b>	<b>-84,245</b>	<b>-53,024</b>
<b>Flow of funds from finance activities</b>		
Fund for the Third World	-79,028	-78,183
Passive loans	0	130,000
<b>Flow of funds from finance activities</b>	<b>-79,028</b>	<b>51,817</b>
<b>Addition (+)/subtraction (-) of payments</b>	<b>1,564,472</b>	<b>-837,588</b>
<b>Fund for cash and cash equivalents (including securities) 1.1.</b>	<b>28,330,556</b>	<b>29,168,143</b>
<b>Fund for cash and cash equivalents (including securities) 31.12.</b>	<b>29,895,028</b>	<b>28,330,556</b>

## Finance and use of resources

Where funds come from:



Where funds flow to:





## Analysis of the change in capital in 2013 (Appendix 8)

	Opening balance	Income (internal)	Allocation (external)	Internal fund transfers	Appropriation	Closing balance
<b>Funds from own finance</b>						
Southern hemisphere programmes fund	5,740,028			808,810		6,548,837
SWISSAID infrastructure fund	673,122					673,122
Fluctuation reserve for securities and foreign currencies	2,464,760			253,233	-9,379	2,708,614
Free capital accrued	5,605,000					5,605,000
SWISSAID Geneva	1,725			5,068		6,793
Annual result	0		1,067,110	-1,067,110		0
<b>Organisation capital</b>	<b>14,484,635</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,067,110</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-9,379</b>	<b>15,542,366</b>
<b>Funds from fund capital</b>						
SWISSAID organic farming sponsorship fund	1,500		286,086		-280,486	7,100
SWISSAID water sponsorship fund	830		31,094		-30,014	1,910
SWISSAID women's sponsorship fund	170		153,308		-152,488	990
SWISSAID fund for the future	28,500		1,105,025		-948,525	185,000
SDC fund capital	0		6,200,000		-6,200,000	0
<b>Fund capital earmarked with restrictions</b>	<b>31,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7,775,513</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-7,611,513</b>	<b>195,000</b>
<b>Appropriation</b>						

## Executive bodies (at the end of 2013)

### SWISSAID Board of Trustees

Matthias Aebischer, lecturer at Freiburg University, member of the National Council, Bern, since 2012; Stephan Baer, businessman, Küssnacht am Rigi, since 2007; Andreas Bänziger, journalist, Bühler, since 1997; Luc Barthassat, member of the National Council, wine-grower, landscape architect, Charrot, since 2008; Roman Berger, journalist and author, Zurich, since 2005; Bruno Bergomi, journalist and producer, Radiotelevisione Svizzera (RSI), Dino, since 1997; Jean-Claude Bolay, Professor, Director of the Cooperation and Development Center (EPFL), Vice-President for Academic Affairs, Ecublens, since 2010; Tobias Brülisauer-Spitzli, organic and ecological farming consultant, Grub, since 2000; Edgar Ricardo von Buettner, senior consultant for strategic, participatory and sustainable community development projects, Brazil, since 1983; Mario Carera, socio-economist, Bern, since 2002; Prof. Dr. Pierre Centlivres, former director of the Institute of Ethnology of the University of Neuenburg, Neuenburg, since 1983; Dr. phil. Rudolf Dannecker, former vice-director of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Hinterkappelen, since 2002; Gaby Fierz, ethnologist, Basel Museum of Cultures, Basel, since 2008; Rémy Gogniat, journalist, La Chaux-de-Fonds, since 2009; Maya Graf, organic farmer and member of the Swiss National Council, Sissach, since 2009; Bruno Gurtner, economist, Bern, since 2008; Hansjörg Hassler, member of the Swiss National Council, Donat, since 2006;

Marianne Hochuli, historian, Zurich, since 2009; Martin Hürzeler, fundraiser BR, Zurich, since 2009; Francine John-Calame, family mediator and member of the Swiss National Council, Cerneus-Péquignot, since 2010; Oscar A. Kambly, President of the Board of Directors of Kambly SA Spécialités de Biscuits Suisses, Trubschachen, since 2008; Florianne Koechlin, biologist, author, managing director of the Blauen Institute, Münchenstein, since 1996; Maud Krafft, legal advisor, Lausanne, since 2005; Dr. med. Jean Martin-Monod, former cantonal authority doctor, Echandens, since 1985; Urs Peter Meyer, lawyer, Köniz, since 1996; Gian L. Nicolay, agricultural engineer ETH, Africa Coordinator FiBL, Ardez, since 2010; Wendy Peter, managing director of Bioforum Switzerland, Willisau, since 2010; Chasper Pult, cantonal school teacher and cultural mediator, Paspels, since 1992; Daniel Roduner, business economist HWV, Bolivia, since 2007; Dr. Claudine Sauvain, anthropologist, professor at the University of Geneva, Geneva, since 1985; Anne-Marie Saxer-Steinlin, lawyer, Migration Office of the Reformed Churches of Bern-Jura-Solothurn, Gümliigen, since 2008; Dr. Urs Schwaller, member of the Council of States, lawyer, Tavers, since 2011; Hansruedi Stadler, solicitor and notary public, Altdorf, since 2005; Dr. Markus Stadler, member of the Council of States, freelance consultant for the public sector, Bürglen, since 2011; Jean-Luc Sudan, communication coordinator, Vessy, since 2006; Angela Tognetti, organic farmer, Bellinzona, since

2005; Felix Wirz, managing director of Ecopolitics GmbH, Bern, since 2012.

### Committee of the SWISSAID Board of Trustees

Dr. rer. pol. Rudolf Rechsteiner, economist, President of SWISSAID, Basel, since 2008; Dieter Achtnich, economist, Zurich, since 2003; Dr. Walter Egli, Vice-President of SWISSAID, historian and former co-director of studies NADEL, ETH Zurich, Zurich, since 2005; Bastienne Joerchel Anhorn, economist, Renens, since 2012; Dr. phil. nat. Thomas Kohler, associate director of the Centre for Development and Environment, University of Bern, Rüfenacht, since 2010; Ruth Rauch, lic. rer. pol., team and organisational development, Bern, since 2004; Marianne Roth, intercultural communication consultant, PR consultant, Zurich, since 2009; Carlo Sommaruga, lawyer and member of the National Council, Geneva, since 2010.

### SWISSAID Executive Board

Caroline Morel, ethnologist, Executive Director; Dr. Rudolf Fischer, social scientist, Development Cooperation Department; Monika Uhlmann, business economist FH, Finance + Logistics Department; Werner Küng, PR consultant/NPO manager, Information & Fundraising Department; Catherine Morand, lawyer, journalist, Antenne romande.

Further details about the personnel can be found on their websites.

# More to eat for everyone

**“Producing food for others generally also means you have more to eat yourself.”**

*Vincent Charpentier, Senior Expert for the renowned CESAO-PRN research institute in Niamey, Niger*



**Rudolf Fischer,**  
Head of Development Cooperation

The aim of improving food security has been at the heart of SWISSAID's endeavours for many years. However, in the past ten years the ways to achieve this goal have become more diversified. Whereas before SWISSAID's work was almost exclusively aimed at supporting farmers to produce more food for their own consumption, thus improving food security, today other strategies are promoted to achieve this goal. Nevertheless, the task of defining and implementing such strategies is not trivial.

One way to reach decisions is to resort to the analytical framework known as “livelihood analysis”. This process gives a summary of a farmer's household income and expenditure (or a group of households), as well as identifying the income sources alongside the resources available to a household for improving the results of its economic management. Options emerge in relation to each respective analysis that can lead to an optimum improvement of living conditions under the prevailing circumstances. In many cases this analysis shows that increasing food production for the farmer's own consumption is not among the options. The reason for this is that previously in many cases it was not taken into account that the substantial income of some farming households was derived from employment outside the agricultural sector. Alternatively, the markets for (basic) foodstuffs or high value

agricultural products were excluded from the summary.

## **The example of Sangay, Ecuador**

Take the following example: in a high altitude region in the Ecuadorian Andes, let's call it Sangay, the question arises about how the indigenous population's living and nutritional situation can be improved. Farming in this region is very difficult. Water is scarce and the growing season is short. If you visit Sangay mid-week, it is noticeable that no men of working age are visible. They are all actively employed elsewhere. Urbanisation of the countryside is in full swing; the food markets are well developed and there is buoyant demand from the growing middle classes in towns for high quality agricultural products. The soil in Sangay is well suited to producing a type of onion that achieves good prices at market. This production can be realised on a relatively small land plot, plus there is sufficient water (from rainwater collection units). In contrast, the success of more large-scale production of basic food depends on enough rainfall at the right time. Taking all these factors into consideration, the conclusion is that the best strategy for women farmers in Sangay to improve their living conditions is to leave the production of basic food to others, and to buy these food supplies at the markets in town.

(In other words, sending their husbands to buy the food). This is how a woman farmer in Sangay capitalises on her advantageous location to produce onions, while the father of the family uses his income to obtain basic foods and/or this supply is guaranteed from revenue earned from onion production.

## **Selling agents and temporary storage**

While this example may be slightly exaggerated it highlights that the “optimum mix” of livelihood strategies depends on numerous factors. Moreover, in many cases this is not so clear-cut as in Sangay, as markets may be located further away, plus there is less certainty about purchasing food or fewer opportunities to sell their own products. In a remote area of Africa, for instance, it may make sense to take the traditional approach to food security. However, if a decision is taken for a specific strategy that – at least in part – revolves around production for market, then in many instances other challenges also arise.

One difficulty relates to the generally weak position of producers involved in transactions with selling agents. Thanks to the popularity of mobile telephones, it has become easier for many farmers to check the prices for their target markets. But often the agents are in a better position, among other things, because they can exploit the fact that at harvest time – when the





**Processing the cashew nuts is hard work: in southern Tanzania, the farmers carefully remove the nuts from their hard shells.**

prices are at their lowest – the farmers must sell because they need the cash funds after a long waiting period.

If the product can be stored prior to selling, the smartest strategy may be to use a temporary storage facility to boost local added value. However, simply building a storage warehouse is not adequate, as the farmers urgently need ready money after the harvest. This need can only be met if a fund is available that enables the product earmarked for storage to be bought from the farmers (or at least some of the produce), in order to release it to market again later when the prices have risen. Managing this kind of fund under the generally prevailing conditions (low literacy rate etc.) is a challenge and is also associated with considerable risks. It can be demanding to equip a group of farmers in Niger with the relevant skills. But when it succeeds, the farmers benefit enormously from this approach.

#### **Sugar for the local mill**

Another strategy for enhancing local added value is to process the product before selling it.

This requires even more distinctive entrepreneurial skills. In areas where the conditions are relatively good for this, the strategy can work very well. One of the best projects of this kind, which SWISSAID has implemented over recent years, is a sugar mill in the Colombian Andes. This was highly profitable from the word go and was managed very competently by the farmers' organisation in charge. It is no accident that in recent years the theme of promoting "rural entrepreneurship" has been high on the agenda for development cooperation.

In the same region in Colombia, an ongoing project enables farmers to produce cardamom for the export market. In this case a local processing phase is also planned. In Tanzania, SWISSAID supports a farmers' organisation that is training its members to produce cashew nuts organically. In contrast to conventional production, this already offers the opportunity to make more money at market (with lower production costs). This project also involves a local processing phase that is supported by other partners of this farmers' organisation.

#### **The demands are growing**

It is evident that the diversification of this theme of food security into a wide number of livelihood strategies has placed growing demands on our staff – and also increased the risk of failure that

has to be carefully assessed for each case. Currently, this has prompted SWISSAID to adopt three types of "business plans" as the standard tools of its repertoire. Until these tools have been successfully imported, a specialist team in Bern examines all those projects involving entrepreneurial risk before they are approved. While this is no guarantee of success, it leads to highly intensive and productive learning processes.

## In brief: SWISSAID – Inspiring courage

**S**WISSAID is an independent foundation, without any religious or political affiliation, with its registered office in Berne and an office in Lausanne. SWISSAID has committed itself to championing the causes of the disadvantaged people of the Southern Hemisphere in areas where there are no other organisations on hand to help them. SWISSAID battles for the right of all people to lead their lives without hunger, need and oppression. We do not believe that injustice and poverty should be anyone's fate. In addition to improving living conditions in the Southern Hemisphere, there is also a need for social change in the Northern Hemisphere.

In addition to implementing self-help projects in the South, we also lobby policymakers in Switzerland in order to safeguard the interests of the poor people of the Southern Hemisphere. We base our activities upon the expertise, experience and needs of our partner organisations in nine project countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America.\*

### How we operate

SWISSAID supports initiatives undertaken by disadvantaged people in the Third World and works in tandem with non-governmental organisations. We provide direct aid and support our partner organisations at institutional level. This enables them to achieve a sense of independence and to take control of their economic, social and political lives. We do not shy away from showdowns with multinationals, major land owners or organisations that are polluting the environment either. This is always done with the aim of emboldening defenceless local people and enabling them to help themselves.

SWISSAID works exclusively with local experts and does not delegate any high-cost Swiss experts to the countries of the south. Apart from anchoring projects more effectively in the local context, this also leads to a transfer of know-how and to job creation in the Southern Hemisphere. This helps to bring down programme-support costs, leaving a greater

proportion of the donations available to help the people affected to help themselves. Further measures are being taken to decentralise.

In order to achieve the objectives in both the Northern and Southern Hemispheres, cooperation is needed with other groups. Therefore, we are members of Alliance Sud (the working party comprising SWISSAID, Fastenopfer, Brot für alle, Helvetas, Caritas, Heks), as well as other organisations.

### Executive terms of office

Members of the Board of Trustees are appointed for four years. They can be re-elected. The period of office for members of the Board of Trustees Committee is limited to four years. Members may be re-elected for two further terms of office, although longer terms may be agreed in justified cases.

\* To find out about the services provided and targets achieved over the past year, please read the reports on the individual national programmes (pages 5 to 13).

## Appendix to the annual accounts

- 1. General accounting principles** Accounts are rendered on the basis of the SWISS GAAP FER 21/coreFER accounting recommendations and this procedure is conducted in accordance with the Swiss Code of Obligations, ZEWO regulations (agency governing charitable organisations which collect donations), as well as in accordance with the provisions of the Deed of Foundation and Regulations. The securities result is posted directly applying the gross principle with records of book profits and losses directly via the income statement.
- 2. Consolidated group** The accounts of the coordination offices which are responsible for implementing the Southern Hemisphere Programmes as well as SWISSAID Geneva are integrated fully into these annual accounts. SWISSAID does not have any subsidiaries or partner institutions over which it has a controlling influence.
- 3. Associated organisations** The following organisations and institutions have close associations with SWISSAID: Alliance South (working party comprising SWISSAID, Fastenopfer, Brot für alle, Helvetas, Caritas, Heks), Tourism and Development working group, SWISSAID Geneva Association, SAG (Swiss Working Group on Genetic Engineering), Stop OGM. Contractually, Alliance Sud receives CHF 378,600 of the annual budget. SWISSAID is represented among the other organisations on the board, without the allocation of substantial contributions. Unpaid services provided by third parties to SWISSAID only account for an insignificant proportion of the overall result and are, therefore, not listed.
 

**Securities:** Market value on the balance sheet date



# Appendix to the annual accounts

## 4. Accounting and valuation principles

**Foreign currencies:** Exchange rate on the balance sheet date

**Loans, accounts receivable and finance pledges:** Nominal value

**Participations:** Acquisition value less depreciations required in connection with the management of the business

**Real estate in Switzerland:** Acquisition value less scheduled depreciations. The property is not subject to depreciation. Period of use: 40 years

**Property abroad:** Acquisition value less scheduled depreciations. Period of use: 25 years

**Furnishings, machinery and plant:** Acquisition value less scheduled depreciations. Period of use:

Furnishings 10 years, IT equipment 3 years, machinery 3-6 years

Activation limit: CHF 3,000 (IT: CHF 1,000)

## 5. Explanatory notes on the balance sheet

5.1 Cash and cash equivalents	31.12.2013	31.12.2012
Cash/post office finance/domestic banks	11,267,841	10,801,095
Foreign banks	308,652	577,314
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>11,576,493</b>	<b>11,378,409</b>

5.2 Securities	Market value 2013	Market value 2012
Bonds	10,769,987	10,492,711
Equities	7,548,548	6,459,436
<b>Total securities</b>	<b>18,318,535</b>	<b>16,952,147</b>

5.3 Accounts receivable + finance pledges	31.12.2013	31.12.2012
Withholding tax credit	9,816	23,563
Credit from deliveries	22,464	4,325
Pledged project contributions	197,444	291,683
Employee loans	80,093	57,289
<b>Total accounts receivable + finance pledges</b>	<b>309,817</b>	<b>376,861</b>

5.4 Loans	31.12.2013	31.12.2012
Claro fair trade AG	250,100	250,100
<b>Total loans</b>	<b>250,100</b>	<b>250,100</b>

5.5 Participations at nominal value	31.12.2013	31.12.2012
Registered shares in Claro fair trade AG	92,272	92,272
Investment fund shares in Fonds internat. de Garantie, Geneva	96,000	96,000
Remei AG	10,000	10,000
Voting shares in Alternative Bank ABS	20,000	20,000
<b>Total participations</b>	<b>218,272</b>	<b>218,272</b>

There is a contingent commitment on the share of USD 6,000 for the investment fund shares in Fonds internat. de Garantie (FIG). The investment fund shares are used by a former partner organisation (ADIM) in Nicaragua to secure a loan of USD 70,000 with a local bank.

5.6 Tangible-asset movement schedule	Plant and equipment	Land and buildings at home	Real estate Abroad
Acquisition values on 1.1.2013	504,924	1,040,000	603,006
Investments in 2013	84,245	0	0
Liquidated depreciations in 2013	-137,892	0	0
<b>Acquisition values on 31.12.2013</b>	<b>451,278</b>	<b>1,040,000</b>	<b>603,006</b>
Accumulated depreciations on 1.1.2013	225,086	228,410	341,795
Depreciations in 2013	111,374	22,074	24,120
Liquidated depreciations in 2013	-137,892	0	0
<b>Depreciation balance on 31.12.2013</b>	<b>198,929</b>	<b>250,484</b>	<b>365,915</b>
<b>Net balance for material assets on 31.12.2013</b>	<b>252,349</b>	<b>789,516</b>	<b>237,091</b>
<b>Fire-insurance value</b>	<b>775,000</b>	<b>1,600,000</b>	

## Appendix to the annual accounts

### 5.7 Short-term borrowed capital

Project-related commitments from programmes in the Southern Hemisphere: Cooperation agreements with local partner organisations generally form the basis for the commitments. There is no distinction made between short and long-term commitments. Since SWISSAID's project activities are based on the needs of the partner organisations, the precise timing of the use of funds cannot be defined. The implementation timescale for a project is generally one to two years.

National programme	Commitments 1.1.2013	Project approvals 2013	Issued project funds 2013	Non-used funds from project settlements	Commitments 31.12.2013
India	2,094,658	1,594,798	1,313,967	59,926	2,315,563
Myanmar	1,341,495	1,272,223	1,018,801	44,432	1,550,485
Chad	1,592,303	978,481	1,136,220	144,830	1,289,734
Niger	2,561,692	1,556,359	1,097,838	612,841	2,407,372
Guinea-Bissau	915,174	1,357,992	918,593	207,538	1,147,035
Tanzania	661,698	1,036,891	713,655	16,666	968,268
Africa	99,659	100,000	48,730	0	150,929
Nicaragua	1,890,987	1,205,069	1,265,668	115,785	1,714,603
Colombia	2,078,033	1,484,827	1,182,411	119,901	2,260,548
Ecuador	2,575,939	1,392,180	1,439,363	369,174	2,159,582
<b>Total commitments</b>	<b>15,811,638</b>	<b>11,978,820</b>	<b>10,135,246</b>	<b>1,691,093</b>	<b>15,964,119</b>
Liquidation of reserves in acc. with 5.8.		-3,629			
<b>Total projects abroad</b>		<b>11,982,449</b>			

5.8 Reserves movement schedule	Balance on 1.1.2013	Disposals 2013	Accruals 2013	Balance on 31.12.2013
Reserves for unsettled projects abroad	55,554	20,025	23,654	59,183
Reserve for personnel-related commitments	109,786	5,482	0	104,304
<b>Total reserves</b>	<b>165,340</b>	<b>25,507</b>	<b>23,654</b>	<b>163,487</b>

### 5.9 Long-term borrowed capital

Loans of CHF 230,000 as interest-free loans from a donor to finance micro-loans.

### 5.10 Fluctuation reserve for securities and foreign currencies

The desired minimum balance is based on the provisions of the internal policy and is increased fully.

## 6. Remuneration to the executive bodies

**Allowances for the presiding staff of the Committee of the Board of Trustees (SRA):** Flat-rate allowance for the President: CHF 6,000 p.a. Flat-rate allowance for the Vice-President: CHF 2,000 p.a.

**Remuneration for management:** Total wage costs for entire management (5 people) CHF 629,850 p.a.

**Attendance fees for SRA:** Half-day meetings CHF 200, whole-day meetings CHF 300

**Expenses at home/abroad:** Expenses are remunerated on the basis of receipts submitted.

**Total remuneration for SRA:** CHF 21,000 (flat-rate pay, attendance fees, expenses) for 2013.

## 7. Explanatory notes on the income statement

### 7.1 Earmarked donations & contributions to projects

Evidence of how funds are appropriated is provided via project accounting and is the subject of an accounting audit.

	2013	2012
Project contributions by local authorities	134,150	235,350
Project contributions by cantonal authorities + lottery funds	396,507	296,287
Project contributions by foundations	801,520	356,300
Fundraising South	265,360	327,503
Other project contributions	980,003	867,237
<b>Total earmarked project contributions</b>	<b>2,577,540</b>	<b>2,082,677</b>



<b>7.2 Other operating revenue</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Sales of materials and gift items	75,777	46,334
Fees	16,007	7,990
Sundry revenue	174	780
<b>Total other operating revenue</b>	<b>91,957</b>	<b>55,104</b>

	<b>Support for Southern Hemisphere programme</b>	<b>Support for domestic programme</b>	<b>Administration</b>
<b>7.3 Administrative expenditure</b>			
Travel and entertainment expenses	74,514	33,194	40,552
Expenditure on materials	5,536	6,484	102,165
Maintenance costs	48,485	124,388	356,254
Depreciations	0	0	94,003
<b>Total administrative expenditure</b>	<b>128,535</b>	<b>164,066</b>	<b>592,974</b>

<b>7.4 Financial result</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Revenue and gains achieved on shares / funds	497,188	175,575
Revenue and gains achieved on bonds	162,446	241,964
Revenue achieved on cash and cash equivalents	59,065	59,452
Revenue and gains not achieved on shares / funds	331,844	465,820
Revenue and gains not achieved on bonds	-205,188	290,588
Foreign-currency gain	-73,650	-32,861
Asset-management fees and safe-custody fees	-88,205	-85,971
Bank charges and transaction fees	-108,197	-62,338
<b>Total financial result</b>	<b>575,303</b>	<b>1,052,230</b>

<b>7.5 Real-estate account</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
Expenditure on the real estate at Jubiläumsstrasse	- 9,306	-10,790
Revenue from the real estate at Jubiläumsstrasse	81,888	83,404
<b>Non-operating result</b>	<b>72,582</b>	<b>72,614</b>

<b>7.6 Other profits carried over from previous periods</b>	<b>2013</b>
AHV-Compensation Fund (Old Age Pension), adjustment after employer audit 2011	-97
Translation fees 2011	-732
Atupri Krankenkasse, profit participation 2010-2012	11,888
AHV/BAFU, refund for CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in 2010	486
<b>Non-operating result</b>	<b>11,545</b>

#### 8. Explanatory notes on the analysis of the change in capital

The fund distribution is based on the fund policy according to SWISS GAAP FER. The increased commitments towards the development projects will reduce the Southern Hemisphere Programmes fund. The target for the minimum balance of exchange rate fluctuation reserves has been met.

#### 9. Explanatory notes on the cash-flow analysis

The fund comprises the cash, cash equivalents and securities held as liquidity reserves.

#### 10. Risk assessment

Management conducts a periodic risk assessment. Any resulting measures are discussed with the Committee of the Board of Trustees and then implemented.

#### 11. Fund for the Third World

Project funds are managed in trust for third parties in the "Fund for the Third World".

#### 12. SDC fund

The unused amount in accordance with the programme contribution is reported in the 2013 annual accounts. Figures are calculated on 31 December of the year in question.

Thank you!  
Merci!  
धन्यवाद  
¡Gracias!  
شکرا  
Danke!

**We are particularly grateful to the following organisations:**

Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Geneva Federation for Cooperation and Development (FGC), Federation of Cooperation, Vaud, (FEDEVACO) and Glückskette (Swiss Solidarity).

**Cantons:** Aargau, Appenzell Ausserrhoden, Basel City, Bern, Glarus, Graubünden, Schaffhausen and Valais.

**City and town councils:** Chur, Cressier (FR), Elgg, Glarus, Küsnacht, Maur, Muri nr. Bern, Neuenburg, Rapperswil-Jona, Rüschlikon, Saanen, Sursee, Thurgau, Zug and Zurich.

**Companies and foundations:** Audemars Piguet Foundation, Client Systems AG, Dorave Foundation, Foundation for the Third Millennium, Rosemarie and Armin Däster-

Schild Foundation, Georg Fischer Jubilee Foundation, Gebauer Foundation, Ernst Göhner Foundation, Hauck & Aufhäuser AG, Hug Verlag AG, Julius Bär Foundation, Krüger + Co. AG, Liip AG, Link Institute, Migros Cooperative Society, Le Petit Paradis, Publicis Live, Swiss National Bank, Fondation pour la Solidarité avec les êtres humains dans le besoin, Symphaxis Foundation, Victorinox AG and Von Duhn Foundation.

**Parish councils and associations:** St. Paul's Parish Council Bern, Grosshöchstetten Parish Council, Sarnen Parish Council, 3rd World Working Group Rümlang and Sursee Working Group.

