



Activity Report 2017–2019



Hungary Helps
Agency

HUNGARY HELPS

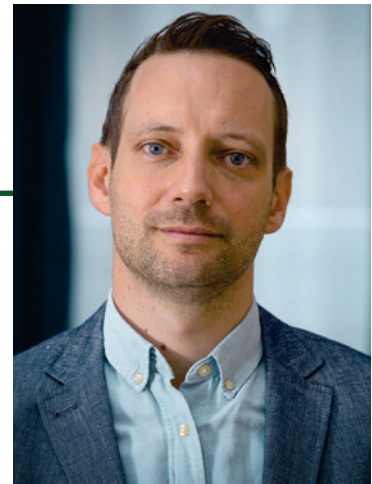






FOREWORD

BY THE STATE SECRETARY



There are milestones in life that mark a turning point. These turning points have even greater significance when they affect not just one but a hundred thousand people.

As I am writing these lines, I look back on the projects and achievements of the recent years, knowing that our humanitarian aid through the Hungary Helps Program has enabled more than a hundred thousand people to remain in or return to their homeland as a result of hard work during this period. In other words, the Hungary Helps Program has reached another milestone, and at this point, it is worth pausing for a moment to review what has been accomplished.

The purpose of this annual report is not to promote or praise ourselves but to express the responsibility we feel towards solidary Hungarian people and towards our humanitarian missions, which has become part of our national mission.

Our responsibility is the following: never leave innocent sufferers alone, period. We are bound by our thousand-year-old Christian heritage, the general principles of humanity, and our ensuing moral obligations. Helping a hundred thousand people in three years and working on nearly fifty projects in more than a dozen countries shows that the Government of Hungary goes above and beyond when it comes to international humanitarian efforts, and it does so on the basis of a specific national model. The migration and humanitarian policies of the Government of Hungary are intertwined, and experience shows that this model has been successful and has stood the test of time. We do not support the idea that people in need should migrate and leave their homeland; instead, we believe that helping them to stay in their homeland is the best course of action to take. Our firm and consistent position is that help should be taken where the trouble is, as opposed to importing it to Europe and to our country, Hungary.

Under these circumstances, the role of the Agency is crucial and irreplaceable in ensuring that our help reaches our beneficiaries and is provided to them in the most optimal ways. The purpose of this report is basically to give an overview of the tremendous efforts of the Agency. Moreover, it allows us, as we pause to look back at this milestone, to see not only statistics and figures but also the faces and stories of those hundred thousand people who benefited from our programs, for they have found new hope and a new beginning through our mission. Looking back at our progress is also a way for us to look ahead: it gives us encouragement, enthusiasm, and strength to continue our humanitarian mission with the highest level of commitment as we move into the future.

Tristan Azbej
*State Secretary
for the Aid of Persecuted Christians
and for the Hungary Helps Program*

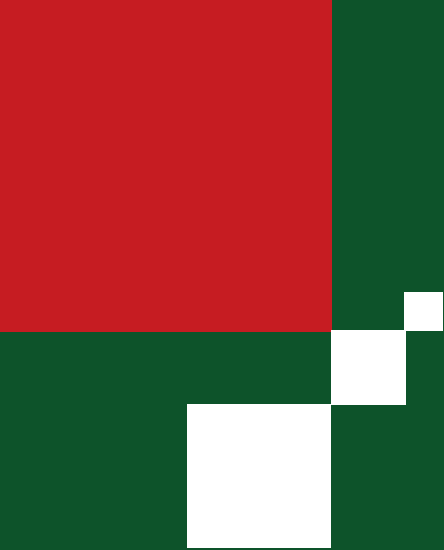


HUNGARY HELPS



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HUNGARY HELPS

PRESENTATION OF THE HUNGARY HELPS PROGRAM





Hungary Helps – Why and how

The Hungary Helps Program (hereinafter: the Program) is an initiative of the Hungarian government launched in 2017 with a view to implementing humanitarian assistance as well as reconstruction and development activities in crisis areas and developing countries. The legal framework of the Program was laid down by Act CXX issued in December 2018 with the aim of ensuring the practical implementation of the fundamental principles of the Program: (1) identify the existence, the causes, and the nature of humanitarian crises, (2) provide direct and local assistance, (3) support communities threatened by humanitarian

crises to remain in their homeland. Based on the same Act, the **Hungary Helps Agency** (hereinafter: the Agency) was established in 2019 for the purpose of ensuring rapid and effective assistance to communities suffering from persecution and humanitarian disasters.

The Agency is a non-profit organization in charge of implementing and monitoring the grants through the framework of the Hungary Helps Program. It has been providing firm support for Hungary's international efforts to eradicate the root causes of vulnerability, fragility and conflict, through direct assistance.

Mission of the Hungary Helps Agency

The mission of the Agency is to implement the Hungary Helps Program by ensuring rapid and efficient assistance to vulnerable communities. The Agency's main tasks are the following:

- prepare international projects focusing on rehabilitation and human development;
- conclude grant contracts;
- provide rapid and effective assistance based on the needs of the affected communities;
- manage humanitarian projects: implementation of grant payments, follow-up on transactions, financial and technical coordination, monitoring, ensuring transparency and efficiency, reporting;
- “act on the spot”: plan the utilization of subsidies with local partners and conduct on-site monitoring on a regular basis;
- targeted assistance for the most vulnerable: victims of natural and human-made crises, with a special focus on persecuted religious minorities, understanding that freedom of religion and belief is a universal and fundamental human right;
- cooperate with other agencies: take part in the implementation of bilateral and multilateral humanitarian projects and policies in collaboration with humanitarian organizations of partner countries, in particular the V4 and other EU countries;
- fundraising: due to the increasing international recognition of the Hungary Helps Program and the growing number of partners wishing to join and contribute, the Agency collects and manages donations from private donors to implement specific projects.



*Péter Kovács-Pifka
Director General of the
Hungary Helps Agency*



Approach and values of the Hungary Helps Agency

The projects financed through the Agency are universally beneficial for all the members of the local community regardless of race, ethnicity, color, sex, language, religion, and belief, political or other opinions, national or social origin, property, birth or another status in line with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The needs-based humanitarian assistance covers short-term relief, disaster prevention, and reconstruction operations based on the reports and requests made by our local partners. Recognizing the complexity of humanitarian crises, it calls us to revise the traditional lines between development cooperation and humanitarian aid. In line with the Conclusion of the Council of the European Union on Operationalizing the Humanitarian-Development Nexus, the projects of the Agency seek to make a great impact on ensuring long-term social stability, sustainability, cohesion, and diversity, bearing in mind the links between sustainable development, humanitarian action and peace building as well as conflict prevention. Strengthening the resilience of the most vulnerable populations contributes to addressing the root causes of vulnerability, fragility, and conflict, and enables them to resist future crises while also helping them return to their place of origin.

Considering the key role of peace building and resilience building in terms of sustainable development, the Agency also focuses on persecuted religious minorities, targeting the most vulnerable communities. We are convinced that the freedom of religion and belief is a fundamental human right that is an

essential part of stability, peace, and security, just as it is crucial for successful and sustainable development. The growing trend of religious persecution requires enhanced efforts to address the needs of vulnerable religious minorities by involving representatives of these communities and implementing humanitarian aid based on local needs.

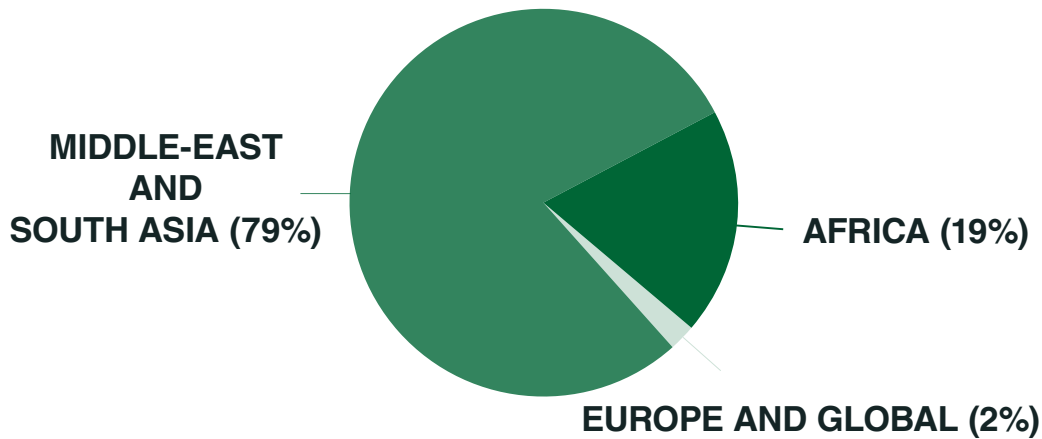
Our local partners are often Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) that are credible actors, especially in countries where there is a lack of good governance. Our experience is that these FBOs serve the common good in all areas of life for the benefit of the local society right where they live. Their representatives have close ties with the local communities, thus they play a key role in terms of implementing humanitarian projects coordinated by the Agency.

Since 2017, a wide range of interventions have been set up in the framework of the Hungary Helps Program. This Report presents the projects funded through the Hungary Helps Program from 2017 to 2019, which have been handled by the Agency since 2019.

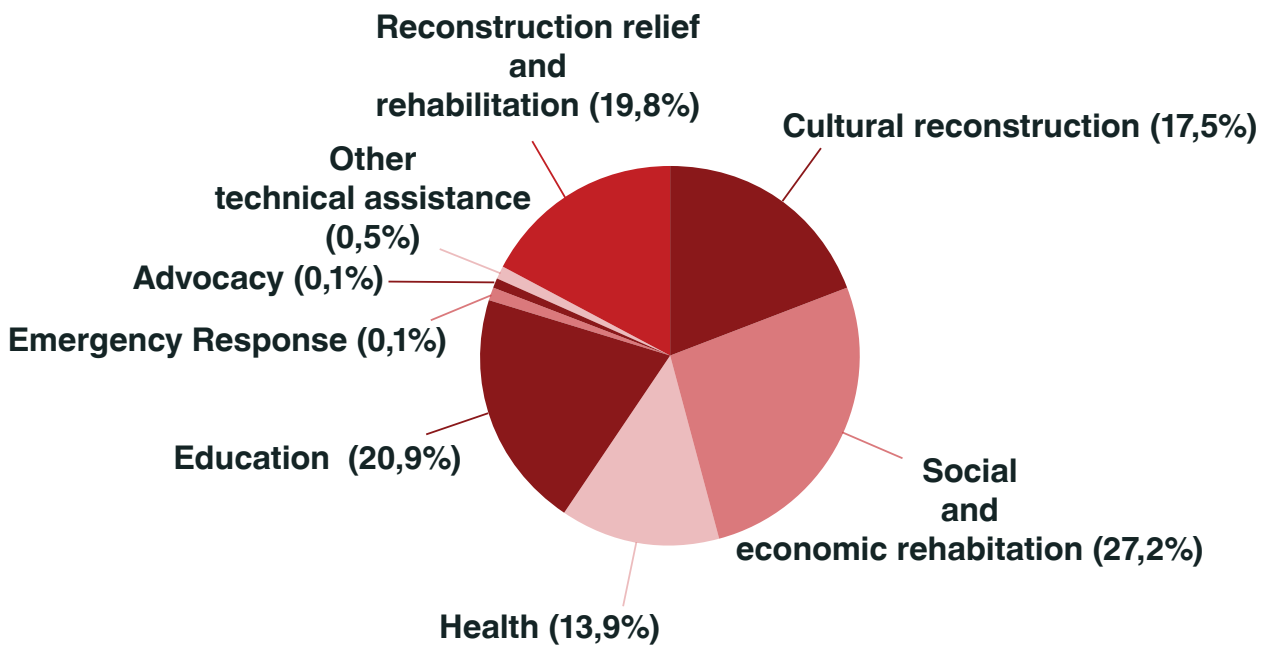


Hungary Helps Program in terms of numbers 2017–2019

Grants distributed according to regions



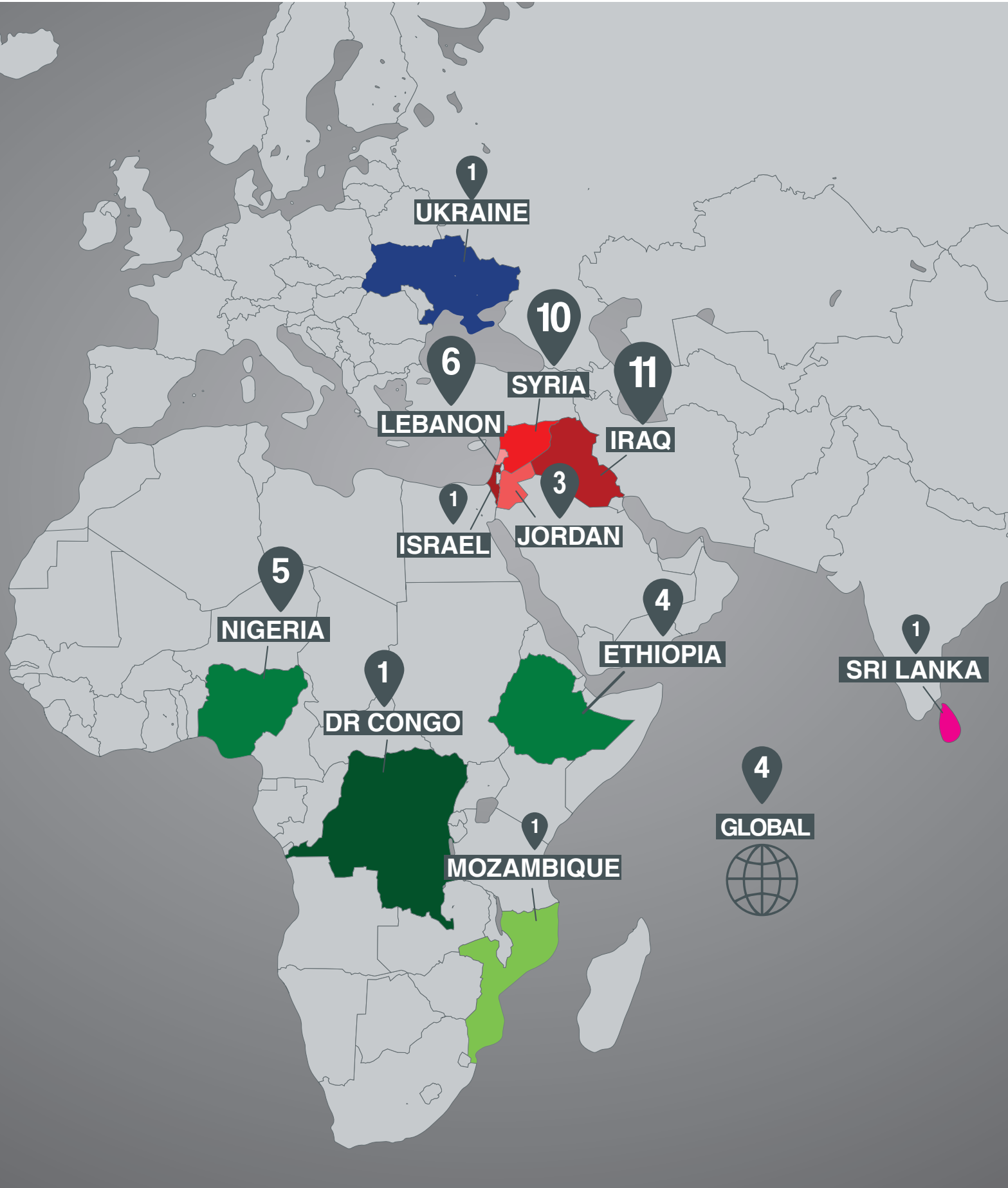
Grants distributed according to sectors

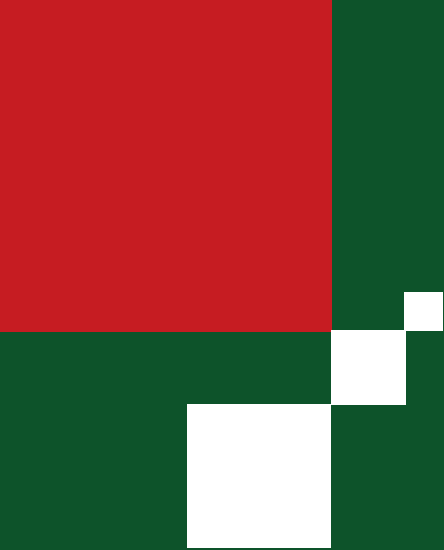


Total amount of grants: 29 million EUR
Total number of projects: 48



Where we operate





HUNGARY HELPS

2017 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY





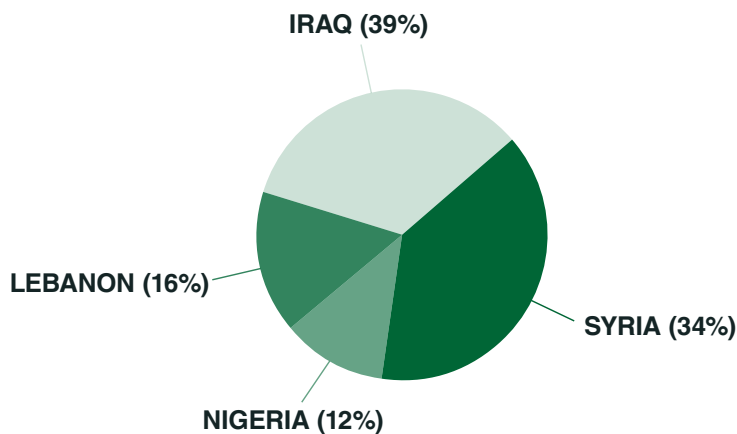
Summary of 2017 activities

The protracted humanitarian crises resulting from the armed conflicts in Syria and Iraq caused major challenges in these countries as well as in the neighboring countries where refugees fled to, especially in Lebanon. Religious minorities are among the most vulnerable communities as they are targeted by ISIS terrorist actions. In 2017, the Hungary Helps Program mostly focused on reconstruction projects in Iraq, social rehabilitation in Syria, as well as direct assistance to host communities in Lebanon where millions of refugees had fled. Apart from the Middle East, communities facing persecution by the Boko

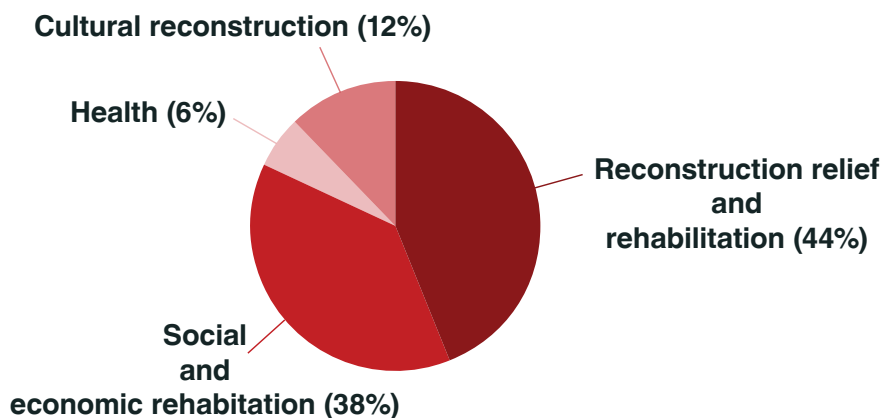
Haram terrorist organization in Nigeria were also supported through the Program.

Based on programs proposed by the representatives of local communities, direct humanitarian assistance was provided to communities in need from the Hungarian Government’s budgetary allocation. In 2017, in the framework of the Hungary Helps Program, the Government of Hungary **allocated 7.85 million EUR** for **seven projects**. The target regions were the **Middle East** [Iraq (4), Syria (3), Lebanon (3)] and **Africa** [Nigeria (1)].

Grants distributed according to countries



Grants distributed according to sectors



Total amount of grants distributed: 7.85 million EUR

Number of projects: 7



In terms of sectors, the Hungary Helps Program mostly operated in the field of reconstruction, relief and rehabilitation, restoration of previously existing infrastructure, and social and economic rehabilitation.

Nearly 90% of the Hungary Helps 2017 grants were used to support **humanitarian and reconstruction activities** and were managed by several local Faith-Based Organizations in Iraq, Syria¹, Lebanon and Nigeria. Grants made in these countries targeted the reconstruction of homes, community facilities, as well as the renovation of schools and healthcare infrastructures damaged by the conflicts in the Middle East region:

- **2,595,000 EUR** were allocated to **Iraq** to contribute to **resilience and peace building**.

- Humanitarian actions in **Syria** were supported by **2,984,000 EUR**.
- In **Lebanon**, **688,000 EUR** were used to support the Syrian refugees through programs for education and housing.
- In **Nigeria**, **665,000 EUR** were provided to the Catholic Diocese of Maiduguri for the reconstruction of the educational and health infrastructures devastated by the Boko Haram terrorist organization.

Hungary Helps believes that cultural heritage and identity are essential for human well-being and a decent life, especially in times of recovery from natural or man-made crises. Thus, the Program is committed to endorsing culture-related projects. In 2017, Hungary Helps launched a program to renovate medieval churches, most of which had been damaged by the civil war in **Lebanon**. The grant allocated in 2017 amounted to **915,000 EUR**.

Grants distributed in 2017 for humanitarian projects

Project	Beneficiary	Country	Amount of grant (EUR)	Sector
Rebuilding Telesquf	Chaldean Archdiocese of Erbil	Iraq	1,800,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation
Medicine supply for Saint Joseph's Clinic (1 st phase)	Chaldean Archdiocese of Erbil	Iraq	467,000	Health
Supporting humanitarian activities	Syriac Orthodox Patriarchate	Iraq, Lebanon, Syria ²	1,000,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation Social and economic rehabilitation

¹ The activities of Hungary Helps in Syria focus on humanitarian operations only.

² The activities of Hungary Helps in Syria focus on humanitarian operations only.



Project	Beneficiary	Country	Amount of grant (EUR)	Sector
Supporting humanitarian activities	Syriac Catholic Patriarchate	Iraq, Lebanon, Syria ³	1,000,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation Social and economic rehabilitation
Supporting humanitarian activities	Melkite Greek Catholic Archdiocese of Aleppo	Syria	2,000,000	Social rehabilitation Education Health
Reconstruction of educational and health infrastructures (1 st and 2 nd phase)	Maiduguri Diocese of the Nigerian Catholic Church	Nigeria	665,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation Education Health

Grants distributed in 2017 for cultural projects

Project	Beneficiary	Country	Amount of grant (EUR)	Sector
Reconstruction of medieval churches in Lebanon	Pázmány Péter Catholic University of Budapest	Lebanon	915,000	Cultural reconstruction

³ The activities of Hungary Helps in Syria focus on humanitarian operations only.

2018 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



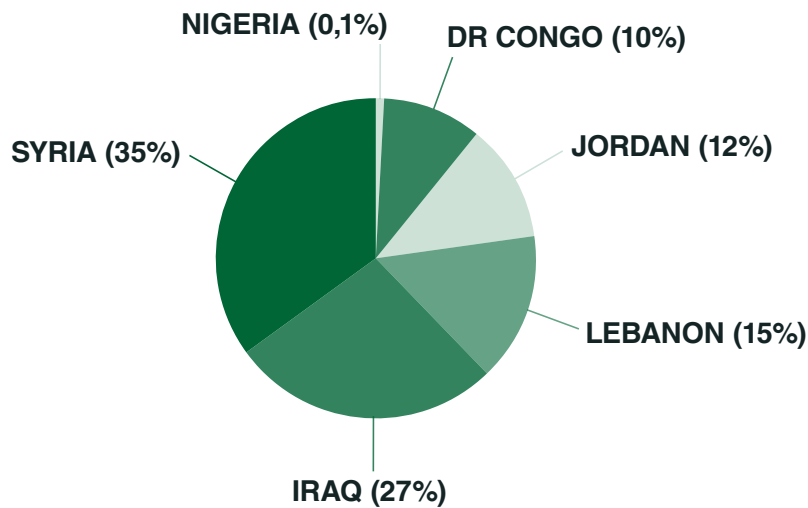


Summary of 2018 activities

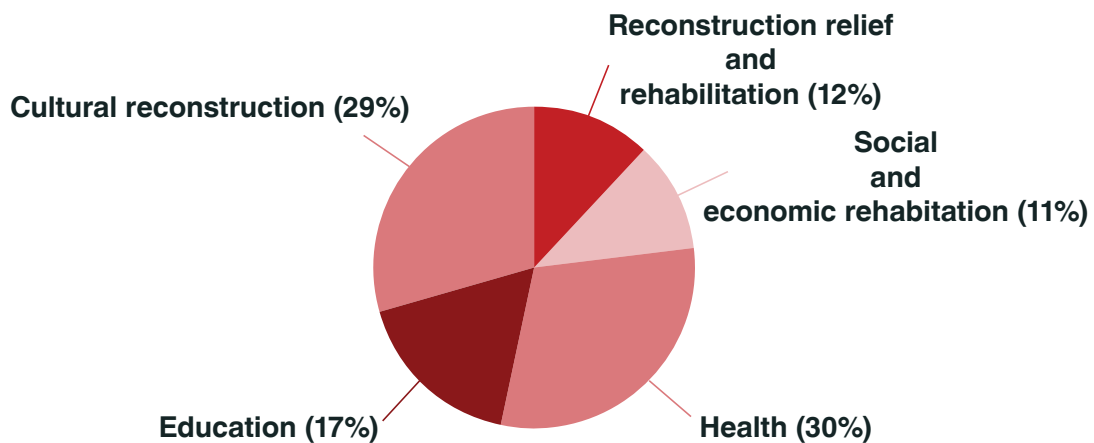
In 2018, the Hungary Helps Program continued to support reconstruction, social rehabilitation, and education projects in the Middle East. Furthermore, better access to health services was promoted through the Program in two African countries, namely, in Nigeria and in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo).

Altogether, a total of **10.20 million EUR** of grants were distributed in 2018 to support **eleven projects** in the **Middle East** [Iraq (4), Syria (3), Lebanon (2), Jordan (2)], and **two projects** in **Africa** [Nigeria (1), Democratic Republic of the Congo (1)].

Grants distributed according to countries



Grants distributed according to sectors



Total amount of grants distributed: 10.2 million EUR

Number of projects: 13



Middle East

- **2,298,000 EUR** were distributed in **Iraq** to promote social and economic rehabilitation, reconstruct houses damaged by the war, as well as to provide educational opportunities and medical supply in the region.
- The population remaining in **Syria** faces serious challenges in accessing basic services and infrastructures. **2,657,000 EUR** were distributed in Syria to provide access to education and health services, in particular the “Open Hospitals” project managed in partnership with the Italian AVSI Foundation whose objective is to ensure free access to medical care to the most vulnerable people in Damascus and Aleppo.
- In **Jordan**, **274,000 EUR** were provided to the Amman Vicariate of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem to support their humanitarian activities including temporary refugee shelters, job opportunities, and improved educational infrastructures.
- In **Lebanon**, **903,000 EUR** were provided to the Syriac Protestant Church to help them ensure continuous and sustainable high quality education at the schools operated by them.

Hungary Helps continued to support cultural projects in the Middle East with an amount of **3,000,000 EUR**. Such cultural projects included:

- additional support to the medieval church renovation program in Lebanon that was launched in 2017;
- reconstruction of an old monastery in Aintura, Lebanon, converted into a cultural center;
- reconstruction of a church in Diana, near Erbil in Iraq.

Africa

In 2018, the Hungary Helps Program expanded its activities in West and Central Africa. **1,060,000 EUR** were distributed in order to promote better access to health services in **Nigeria** and in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**:

- The St. Raphael Ophthalmological Center (eye clinic) in the town of Mbuji-Mayi in DR Congo, run by the Brother Richard Foundation for the Sick, was supported with a grant of **1,000,000 EUR**. The aid covered the construction of the clinic’s new surgery wing and the medical missions to the distant regions of the country that were lacking basic medical services.
- Hungary provided **60,000 EUR** to the Lutheran Church of **Nigeria** to support the operation of a malaria clinic in Adamawa.



Grants distributed in 2018 for humanitarian projects

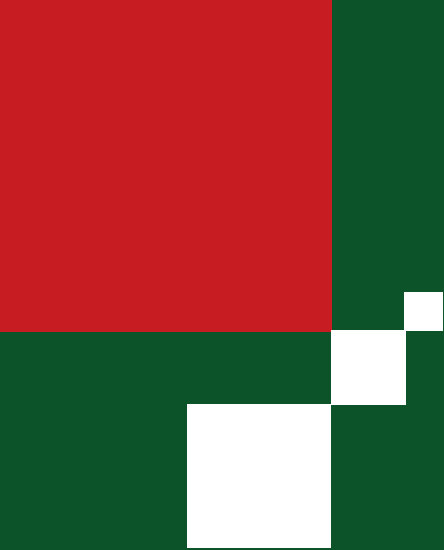
Project	Beneficiary	Country	Amount of grant (EUR)	Sector
Medicine supply for Saint Joseph’s Clinic (2 nd phase)	Chaldean Archdiocese of Erbil	Iraq	467,000	Health
Supporting a multi-purpose school in Alqosh	Chaldean Archdiocese of Erbil	Iraq	830,700	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation Education
Reconstruction of destroyed houses in Qaraqosh	Syriac Catholic Archdiocese of Mosul	Iraq	1,000,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation
Supporting humanitarian activities	Hungarian Calvinist Church Armenian Protestant Churches	Syria	1,000,000	Social rehabilitation Education
Supporting humanitarian activities	Hungarian Calvinist Church National Protestant Synod	Syria, Lebanon	1,000,000	Social rehabilitation Education
Supporting the Open Hospitals project	AVSI Foundation	Syria	1,560,000	Health
Upgrading the energetic system of Marka School	Amman Vicariate of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem	Jordan	37,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation Education
Supporting humanitarian activities	Amman Vicariate of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem	Jordan	274,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation Education



Project	Beneficiary	Country	Amount of grant (EUR)	Sector
Development and capacity building of health service in Wakka	Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria	Nigeria	60,000	Health
Expansion of the St. Raphael Ophthalmological Center	Brother Richard Foundation for the Sick	DR Congo	1,000,000	Health

Grants distributed in 2018 for cultural projects

Project	Beneficiary	Country	Amount of grant (EUR)	Sector
Reconstruction of Saint George Church in Diana	Assyrian Church of the East	Iraq	459,000	Cultural reconstruction
Reconstruction of medieval churches in Lebanon (2 nd phase)	Pázmány Péter Catholic University	Lebanon	570,000	Cultural reconstruction
Renovation of the Aintoura monastery, converted into a cultural and faith center (1 st phase)	Maronite Patriarchate	Lebanon	1,000,000	Cultural reconstruction
Construction of the Melkite church of Our Lady of Perpetual Help and Church of Baptism	Amman Vicariate of the Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem	Jordan	980,000	Cultural reconstruction



HUNGARY HELPS

2019 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



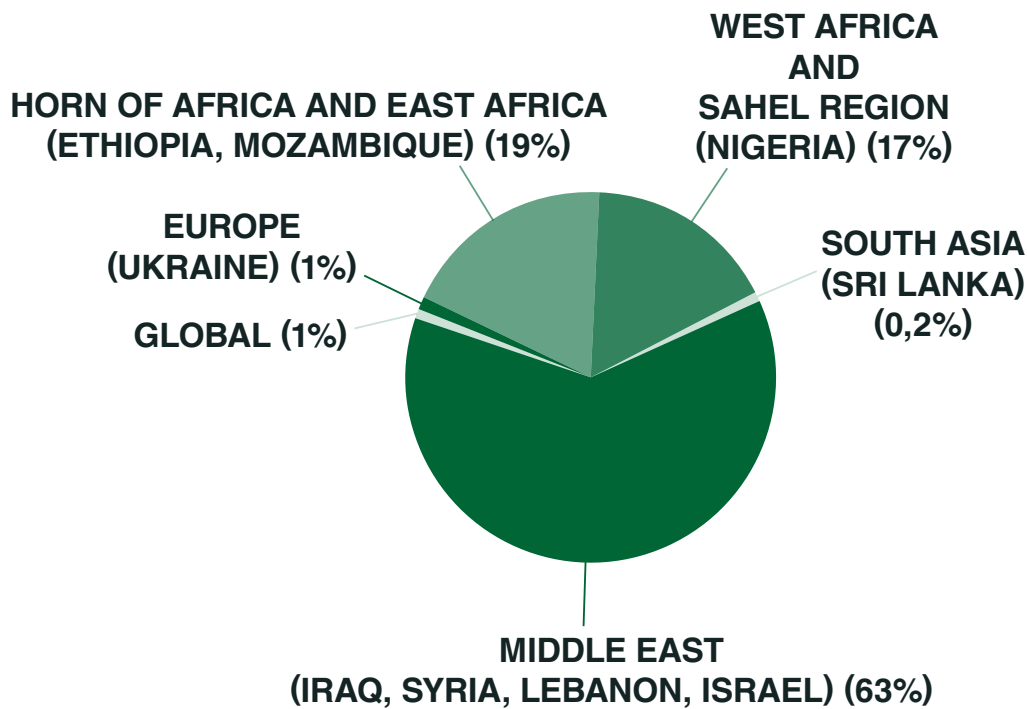


Summary of 2019 activities

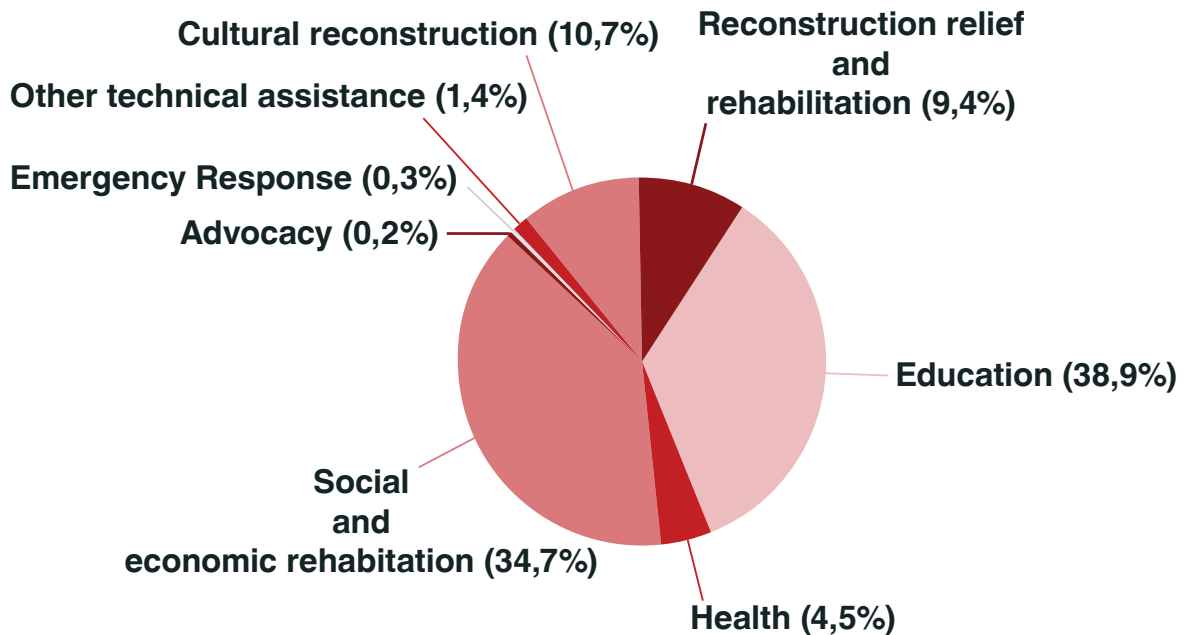
In 2019, **11.24 million EUR** were distributed between **twenty-four projects** spanning a wide range of sectors such as (1) Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation, (2) Experts and other technical assistance, (3) Education, (4) Health, (5) Advocacy, (6) Emergency response.

In terms of regions, the Hungary Helps Program continued to operate in the **Middle East** [Iraq (3), Lebanon (1), Syria (4), Israel (1)], expanded its operation in **Africa** [Nigeria (4), Ethiopia (4), Mozambique (1)], and started activities in **South Asia** [Sri Lanka (1)] as well as in **Europe** [Ukraine (1)]. The Hungary Helps Program also launched **advocacy** and **volunteer programs** on a global scale (4).

Grants distributed according to regions



Grants distributed according to sectors



Total amount of grants distributed: 11.24 million EUR

Number of projects: 24

Middle East

In 2019, Hungary continued its commitment to promoting stability and peace in the Middle East. The main focus of the Hungary Helps Program was to provide humanitarian assistance to the victims of armed conflicts and build resilience among the most vulnerable communities. In 2019, **seven humanitarian projects** in the Middle East were supported through the Agency in the amount of **5,864,000 EUR**.

These projects were aimed at restoring stability, including but not limited to social and economic rehabilitation, shelter and temporary communal settlements for displaced populations.

Apart from humanitarian actions, Hungary Helps continued to support culture-related

programs in the **Middle East** with a total amount of **1,200,000 EUR**. These included:

- further support for the renovation of an old monastery in Aintura, **Lebanon** for its conversion into a cultural and faith center;
- contribution to the expansion of the Terra Sancta Museum in **Jerusalem**.

Africa

In recent years, several African countries have increasingly become the target of international Islamist terrorist groups including the ISIS, Al-Kaida, and Boko Haram. The Hungary Helps Program supported the persecuted communities and the displaced populations directly by providing health services, education and shelter.



The projects were aimed at strengthening the resilience of the local communities by promoting sustainable social and economic reintegration, resistance to future crises, and the return of the displaced populations to their homeland.

Emergency aid was also provided to victims of natural disasters (cyclone in Mozambique, flood in Nigeria).

Altogether, **ten projects** were supported in Africa with a total amount of **3,956,000 EUR**. The main target countries were **Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Mozambique**.

South Asia

Grants were distributed in the amount of **27,000 EUR** to provide emergency aid to the seriously injured survivors of the terrorist attacks perpetrated by radical Islamists at Easter 2019 in **Sri Lanka**.

Europe

One project was funded in Europe with **40,000 EUR**: extension of a crisis center in Ukraine providing psychological, social, legal and medical assistance, as well as shelter and temporary accommodation to victims of the armed conflict

Global programs

The Hungary Helps Program also focuses on advocacy programs aimed at raising awareness to the pressing problem of religious persecution. Publications and conferences provide a platform for testimonies and networking, which play an essential role in calling attention to the existence, causes, and nature of persecution, and education about them.

In 2019, Hungary Helps launched the pilot project of the Volunteer Program with the aim of providing resources and expertise to our beneficiaries on the field with the involvement of young Hungarian volunteers committed to helping people in need and eager to gain practical experience.

Hungary Helps also supported the activities of the Jesuit Refugee Service by providing help to Christian families who had to flee their home country due to religious persecution.



Grants distributed in 2019 for humanitarian projects

Project	Beneficiary	Country	Amount of grant (EUR)	Sector
Construction of a new Syriac School	Syriac Orthodox Archdiocese of Mosul	Iraq	1,000,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation Education
Supporting the Yezidi women of Sinjar	Hungarian Interchurch Aid	Iraq	509,000	Social and Economic rehabilitation
Providing housing to 42 Yezidi women and their children	Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese of Erbil	Iraq	90,000	Social and Economic rehabilitation Education Health
Supporting educational projects	Melkite Greek Catholic Patriarchate	Syria	2,120,000	Education
Supporting repatriation projects in Homs	Hungarian Charity Service of the Order of Malta	Syria	850,000	Social rehabilitation
Supporting educational, cultural, and housing activities	Syriac Orthodox Patriarchate	Syria	500,000	Social rehabilitation
Supporting the development of church infrastructure and local economic activities	Monastery of Our Lady Source of Peace	Syria	450,000	Social rehabilitation



Project	Beneficiary	Country	Amount of grant (EUR)	Sector
Emergency aid to the survivors of church bombings	Caritas Hungarica	Sri Lanka	27,000	Emergency response
Restoring educational and health infrastructure (3 rd phase)	Roman Catholic Diocese of Maiduguri	Nigeria	335,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation Reconstruction of previously existing infrastructure
Developing educational and health infrastructure	Roman Catholic Diocese of Sokoto	Nigeria	1,000,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation
Sustainable agriculture and food security, resettlement, and rehabilitation in East-Nigeria	Church of Christ in Nations (COCIN)	Nigeria	500,000	Social and Economic rehabilitation
Purchase of medicine and medical equipment in Nigeria	Afréka International Humanitarian Foundation	Nigeria	12,000	Health
Development of the Migbare Senay Hospital	Ethiopian Orthodox Patriarchate	Ethiopia	500,000	Health
Supporting humanitarian activities	Ethiopian Orthodox Patriarchate	Ethiopia	500,000	Social and Economic rehabilitation
Supporting humanitarian activities	Ethiopian Catholic Church	Ethiopia	500,000	Social and Economic rehabilitation



Project	Beneficiary	Country	Amount of grant (EUR)	Sector
Supporting humanitarian activities	Ethiopian Evangelic Church Mekane Yesus	Ethiopia	500,000	Education
Emergency aid for those affected by Cyclone Idai	National Institute of Disaster Management, Mozambique	Mozambique	9,000	Emergency response
Supporting the “Alive to Word” textbook project	Africa Family Life Federation	Global	90,000	Education
Establishment of a crisis center to help victims of domestic violence in Kherson	Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA)	Ukraine	40,000	Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation
Volunteer program	Hungarian Volunteer League Association	Global	37,000	Expertise and other technical assistance
Supporting the activities of the Jesuit Refugee Service	Jesuit Refugee Service	Global	115,000	Expertise and other technical assistance



List of grants distributed in 2019 for cultural and advocacy projects

Project	Beneficiary	Country	Amount of grant (EUR)	Sector
Sponsorship of the Anglosphere Society	The Anglosphere Society	Global	18,000	Advocacy
Supporting the expansion of the Terra Sancta Museum in Jerusalem	Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land	Israel	200,000	Cultural reconstruction
Renovation of the Aintoura monastery, converted into a cultural and faith center (2 nd phase)	Maronite Patriarchate	Lebanon	1,000,000	Cultural reconstruction

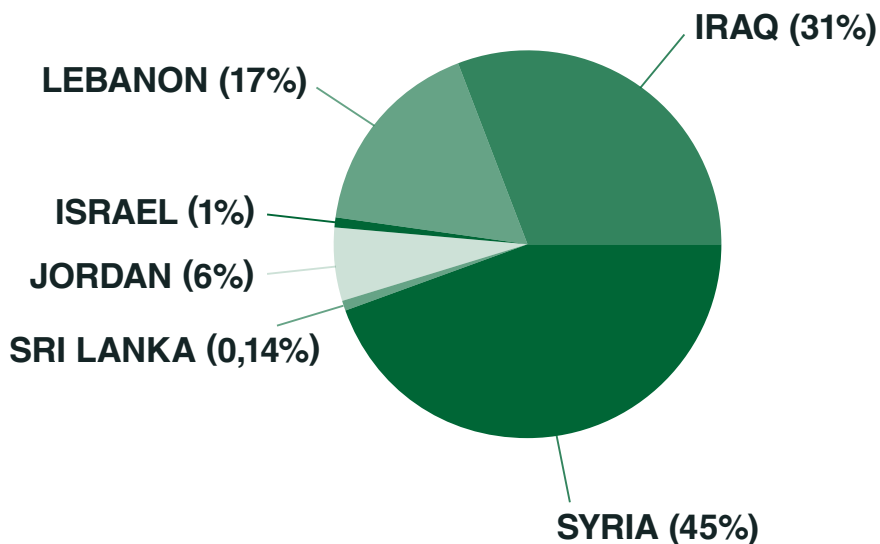
HUNGARY HELPS PROGRAM BY REGIONS 2017–2019





MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA

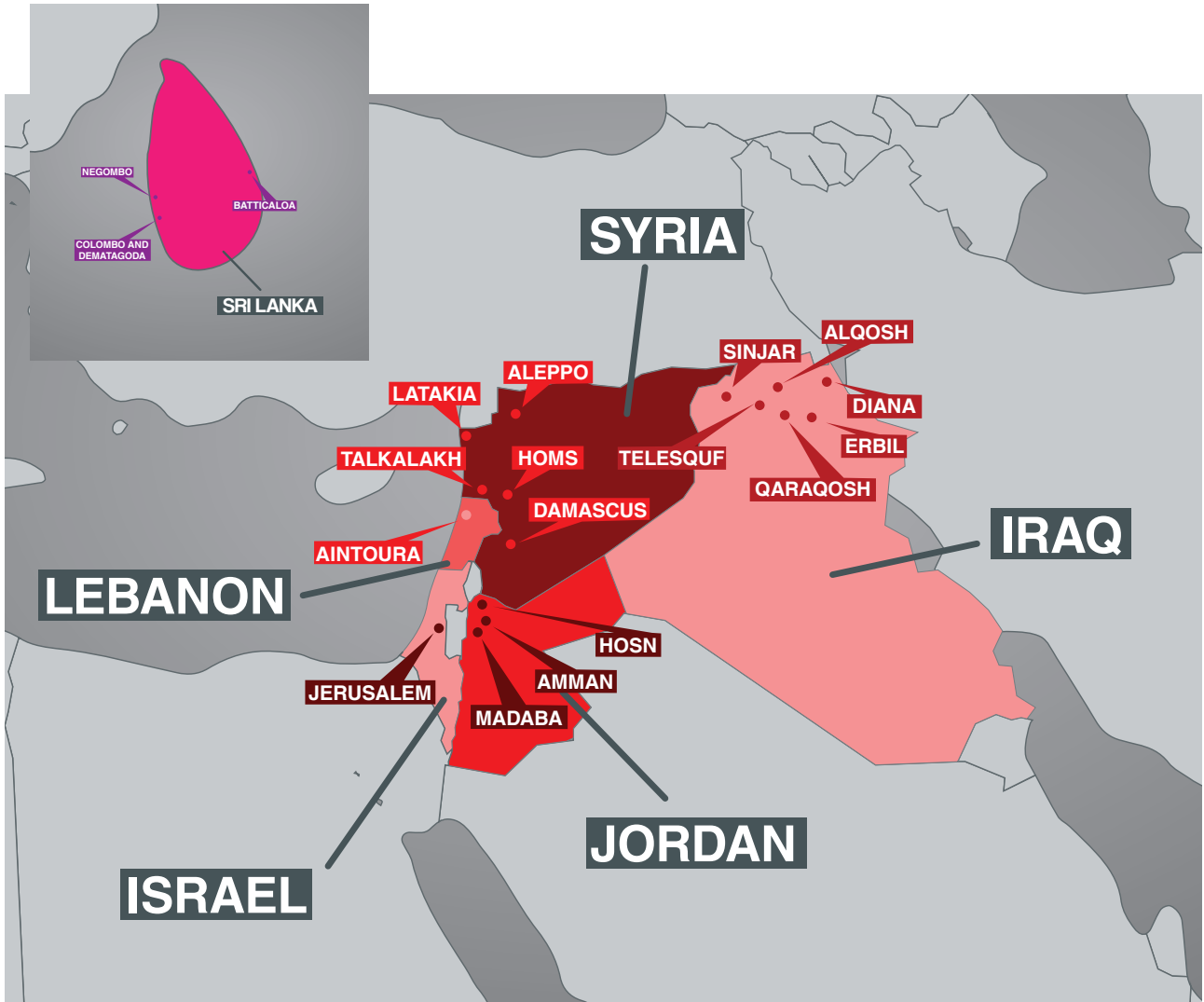
Grants distributed according to countries



Total amount of grants: 21.14 million EUR

Total number of projects: 28





OUR FLAGSHIP PROJECTS IN THE MIDDLE EAST



Rebuilding Qaraqosh and Telesqf settlements

IRAQ

<p>Beneficiary Syriac Catholic Archdiocese of Mosul, Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese of Erbil</p>	<p>Project description</p> <p>The Islamic State terrorist organization wreaked great havoc in the Niniveh Plains in the northern part of Iraq in 2014. In addition to the city of Mosul which plays a key strategic role in the area, numerous towns and villages were looted, with some of them burned down and razed to the ground. We must pay special attention to people in need – this is the attitude that Hungary wishes to represent and advocate around the world. This is the reason why the Hungarian Government has decided to join the ranks of those who bring hope to the local communities by renovating and rebuilding their homes. The main focus of the projects is to help locally in order to support the repatriation of the masses who had no other option but to leave their homeland. In the framework of the Hungary Helps Program, the grants have been used to rebuild over 30 houses that were completely destroyed in the city of Qaraqosh and to renovate around 900 homes in the village of Telesqf.</p>
<p>Location Qaraqosh, Telesqf</p>	
<p>Contribution 1,000,000 EUR (Qaraqosh) 1,800,000 EUR (Telesqf)</p>	
<p>Starting date August 2019 June 2017</p>	<p>Results</p> <p>The fascinating outcome of these projects was the fruit of targeted and professional cooperation. The Hungarian Government is proud to be part of the assistance given to the Iraqi people. In many cases, the construction workers who came from the local community gave added value to the initiative. The final results even surpassed the expectations, thanks to the extraordinary job of the local project leaders.</p>
<p>Completion date August 2020 (Qaraqosh) December 2019 (Telesqf)</p>	<p>Out of the 1,300 families originally living there, around 1,000 could return to Telesqf. Five schools were refurbished on the inside, the church complex was renovated, and a new community house was constructed. As a sign of gratitude, local residents have been ever since referring to their town as the “Daughter of Hungary”.</p>
<p>Sector(s) Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation Restoring previously existing infrastructure</p>	<p>In Qaraqosh, 34 brand new houses were constructed allowing for 55 families to return to their home town.</p>



Helping accommodation of Yezidi victim women and their children

IRAQ

<p>Beneficiary Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese of Erbil</p>	<p>Project description</p> <p>In mid-2014, the Islamic State occupied the Mosul and Sinjar area, and committed genocide against the Yezidi communities living in Northern Iraq. Reportedly, 5,000 Yezidi civilians were killed, hundreds of thousands of Yezidis had to flee their homes, and thousands of Yezidi women and girls were forced into sexual slavery. The latter suffer from post-traumatic disorder even today. Children born from sexual abuse are not accepted by the Yezidi community.</p>
<p>Location Ankawa</p>	<p>The Chaldean Archdiocese is committed to helping the Yezidi women and their children by providing them with permanent housing in Erbil.</p>
<p>Contribution 90,000 EUR</p>	<p>Expected results</p> <p>The Chaldean Archdiocese of Erbil owns a real estate outside of Ankawa, Erbil. The assistance provided by the Hungary Helps Program will contribute to the renovation and equipment of apartments with a view to providing safe housing to more than 40 women and their children currently living in refugee camps. After their settlement, the Yazda foundation will provide these women with medical care, psychological support, vocational trainings, and integration support. The foundation will also coordinate social development and educational activities for their children.</p>
<p>Starting date February 2020</p>	
<p>Expected completion date Beginning of 2021</p>	
<p>Sector(s) Social and Economic rehabilitation Education Health</p>	



Medicine supply for Saint Joseph’s Clinic I–II

IRAQ

<p>Beneficiary</p> <p>Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese of Erbil</p>
<p>Location</p> <p>Ankawa</p>
<p>Contribution</p> <p>Phase I: 467,000 EUR Phase II: 467,000 EUR</p>
<p>Starting date</p> <p>Phase I: June 2017 Phase II: April 2019</p>
<p>Completion date</p> <p>Phase I: February 2018 Phase II: January 2020</p>
<p>Sector(s)</p> <p>Health</p>

Project description

The horrible deeds committed by the Islamic State in summer 2014 against the population of the Niniveh Plains forced approximately 2 million inhabitants from northeast Iraq to flee towards Kurdistan. Christians mainly headed for the Christian-inhabited area of Erbil, and many of them chose to settle there. In response to this issue, the Chaldean Archdiocese decided to build a new clinic in order to provide healthcare and medications for the most vulnerable such as the elderly and refugee families with low income. The Hungary Helps Program provided a grant on two occasions to support the initiative of the Chaldean Archdiocese.

Results

The clinic itself was built by the Archdiocese with the help of a French NGO. The Hungarian contribution through the Hungary Helps Program allowed for supplying medicines to the most needy. The clinic helped 2,500 patients over 8 months in Phase I, and 2,200 patients over 9 months in Phase II. As many Iraqi Christians had returned to the Niniveh Plains by 2018, the program was extended to Syrian refugees as well.



Reconstruction and humanitarian activities of the Syriac Orthodox Patriarchate IRAQ

Beneficiary

Syriac Orthodox
Patriarchate

Locations

Qaraqosh, Bartella,
Baashiqa, and Bahzani

Contribution

175,000 EUR

Starting date

June 2017

Completion date

July 2018

Sector(s)

Reconstruction relief
and rehabilitation
Restoring previously
existing infrastructure

Project description

In 2014, the Islamic State occupied Mosul, and attacked the surrounding Christian-majority cities. As a result of the terrorist rule, all civilians had to escape and leave their homeland behind. Their houses were looted, and some were razed to the ground. The liberation of the Niniveh Plains by the Coalition forces in late 2016 allowed inhabitants to return to their homeland. Reconstruction started a few days after their arrival. The project’s objective was to support the reconstruction of family houses in several settlements near Mosul.



Results

The Hungarian grant provided through the Hungary Helps Program was used to restore 12 burned down houses in Qaraqosh and 35 damaged homes in the cities of Bartella, Baashiqa, and Bahzani. Thanks to this grant, more than 50 families could return to their homes and start over their lives in the war-torn area of the Niniveh Plains. While the majority of the population is aware of the risks involved, the Hungarian assistance has helped to sustain their hope over their fear, preserve their cultural heritage, and strengthen the local communities.



Open Hospitals project SYRIA

<p>Beneficiary AVSI Foundation</p>
<p>Locations Damascus, Aleppo</p>
<p>Contribution 1,560,000 EUR</p>
<p>Starting date January 2019</p>
<p>Completion date August 2020</p>
<p>Sector(s) Health</p>



Project description

The Syrian crisis continues to drive one of the largest humanitarian crises in the world. The circumstances for many refugees across the region remain extremely difficult; in many cases, they lack the appropriate resources to satisfy even their basic needs. In response to this situation, the “Open Hospitals” project has been launched with the aim of ensuring free access to medical care for those Syrians who are the most in need. This project is implemented with the collaboration of three private and non-profit hospitals that were less heavily damaged in the conflict: the Italian and the French Hospitals in Damascus, and the St. Louis Hospital in Aleppo. The key objective of the project is to improve the healthcare services provided to vulnerable persons by the hospitals involved in terms of both quality and quantity. The second objective is the improvement of the structural conditions of the three hospitals. Hungary Helps has participated in the funding of this project since the beginning of 2019.

Results

The Hungarian grant contributed to 40,000 medical services provided free of charge within the three hospitals. These included ordinary treatments and free clinic visits as well. Furthermore, the Hungarian grant also covered the costs of numerous operations and new medical equipment, as well as the salaries of doctors and medical staff (a total of 550 people).



Restoration of the Aintoura Patriarchal Monastery

LEBANON

Beneficiary Maronite Catholic Patriarchate	Project description <p>The civil war in Lebanon has left numerous buildings in ruins, including properties related to worship and public services.</p> <p>The Visitation Convent is an 18th-century female monastery that has been vacant since the 1970s. It is distinguished by its archeological and heritage character.</p>
Location Aintoura	<p>The objective of the project is to renovate and transform this ancient monastery into a multifunctional complex that could contribute to the development of the area and encourage communities to remain in their homeland. Located in the village of Aintoura near the capital city of Beirut, it constitutes a great opportunity for the development of social, cultural, and educational programs.</p>
Contribution 2,000,000 EUR	<p>This complex will include a cultural center housing choirs, offering Syriac language courses, a family community space, a vocational training center, and light manufacturing workshops, as well as a marriage counseling center.</p>
Starting date April 2019	Expected results <p>The complex will create jobs, provide vocational trainings, and offer an opportunity for families to meet and attend cultural and social programs. Another objective is to enhance the position of women on the labor market. The renovated monastery will have a total area of 2,250 square meters, and it is intended to play a key role in offering cultural events to the local communities as well as in boosting economic development.</p>
Expected completion date December 2021	
Sector(s) Cultural reconstruction	

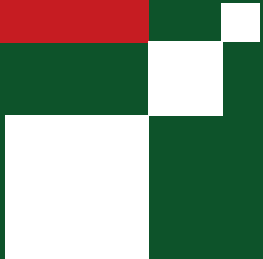


Supporting the expansion of the Terra Sancta Museum in Jerusalem

ISRAEL

<p>Beneficiary Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land</p>	<p>Project description</p> <p>Jerusalem is the heart of the three monotheistic religions. However, the Terra Sancta Museum has filled a gap in the Holy City, which had had a respective museum both for Judaism and Islamic art. The first unit of the Terra Sancta Museum devoted to archaeology was inaugurated in 2017. It immerses the visitors on the shrines that were excavated by Franciscan archaeologists in the last century. Jewish and Muslim researchers frequently visit the museum to study its artistic heritage and compare it to theirs.</p> <p>The museum is being expanded with a historical wing, in which the works presented will testify the key role of Jerusalem along the centuries through rare collections of painting, sculpture, archival documents and sumptuous presents of European courts.</p> <p>Expected results</p> <p>The Hungarian contribution supports the creation of the second wing of the Museum dedicated to the history of Jerusalem. Through this museum, the Franciscan Custody wishes to promote the dialogue between different cultures and religions.</p> <p>In line with their mission in the Holy Land, the Franciscans ensure that this project is a source of economic development for the local population. The construction works as well as the museum operation will employ resources and skills present in the area.</p>
<p>Location Jerusalem</p>	
<p>Contribution 200,000 EUR</p>	
<p>Starting date December 2019</p>	
<p>Expected completion date June 2022</p>	
<p>Sector(s) Cultural reconstruction</p>	

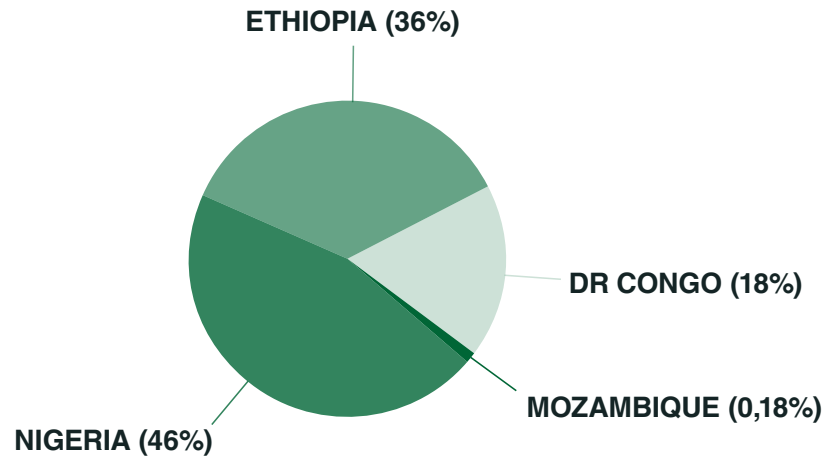
Project No.: P023 Updated on: 09-09-2020



HUNGARY HELPS

AFRICA

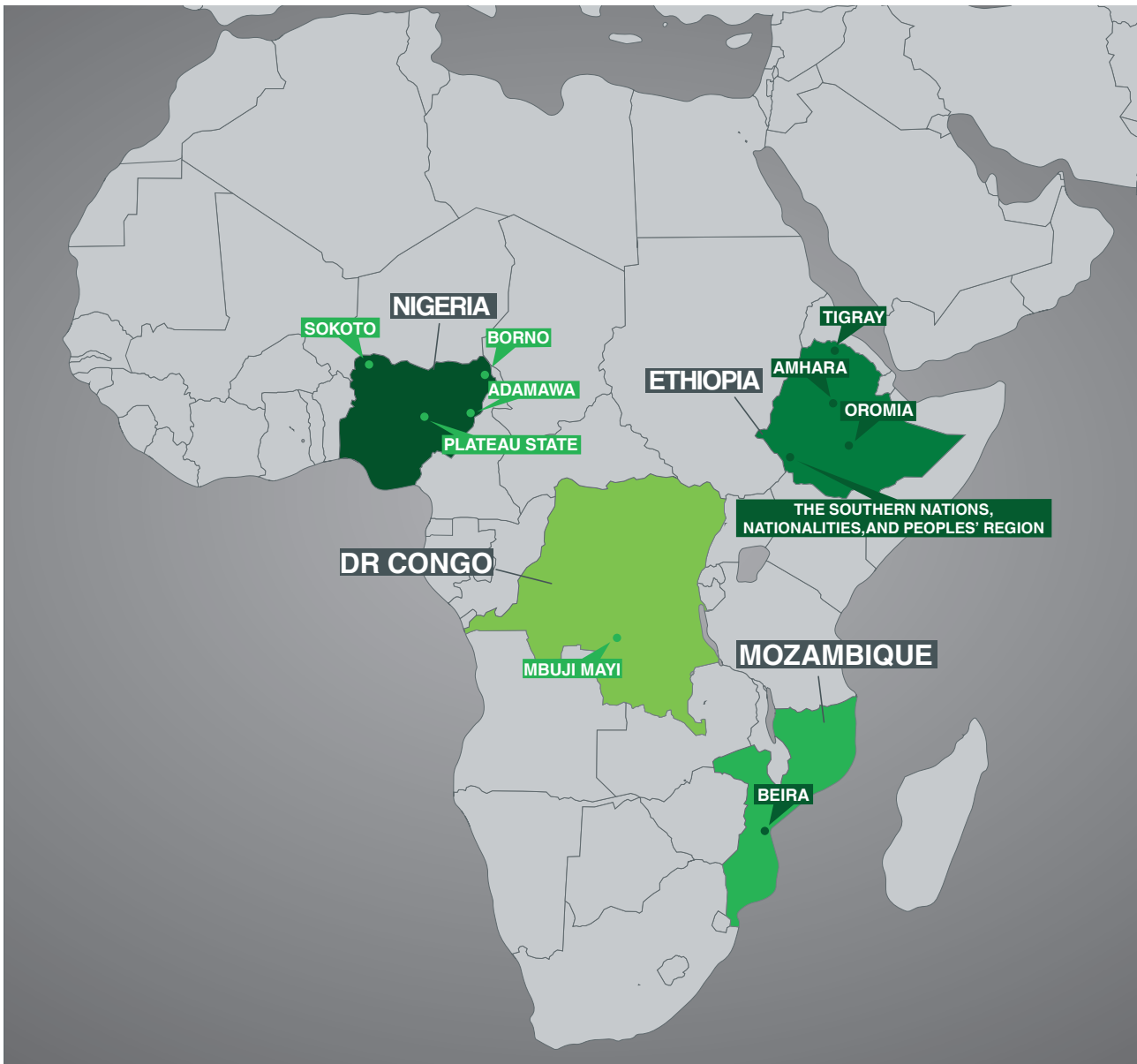
Grants distributed according to countries



Total amount of grants: 5.7 million EUR

Total number of projects: 14





OUR FLAGSHIP PROJECTS IN AFRICA



Supporting the development of education and health infrastructure of the Catholic Diocese of Sokoto NIGERIA

<p>Beneficiary Catholic Diocese of Sokoto</p>
<p>Location Sokoto</p>
<p>Contribution 1,000,000 EUR</p>
<p>Starting date November 2019</p>
<p>Expected completion date June 2021</p>
<p>Sector(s) Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation Education</p>

Project description

This project supports infrastructural developments in the education and health sectors, which are essential for vulnerable minorities living in the state of Sokoto, as well as in the



northwestern part of Nigeria. Assistance is highly needed, as the region is affected by extreme poverty, increasing unemployment rates, rapid population growth, and the violent extremism of Boko Haram and ISWAP terror organizations. What is more, restricted access to education deprives the youth of the prospect of improving their situation, and it provides fertile ground for extremism.

Expected results

The Hungarian grant provided through the Hungary Helps Program funds the construction of the Holy Family Clinics in Sokoto and the renovation of three schools in Llela, Malumfashi, and Gusau operated by the Catholic Diocese of Sokoto, and attended by approximately 1,000 students of various social backgrounds and faiths. The number of students will increase to 3,000 over the next few years. Furthermore, the project also supports the creation of a think tank which will especially help the youth to identify prospects and opportunities locally instead of leaving the country.



Sustainable agriculture and food security, resettlement, and rehabilitation in East Nigeria

NIGERIA

Project description

The ongoing conflicts over fertile lands in the northeastern parts of Nigeria, particularly in Borno, Yobe, Mubi, and Adamawa states, have triggered an increasing population displacement. This has led to overcrowding in places of displacement, as well as to a greater need for shelter, food, and non-food commodities. The Hungary Helps Program provided material support through building materials and agricultural goods in order to bring some relief in this catastrophic situation. The project aimed at improving food security in the long term.

Results achieved

The humanitarian aid was distributed by the Church of Christ in Nations of Nigeria (COCIN). As a Faith-Based Organization, COCIN has a wide local network and detailed knowledge of the needs, which guaranteed that the grant would be utilized in the most direct and efficient way. Consequently, between December 2019 and January 2020, more than 2,000 households received fertilizers, herbicides, seed maize, knapsack sprayers, and zinc roofing materials. These materials have helped internally displaced persons and returnees to start a new life.

Beneficiary

Church of Christ in Nations (COCIN)

Location

Nigeria (Gwozo, Mubi, Barkin Ladi)

Contribution

500,000 EUR

Starting date

November 2019

Completion date

January 2020

Sector(s)

Social and Economic rehabilitation



Purchase of medicine and medical equipment in Nigeria

NIGERIA

<p>Beneficiary</p> <p>Afréka International Humanitarian Foundation</p>
<p>Location</p> <p>Nigeria, Onitsha</p>
<p>Contribution</p> <p>12,000 EUR</p>
<p>Starting date</p> <p>October 2019</p>
<p>Completion date</p> <p>November 2019</p>
<p>Sector(s)</p> <p>Health</p>



Project description

Nigeria has faced multiple challenges and emergencies. After heavy rainfalls in summer 2019, water levels of the Niger basin reached flood stage, and dams overflowed in the neighboring Burkina Faso and Mali. This led to catastrophic flooding in many cities of the lower-lying parts of the Niger Delta. In the flooded regions, erupting epidemics posed a serious and sustained threat due to the lacking health infrastructure. The assistance provided to the Afréka International Humanitarian Foundation through the Hungary Helps Program aimed at reducing the spread of epidemics such as malaria, typhus and hepatitis, and it also seeks to help the longer-term health integration of persons living with HIV.

Results

3,000 people were examined with the help of locally sourced tests and were cured with locally sourced medicines. During the screening, each patient was screened free of charge for AIDS, hepatitis B and C, malaria and typhus; furthermore, they were also given other necessary treatments.



Support for equipment, renovation of the St. Raphael Ophthalmological Center, and ophthalmological missions

DR CONGO

Beneficiary

Brother Richard
Foundation for the Sick
in the Congo

Location

Mbuji-Mayi

Contribution

1,000,000 EUR

Starting date

January 2019

Completion date

December 2020

Sector(s)

Health

Project description

The Democratic Republic of the Congo is grappling with one of the largest and most complex humanitarian crises of the world. In the region of Kasai, located in the heart of DR Congo, medical care has practically become non-existent, and the living conditions have deteriorated dramatically since the Kasai Crisis, 2017. Since the crisis, the number of internally displaced people reached more than 5 million. The Hungary Helps Program supports medical and infrastructural developments in the St. Raphael Ophthalmological Center of Mbuji-Mayi, as well as ophthalmic missions led by the Hungarian Ophthalmologist Dr. Richard Hardi to the remote areas of Kasai.

Expected results

The St. Raphael Ophthalmological Center is the only place in DR Congo that provides life-saving retina operations free of charge. The grant funds the building and equipping costs of the center's new operating room, as well the purchase of a Land Cruiser Pickup making it easier to transport medical personal and equipment to remote settlements. With this capacity-building, the Centre will be able to provide medical treatment for 10,000 patients a year with a unique focus on specialized ophthalmic care.



EUROPE



HUNGARY HELPS



OUR FLAGSHIP PROJECT IN EUROPE



Establishment of a crisis center to help victims of domestic violence in Kherson UKRAINE

<p>Beneficiary</p> <p>Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA)</p>
<p>Location</p> <p>Kherson (Eastern Ukraine)</p>
<p>Contribution</p> <p>40,000 EUR</p>
<p>Starting date</p> <p>September 2019</p>
<p>Completion date</p> <p>October 2020</p>
<p>Sector(s)</p> <p>Reconstruction relief and rehabilitation</p>

Project description

The Russian–Ukrainian conflict has resulted in 1.7 million Internal Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Ukraine as well as rape, human trafficking, and sexual exploitation of women.

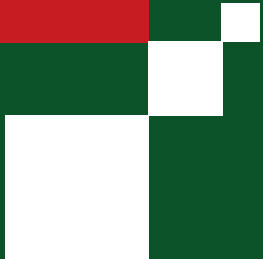
This project supported the refurbishment of a Crisis Center for Victims of Domestic Violence in the city of Kherson where victims of domestic violence and sexual aggression can find a safe place for adequate psychological and medical support. As a strategic partner of the Agency, the Hungarian Interchurch Aid coordinates this assistance.

Results

The renovated center provides temporary accommodation and professional assistance with psychological, legal, medical, and other social support for people, especially for women and children who have been victims of domestic violence. As such, the center provides a unique service in the region of Kherson, where the increasing numbers of internally displaced people from the war-torn East Ukraine regions need more psycho-social attendance than ever. The center is suitable for providing assistance to approximately 2,000 people.

This project is a co-funded humanitarian program with a special development nexus. Besides the Agency and the Hungarian Interchurch Aid, local and international actors are also strongly involved, including the Kherson City Council and the Ukraine Country Office of United Nations Population Fund.





HUNGARY HELPS



KEY PARTNERS OF THE HUNGARY HELPS AGENCY

Partners in the Middle East

- **Assyrian Church of the East** is one of the oldest ecclesial communities founded in apostolic times, which makes considerable efforts in humanitarian activities. Although the Church has shrunk in size, they are passionate about rebuilding lives in North Iraq.
- **Chaldean Catholic Archdiocese of Erbil** has contributed to providing food, medicine, and shelter to more than 100,000 refugees who fled the Islamic State. The archdiocesan offices are currently focusing on efforts aiding the reconstruction of villages destroyed in North Iraq.
- **Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land** has been the guardian of Holy Land Catholic institutions for 800 years. The mission of this Custody is to preserve Christian heritage and improve standards of education in Israel.
- **Latin Patriarchate of Jerusalem – Amman Vicariate** is making efforts to ensure food, medicine, shelter, education, and healthcare services to refugees from Syria and Iraq, in association with the local Caritas organization.
- **Maronite Catholic Church** is doing its best to preserve and strengthen the local communities in the Middle East. Through its development project in Aintoura, it seeks to create jobs in sustainable ways for the inhabitants of several towns.
- **Melkite Greek Catholic Archdiocese of Aleppo** is the largest Archdiocese in Aleppo, Syria, and the one that is the most actively involved in rebuilding the once-renowned school of Aleppo. It has many humanitarian and repatriation projects besides its involvement in education and healthcare related activities.
- **Syriac Catholic Archdiocese of Mosul** is the most active in rebuilding the houses of vulnerable communities around Mosul and helping them restart their lives in North Iraq.
- **Syriac Catholic Church** is contributing to humanitarian, educational, and reconstruction efforts in Lebanon and Iraq.
- **Syriac Orthodox Church** is contributing to humanitarian, healthcare, and repatriation projects in most countries of the Levant, helping tens of thousands of vulnerable people to stay in their ancestral lands.



Partners in Africa

- **Africa Family Life Federation** is related to Aid to the Church in Need. Its mission is to assure that children living in refugee camps in Africa get proper education in line with Christian values.
- **Church of Christ in Nations (COCIN)** is a Christian denomination in Nigeria, seated in Jos, Plateau State. Its membership exceeds 8 million. The Church has been in the forefront of providing basic services to the people of Nigeria, including education, health, and agricultural projects in areas where regional wars and persecutions pose a constant threat.
- **Ethiopian Orthodox Church** has the biggest number of followers in East Africa with the oldest traditions. It has a significant role in helping refugees from East Africa, especially in Ethiopia, and provides emergency help to parishes attacked by radical groups within the country.
- **Ethiopian Catholic Church** provides higher education services, raises awareness, and takes part in the rehabilitation of Ethiopian returnees.
- **Ethiopian Evangelical Church Mekane Yesus** is the largest individual member church of the Lutheran World Federation. The Church operates numerous missions across the country. Its mission of education, health, and peacebuilding is key to strengthening social stability.
- **Lutheran Church of Christ in Nigeria (LCCN)** is a major Lutheran denomination in Nigeria with more than 2.5 million members. The Church is a member of the Lutheran World Federation, and is seated in the East Nigerian Numan (Adamawa State). The Church is strongly engaged in missionary activity, health care, education, support for children and youth, and elderly care.
- **Roman Catholic Diocese of Maiduguri** is located in the territory where the terrorist organization Boko Haram operates in North Eastern Nigeria. Through its education and healthcare projects, local church officials help to preserve the human dignity of IDPs.

Partners in Europe

- **Afréka International Humanitarian Foundation** is a Hungarian humanitarian organization that organizes regular medical missions to Nigeria, headed by Réka Fodor MD. The Foundation provides free medical treatment and medicine for people in need, especially in the wake of natural or man-made catastrophes.
- **AVSI Foundation** is an Italian non-governmental organization with decades of experience in providing humanitarian assistance and cooperation on development projects. AVSI was entrusted by Apostolic Nuncio to Damascus, Cardinal Mario Zenari to run the Open Hospitals project, a project praised by Pope Francis himself.
- **Brother Richard Foundation for the Sick (DR Congo)** serves some of the most disadvantaged of the Congolese society, namely those who suffer from an eye disease. The Brother Richard Foundation helps these disadvantaged patients by giving them access to quality health-care, including access to medications, ambulatory care, and hospitalization.
- **Hungarian Interchurch Aid (HIA)** provides assistance to those in need in Hungary, in the Carpathian Basin and in many countries around the world regardless of nationality, religion or world view, meeting the highest professional and transparency requirements. The HIA is the key strategic partner of the Hungary Helps Agency.
- **Hungarian Reformed Church** is strongly committed to helping persecuted religious minorities to stay and thrive in their ancestral lands, especially in Syria (Aleppo) and Lebanon (Beirut).
- **Jesuit Refugee Service** is an NGO related to the Society of Jesus. Its mission is to help families who have fled their countries due to persecution to integrate into society and preserve/restore their human dignity.
- **Pázmány Péter Catholic University:** Through its network of partnerships with the main Catholic University, Université Saint-Esprit de Kaslik (USEK) in Lebanon, the Catholic University of Hungary is contributing to safeguarding heritage and Christian identity in Lebanon, especially through the renovation of medieval churches in the country.



HUNGARY HELPS

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