Helvetas, an international network of independent affiliate member organisations, is working in the fields of development cooperation and emergency response. We provide the fundamental rights of individuals and groups and strengthen governments and other duty bearers in their service provision, building upon six decades of development experience. With 1450 collaborators in about 30 countries, of whom 1220 are national staff, the network members share a common vision and mission and subscribe to common working principles and policies. We jointly implement development programmes and adhere to a common strategy, working approaches and thematic areas of intervention. In Switzerland, Helvetas is structured as an association of 100,000 members and donors and has offices in Zürich, Bern, Geneva and Balerna.

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

Working with our partners, we support the efforts of disadvantaged individuals and communities in developing countries to lift their countries from poverty. We provide financial, technical and knowledge support.

We posted socio-economic, political, environmental and cultural rights. In Switzerland, we advocate for coherent Swiss foreign and economic policies that are responsive to the needs of men, women and children in developing and transition countries.

Consulting
Helvetas provides effective assistance. Our experts advise and support private, state, multilateral and civil society organisations. They deliver professional expertise and skills training, and share experiences through international networks.

Development projects and humanitarian aid
Helvetas provides support. We transform lives and societies by enabling people from all walks of life to take charge of their own development, and to build societies that are aware of the risks and challenges they face.

Education and information
Helvetas informs the Swiss public. We highlight global connections and links between our country and the rest of the world. We also establish connections between global challenges, multilateral partnerships and Swiss action.

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

Consulting
Helvetas provides effective assistance. Our experts advise and support private, state, multilateral and civil society organisations. They deliver professional expertise and skills training, and share experiences through international networks.

Programme expenditure by continent
1. Africa 29.8 %
2. Asia 34.8 %
3. Latin America 17.6 %
4. Eastern Europe and Central Asia 17.8 %

Use of funds 2018: USD 136.7 million
1. Service abroad 83.8 %
2. Service within Switzerland 7.0 %
3. Head office 3.6 %
4. Fundraising 5.6 %

Source of funds 2018: USD 134.4 million
1. Fundraising income 22.7 %
2. Contributions Swiss Development Cooperation 47.8 %
3. Other official development assistance 22.8 %
4. Other earnings 6.7 %

Exchange rate: USD 1 = CHF 0.9834 (12/31/18)

Our mission is a just world where all men and women can determine the course of their lives with dignity and security, using environmental resources in a sustainable manner.
"If we are to take on new challenges then we’ll need a lot more research. And we’ll need plenty of farmers to try what we learned. For people to understand the point of new farming methods, they have to see it with their own eyes. So that’s why I show them how it’s done."

Miguel Ortega Paty, 37, farmer and agricultural adviser in Viloco, on the Bolivian Altiplano.

"It was tough at the beginning, and we lost heart more than once. But each time I said, ‘keep going.’ We used to have nothing and I didn’t know how I would pay for my children’s education. Now I know."

Bernardina Ray, 54, rose grower and chair of a producers’ union near Cusco, Peru.

"I didn’t know my responsibilities and duties as a councillor – but I didn’t know the possibilities either. Now I understand that the fate of the community is in our hands, and how we can improve our own lives."

Degu Melese, a farmer and town councillor in Ahuri, South Achefer district (Amhara), Ethiopia.

"Our soil is turning salty. And we know that the water from the local spring pool isn’t safe anymore. Now we get clean water from our rainwater cisterns – even in the dry season."

Protap Mazumder, 42, a tailor in the Sundarbans region in the south of Bangladesh.

"I want to be a fashion designer and open my own shop. Then I’ll be able to pass on my skills as a seamstress to other young women."

Egzona Maliqi, 20, a seamstress in the multi-ethnic village of Berivojce in eastern Kosovo.