

## AT A GLANCE



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.



## OUR MISSION



Working with our partners, we support the efforts of disadvantaged individuals and communities in developing countries to set the course for their own lives. We promote fair access to essential resources. We protect social, 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.

## HOW WE WORK



### DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND HUMANITARIAN AID

Helvetas provides support. We transform lives and communities by enabling change from within. Our approach is to build local capacity to manage all aspects of projects – from planning to implementation to evaluation. In emergencies, we provide humanitarian assistance on the ground and support sustainable reconstruction efforts.



### CONSULTING

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



### EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

Helvetas informs the Swiss public. We highlight global connections and focus attention on social and environmental inequalities. At schools and events, in exhibitions and publications, we show Swiss citizens the positive steps they can take as consumers, volunteers, donors and voters.



### DEVELOPMENT POLICY

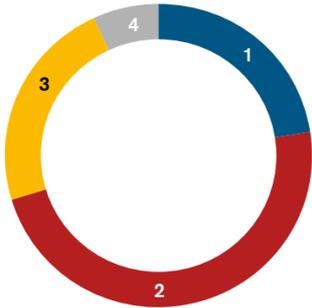
Helvetas takes a stand. Through petitions and campaigns, we seek to influence development policies in Switzerland as a supporting organisation in Alliance Sud, and internationally as a member of Alliance 2015.

## WHO WE ARE

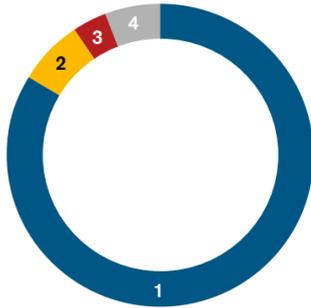
Helvetas, an international network of independent affiliate member organisations, is working in the fields of development cooperation and emergency response. We promote the fundamental rights of individuals and groups and strengthen governments and other duty bearers in their service provision, building upon six de-

cadres 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,

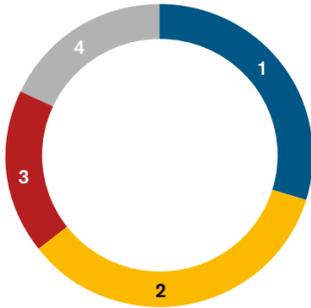
working approaches and thematic areas of intervention. In Switzerland, Helvetas is structured as an association of 100,000 members and donors and has offices in Zürich, Bern, Geneva and Balerna.



Source of funds 2018: USD 134.4 million

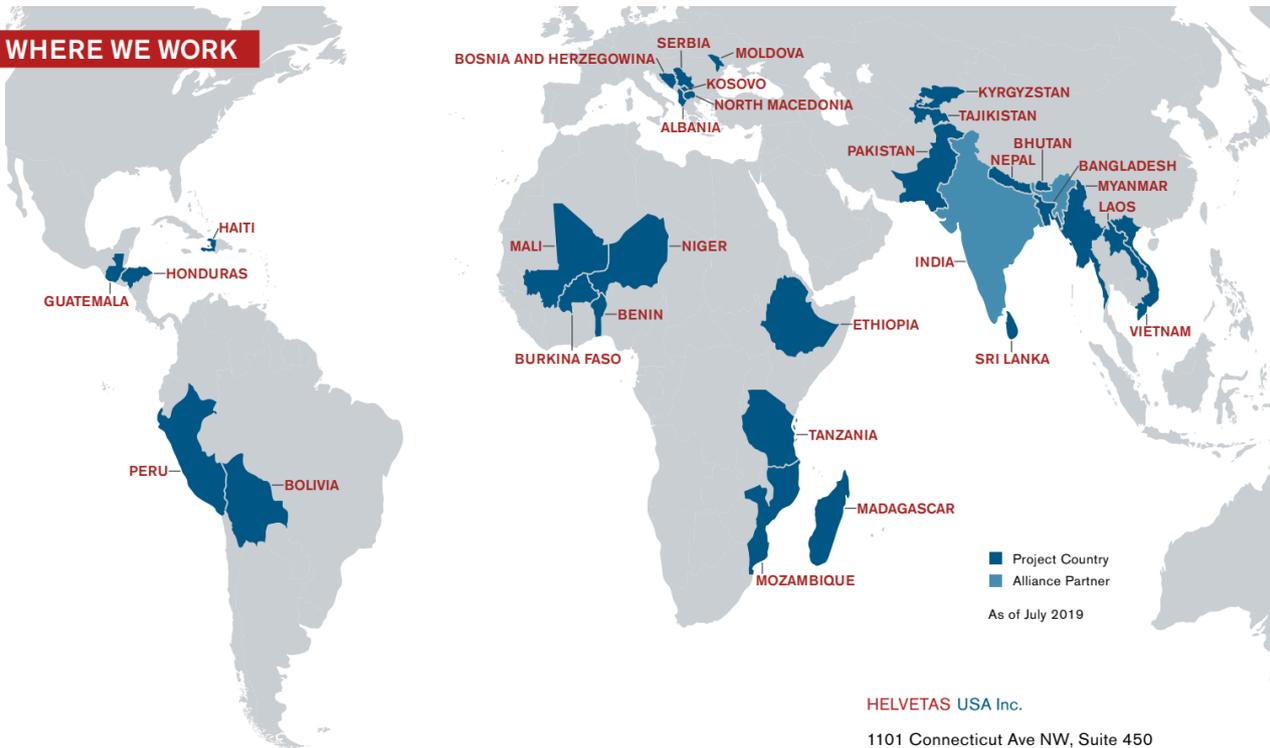


Use of funds 2018: USD 136.7 million



Programme expenditure by continent

## WHERE WE WORK



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## WATER AND INFRASTRUCTURE



Access to clean water and sanitary facilities is a prerequisite for a healthy life and regional development. Meeting this basic need reduces infant mortality, relieves women from the burden of carrying water long distances, and increases productivity. Constructing water supply systems

and latrines, hygiene training, and advocating for a fair water policy are important activities for Helvetas. We also promote building roads and trail bridges to shorten the journey to schools, health centres and markets.

**“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

## SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE ECONOMIES



Over 800 million people around the world go hungry every day. Helvetas helps small farmers improve their crop yields while respecting the environment through efficient irrigation, ecological farming methods and crop diversification. We help farming families gain a place in local

and regional markets as well as access to international fair trade. Training courses and micro-loans open up new production opportunities for rural communities. In this way, farmers and small businesses can become drivers of rural development.

**“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

## ENVIRONMENT AND CLIMATE CHANGE



Global climate change threatens the livelihood of farming families in vulnerable regions. Helvetas teaches them how to protect land and crops from environmental risks and adapt their farming methods. Farmers learn how to conserve the soil,

forest and watersheds. We also call for industrial nations and newly industrialized countries to cut greenhouse gas emissions. We maintain a critical eye on Swiss climate policy, and our experts engage actively in global climate debates.

**“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.

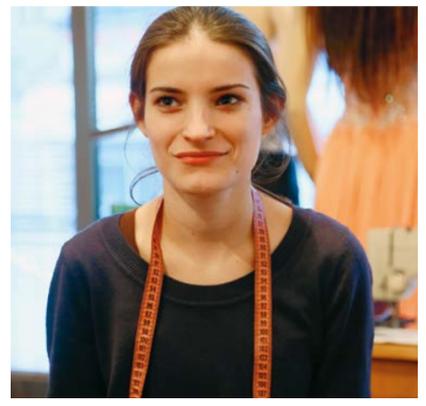
## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



Primary school education and vocational training enable young people to take charge of their lives. Helvetas provides teenagers and young adults in rural areas access to tailored training modules that meet labour market demands. Business

management advice helps start-up businesses and promotes entrepreneurial activity. We help state agencies train teachers and develop teaching materials. Importantly, we strive for the inclusion of girls and women in all these efforts.

**“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

## GOVERNANCE AND PEACE



When people feel that the fruits of their labour are protected from arbitrary seizure, they can securely strive to make a better life for themselves. Helvetas works towards a society with equal opportunities for all, where men and wom-

en can organize to assert their basic rights. We assist government agencies in fulfilling their responsibilities to better serve their citizens by seeking to make participatory planning, transparency and reliable services the norm.

**“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.”**



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