



Giovanni



The Magazine from  JUGEND EINE WELT



INDIA

Combating
exploitation and
promoting rights
with education.

Support for Girls & Women

An independent life through
education and professional training.

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Child labour is wrong! Yet it is
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Contact

Jugend Eine Welt Österreich
Münichreiterstraße 31, 1130 Vienna
www.jugendeinewelt.at

[f](#) /jugendeinewelt

0043 1 879 07 07

info@jugendeinewelt.at

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Director and responsible for the content: Reinhard Heiserer

Editor-in-chief: Karoline Hausmann-Koschutnig

Editors: Karin Mayer-Fischer, Sophie Lauringer, Jakob Gartner, Ernestine Tesmer, Thomas Zach.

Graphics: Sebastian Pichlmann

Illustrations: Karoline Hausmann-Koschutnig

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Dear Readers,

The past year really kept us all on our toes. The aftereffects of COVID-19, the war in Ukraine and the increasing cost of living are just some of the events that ask a lot of us. The same can be said of many people in other countries. And a great many more people – several billion (!) – are living in far more difficult, and frequently dramatic, circumstances. We need only think of Haiti, Venezuela, the Lebanon or the many other areas hit by natural disasters, famine, war or environmental catastrophes.

But I have no wish to start the year complaining or sounding defeatist. No, we see the people in the social hotspots of our world as a motivation and an incentive to find solutions and ways of offering support with dedication, energy and optimism and the resources at our disposal. And you accompany us and help us to do this! For that, I offer you my heartfelt thanks. This means that together we are working to make a fairer, kinder world that is quite simply a better place to live for everyone.

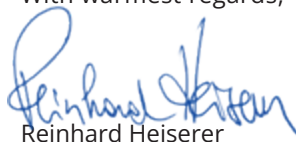
At the end of January of this new year we will again be celebrating Don Bosco, our organisation's patron saint. We have invited two members of the school of magic in South Africa to be our guests at the celebrations. Not only do they enchant their audiences with classic magic tricks, they also create specific and better opportunities for a life in dignity – especially for their disadvantaged pupils from the slums of Cape Town!

Dear friends and donors: live your life as well as you can and help people in other parts of the world to have the best life they can! In our project country India the caste system means that certain people are still subjected to discrimination, exploitation and marginalisation today. Girls and women in particular are still more likely to go hungry, be excluded from school and face greater obstacles to obtaining medical care than other sections of the population. That's why, with the support of our sponsors and donors, Jugend Eine Welt is committed to helping these people!

Through the projects supported by Jugend Eine Welt, street children and child labourers receive an education and professional training that give them the chance of a future free of poverty. We also support children's rights clubs that inform even the very youngest about their rights and, in the long term, bring about social change. This is the only way to ensure that, one day, exploitation through child labour and forcing children into marriage are ended once and for all.

So that we can continue to pursue these aims in future we ask you for your spiritual and financial support! Because ONE world with more fairness is possible! Every one of us plays a vital role in achieving this goal.

With warmest regards,


Reinhard Heiserer



Scan the QR code for a surprise!



Reinhard Heiserer visiting a project in 2018. Now these children can go to school at last, too!

Poverty and No Rights.

Skyscrapers and slums, cutting-edge technology and hunger, a booming economy and abject poverty – all that is India. The numerous foreign visitors who come to southern Asia's biggest country are captivated not just by its extraordinarily varied scenery – from the summits of the Himalayas to the coast of the Indian Ocean – but also by its culture that has evolved over a period of almost five thousand years and is among the most diverse on the planet. The conurbations are dotted with colourful temples and spiritual attractions. At the same time, countless people live and sleep on the streets. Poverty, hunger and malnutrition are rife. Child labour, forced marriages and the lack of education and professional training are also major problems. Girls and women are still at an enormous disadvantage. Pollution of the air and the environment is also reaching ever greater levels in the populous country.



OUR AID FOR INDIA: HELP WHERE IT'S *MOST NEEDED*



Combating exploitation and promoting rights with education and social programmes.

After China, India, with an estimated 1.4 billion inhabitants, is the second-most populous country. Its area of 3,287,000 km² makes it the seventh-largest country in our one world. And although India is among the world's largest economies, only a small proportion of its population has so far profited from the economic upswing of recent years.

Poverty, hunger and malnutrition

According to the UN poverty report for 2022, India remains the country with the highest number of people living in poverty in absolute figures: 230.8 million. That's 16.4 per cent of the southern Asian country's total population. Most of them live in rural areas and scratch a living with casual labour. But the lack of jobs offering a living wage in these areas drives many families into the cities where they live in one of the countless corrugated iron huts in the slums – without an adequate water supply, with no refuse collection and, in many cases, with no electricity. The low standards of hygiene cause numerous diseases that chiefly affect children and lead to their deaths. The infant mortality rate in India currently places it among the ten most badly affected in the world. While it is true that the country has made progress with reducing poverty in recent years, food security, especially in rural areas, is still nowhere near

being achieved. One reason for this is the droughts that are occurring increasingly frequently owing to climate change. In the Global Hunger Index (GHI) for 2022, India ranked 107 (of 136 countries), with a child wasting indicator (share of children who have low weight for their height) of 19.3 per cent. This is the highest share in the world. The level of hunger in India was given a GHI score of 29.1, which also falls into the "serious" (20.0 – 34.9), category. Another cause of hunger and poverty is the marginalisation of women, indigenous peoples and members of the lower castes. They are more likely to go hungry, be excluded from school and face greater obstacles to obtaining medical care than other sections of the population.

Child labour, child marriages, no schooling or professional training

Officially, children in India must attend school until at least the age of 14 – and any form of work for children below this age is prohibited. But for poor families and their children, the reality is that daily life is a constant struggle for survival. Many children are forced to toil for a pittance in gruelling conditions from a very young age. They work in quarries, brickworks, chemical firms, on rubbish tips or in jewellery factories. These jobs put their health at risk, with accidents at work, respiratory diseases and damaged posture common. The coronavirus pandemic has not only undone a lot of the progress that had been made, but has

exacerbated the problem still further. Children are denied the right to go to school because their parents can no longer afford the school fees or because they belong to a lower caste. In India the centuries-old caste system has officially been declared unlawful, but is nevertheless still applied, which means that those belonging to lower castes are widely excluded from society. Girls in particular are often prevented from going to school. They have to go out to work to support their families from a young age, and are at the mercy of their employers' whims.

Many parents also find marrying off their daughters as child brides a relief because it means they have one less mouth to feed. Child marriages are a social evil that still exists today despite all the laws against it and harms the lives and health of innocent children. According to UNICEF estimates, a massive 27 per cent of Indian girls under the age of 18 were married off in 2021. Only a handful of them have the good fortune to be treated well by the families they marry into. At a young age, most girls are forced into a way of life dominated by hard work, deprivation and violence.

Help for the young people of India

In 1999, Jugend Eine Welt supported its first project for disadvantaged children and young people in the

southern Asian country with the help of donors and sponsors. Many others were to follow. The young people generally live in extreme poverty and often come from very difficult family backgrounds – they are child labourers or street children. Through the education and social projects funded by Jugend Eine Welt they find an important source of shelter and support and receive schooling and professional training that give them the chance of a future free of poverty.

To bring about positive social change, support is also given to children's rights clubs which provide information to the very youngest about their rights and opportunities. But Jugend Eine Welt also helps by means of special education projects that strengthen and promote girls and young women. Another important issue for the aid organisation is medical care for the poorest of the poor. And in times of crisis, such as the difficulties that arose during the lockdowns imposed

because of the global coronavirus pandemic, Jugend Eine Welt is there to offer support to its project partners and the people on the Indian subcontinent. Last but not least, the aid organisation supports projects that raise awareness of our ONE world, the use of climate-friendly solar power, professional training with a view to sustainable jobs, and training in chemical-free, ecological farming methods. All this has the aim of providing a safe and healthy living environment. Because we only have this ONE world!



Facts and figures:



Area: 3.287.000 km²

Population: 1.4 billion

Religion: Hindus 80%, Muslims 14%, Christians 2%, others 4%

Capital: New Delhi

Urban population: 35,4% (2021)

Official languages: Hindi, English, others

Human Development Index (HDI):
132nd (of 191)

Child labour: Even before the COVID crisis, figures from the International Labour Organisation (ILO) showed that 10.1 million children

(3.9% of the total number of minors) in India were working (source: Census of India 2011). A difference in the number of child labourers in rural areas from that in urban areas has been observed, with 4.3% of children affected in the former and 2.9% in the latter. Experts expect the number of child labourers to increase still further as a result of COVID.
Poverty at national level: 16.4% (230.8 million people)
Youth unemployment: 28.3% (2021) Public spending on education: 4.4% of GDP (2019)



INDIA'S ACHILLES' HEEL

An alarming increase in the number of street children.

According to estimates by Don Bosco India and Human Rights Watch, between 18 and 20 million street children live in the slums of India's megacities. The effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, unemployment, malnutrition and desperation are driving more and more people from rural areas into the major cities. The reason that children are left abandoned on the streets to fend for themselves can be summed up in one word: poverty!

Hunger, exclusion and fear are constant companions. They are hugely at risk of falling victim to drug dealers, pimps, people smugglers and organ traffickers. Often they are forced into child labour that exploits them and is detrimental to their health and well-being. They collect and sell rags and anything that can still be used from bins, or work on street stalls and in workshops. It is hard to put a number on how many children work in industry because they are only

rarely allowed to leave the company premises and are consequently often never discovered. Over half of street children report being subjected to verbal, physical and sexual abuse, which is often perpetrated by police officers or other figures in authority. Most have no papers which means they are not permitted to attend a state school.

Forget the stigma of being a street child

The approach taken by Jugend Eine Welt and its Don Bosco project partners to solving this problem rests on three pillars:

1. Gaining the children's trust,
2. taking them off the streets and
3. giving them education and professional training to prepare them for a life in which they make their own decisions. The following page contains some examples of projects supported by Jugend Eine Welt that are life-savers for many of India's street children and offer them prospects for a brighter future.

Every child has the right to life and the best possible opportunities to develop.





A call to Childline 1098, the hotline for children in trouble, gets prompt help for street children.

The rescue number: Childline 1098

Children in difficulty can call this number free of charge and get help. This pilot project was launched in 1999 by the Salesians of Don Bosco in West Bengal in cooperation with India's ministry for social affairs and was later expanded to other states in the country. Children can dial the helpline 1098 round the clock. It is free of charge and has become a lifeline for many young people who would otherwise have no one to turn to.



Learning together and developing future prospects

A second chance for school dropouts: Beach Blossom School Visakhapatnam

In the port and industrial city of Visakhapatnam in the eastern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh the Salesians of Don Bosco focus on helping orphans, street children and child labourers. Every day, social workers from the Don Bosco Navajeevan initiative comb railway and bus stations,

markets and streets on the lookout for children at risk who are in need of urgent assistance. They establish initial contacts and gradually gain the children's trust. The children first come to the Don Bosco centre for food and a place to stay, and nearly all of them have dropped out of school. The main reasons for this are poverty, domestic violence and child labour. Don Bosco Navajeevan runs a transitional school for these children and, after a year, finds them a place in regular school. While at the centre the children receive care, attention and guidance along with nourishing food to restore their strength. Quality, age-appropriate teaching methods are employed that show them the joys of learning. The highly popular Beach Blossom School takes in up to 60 children per year, and 85 per cent of them really do succeed in leaving behind their previous life on the street once and for all.



Still important today: washing your hands several times a day at the Don Bosco centre.

Relief during the COVID-19 pandemic

During the long months of lockdown, Don Bosco Navajeevan relied on emergency aid to continue looking after street children. Jugend Eine Welt immediately provided COVID emergency relief which made it possible to distribute medicine and parcels of food and toiletries to the families of migrant workers, street children and orphans and to buy resources for online lessons. At Christmas 2021, 185 street children were given new clothes.



The girls at Don Bosco Prem Seva Sadan with a visitor from Jugend Eine Welt.

Shelter and training for poverty-stricken girls in Hyderabad

Don Bosco Prem Seva Sadan in Hyderabad is a shelter for girls and young women who have lost at least one parent and were living on the streets. Up to 60 girls aged 8 to 17 find a new home here. They are cared for round the clock by two Don Bosco Sisters who are both teachers and mothers to them. The aim of the project is clear, as Father Sudhakar, who heads the project, explains: "Above all we want to help those young women who have already been through a lot. We offer them a home and education according to their skills and interests." During the refurbishment and expansion of the centre a new computer room was added. The demand for computer-literate employees is such that teaching comprehensive computer skills is becoming increasingly important. Because with these, the girls have a better chance of finding good jobs.

More information, as well as the music video "This Is Me" made by Don Bosco India about Lokesh Kumar - from street child to self-assured adult - is available at www.jugendeinewelt.at/strassenkinder.

SUPPORT GIRLS, STRENGTHEN WOMEN!

An independent life through education and professional training.



Earning their own money, being independent – for many women in India this is not something they can take for granted. In Indian society, girls and women are still at an enormous disadvantage – especially if they come from a poor background. Education for girls is often neglected; instead, they are expected to marry young and become housewives. Women who experience violence at the hands of their husbands have virtually no chance of leaving them because their prospects on the labour market are unlikely to enable them to support themselves and their children alone. High-quality training programmes give women a chance to be financially independent, to provide for themselves and their children and to decide for themselves how they want to live.



A Chance to Continue Learning After Elementary School!

Giving disadvantaged girls a better future.

In many Indian families that still live according to the old traditions, girls are still seen as a burden.

Parents have to start saving money for their daughter's dowry and marriage early on. Particularly in the past,



many parents had the feeling that it was difficult to find a suitable partner from their own caste if their daughter was educated. This is why girls often receive nothing more than an elementary-school education. Especially in predominantly rural areas they must work in the fields instead of going to school or are married off before they reach the age of 18. This often happens against their will, and the risk of being exploited and oppressed by the husband and his family is high.

Fortunately, though, numerous awareness-raising initiatives have been undertaken with the result that attitudes in Indian society are gradually shifting towards a recognition of the necessity of education. Nowadays most parents want their children – including their daughters – to have a good education. Unfortunately, many of them cannot afford to send their children to school after elementary level. If the school is a long way away from the village and the children would have to be boarders there it is particularly difficult to find the money for the fees. As a result, many bright and highly motivated girls have to abandon their hopes of a better future.

Creating opportunities by attending school

So that needy girls from the lower castes also have a chance of an independent future, Jugend Eine Welt is



supporting a school that offers accommodation for pupils in the southern Indian village of Maranodai. The region has hardly any secondary schools, so many children come from a long way away and live in the adjoining home. Financing the school fees and the cost of boarding helps in several ways at once: the parents know that their daughters are in a safe and protected environment while all their needs are

met in accordance with sound values. This financial support also removes a source of great anxiety for the parents. Once they finish school, the girls also receive support with their choice of subsequent training. They can go to a vocational training school or choose one of the specialist courses offered by the Salesians of Don Bosco in the province and train for a particular profession.



Education for Young Women in the Textile Industry

Following the chosen professional path with confidence.

“The training course at the YES Center was really great - geared completely to the work itself! Along with all the friends I made there I can say that after I completed the training my life was no longer the same. My determination to succeed was strengthened.” So says the 20-year-old Gangotri, talking about the project for poverty reduction in the Bellary district of the state of Karnataka that was supported by Jugend Eine Welt. The training course is designed to improve disadvantaged young women’s professional skills, help them choose a career and support their financial independence. “During the workshops we were taught not to limit ourselves to small dreams and goals, but were inspired to have big dreams and set ourselves ambitious targets.” The young lady, along with her colleagues on the course, also received help looking for employment after her training. “I’m very happy to be earning my own money now. That’s important because my father is now too old to work. My aim is to be a successful businesswoman in the Indian fashion industry!” Gangotri is just one of hundreds of young women whose previous dead-end



At long last Gangotri has the chance to lead a life free of poverty.

existence has been filled with new hope thanks to their training at the YES Center. Instead of going to secondary school, she had to look after her mother, who was severely disabled following an accident at work, and support her family for many years. After her mother’s death, the unhappy Gangotri confided in an aunt who told her hard-working and bright niece about the YES Center run by Don Bosco in Hospet.

Thanks to the training she received in fashion design, she and all the other women were able to seize the opportunity to make something of their lives. Because apart from the practical skills that a seamstress needs they also learned about the business and legal aspects that are important in their profession.



Rickshaw Driving School for Women

To financial independence by way of the tuk-tuk.



from the slums around Chennai, the capital of the Indian state of Tamil Nadu. On it, the women can train as professional tuk-tuk and taxi drivers. A separate driving school was set up especially for this purpose and a six-month accompanying programme devised. Apart from the driving itself, the women also acquire the necessary map-reading skills and learn how to carry out repairs on the auto rickshaw. In addition, they take courses in self-defence, English and soft skills. At the end of the course the women take a driving test and the taxi-drivers' examination. This gives them the opportunity to earn their own money or top up their existing meagre income. The project enables many of the participants to become financially independent for the first time. It also makes a significant contribution to the safety and equality of women in India.

In 2013, the story of Sunita Chaudarhy made headlines all over the world. She was the first Indian woman to work as a tuk-tuk driver in New Delhi. One woman amid 60,000 men. Along with the taxis, the colourful auto rickshaws, also known as tuks-tuks, are a fixture of Indian street life. The constantly increasing number of women rickshaw drivers is a welcome development particularly among female Indian passengers and female travellers. Owing to the frequency of violent crimes committed against women they quite simply feel safer with a female driver.

Women at the wheel: theory, practice and test
The Jugend Eine Welt partners therefore offer a special training programme to disadvantaged young women



A Life in Dignity for EVERYONE!



A Future for Girls at Risk

Child labour, forced marriages and abuse: the Deodurga shelter offers help for girls.

Until recently, Desna was just one of many children working in a textile spinning mill. Day in, day out she sat there, trying to get the rough yarn to do what she wanted with her small fingers. Time and again it cut deeply into her flesh, but there was no time for complaining. If she failed to achieve the quota expected of her she would get no wages at the end of the long working day. And this money was vital for her survival and that of her two younger siblings because she would use it to buy food for them on the way home. That she is now able to attend lessons at the Don Bosco shelter for girls is down to a chance meeting with one of the centre's social workers. A meeting that crucially changed her life!

Accommodation and schooling for child labourers

Among the children living in the rural areas of southern India there are very many like Desna who have to contribute to their families' income with hard work. That is why the Jugend Eine Welt partners have added a centre for former child labourers to the school, mobile clinic and community training programmes that already existed in Deodurga. But it also offers shelter to girls who have been victims of abuse or have been rescued from a forced marriage. They have a place to live, receive medical care, are lovingly looked after and are given remedial lessons to help them re-enter the school system. Each year the project takes in 50 girls who have been saved from child labour or a forced marriage in cooperation with the national authorities. The shelter for girls provides them with a safe learning environment where they receive comprehensive support and care. Apart from the school activities, great importance is placed on developing their personalities and on living with others as part of a community.

Help for the people in the region

The Salesians of Don Bosco have been working in the villages in the region around Deodurga for nearly 20 years. They sup-

port the families there so that their children prosper. What is more, the dedication of the Don Bosco centre's staff is clearly having a positive influence on the views of the local population with regard to equality of the sexes and the importance of education. This is crucial, particularly in the rural areas of the southern Indian state of Karnataka because not only is child labour widespread there, but underage marriages are too. Instead of going to school, many girls are expected to earn their own dowry for when they marry one day – but this means they will remain trapped in a vicious circle of dependence for the rest of their lives. Desna was lucky and hopes that one day all the girls she met working at the spinning mill will be able to go to school.





CHILD LABOUR IS WRONG!

Although officially banned, the exploitation of children in India continues unabated, especially when it comes to obtaining highly prized export goods such as the mineral mica.

Officially, children in India must attend school until at least the age of 14 – and any form of work for children below this age has been illegal since 1986. The reality, however, is different. The list of items produced in India with the aid of child labour is long. One of the lesser-known raw materials that is mined by children in inhumane conditions is the mineral mica.

India, the land of mica

Every day, many metres below the ground, excavations are under way to find mica. In India, this still constitutes the everyday misery that many children have to face. Because mica is a raw material that is highly sought after in the automotive, electronics and cosmetics industries. It provides the pearly sheen on the skin and nails, but is also found in several toothpastes. According to the International Labour Organisation ILO, mining, including the search for mica, is one of the “worst forms of child labour”. Using satellite images,

journalists from ZEIT ONLINE (report published on 6 May 2022) discovered that the number of illegal mica mines in India is far higher than previously thought – and that no other country in the world has as many child labourers. The satellite photos show that the mica mines, which officially have been closed down, are in fact still growing. The report says that according to Indian export figures, more than 150,000 tonnes of mica leave the southern Asian country every year through the port of Kolkata. That means that, according to the journalists, no less than a quarter of global demand for the mineral is met by India**. And the lion's share of that comes from illegal mines in the eastern state of Jharkhand. 40 per cent of the inhabitants of Jharkhand are officially designated as poor. And that despite the fact that nearly half of India's mineral resources are found there, says the report.

Actively fighting child labour with education and information

The Jugend Eine Welt project partners know the local conditions and structures that perpetuate exploitation of children. In Don Bosco centres supported by Jugend Eine Welt, former child labourers receive schooling and professional training that give them a chance to break out of the vicious circle of child labour. And it is sadly still necessary to create critical awareness among the general public of the harm that child labour does. Because here in Austria we are also confronted with the problem of child labour, albeit indirectly: in the form of numerous artefacts and prod-

ucts that we use every day and were made by children!

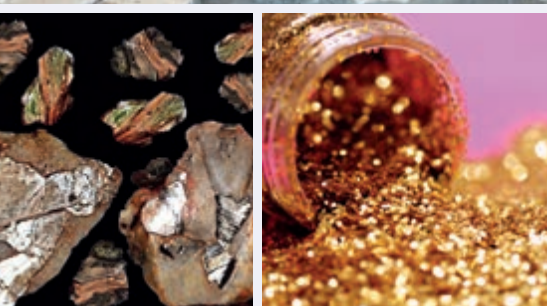
Through educational activities conducted in workshops for schools, the Jugend Eine Welt education team ensures that people in Austria become aware of the topic at a young age. With the aid of public relations work, Jugend Eine Welt regularly calls on politics and industry to provide greater transparency in supply chains and to increase the number of fair products sold in Austria. By working together with civil society and supporting initiatives such as FAIRTRADE Austria, Clean Clothes, CLEANVEST (a fund/sustainability comparison platform operated by the Viennese social impact company ESG Plus) and the action group “Kinderarbeit stoppen!” (“Stop Child Labour”) which wants to see exploitation through child labour end and fair supply chains established, Jugend Eine Welt repeatedly draws the public's attention to the problem of the worldwide exploitation of children.



Warning! The following products from India often contain the results of child labour:

The “List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor” published by the United States Bureau of International Labor Affairs currently includes brassware, cotton, fireworks, footballs, footwear, gems, glass bangles, bidis (hand-rolled cigarettes), incense, leather goods/accessories, locks, matches, mica, silk and sugar cane. In goods such as bricks, carpets, cottonseed, embellished textiles, garments, rice and stone (especially sandstone) forced labour is documented alongside child labour. Furthermore, tea and yarn were added to the list in 2022 because proof had been found of instances of forced labour in their production. Background materials including a dossier and an explanatory video on the subject of child labour are available at:

www.jugendeinewelt.at/kinderarbeit



A PLACE OF HOPE AMID SMOKING FACTORY CHIMNEYS

The exploitation of children in the Indian brick-making industry remains a sad fact.

In the Jhajjar district of the Indian state of Haryana many children are forced to work from a early age. Most of them join their families toiling away in catastrophic conditions in one of the approximately 450 brickworks. The wages are scandalously low, but indispensable for their survival. Despite their income, these children are severely undernourished and prone to disease. Their living conditions are appalling: the impoverished families live in tiny one-roomed huts with no water, electricity or plumbing. For most of them, going to school remains an impossible dream. Because their parents are migrant workers – the whole family are day labourers, not one of whom has ever been to school.

Working children are given the chance of a better life

But in the midst of the factory chimneys belching out smoke there is a place that offers hope. In the past year alone the Don Bosco project supported by Jugend Eine Welt provided 1,279 girls and boys with daily meals, access to schooling and medical care. Leisure activities are also organised which allow the children to really be children for once and forget about their daily problems. Alongside the important assistance they offer to minors, the Jugend Eine Welt partners try to make all the people who live here aware of the value of education and healthcare. Awareness-raising campaigns are carried out to inform the workers about important topics



such as gender equality, domestic violence and the problem of alcohol abuse. Their rights and the available sources of support are also explained to them. With these measures, the Salesians of Don Bosco ensure that life takes a positive turn not only for the children, but also for the community of brick-makers. To this end, they often organise free health check-ups in the factories and hand out medicines there. They are also on hand to help the workers in emergencies.



Review: COVID emergency relief for the poorest of the poor – and all the workers with no rights!

The lockdown in 2020 caused millions of Indian migrant workers to head back to their home villages. As day labourers, they all found themselves without an income overnight. One of them was the 12-year-old chilli picker Jamlo Makdam from the village of Aaded in the state of Chhattisgarh. But she was destined never to reach home: after walking 100 kilometres in the blazing heat, she collapsed and died from exhaustion. Her death showed just how great the problem of child labour is in India.

The aid organisation Jugend Eine Welt, which works closely with the Don Bosco Network, supported the latter's COVID emergency relief campaign from the word "go". This campaign provided help chiefly to the very poorest people in 254 locations. Those who benefited included migrant workers and migrants, slum-dwellers, homeless people, street children and members of indigenous peoples in remote areas. Drinking water and aid packages were distributed that provided the people with urgently needed food. Packages of toiletries and face masks were also distributed or manufactured through the Network itself.

CHILDREN STAND UP FOR THEIR RIGHTS!

In India, "children's rights clubs" are an important instrument for the social transformation that is required.

"My greatest wish for children and young people

is an India where their rights are respected and they can lead happy and peaceful lives," says Father Anil Gangaparau. He is head of the organisation PARA (People's Action for Rural Awakening) in the province of Hyderabad whose projects in favour of children's rights have been supported for many years by Jugend Eine Welt. Although the rights of the child are safeguarded by Indian law they continue to be ignored far too frequently. "Often, children don't even know that they have individual freedoms," adds Father Thomas Santiago. As head of the province of Hyderabad in India the Salesian is also responsible for numerous projects supported by Jugend Eine Welt. These projects form part of "Young At Risk", a large-scale social programme run by the Salesians of Don Bosco, and range from educational institutions for children and adolescents to a "children's parliament" and the "children's rights club". There, the young people are not only taught important values, but are also informed about their rights.

Giving children a voice

In order to really help the countless street children, exploited child labourers and girls – still subjected to massive discrimination – in the southern Asian country in the long term, a radical change is needed in society. "Here it's important that the work starts with the children themselves," explains Father Anil. In the children's rights clubs that exist all over the country the children not only learn about their rights, but are also encouraged to take active steps against any injustices they see and to make themselves heard. "A couple of weeks ago we had another success!" says a relieved Father Anil. "Three children had been absent from their lessons for weeks, so their classmates went to the parents to explain to them that their children have a right to go to school. Instead of doing hard, physical work the two boys and the girl are now back at school, attending their daily lessons." And the activities carried out by the Jugend Eine Welt partners are truly far-reaching: no fewer than 45,000 young people are now members of children's rights clubs.

Children's rights clubs score first successes

This makes it possible to gradually change society for the better because the children take the values they discover at the clubs and their understanding of the individual freedoms set out in the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child home to their families. In this way they directly influence community life and help to change attitudes. One result of this is that planned child marriages have successfully been averted. Father Rubin, head of BREADS (Bangalore Rural Educational Development Society), the project development office run by the Salesians in Bangalore in southwest India, is also delighted at the visible successes achieved by the child rights programme: "What is special about this is that the children are not only fighting for their own individual freedoms but for the rights of all children. And acceptance of the rights of the child in Indian society is growing! Children who are aware of their rights are the key to changing the system and transforming old attitudes!"



Dedicated Delegate

Committed to defending the rights of disadvantaged children and young people at the UN.

Before Father Thomas Pallithanam became the envoy of the Salesians of Don Bosco to the UN in New York he was a champion of the rights of the child in his homeland, India. Since 2017 he has been working at the United Nations to ensure that no young person is abandoned or marginalised. In September 2022 he paid a visit to Jugend Eine Welt and spoke about the issue closest to his heart: encouraging young people to stand up for their rights themselves.

What are your responsibilities at the UN in New York?

I regularly attend meetings of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). One of the tasks that the Council has is to draft recommendations for policy measures. These relate not only to economic and social development, but also to culture, education, health and human rights. For me to be able to fulfil my responsibility it is essential that I know what is happening on the streets, otherwise there would be no need for the job I do.

What is needed to ensure that human rights are more widely implemented?

Unfortunately, I see civil society in crisis at present. We must encourage people to have the confidence to stand up for themselves and their rights. I am impressed by the young people who have nothing but take to the streets to demand their rights and freedoms. I am convinced of the importance of an active civil society: the discipline learned at school is good, but it's even more important to take responsibility! And supporting human rights can be done everywhere, you don't necessarily need institutions for this. We were able to see this in India in 2021. Farmers were neither willing nor able to accept the enormous losses that the new legislation would have entailed. It was a bitter struggle, but thanks to their uncompromising resistance the planned agricultural reform was ultimately shelved.

The climate crisis is currently one of the biggest global challenges...

*Yes, and here too global solidarity is paramount. We must implement Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato si'* and its central message: the fight against worldwide poverty and destruction of the environment are inextricably*



Project manager Christina Lettner with Fr. Thomas Pallithanam and Fr. Anil Gangaparu during their visit to Vienna.

linked. We must take care of our common home, of our brothers and sisters. It is important to raise awareness of this! Here too it is vital that we, as the order of the Salesians of Don Bosco, work even more closely with civil society. Besides the many efforts and education and training projects undertaken in this connection we should give even more support to the battle that civil society is fighting on the streets. Because civil society gives us strength and vice versa. We must steer the focus of goodwill and compassion towards human rights!

The 17 Sustainable Development Goals defined by the UN General Assembly in 2015 are intended to help make the vision of a society with equal rights reality. How realistic is it that this global target will be achieved by 2030?

Yes, when it comes to implementing the 2030 Agenda we are unfortunately a lot further away from meeting many of the targets than we were before. This is partly due to the global COVID-19 pandemic. The aim of the Sustainable Development Goals is nothing more nor less than implementing human rights. But social inequality is growing more and more, hunger and poverty have surged all over the world, human rights are suffering. The motto of the Sustainable Development Goals is "Leave no one behind". It's important that we – the Salesians of Don Bosco – and aid organisations like Jugend Eine Welt enable young people to say, "I will not be left behind". This is something that the human rights education achieves that Jugend Eine Welt supports.

FIRST-CLASS PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

The patent remedy for poverty and unemployment.

If there is a recipe for helping young people affected by poverty in India to escape from their plight it is top-quality professional training! Most of the young people looking for work come from rural areas, but instead of landing a well-paid job in one of the skyscrapers they usually end up having to fend for themselves in one of the innumerable slums. Without professional qualifications, all that awaits them is precarious casual labour or even a life on the streets. To remedy this, Jugend Eine Welt and its experienced project partners

A better quality of life for hearing-impaired young people and women in northeast India: In India, the deaf and hard of hearing live in abject poverty. That is why the Missionary Sisters of Mary Help of Christians, who belong to the Salesian family, have run a school for the hearing-impaired in the village of Nongdiengngan in the remote state of Meghalaya since 1996. Each year they teach over 200 hearing-impaired children from kindergarten to year 12. Once they have learned a trade they have a

training centre has brought a vast improvement to the amenities in the village and the surrounding area, and the proceeds from the dairy farm are even enough to cover some of the costs of the training courses.

A model wood-processing project: Don Bosco Technical Campus in Chennai

In cooperation with the firm of Tiroler Felder KG and the Austrian Development Agency, Jugend Eine Welt funded professional training in wood processing for disadvantaged

The agricultural training also benefits the pupils' families.



The cows are well looked after and their milk contributes to a better diet.



A place on a training course at the Don Bosco Technical Campus opens up new future prospects.



have launched several training programmes in India to stop young people drifting into unemployment. The professional training not only teaches specialist skills and promotes the local economy, but also includes social skills such as punctuality, teamwork and a sense of responsibility. The projects supported by Jugend Eine Welt pursue the common aim of giving young people a direction in life and enabling them to lead independent lives by training them in a trade or profession.

chance of standing on their own two feet in life. Jugend Eine Welt supported the construction of two training centres: at the vocational training campus with its 15 classrooms, partially or completely deaf women and young people are trained in tailoring and dressmaking, horticulture, spice manufacture, silkworm breeding and yarn-making. The courses also include book-keeping and computer skills. The dairy farm with its 50 cows provides professional training in dairy farming and animal husbandry. The

young people for many years. The result of this joint effort from Austria was that well-trained and qualified specialists were able to find better-paid employment. In a modern workshop with machinery supplied by Felder KG, 25 young people per year received certified training which, in Chennai, guarantees a family's livelihood. This ground-breaking operation also brought safety and security to the entire slum which, in years gone by, only the Salesians of Don Bosco had dared to enter.



DON BOSCO ON WHEELS –

A MOBILE CLINIC HELPS!



Important medical services for the poorest of the poor in Chandigarh.

Since construction began on the planned city of Chandigarh in the 1950s the number of people moving to this northern Indian region has rocketed. The new arrivals hoped to start a better life there, but instead they are surrounded by extreme poverty, a precarious housing situation and a lack of hygiene. Things are particularly bad for anyone who falls ill because families often do not have the money for the urgently needed visit to a doctor.

Bringing healthcare straight to the people

That is why Jugend Eine Welt is supporting the mobile clinic project to provide healthcare to the population of Chandigarh. It was launched with the aim of bringing medical care direct to the patients in the slums who need it. Thanks to the hospital on wheels, which has medical equipment and the most important medicines, the health problems of the poor and needy can be diagnosed and treated. Besides

focusing on disadvantaged children and women, it has also been possible to target older patients and patients with reduced mobility since this important aid project was launched. Bed-ridden patients are even visited in their homes. Continuous treatment and care are assured by regular visits and check-ups.

Information on health issues and reduction of anaemia caused by malnutrition

The trained medical staff also perform awareness-raising on the topics of a healthy lifestyle and a healthy diet, dental hygiene and feminine hygiene. In cooperation with the children's parliament and women's self-help groups there, this gives the disadvantaged people the chance to take preventive measures to maintain a good state of health and avoid serious illness. Malnutrition and undernourishment among the population means that anaemia is widespread. Food with high nutritional value is essential for growing

children in particular, but their poor diet means they do not get enough of it. The situation is exacerbated by the unhygienic living conditions which negatively affect the health of the population still further. Anaemia can also have serious consequences for pregnant women and is a major cause of the high mortality rate of women in childbirth in Chandigarh. However, the staff of Don Bosco Navajeevan can take preventive measures with relatively simple expedients such as dispensing vitamins.

COVID-19 pandemic: Relief efforts extended

In emergencies, the Jugend Eine Welt partners – whichever country they are in – expand the range of relief measures they offer quickly and effectively. Something they did in Chandigarh during the COVID-19 pandemic. Because of lockdown, many of the people there lost their jobs and entire families were going hungry. Distributing food and toiletry parcels brought relief to 1,000 families.



HELP FOR PEOPLE AND NATURE – BECAUSE WE ONLY HAVE *THIS ONE WORLD!*

The Don Bosco Green Alliance is a driving force for environmental and climate protection and stands for a safe and healthy living environment.

Temperatures far exceeding 40 °C, scant rainfall – for months on end, large parts of India were plagued by one heat wave after another. “It’s getting harder and harder to find drinking water. The water table is falling more every year.” Father Amal revealed that he too is concerned at the situation when he visited the Jugend Eine Welt offices in Vienna in early summer 2022. But the Jugend Eine Welt partner, who is responsible for projects carried out in the Indian state of Tamil Nadu, immediately adds with a smile, “That’s why I’m all the happier that another project with funds from Jugend Eine Welt will bring at least a little relief in the near future!” Because apart from converting all

the premises of the Salesians of Don Bosco to solar power, a system for storing and using rainwater is also planned.

Don Bosco Green Alliance: Jugend Eine Welt and 582 other members in 86 countries

Founded in 2018, the Don Bosco Green Alliance currently has 582 members in 86 countries – from A for Angola to Z for Zimbabwe. “Our success story began in India, in the provinces of Mumbai and Trichy,” explains Salesian Ricopar Royan, coordinator of the Don Bosco Green Alliance for southern Asia. He continues, “We started with so-called environment clubs. These were meetings for children and

young people at which we increased awareness of sustainability, whether related to environmental protection or to renewable forms of energy. The activities proved so popular that they were quickly expanded to other provinces in southern Asia. Today, the concepts are put into practice in the Don Bosco family all over the world.” Besides implementing its guiding principle, “Education overcomes poverty” and associated social aspects, Jugend Eine Welt, as a member of the Don Bosco Green Alliance, has always promoted protection of both the environment and the climate in the interests of a safe and healthy living environment. The Austrian aid organisation supports sustainable projects whose

aims include minimising waste, reforestation, ecological farming methods and the shift to renewable forms of energy. Additionally, in their school lessons and professional training children and young people are made fit for the future in areas such as environmental protection and renewable energy.

Raising awareness for our ONE world

Consequently, Father Amal can say this about the endeavour that Jugend Eine Welt supports: "Our aim is to create a consciousness for sustainable environmental protection among school pupils and subsequently in society as a whole. It should be made plain to everyone just how important environmental protection measures are and that everyone can do something to prevent global warming." Thanks to the financial support provided by the Austrian aid organisation, efforts towards sustainable protection of the climate and the environment are currently under way in 17 districts in Tamil Nadu. Disadvantaged sections of the population are actively included and supported in these efforts. The list of measures is long and varied. Around 14,000 trees are being planted, waste separation campaigns to promote recycling have been launched in 600 environment clubs founded especially for the purpose in schools and villages, and information events are being held. These are joined by refuse collection campaigns, awareness-

raising activities for solar power and model kitchen gardens in villages. By 2023, a total of 16,000 people will be involved in implementing the environmental protection measures. "We are encouraging families to start a small kitchen garden," explains Jugend Eine Welt partner Father Xavier. "On the one hand, this means they always have fresh fruit and vegetables that they have grown themselves, and on the other children grow up with the necessary environmental awareness."

Climate-friendly solar power and sustainable jobs for a better future

But the Don Bosco Green Alliance not only has the aim of increasing awareness of ecological sustainability: it is also active in promoting professional training in "green jobs". With the support of Jugend Eine Welt, Don Bosco educational institutions in Asia and Africa offer three-year courses in solar engineering, for example. These courses also receive funds from ADA, the Austrian Development Agency. They provide young women and men, most of them from poor backgrounds, not only with high-quality training in a professional field with a future, but also with the chance of brighter prospects for themselves. In the province of Trichy and elsewhere, mini solar

arrays are supplied for the homes of socially disadvantaged people as part of the training. "Unfortunately, we often experience power cuts, especially in the evenings when the children are at home learning for school," says Father Amal, head of the project development office of the Salesians of Don Bosco in the province of Trichy. "The power generated by the households themselves remedies this situation." At the same time, the aim is to make all the Don Bosco premises "green" sites. That means instead of buying expensive electricity, every institution benefits from a solar collector on the roof which prevents high energy costs. The money saved in this way by the social centres can be used to help other people in need, and schools can reduce their expenditure on electricity, using their funds instead to provide high-quality education and activities for the pupils and to purchase



Salesian Ricopar Royan, Don Bosco Green Alliance coordinator for southern Asia, visited Jugend Eine Welt in 2022.

more resources. Furthermore, solar power can help guarantee a constant electricity supply. In India, Jugend Eine Welt works in this field with Bosco Seva Kendra, a non-profit organisation that serves as the planning and development office of the Salesian province of Hyderabad. The numerous educational and social institutions in the provinces of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh are managed and supported from here.

Further, farmers are being trained in traditional methods of farming and the production of organic fertiliser. This switch to sustainable farming methods protects the environment and improves the fertility of the soil. Now that their yields are better, the families can not only meet their own needs, but often have a small surplus that they can sell at local markets. In consequence, the food situation is improving for the entire rural population of Mysore.

are being cultivated using organic methods, such as the evergreen neem tree, the Indian gooseberry bush amla, and lemon, mango and guava trees. The programme is supplemented by organic milk production as an additional source of income for the farmers. The medicinal plant farm in Sagayathottam is a model of organic cultivation and is intended to benefit the whole region. To ensure that the expertise acquired



Traditional, chemical-free farming methods for a safe and healthy environment

In recent decades, many impoverished farming families switched to monocultures and the use of expensive chemical fertilisers and hybrid seed in the hope of increasing their yields. But in fact this only made things worse: the use of chemicals continually reduced the fertility of their fields and diminished their urgently needed harvests. In an attempt to salvage at least something the families bought ever larger amounts of expensive fertiliser even though they were already heavily in debt. Trapped in a vicious circle that plays into the hands of the large seed companies and causes both people and nature immense harm, the farmers eventually all reached the point of not knowing where to turn. To help the people in the district of Mysore in the Indian state of Karnataka, the Don Bosco Sisters launched an important project. In the village of Maradi-

“Back to nature”: Growing moringa and medicinal plants

Many people in India cannot afford orthodox medicine and instead rely on traditional types of treatment. One of the best-known plants with medicinal properties is the moringa tree, which was already being used in traditional Ayurveda medicine over 5,000 years ago. Moringa is regarded as one of the plants with the highest vitamin content in the world, and because it is rich in protein it is often used as a means of combating malnutrition. But India is faced not just with the poverty of large swathes of its population: in many parts of the country, nature has also been ruthlessly exploited. The training programme “Back to Nature – organic cultivation of medicinal plants” that is being carried out in the southern Indian provinces of Chennai and Bangalore in cooperation with local Jugend Eine Welt project partners adopts this promising approach. Apart from the versatile moringa, other plants with medicinal properties

is disseminated, a modern training centre has also been set up as a site for knowledge transfer where students, farmers and members of various self-help groups learn how to apply sustainable methods of cultivation in practice. These methods should also bear fruit in an economic sense. To this end, the Jugend Eine Welt project partners are working in the area to establish links to local business and industry because organic cultivation of medicinal plants is seen as a lucrative line of business that responds to the globally rising demand for such plants. The project in Sagayathottam is not the only one of its kind. Along with a second project site in the province of Bangalore, the Hassan Don Bosco farm, the programme also benefits from an exchange of information and experience with two other moringa projects: one in the Philippines and one in Sierra Leone – because the versatile moringa tree can put down roots in many parts of our ONE world!



Senior Experts Help in India

Volunteering to Make Our ONE World Better.

They are united in their willingness to take the chance to pass on their professional experience in non-profit organisations and educational institutions around the world. Together with the Jugend Eine Welt partners on the ground, their unpaid work contributes to development cooperation and makes help towards self-help possible. Our Senior Experts tell us about their voluntary assignments in India.



Reinhard Berger

Occupation: Teacher of maths and P.E. at a technical secondary school
Assignment: P. E. teacher at a Don Bosco school in Irinjalakuda (Kerala).

"My job was extremely varied. My main task was to form a school volleyball team, but every morning I was also able to give swimming lessons to anyone who was interested. During the lunch breaks I encouraged the children to play ball games. Apart from that I also had time to talk to the pupils, of course, and to the teaching staff too. I was able to learn a lot about Indian culture. At the end of my assignment I wrote a handout on the subject of physical fitness for pupils of all school years that introduced many new ideas."

Maria Kirchmayr

Occupation: Freelance fundraiser
Assignment: Supporting the planning and development office in Chennai province with the setting-up of local fundraising structures.

"During my assignment in India it was especially the discussions with the Salesians of Don Bosco, the often amusing conversations and the many instructive and stimulating exchanges that I grew to appreciate and see as important. And I will remember the many pleasurable, warm and sometimes truly touching encounters with children and young people in the projects for a long time."

Barbara Kratochwil & Helmut Andraschko

Occupation: Psychotherapists
Assignment: Training courses for local social workers and teachers in Vijayawada and Hyderabad.

"Apart from social workers, the principal target group for our work consisted of teachers. This gave us the opportunity to develop new themes and focus on other topics. Strategies for conflict resolution, models for non-violent communication and other aspects of interrelationships in developmental psychology were very much to the fore in our training sessions, as were social comparisons."



Anneliese Steinkellner

Occupation: Primary school teacher with many years' experience in adult education
Assignment: Teaching German as a foreign language at a school complex in Palakkad.

"I read about Jugend Eine Welt in a magazine. The name itself appealed to me because I believe that there is only ONE world and not a first, second and third one. I have now been in Palakkad since mid-September 2022 and am very happy to be here. The pupils come to their lessons every morning with a smile on their faces. They're highly motivated, polite and friendly. I have great admiration for the pleasure they take in learning, their focus on the subject and their willingness to help both their classmates and me."



Senior Experts Austria

Would you like to be a Senior Expert? Visit our website for everything you need to know about periods working abroad: www.jugendeinewelt.at/seniorexpertsaustria



THIS WAS THE YEAR WHEN I REALLY LEARNED *how to laugh!*

A year of voluntary work in a social or educational project in the global south! Berfin, a young woman from Vienna, talks about her voluntary assignment with VOLONTARIAT bewegt in the Chiguru project in India.

What were your chief responsibilities during your assignment?

My job was to be there for the children. My days were pretty full, of the children's laughter, their fears and their needs. I made sure that they were all washed and dressed and had eaten something before school started. During the day I tried to teach the children some English using games and puzzles. After school I played with them, tried to make their days interesting and varied and made sure that at the end of the day they were all tucked up safely in bed. You could say that I played the role of an older sister. It was especially important to me that the children could come to me at any time to talk about their fears and anxieties or simply for a hug and an encouraging word.

What was the main thrust of the social project you worked on as a volunteer?

My project takes in children from difficult backgrounds and gives them the space, time and support they need to prepare for social reintegration. In Chiguru, the children are reintroduced to a daily routine and are helped to



acquire the social and academic skills they need to attend a state-run school. At heart, it's a transitional project. So the name "bridge school" is very appropriate. What's important is that they learn, or relearn, to be respectful towards those around them. This is an indispensable virtue for their future lives.

Voluntary work should constitute a positive step in a person's development. What would you say to that?

The voluntary work took me from my home in Vienna to my new home in India. Of course, our living conditions there were very different from those I knew from Vienna. There were other things to worry about, more serious, existential matters, you could say. Despite that, it was during this year that I really learned how to laugh. The children showed me how to begin each day with a positive attitude, no matter what obstacles emerged. This attitude is one that I hope never to lose now that I'm back in Austria.



About VOLONTARIAT bewegt: Jugend Eine Welt started its volunteer scheme by launching VOLONTARIAT bewegt in 1997. Since 2013, Jugend Eine Welt and the Salesians of Don Bosco in Austria have shared responsibility for the organisation that arranges ten- to twelve-month assignments in the countries of the global south for young people aged 18 to 35. To date, it has sent over 700 volunteers abroad to live and work in the social projects run by the Salesians of Don Bosco and other partner organisations. The focus is always on the well-being of disadvantaged children and young people. For more details on our periods of voluntary work abroad, go here:

www.jugendeinewelt.at/volontariatbewegt

TIP: *On 28 January 2023 it will once again be time for a new generation of volunteers to complete their period of intensive preparations and be sent out into the big wide world: to Latin America, Africa, Asia or Eastern Europe. VOLONTARIAT bewegt will mark the occasion with a convivial celebration to which you are cordially invited! For more information, go to:*

www.jugendeinewelt.at/termine

Was there an experience that you found especially rewarding?

Sai was about twelve years old and the oldest child in my class. He was a real rascal. In class he liked nothing better than inciting the other children to make trouble for us volunteers by, for example, getting them all to throw their books across the classroom at the same time. He never actively took part in lessons or other activities. Any attempt I made to hold a conversation with him failed miserably. So it was a great surprise when, one day, he allowed me to give him a sheet of paper and then quietly began doing the task I'd set the class. This was to draw a family tree. I'd drawn my own family tree on the blackboard as an example. The children were to use it as a template, but write in the names of their own family members. Sai was finished quite quickly, but when I saw what he'd done I realised that he had simply copied my family tree and added his own name to it. I praised him for the job he had done but pointed out that he was actually supposed to

draw his own family. When he said he didn't have one, I replied, "Okay, from now on you're part of my family. You are now my little brother." From that moment on the boy was completely transformed. He started calling me "akka", which means "big sister" in Telugu. He helped me in lessons, was friendly, willing to learn and respectful. After having experienced so many betrayals of trust he was finally able to open up to me and show me affection.





ALOO GOBI

Cauliflower and potato curry

Kashmir! Even the name of India's northernmost state sounds like a magic word. Kashmir is known not only for the idyllic scenery that unfolds around the foot of the mighty eight-thousand-metre Nanga Parbat and the border dispute with Pakistan that has rumbled on for decades: Kashmir's delicious cuisine is popular all over India. It is also called a "feast of spices". One typical dish is aloo gobi, a cauliflower and potato curry that is served with basmati rice and yoghurt. It also goes well with chicken.

Preparation time: 40 minutes

Ingredients for 2 portions:

- 400 g potato
- 400 g cauliflower
- 3 tbsp oil
- 1 ginger root
- 2 cloves of garlic
- 2 medium onions
- 2 medium tomatoes
- 1 tsp salt
- 1 heaped tsp curry
- 1 heaped tsp garam masala*
- Chilli as desired

Method:

- 1 Peel and finely dice the ginger. Fry for 2 minutes with the chilli.
- 2 Peel and dice the onions. Add to the pan with the finely chopped garlic.
- 3 Stir in the curry and garam masala, leave to stand for a few minutes. Peel and dice the potatoes.
- 4 Add the diced tomatoes to the pan and cook on a low heat for 3-5 minutes until the tomatoes are soft.
- 5 Now add the potatoes and cook on a low heat until they are half cooked, stirring occasionally.
- 6 Salt the potatoes and add the cauliflower. Stir occasionally until the potatoes and cauliflower are soft.
- 7 Serve with basmati rice and yoghurt.

***Garam Masala** ("hot spice") describes mixed herbs and spices popular in India. Depending on the region it can consist of cumin, coriander, cinnamon, cloves, cardamom, black pepper, nutmeg and bay leaves.



Enjoy!



My Training as an Office Administrator at Jugend Eine Welt

Gresa Lupci was very keen to do her training in an organisation

that helped people in distress. She is now in her third year as a trainee at Jugend Eine Welt. In this interview she talks about her working day and the differences between training as an office administrator in an aid organisation and a commercial enterprise.

What made you decide to become a trainee? And how did you come to join Jugend Eine Welt?

I was at business school, but had always wanted to put what I learned there into practice. I liked accounting, but really wanted to actually do something rather than just learning about it. So I started looking for a position as a trainee. It was important to me to work in an organisation that helps people and does good. The "Abo Jugend" office, which supports young people looking to start a career, recommended Jugend Eine Welt.

Describe your working day at Jugend Eine Welt.

It's really hard to generalise. So many different things happen to me in the course of a day that in the evenings

it's impossible for me to remember everything I did (laughs). I love it when things are so varied, although it's often a challenge. Every day is different and I can really learn from the work I do here. In my class there are a lot of trainees who don't benefit from their work. I have the feeling that I'm learning things that will come in useful. In accounts, for instance, but I can also learn a lot in the secretary's office. I really enjoy not having a fixed routine.

What do you enjoy most about your work at Jugend Eine Welt?

In terms of the tasks, my favourite is creating the profiles of new colleagues using the HR software. I'm also very happy whenever I have the chance to meet the donors who support our aid projects face to face. I'm glad I don't have to do my training in a "normal" office. Because here at Jugend Eine Welt you always have to know what's happening in the world outside as well, not just in the office but in the countries where our projects are helping disadvantaged children and young people towards a brighter future by means of education and training. I find this extremely rewarding, too.



Director Reinhard Heiserer with the Jugend Eine Welt trainees Gresa Lupci, Gabriela Berisha and Tejveer Nijjar.

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Opening doors to young people in the tradition of the young people's patron saint, Don Bosco: Jugend Eine Welt has worked to enable education for young people around the world in the tradition of the young persons' patron saint and pioneer of social work for 25 years. Under the motto of "Education overcomes poverty", disadvantaged children and young people in the countries of the global south receive schooling and training and consequently the chance of a life free of poverty. But in Austria, too, the organisation has run a scheme for trainee office administrators since 2006, thereby giving young people with an interest in social policy and development policy an opportunity to contribute actively to the work of an aid organisation that operates worldwide. This training scheme makes the organisation a pioneer in the field of development cooperation. Currently, three trainees are participating in the scheme at the Vienna offices.

IDENTIFYING PRIVILEGES

RAISING CHILDREN'S AWARENESS OF SOCIAL AND GLOBAL INEQUALITIES AT AN EARLY AGE.



The aim of the game described below is to raise awareness of global and social inequalities and to encourage youngsters to think about their own position. Note that the roles were deliberately created as stereotypes in order to emphasise the differences.

The Bead Game (or the Privilege Check)

Suitable for children aged 8 and above

Duration: 25 minutes approx.

In this game, all the children sit in a circle. A container of beads is placed in the middle of the circle. A hat is passed around containing the six roles, written on small pieces of paper. The participants all take a role (one role can be allocated to several children) and imagine what it feels like to be this person. Each child then reads out their role. The person supervising the game reads out the assumptions listed below and each child must decide whether the assumption applies to their role or not. If it does, the child can take a bead from the middle of the circle. As the game progresses it will become apparent that some children have a lot of beads while others have only a few or none at all. After all the assumptions have been read out, all the children are encouraged to discuss the results. Why does this person have so many beads, and why does this one have so few? How did the children feel about taking a bead or watching others take one? Because several children will have the same role, they may interpret it differently, and this can be discussed too.

Roles:

- Mohamed, 8 years old, from Austria, father: doctor, mother: lawyer
- Jakob, 7 years old, from Austria, father: unemployed, mother: cashier
- Shiva, 9 years old, from India, father: dead, mother: miner
- Mavie, 8 years old, from the Congo, father: author, mother: head teacher
- Jessica, 9 years old, from the USA, father: boss of a large company, mother: singer
- Raul, 7 years old, from Bolivia, father & mother: dead

The following assumptions are read out:

- I can go to school every day.
- My parents make me breakfast every morning.
- In the afternoons I meet my friends and play with them.
- I have a mobile phone.
- Every summer I go on holiday with my parents.
- I have a wardrobe full of clothes and there's hardly any room for new ones.
- When we go shopping to the supermarket I'm usually allowed to choose some sweets.
- I have a room of my own.
- In our house you can drink the tap water.
- When I'm ill I get the medical care I need to get well again.

Questions :

- Who has 10 beads? Who has 9, and who has 8? After the children with those numbers of beads have raised their hands they can be asked which role they had.
- How did it feel to be able to take a lot of beads?
- How did it feel to be able to take only a few beads?
- Would you have preferred to have a different role?

The Jugend Eine Welt education team: We'd be happy to come to you!

On our website www.jugendeinewelt.at/bildungsteam you'll find our contact details, a list of all the workshops, talks and simulation games we offer, and the form for applying for a visit from us.



Conjuring a Better Future for Children with a Magic Wand!



At the College of Magic in South Africa the lives of disadvantaged children are changed for the better in ways that are wonderful, if not to say magical!

Black suit, red bow tie, with wand and top hat in hand.

The spotlight follows the young boy as he skips across the stage. Any minute now he will present his latest magic trick to the expectant audience. The little "sorcerer's apprentice" is one of around 150 boys and girls who start one of the training courses at the College of Magic every year.

The school of magic in Cape Town, South Africa, is unique in the world. For over 40 years, it has been introducing children and young people to the art of magic. An activity that was not always without risk. Because when it was founded in 1980, Apartheid was still in force in South Africa and teaching black and white children together was a punishable offence. But that never stopped the team at the College of Magic giving children greater self-confidence and a greater feeling of self-esteem and helping them with their personality development.

Many different courses

Taking part in one of the courses gives the participants, especially children from slum areas, a chance to pivotally change their lives. All kinds of magic are taught, such as manipulating a variety of objects, as well as related arts such as mime and ventriloquism, but courses are also offered in stage technique, theatrical production, lighting and digital film-making. The skills acquired by the youngsters magically give even disadvantaged and impoverished children better prospects. That is why Jugend Eine Welt has been supporting the project for many years.

No child is turned away

The school of magic is open to anyone who is interested. Children are accepted from the age of 10. The volunteer teachers work with great dedication to develop and promote the talents of the youngsters in their charge. The courses are not free. Lessons for children from poor backgrounds are funded by donations and sponsors through the "Magic in the Community" programme. During the last four decades, at least 45,000 children and teenagers have benefited from the activities of the College of Magic in one way or another. Many of those who completed their course there went on to be successful in a wide variety of jobs. Some of them really have managed to make a career as professional conjurers, stand-up comedians, music-hall artistes, actors or directors. Others work in industry, business, construction, medicine and many other sectors besides. But they all have one thing in common: they had the chance to spend a rewarding time at the College of Magic where the social inequality found everywhere else in South Africa is not a factor.



Invitation

"Day for Street Children" 2023 A visit to the school of magic!

26 January 2023, 5 p.m.

Curhaus, Stephansplatz 3, 1010 Vienna

MC: Gert Smetanig, alias "Magic Priest"

A small buffet with tasty snacks from South Africa awaits our guests!

Hybrid event: Registration possible until 22 January 2023 at: anmeldung@jugendeinewelt.at. Please indicate when registering whether you wish to take part online. You will then be sent a link to access the event online.

Additional events are planned for the provinces outside Vienna. For full details, visit

www.jugendeinewelt.at/zauberschule

25 Years of Jugend Eine Welt

A celebration with Don Bosco partners from around the world.

At the end of June 2022, Jugend Eine Welt celebrated the 25th anniversary of "Education overcomes poverty" in Vienna with around 250 guests and longtime Don Bosco partners.

The aid organisation's team was delighted because the celebrations offered them the opportunity to chat at length to the project partners from around the world. "We're proud of the past 25 years," said Reinhard Heiserer, director of Jugend Eine Welt, opening the event that had brought many friends, supporters, donors and group representatives to the Tschauner Bühne stage in Vienna. "A big thank-you to everyone who supports us. Don Bosco said, 'You must do what's possible.' That means not just a little, but to the point of recklessness. But we don't just want to look back, but ahead too. There are still countless important projects that must be carried out."

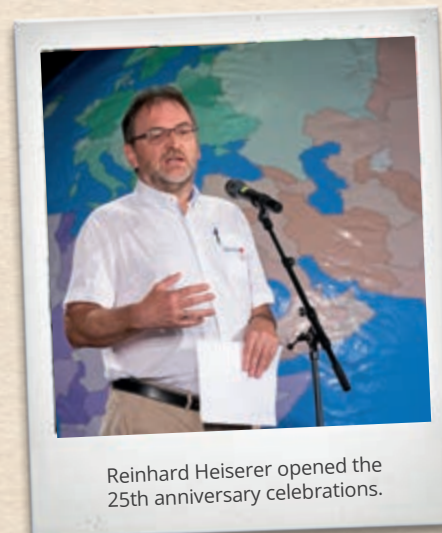
Longtime project partners give fascinating insights

Chris Lohner, presenter, actress, author and honorary ambassador for Jugend Eine Welt, acted as compère for the evening. Project partners of the aid organisation, who had come to Vienna especially for the anniversary, took the stage to give the audience fascinating insights. "Thanks to the support we have been receiving from Jugend Eine Welt for many years we have been able to care for around 200,000 street children in the shelters run by the Salesians in 72 cities all over India and also enable them to go to school," said Father Noel Maddhichetty SDB, the former director of "BoscoNet", the office

based in New Delhi that coordinates all the aid programmes and projects carried out by the 354 Don Bosco institutions in southern Asia. Father Ubaldino Andrade Hernandez SDB, who has also maintained friendly relations with the Austrian aid organisation for many years, described the important work he does in Palabek refugee camp in Uganda. Over 60,000 people who fled from South Sudan have found refuge here. "Because of the war in their homeland, many children don't know where their parents are," says Father Ubaldino. "Their rucksacks are full of terrible experiences. We try to give them schooling, and they get food and sometimes clothes."

A big thank-you to Jugend Eine Welt

In the past 25 years, the aid organisation has carried out over 3,000 projects (schools, universities, vocational training centres, social centres, homes for street children) and programmes (for girls and women, the long-term reduction of poverty, environmental initiatives) in many countries in Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and Eastern Europe. These projects and programmes have focused particularly on the following four Sustainable Development Goals: No poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, and quality education for all. Situations of armed conflict, such as those currently raging in Ethiopia and Ukraine, mean that Jugend Eine Welt also provides urgently needed emergency relief. Thanks to the large number of reliable project partners this aid quickly arrives



Reinhard Heiserer opened the 25th anniversary celebrations.



Chris Lohner, honorary ambassador for Jugend Eine Welt, acted as compère for the evening.



Father Marco Paredes (Ecuador) delighted the audience with a recital on his accordion.



Numerous friends and supporters from all over the world travelled to Vienna for the anniversary.



Left to right: Sr. Beatrix Baier (Austria), Sr. Ena Veralís Bolaños (Italy), Sr. Sarah Garcia (Switzerland), Sr. Brygida Zurawska (Poland), Sr. Hermine Müller (Austria) and Sr. Cristina Camia (Italy).



Sister Brygida Zurawska (Poland) talking about the help provided by the Don Bosco Sisters in Ukraine



Longtime project partner Father Noel Maddhichetty (India) presented director Heiserer with a gift.



where it is needed. "When I heard that war had broken out in Ukraine my heart began thudding in my chest," Sister Brygida Zurawska told the audience during her moving address. Together with other Don Bosco Sisters, Sister Zurawska spontaneously opened the doors of her institution in Poland to refugees. In addition, they enlisted the help of volunteers and managed to bake an amazing 1,200 rolls and loaves of bread overnight. These were then handed out to hungry children and their families at the Ukrainian border in the early morning. "The people in Ukraine are grateful; they know they're not alone," said Sister Zurawska. "Thank you to Jugend Eine Welt and the people who support it for all the important aid that reaches those who need it!" Sister Ena Veralís Bolaños, head of the Don Bosco Sisters worldwide, also showed how much this support means to her.

"The General Council of the Don Bosco Sisters is very grateful for the work done and the support given by Jugend Eine Welt for our projects around the world which consists not only of concrete project support but also of the possibility to receive prompt humanitarian aid, as in Ukraine at present."

We still have much to do!

"The motivation to fight for the rights of children and young people all over the world, rescue them from potentially harmful situations, accompany their progress, and give them a home and the chance to go to school or learn a trade has been shared by every member of our team ever since our organisation was founded," reflects Heiserer, and adds, "But we still have much to do! Every donation is a mandate to take action where it's needed and ensure that the changes occur that will lead to 'ONE WORLD'."



TIP: **Jugend Eine Welt interviews:** To mark the anniversary celebrations, director Reinhard Heiserer interviewed the Jugend Eine Welt project partners. These conversations provide insights into the various educational and social projects supported by the aid organisation from people who are actively involved in them, and also into the current situation and challenges facing young people in countries such as Ecuador, India and Sierra Leone. To watch these video interviews and find further details and photos of "25 years of Jugend Eine Welt", go here: www.jugendeinewelt.at/25jahre

IN TIMES OF CRISIS YOUR

Jugend Eine Welt's partners on the ground provide fast and

In a crisis and when disasters strike, those affected need help that is fast and unbureaucratic. Jugend Eine Welt has set up a fund to provide precisely this kind of emergency aid. In 2022 it was especially the people of Ukraine, Ethiopia and Afghanistan who needed aid from this emergency relief fund.

Ukraine: Helping those worst affected by the war



Months after war broke out in Ukraine the situation remains fraught and poses many dangers for the population. According to UNHCR, approximately one third of the roughly 40 million people in Ukraine has been forced to flee the country since the war of aggression began on 24 February 2022. Almost seven million have left their homes to seek refuge in other parts of the country. A further seven million or so are currently living in other European countries. As a result, a major concern for Jugend Eine Welt in recent months has been providing emergency relief for refugees in Ukraine itself and in its neighbouring countries Slovakia, Poland, Romania and Moldova.

The aid organisation arranged regular shipments of food and medical supplies to Ukrainian aid institutions and facilities that included children's hospitals in Odessa. A large number of displaced persons continues to be provided with the essentials. Apart from accommodation, food, toiletries and psychological support the Jugend Eine Welt project partners also arrange language courses, help with filling in documents and support for women looking for work in their new environment. Leisure activities such as workshops and games are regularly organised for children and young people to take their minds off their troubles for a while. Several summer camps offered the chance to forget everyday cares, have fun and mix with people of the same age. Since the school year started in the autumn, many of the children and young people who have fled Ukraine have been continuing with their lessons in their homeland thanks to distance learning opportunities offered on the project partners' premises. In this way they still have access to lessons in their mother tongue and do not miss a school year.

More background information on Jugend Eine Welt's help for Ukraine is available here: www.jugendeinewelt.at/ukrainehilfe



Great solidarity with the people in Ukraine: The outbreak of the armed conflict early in 2022 was followed by months of great solidarity. The "Kinderbücher verbinden" charity campaign serves as a representative example of the efforts undertaken by all our donors, supporters, companies, endowments, public funding agencies, the Austrian Development Agency and network partners. In this campaign, six Austrian publishers of books for children and young people, their authors and artists put together special thank-you packages relating to children's literature as a way of helping children affected by the war in Ukraine. The packages could be bought in return for a donation and consisted of valuable original illustrations, signed books, events and other special activities. They proved hugely popular, and 100% of the proceeds was used for the emergency aid provided by Jugend Eine Welt, meaning that it went straight to the project partners who are helping in Ukraine and its neighbouring countries. Director Reinhard Heiserer says, "Jugend Eine Welt says a heartfelt THANK YOU," and adds, "Thanks to your support we were able to help those worst hit by the misery of war!"



DONATION SAVES LIVES!

efficient help in the event of disasters and emergencies.



Ethiopia: Bread to combat the worst of the hunger

The civil war that has been raging for two years in the Tigray region of Ethiopia has triggered a severe humanitarian crisis. The people are starving and most of the children are so undernourished that their lives are in danger! To offer relief to the people in their plight and to ensure their survival, Jugend Eine Welt is supporting its longtime project partners by supplying flour. These regular shipments enable the Don Bosco partners in the region to bake bread again, at least for a few days, and feed the countless needy people. Because the war and the ongoing drought have made flour prohibitively expensive and caused a food shortage at the local markets.



Cause for celebration: EKFS award for Sr. Rita Schiffer: The 2022 Else Kröner-Fresenius award for development cooperation in medicine went to Dr. Rita Schiffer of the Medical Mission Sisters. The gynaecologist is medical director at the Attat Hospital in Ethiopia. The award was presented to her for the project "Sustainable surgical care in Attat". It is one of the most important in the field of development cooperation in medicine. Together with the organisation Verein Freunde Anna Dengel, Jugend Eine Welt has been supporting Attat Hospital for many years. The hospital was founded in 1969 and is 200 kilometres southwest of the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa in the Gurage Zone, one of country's poorest regions. It is an important facility for the people living in rural Ethiopia. On average, 370 people find their way to the outpatients' department every day. The main reasons are problems connected to pregnancy and childbirth, infections, malaria and acute health issues that require urgent surgery.



Afghanistan: Water and education in times of great need

In Afghanistan, the effects of a gigantic climate crisis are already apparent! The country is experiencing extreme weather events such as drought and torrential rain with ever greater frequency. The Daikundi Irrigation Initiative, which receives support from Jugend Eine Welt and was founded by one of the aid organisation's former volunteers, is constructing irrigation systems and so giving fresh hope to many people in the region. With these systems, families can continue to extract yields sufficient to live on from their smallholdings, even in times of drought.



Currently, female teachers in Afghanistan are only allowed to teach literacy classes. That means most of them are prohibited from teaching their real subjects such as English or chemistry. These women are also no longer being paid. But fear of punishments does not prevent these courageous teachers from continuing to teach girls and young women in their own homes. Without their efforts, girls would have virtually no chance of an education once they finished elementary school. In cooperation with Jugend Eine Welt, the cultural association AKIS supports these women teachers and regularly distributes food parcels containing rice, oil, beans, flour, sugar and tea. In addition, the women also receive a small monthly sum of money to help them organise medical care or warm blankets or clothes.

Donate now to help Jugend Eine Welt provide emergency aid!





When Everyone Ate Their Fill – Don Bosco’s Chestnut Miracle



“The year of 1849 was distressing and unsuccessful and required enormous efforts and sacrifices,”

wrote Don Bosco in his memoirs. During the last weeks of that year, reports the chronicle, many people had to tighten their belts. All of Turin was going hungry. And it was precisely then that a miracle happened. Giuseppe Buzzetti and Carlo Tomatis, who were among the first boys at the oratory, confirmed it with their signatures. What had happened?

On All Souls’ Day, 2 November, Don Bosco had gone with the boys from the oratory to the cemetery. He had promised them chestnuts when they returned. He had arranged for three sacks to be bought. His mother, who was affectionately known as Mama Margareta, had

unfortunately misunderstood and only roasted a couple of kilos.

Giuseppe Buzzetti came home a little before the others and was taken aback: “Don Bosco will be very sorry about that. I must tell him at once.” But amid the hubbub and the many jostling youngsters he was unable to make it clear to Don Bosco. Don Bosco took the pot and began doling out chestnuts with a ladle. Giuseppe called out, “Not so much, there isn’t enough for everyone!” “But there are three more sacks in the kitchen,” replied Don Bosco. “No, there’s only this one!” Giuseppe tried to explain while the boys queued up. “But I promised that everyone would have some. Let’s keep on serving as long as we have something.” Don Bosco gave a large portion to each boy. Now

only a few chestnuts remained in the pot. And the queue seemed to be getting longer and longer. Now the other boys were starting to notice as well. Suddenly everyone went quiet. Hundreds of boys’ eyes stared into the pot that never ran out. There were enough chestnuts for everyone. Even Don Bosco received a portion.

This story has a wonderful, timeless message: if we share, everyone will get something. If we show solidarity it is better for everyone. This is the lifestyle pursued by the Salesians and the Don Bosco Sisters who are there for young people in over 130 countries following the example of their order’s founder.

After: Teresio Bosco, Don Bosco. The Saint of the Youth Editrice Velar, 2000.



Don Bosco (1815 – 1888)
the pioneer of social work and young persons’ saint

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is the patron saint of Jugend Eine Welt. His devotion to children and young people is the example we aim to follow. He set up several workshops so that street children in 19th-century Turin could obtain a good education. The dedicated priest also negotiated the first indentures for one of the youngsters in his charge. Today, Don Bosco projects in over 130 countries worldwide provide young people with solid vocational training. That gives them the chance of a better life.

JUGEND EINE WELT ONLINE

Gifts with a Future: From the Jugend Eine Welt Online Shop

Fine wines from the Cremisan Valley, handicrafts from our project countries or aid packages for children in our education and social projects around the world – with every purchase at our shop you support disadvantaged children and young people all over the world. Shop now at the Jugend Eine Welt online shop and do good: www.jugendeinewelt.at/shop



JUGEND EINE WELT INFO

Jugend Eine Welt Brochures: For our ONE World

- 1 Find out how Jugend Eine Welt has been working for children and young people at risk for 25 years in the brochure „Genau JETZT Kindern helfen“.
- 2 A voluntary assignment abroad or work as an unpaid volunteer here in Austria to promote ONE world with greater justice. All the possible ways of doing voluntary work are described in the brochure „Freiwilligenarbeit“.
- 3 With your help we can provide practical support to young people at risk. Read about the concrete forms of support in the brochure „Hilfsbereitschaft kennt viele Wege“.
- 4 Descriptions and examples of the alternative forms of funding offered by Jugend Eine Welt are available in the brochure „Faires Geld“.

If you are interested, we would be happy to send you the desired brochure or all four by post and free of charge. Email to info@jugendeinewelt.at or phone us on +43 1 879 07.



MANY WAYS TO HELP

Apart from your highly appreciated donation there are also other ways of helping so that we can secure a better future for children at risk.



YOUR INTEREST-FREE LOAN

makes straightforward help possible all over the world

Interest-free loans are an effective form of support. For example, the funds are used to provide help quickly in emergencies. These can include devastating natural disasters and famine. A loan also enables Jugend Eine Welt to carry out large-scale development cooperation projects. The capital loaned allows us to provide advances or bridge financing for the projects. We ask you to place your faith in us. We would be happy to send you more detailed information material or make time to advise you in person.

More details:

darlehen@jugendeinewelt.at, Tel. +43 1 879 07 07 - 43

WITH YOUR WILL AND BEQUEST

you strengthen the foundations of Jugend Eine Welt!

The willingness to help shown by people who remember us in their wills continues to do good after they are gone. With your inheritance or bequest you yourself decree how your money should be used to help people in distress after your passing. Jugend Eine Welt is a member of Vergissmeinnicht, the initiative for good will(s). To ensure that your estate is administered precisely according to your wishes, we recommend that you take legal advice to clarify all the details. Do not hesitate to contact us for a consultation.

Our service is discreet and does not place you under any obligation.

legat@jugendeinewelt.at, Tel. +43 1 879 07 07 - 39



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**JUGEND
EINE
WELT**

EMERGENCY AID FOR UKRAINE

Even though the war of aggression began almost a year ago, millions of children and their families need our urgent assistance! Our Don Bosco partners in Ukraine and its neighbouring countries are supporting those seeking refuge with all the means at their disposal. But winter is not over yet, and your help is vital.

Please help now!

**Donate online at www.jugendeinewelt.at/spenden
or use the account for donations: AT66 3600 0000 0002 4000**

Jugend Eine Welt, Münchreiterstraße 31, 1130 Wien
spenden@jugendeinewelt.at, +43 1 879 07 07 - 0
Danke für Ihre Hilfe! Ihre Spende ist steuerlich absetzbar.

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