



# Giovanni



The Magazine from  JUGEND EINE WELT



**End Child Labour, Start School**  
Only education can give children and young people around the world a future free of exploitation.

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## Dear Readers,

*In 1991* – exactly 30 years ago – I arrived in Ecuador to work for over four years as a development aid worker on a successful scheme for street children in Quito. My job was to train former child labourers as electricians. The centre also ran courses in carpentry and mechanics for young people. A second centre nearby looked after girls who had been victims of exploitation. It was extremely interesting work with young people who still recognised me years later when our paths happened to cross on the street in Quito. Today, many of them have jobs that enable them to support themselves and their children. I'm glad that they succeeded in making the move off the streets into a normal life!

In my free time I found it very interesting to accompany social workers as they went about their work on the streets. I also spent a great deal of time in reception centres for working children and street children where they could also do sports and play games. But first they all came to our shelter: anxious, in poor health or lonely and accompanied by the social workers who had found them. Not all came, of course, only those who did so of their own free will. These children could then take a shower, have something to eat and sleep in safety. In the days and weeks that followed, solicitous social workers and teachers looked after them, listened to their stories and tried to find solutions to the young child labourers' problems.

I got to know children who, in this bustling city 2,400 metres above sea level, had to fend for themselves, working long hours every day in appalling conditions and suffering great deprivation. They were always exposed to great dangers from outside: the traffic, violent police officers, dangerous work and insufficient protective equipment. But they were also at risk from rival gangs of youths or drug dealers on the lookout for young couriers. Surrounded by the blare of car horns and stinking exhaust fumes, the children sold sweets or roses on street corners, cleaned dirty shoes, carried heavy loads at markets, begged for money and food from tourists,

washed cars and buses, broke up large rocks by hand or earned money at railway stations as young prostitutes.

What I found particularly shocking was when the social workers and I found a group of teenagers up a stinking alleyway at midnight, all of them clearly under the influence of narcotics and alcohol. I couldn't believe it; they had a small child with them, barely 7 years old, who, supplied with "the necessary" by the older youths, was always taken along to break into houses protected by bars! The child was small enough to slip through any bars or gates and, of course, to get out again with the loot. At the time I found the experience shocking. I couldn't understand how any society could allow such a thing.

Today I know that the exploitation of children can be far worse and far more brutal. It can take place in the confines of mines, on unprotected building sites, in hidden factories or in the course of work with hazardous chemicals. Our wealth and our refusal to acknowledge exploitation and child labour are partly to blame for this. Despite all the hardship I have also seen how children can be made to shine like precious stones when they are picked up off the street and held up to the light, just as Don Bosco, the patron saint of young people, advocates.

Let us all be active among those who do not tolerate child labour, but fight against it, and let us, by making a conscious decision not to buy any products made with the help of child labour, by spreading the word about child labour and by donating to projects that promote children's rights, make a meaningful contribution towards a fairer society that cries out in condemnation of injustice and protects children! **Thank you for standing beside us!**

  
Reinhard Kirner



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Education  
overcomes poverty!

# Child Labour, a Vicious Circle

They toil on cotton fields, in quarries, in factories or as poorly paid home helps: the International Labour Organisation (ILO) estimates that around 160 million girls and boys worldwide are engaged in child labour. Approximately 79 million of them work in areas which expose them to especially hazardous conditions or exploitation. Child labour is both a symptom and a cause of a vicious circle because most working children cannot go to school, others drop out or only manage to finish elementary school. The majority of working children can only dream of receiving good vocational training. These children's chances of earning a living wage as adults are consequently small. To be able to support their families they often depend on their own children working, and so the vicious circle continues.





## WHAT IS CHILD LABOUR? AND ARE CHILDREN ACTUALLY ALLOWED TO WORK?

They toil on cotton fields, in factories, in quarries or as poorly paid home helps. Worldwide, millions of children are robbed of their childhood.

**When the UN General Assembly** declared the year 2021 International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour no one could have known that a global pandemic – caused by the COVID-19 virus – would overshadow all other topics this year. The year was supposed to be dedicated to making progress towards eliminating child labour all over the world. But the effects of the pandemic are currently only forcing even more children and young people into detrimental work situations. These children have to work in dangerous conditions or conditions in which they are exploited in order to contribute to their family's income which is either extremely meagre or completely non-existent. For most working boys and girls, going to school is out of the questions.

### Definitions of child labour

The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child defines child labour as any activity undertaken by persons aged

under 18 that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development (Article 32).

The ILO uses two different terms to describe the situation of working children: "child work" and "child labour". "Child work" is work that children are permitted to perform such as small household chores, assisting with other small jobs to earn some pocket money or helping in the family business to learn important skills. Of course, this also applies to all apprenticeships. "Child labour", on the other hand, is prohibited work done by children such as any activity that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children and deprives them of the opportunity to attend school. The combination of school attendance and long and hard work is also prohibited.



**The most extreme forms of child labour are slavery or working conditions that exploit the child; trafficking in children and forced recruitment as child soldiers; child prostitution and child pornography; and criminal activities such as cultivating and dealing in drugs.**

### Numbers and distribution

According to the International Labour Organisation's latest estimates, 160 million girls and boys are child labourers. This means that they are forced to work in conditions that are in flagrant contravention of their rights. 79 million of these child labourers are exposed to working conditions that are particularly dangerous or exploit them. The number of very young working children, those aged 5 to 11, has increased significantly, with the result that this age group now accounts for just over half of all children affected by child labour worldwide.

Child labour occurs on every continent. Equally, working children are found in practically every sector of trade and industry. According to the International Labour Organisation's most recent estimates, Sub-Saharan Africa is the region of the world with the highest number of child labourers, an estimated 87 million girls and boys. Then come Asia and the Pacific with 48.7 million working children, and North and South America with 8.2 million. Furthermore, child labour is generally seen to be widespread in crisis-hit regions.



### The causes - a vicious circle

The causes of child labour are manifold, with poverty being the most common. In order to survive, children must contribute to their family's meagre income. Many children are forced to take responsibility for themselves and their siblings because their parents are unemployed, dead or sick. Others run away from domestic violence and try to fend for themselves. Child labour often occurs when families are uprooted by war, migration or environmental disasters or when educational institutions are destroyed, inaccessible or unaffordable. Another cause of child labour is discrimination. Unfortunately, many societies still value boys more highly than their sisters. Girls are taken out of school earlier, made to work from a young age or are forced to marry when still very young.

It should not be forgotten that child labour is a lucrative business for many people, especially employers who pay children and adolescents low wages and employ them without a contract. And then there are other inhumane reasons why children are sought after as workers: They are often easier to manipulate than adults and – because child labour is prohibited – generally defenceless in the face of violence and exploitation.



Carrying loads, making bricks or tending cattle in India, or working in the mines of the Congo – millions of children are forced to work in conditions that violate their rights. Going to school mostly stays nothing but an impossible dream for them!



# MAJOR SETBACK IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

The COVID-19 pandemic is undoing all the progress that was made.



**Over the last two decades** the fight against child labour has unquestionably made progress, with some regional differences. But according to the latest report from the International Labour Organisation and UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund, the number of child labourers has risen to 160 million – that's an increase of 8.4 million! The report warns that by the end of 2022, an additional 9 million children worldwide could be forced into child labour as a result of

the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. One simulation model even shows that the number of additional working children could rise to as many as 46 million if children at risk and their parents have no access to appropriate social protection such as health care, provisions for old age and unemployment benefits. Job loss and unemployment plunge many families into poverty, which in turn makes it necessary for children to contribute to the family income to ensure their relatives' survival.

### Schools close – children often never return

As a result of repeated school closures, school meals have stopped and pupils, especially in countries of the South, have had to organise their daily meals themselves. The situation is exacerbated by the frequent lack of the equipment needed for distance learning or online lessons. Many children have dropped out of school because their parents can no longer afford the school fees. The consequence of all this is that children literally end up on the streets and are forced to take on any job they can to keep their heads above water. This is often the start of the vicious circle of child

labour described above, because even after the COVID-19 pandemic has ended or been brought under control as far as possible, it is likely that many of these children will be unable to return to school. "The new estimates are a wake-up call," says Guy Ryder, director general of the International Labour Organisation. "We cannot stand by while a new generation of children is put at risk," said ILO Director-General Guy Ryder. "Inclusive social protection allows families to keep their children in school even in the face of economic hardship. Increased investment in rural development and decent work in agriculture is essential. We are at a pivotal moment and much depends on how we respond."



School in times of COVID. The number of children whose education was interrupted by the COVID-19 crisis and who can return to school once the pandemic has been contained is very small.



Main photo: Shoe-cleaning on Stephansplatz, Vienna (Jan. 2020). With campaigns like this, Jugend Eine Welt regularly highlights the plight of working children. Inset: Photo for this year's online campaign "Hands up against child labour" run by the action group "Stop Child Labour".

## Background

### Statement by Jugend Eine Welt partner Father Joy Nedumparambil SDB (India)

"According to a survey, over 32 million children in India did not go to school in 2018. Because of COVID we expect this figure to double by the end of this year! The further they fall behind, the smaller the chance that working children will return to the classroom. That also means that, as a rule, they remain unskilled workers and this is extremely detrimental to their future lives and the wages they can hope to earn. This is why BREADS organises additional education centres in many municipalities, lobbies for children through our children's rights clubs, and schools especially for former child labourers."

Father Joy Nedumparambil SDB is the director of BREADS (Bangalore Rural Educational Development Society), a Jugend Eine Welt partner organisation that coordinates over 40 projects for children and young people at risk in the southern states of India.

It is not just in the current International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour that Jugend Eine Welt works to uphold the rights of children all over the world.

## ACTIVELY FIGHTING CHILD LABOUR WITH EDUCATION AND INFORMATION

**To counter the problem of child labour** and its main causes, help in the respective locality is necessary. In the Don Bosco centres supported by Jugend Eine Welt, former child labourers find warmth and affection, can go to school again and take vocational training courses. Above all, all their needs are catered for so that they have the chance to lead an independent life without poverty. Access to education and the care and support given to the youngsters as they embark on a working life without exploitation give them all the chance to escape from the vicious circle of child labour. This is because the Jugend Eine Welt project partners know the local

conditions and structures that perpetuate exploitation of children. And it is sadly still necessary to create critical awareness among the general public of what harmful child labour actually is. Because here in Austria we are also confronted with the problem of child labour, albeit indirectly: in the form of numerous artefacts and products 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 draw the public's attention to the problem of the worldwide exploitation of children.

# STARTING A NEW LIFE WITHOUT EXPLOITATION

Education gives street children and child labourers in Sierra Leone a chance to shape their own futures.



**No fewer than 4,000 children** are compelled to sleep and work on the streets of Freetown. To survive, these street children take on any job that is offered to them. They lug heavy burdens or collect scrap metal. Unfortunately, prostitution is also common. Extreme poverty and the obligation to contribute to the family income draw many girls to Freetown, the capital. Once there they are exploited as prostitutes on the streets or in sleazy bars or clubs where they earn a pittance. Most of these children are undernourished, wounded and ill. They are often traumatised by the terrible things they have gone through.

## Problems at home force children onto the streets

Most of the children living on the streets do so because their families cannot provide sufficiently for them. Many have lost their parents to ebola or were thrown out of the family home because they survived the "witches' curse" of ebola. In many cases they run away from domestic violence or a work situation in which they are exploited. "The

street means violence, lawlessness, alcohol, drug abuse and sexual harassment," says Jorge Crisafulli. "The street is no place for a child." The dedicated Salesian priest is head of Don Bosco Fambul. He is known and liked by everyone in the slums of the capital city. In the evenings he and his social workers go into the deprived areas, talking to homeless children and offering them help. Often the team drives the centre's own "Don Bosco-mobile", a converted bus, through the city, handing out necessary medicines to sick chil-

## „The street is no place for a child!“

Father Jorge Crisafulli SDB

dren and picking up any who have nowhere to go. Jugend Eine Welt supports the Don Bosco Fambul centre for street children ("fambul" is Creole for "family"), the largest facility for street children in Freetown.

## Education helps long-term

The centre offers shelter, accommodation, meals, medical and psychological support, schooling

and vocational training. Games and sports are just as much part of the therapy as conflict resolution and personality development. With enormous affection and patience, the dedicated team restores the children's and adolescents' dignity to them and opens up future prospects for them by means of education. Apart from the centre for street children, the Don Bosco-mobile and a nationwide 24-hour emergency hotline, many other types of help are also offered. The young people who have managed to break out of the routine of life on the street can learn one of a number of trades. The training courses correspond to the needs of the capital city, Freetown, so that once they have completed their course the youngsters have good career prospects. As a result, the young people at Don Bosco Fambul all have the chance to lead an independent life free of exploitation.

# ONLY SLOWLY ARE ARMS DISAPPEARING FROM CHILDREN'S HANDS

It is estimated that worldwide as many as 250,000 girls and boys are still being misused as child soldiers. For all of them, the way back to a normal life is extremely difficult.

**"They were forced to watch** as men were hanged and women were raped; they had to kill people themselves so that the grown-ups had their loot." Listening to Brother Lothar Wagner recount the stories he has been told by former child soldiers, the feeling of sadness takes a long time to shake off. For two years, Wagner, a longtime Jugend Eine Welt project partner, set up two shelters and a rehabilitation centre for children who had been forcibly recruited by armed groups of rebels in civil-war-torn South Sudan.

"For these severely traumatised children, the way back to a more or less normal life is a long one," says Lothar Wagner. "His" children were used not only as fighters but also as couriers and spies, and often had to take on chores such as cooking and cleaning. Girls in particular were sexually violated or abused as the leaders' "brides". "Some children just sit under a tree all day, staring straight ahead; others don't say a word and cry incessantly; still others are aggressive and hyperactive," says Lothar Wagner as he describes his experiences at the rehabilitation centre. Among the countries where children are particularly at risk of being caught up in armed conflicts

are Afghanistan, Iraq, Syria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Nigeria, Somalia and Yemen.

## One of the most extreme forms of child labour is only slowly being eliminated

Recruiting and using children as government troops or soldiers in private armies is internationally recognised as one of six serious violations of the rights of the child. As part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) practically every country in the world has promised to put an end to the use of children as soldiers as one of the worst forms of child labour by 2025. A target that some countries are evidently approaching only very slowly. The latest report on "Children and Armed Conflicts" by UN special representative Virginia Gamba at least contains a few positive trends. In South Sudan, for example, where, according to UN estimates, thousands of children were still in the clutches of around 60 warring factions in 2019. Last year, a plan of action approved by the government for the prevention of all grave violations of children's rights was described as "remarkable progress". Similar plans are in place in other countries too, such as the neighbouring Central African Republic where

last year over 240 children were rescued from groups involved in the fighting. A law passed in the Republic in 2020 for the protection of children at long last makes recruitment of children a punishable offence.

## Jugend Eine Welt helps

The aid organisation has been supporting projects for the rehabilitation of child soldiers for many years now. One example is the children's shelter "Ciudad Don Bosco" in Medellín, Colombia. Following the peace agreement concluded in 2016 with the FARC, the largest guerilla group, all activities that harm or exploit children were supposed to cease. According to reports by project staff, however, a number of paramilitary organisations and groups involved in the drug trade are not complying with the terms of the agreement: "In a recent operation, government troops freed another 18 children." A total of 28 girls and 47 boys are currently being looked after at the Ciudad. Putting these traumatised children, many of whom were subjected to unspeakable suffering for years, back on the road to a life worth living requires many little steps and in most cases an enormous amount of time.

Jugend Eine Welt partner Lothar Wagner met many severely traumatised children and helped them find a way back to a normal life. At the "Ciudad Don Bosco" in Colombia a wide range of therapeutic approaches are taken to help young people overcome the suffering they have gone through.





# PROTECTION AND EDUCATION FOR VULNERABLE GIRLS IN INDIA

Forced marriages, child labour and abuse: the Deodurga shelter offers help for girls.

**A babble of excited voices** and a burst of laughter ring out across the yard. The boisterous, happy scene that greets visitors in the playground of the Don Bosco centre during the break immediately brings a smile to their faces. Yet the girls who play here without a care have already experienced dreadful things in their young lives: abuse, exploitation as child labourers or an impending forced marriage. "Although child labour is prohibited in India the number of child workers in the rural areas of southern India is enormous," says Jugend Eine Welt project partner Father Joy Nedumparambil. "Among the girls who live here are many who have to contribute to their family's income." In the southern Indian state of Karnataka there are many families in which the parents never learned to read and write and consequently have to try to make ends meet as day labourers. Because their meagre wages are not enough, the chil-

dren are also sent out to work instead of to school. But this lack of awareness of the importance of schooling has fatal consequences. Around 60 per cent of the women in this region are illiterate and

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 local authorities. The Don Bosco



therefore have little chance of a life without poverty. It is for this reason that the Jugend Eine Welt partners, who already run a mobile clinic and a school, have also founded a centre for former child labourers.

### Accommodation and schooling for former child labourers

Here the girls have a place to live, their daily needs are met, they are lovingly looked after and they receive remedial lessons to help

centre provides them with a safe learning environment where they receive comprehensive support and care. What is more, the years of effort expended by the Don Bosco centre in Deodurga are now having a clearly positive influence on the views of the local population with regard to equality of the sexes and the importance of education. As a result, Father Joy Nedumparambil hopes that all the girls in Karnataka will be able to go to school one day.



# A LIFE ON THE RUBBISH HEAP

Only schooling can help the garbage children of Guwahati start a better life.

**Mountains of rubbish, as far as the eye can see.** Hundreds of children live with their families on the biggest rubbish heap in Guwahati, a city in northeastern India. The stink is appalling – but the families are willing to put up with it. Because here they can always find articles such as plastic bottles and metal that have been thrown away without a second thought and can be sold. They depend on this meagre income every single day because, quite simply, it ensures their survival.

**Intolerable living conditions** They live in huts they make themselves out of plastic sheeting and wooden crates that offer no protection either from the rain or the scorching sun. What is more they are forced to share their makeshift homes with rats and other pests. There is no electricity, no sanitation and the lone water pump produces only contaminated water. Apart from extreme poverty the families also suffer from serious diseases. Barely a day goes by without the children cutting themselves on something. Treading on a rusty nail is a common occurrence. The toxic fumes rising from the garbage are a constant hazard and cause chronic coughs and skin irritation. Sores and diseases

such as dengue fever and malaria go untreated: medical care is something these families can only dream about. Virtually none of the children here goes to school.

### A better future for the little refuse collectors

To try to change this situation, the Jugend Eine Welt project partners target the parents, talking to them to make them aware of their children's needs and the importance of schooling. Only a high-quality education can give the children a chance of escaping from the vicious circle of poverty. At the Don Bosco centre the rescued garbage collectors are given clothing, clean water and one meal a day. They are looked after and can play (educational) games.



### Affluence at the expense of humanity and the planet – waste is a problem that concerns us all!

Despite the fact that various national and international laws have been passed in an effort to overcome the global rubbish problem, the illegal trade in refuse is still flourishing around the world. Experts are pushing for greater efforts in the investigation of illegal imports and exports as well as more severe punishments to finally put an end to this dangerous trade. It is not just the soil and water that are being poisoned by hazardous waste that ends up in the oceans in the form of plastic particles: children too are suffering from the knock-on effects of our affluent society. All over the world, rubbish tips often serve as the home and workplace of families and small children. Day in, day out they search among the items we simply throw away for anything that may prove useful, and pay for their will to survive with diseases of all kinds and a life expectancy that is generally short.





# Promote children's rights - prevent child labour!

In India, children's rights are brought to life in special human rights clubs.



**12-year-old Sundari** was distraught. She stood outside the door of the Don Bosco centre in the Indian state of Karnataka, tears streaming down her face. Gathering all her courage, Sundari had run away from home. She was to be married, after which she would live with a family of strangers and work for them like a slave. At the Don Bosco centre she found shelter and girls who shared her opposition to child marriages, a phenomenon which is sadly still widespread in India. To give children

a voice and the opportunity to defend their rights themselves, Father Ignatius, a longtime Jugend Eine Welt project partner, started so-called children's rights clubs. In schools and villages children get together, and not just to have fun. They fight for their rights and the rights of children in similar circumstances to Sundari.

**Joining forces for children's rights** "I've known Sundari for many years," says one girl who regularly attends the club meetings. "She was at our

lower secondary school." When she heard that Sundari was to marry an older man she brought her along to the club. Following a discussion, a plan was devised with the teachers. "We decided to visit the girl's family," she explains. "We were pretty nervous." The children courageously tried to persuade Sundari's parents that 18 was the minimum legal age for marriage. "We explained to them that marrying so young, and falling pregnant so early, were bad for their daughter's health." But the parents were unmoved. "My girl, my problem," retorted the father. "It is not your place to tell us what to do!" But the children from the club persisted. When they made it clear to the family that child marriages are punishable under Indian law their defence of children's rights was successful after all and the marriage was called off. Father Ignatius has been setting up human rights clubs, which are supported by Jugend Eine Welt, in 12 districts in southern India since 2013. By the end of 2020, clubs had been established at no fewer than 625 schools, giving a total of 28,000 children the possibility to learn more about their rights and to exercise them.

But how to reach those children who live in remote villages and whose difficult circumstances make this knowledge and protection all the more necessary? To solve this difficulty, Father Ignatius and Jugend Eine Welt also set up a network of trainers. Armed with educational material and videos made by the children's rights clubs themselves, they swarmed out into the villages to spread the word about human rights to the people. But the club members also learned to use media more effectively and to make the topic even more widely known to the public and increase awareness of human rights by means of campaigns and networking. By doing so,

this as no reason to be disheartened; on the contrary, they are looking forward to meeting up again to lobby for their rights together.

## Child-friendly cities

Implementing children's rights in an entire city is the aim of the projects carried out by the Don Bosco National Forum for Young at Risk (YaR) in India. On the basis of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, 84 institutions have set themselves the task of adopting a zero tolerance approach to violence, abuse and exploitation of children. The campaign started back in 1997 in Vijayawada. In cooperation with

Before the coronavirus pandemic broke out, only 150 child labourers still worked on the shop floor instead of going to school. What began in Vijayawada was extended to other towns only a year later. In every case it is important that children's voices are heard, that the focus is on them and that they have an active role to play. And on this project the children also take the initiative. They are accompanied by mentors, are trained in communication techniques and plan their next activities with the mentors. The project's vision is that in the "child-friendly cities" children receive support from all sides



Father Ignatius and the children's rights clubs are sowing seeds that are bearing fruit in Indian society. Even though the Jugend Eine Welt project partner knows that there is still a long way to go before the rights of every child in India are upheld. It is usually poverty and a lack of education that cause families to cling to traditions that are in fact prohibited and force children into work that exploits them. It is to be expected that the coronavirus pandemic and its effects, which are particularly devastating in India, will lead to setbacks. The number of forced marriages is rising, as is the number of child labourers. The children of the human rights clubs see

the municipal authorities, the Don Bosco initiative founded a forum for children's rights. From the outset, all the stakeholders were brought on board. "It must not be that only aid organisations are active here," explains Father Thomas Soshy SDB, who was in charge of the project. The police were therefore involved from the start, and the mayor and local politicians were reminded of their responsibilities. Thanks to this broad spectrum of support it proved possible to massively reduce instances of child labour. In 1997, it was estimated that 7,000 children under the age of 14 were forced to work in industry in Vijayawada.

- parents, teachers, aid organisations, business enterprises and the media - with asserting their rights. No one yet knows what long-term impact the Indian COVID tsunami will have on the child-friendly cities. To ensure the children's protection against the virus as they carry out their activities, Jugend Eine Welt continued to support the initiatives in India during the pandemic with numerous measures such as protective equipment and disinfectants. Fortunately, their grim life on the streets is now over! Sister Narciza and her colleagues help the children to find a way to start a better life.



The dedicated members of the Ecuador action group with Sister Narciza during her most recent visit to the parish of Christkindl in Upper Austria.



Gemeinsam ist alles gleich viel leichter! In der „Fundación Don Bosco“ finden die Kinder auch schnell neue Freunde.



Die engagierten Mitglieder des Arbeitskreises Ecuador mit Schwester Narziza anlässlich ihres letzten Besuchs in der Pfarre Christkindl in Oberösterreich.

# LIVING, LEARNING, PLAYING – STREET CHILDREN IN ECUADOR FIND A HOME

Street children, working children and neglected young people from impoverished families find help at the “Fundación Don Bosco” in Ambato.

**The “Fundación Don Bosco” founded in 1998** is one of the very first projects that Jugend Eine Welt supported. It offers disadvantaged children one warm meal a day, support with their education and worthwhile leisure activities. The “Don Bosco hostel” even serves as a temporary home, currently for 40 children. In addition, mobile teams regularly comb the streets of Ambato, a provincial capital south of Quito. They take care of the numerous working children there and invite them to the centre.

## Prevent child labour happening at all

Every day, around 200 children and young people from poor families are given a midday meal here. They receive learning support or English lessons. They can use the centre’s

computers and printers, which for most of the children is something very special. And of course there is plenty of time for fun and games during the afternoon programme of leisure activities.

“We try to make it clear to the children that their training is very important for their future and a life away from the streets,” says the centre’s director, Sister Narciza Pazmiño. “They should all be able to stand on their own two feet and lead successful lives one day. But it is important to us that the children also experience periods of carefree enjoyment because their living conditions are generally very depressing!” Sister Narciza has many brothers and sisters herself and has completed several university courses. Now she devotes her life to all those children

who would be excluded from education without outside assistance. Children like Maria, who is now ten. Until three years ago she was helping her mother, Carmen, to sell fruit. All day long, and in all weathers, she would stand at one of the busiest road junctions in Ambato. She had never been inside a school. But when Father Pepe, the co-founder of the “Fundación Don Bosco”, came across the family on one of his tours of the area, he invited Maria to come and visit him at the centre for street children. Since then she has been one of the hardest-working pupils and now only helps her mother to sell fruit at the weekends.

## A shelter for children in difficulty

Maria has a family she can go home to every evening, but for 40 children the centre’s “Don Bosco

hostel” serves as a temporary home. These girls and boys all come from broken homes where violence is the order of the day. “In the hostel they experience everything they are deprived of at home,” says Sister Narciza. “They can learn, play, eat together and take responsibility for themselves and others.” The children also receive psychological care and support. In the centre’s own workshops the adolescents among them have the chance to learn a trade. However, the hostel is only intended to be a temporary home: efforts are made to reintegrate the children in their families if possible. The children, and in some cases their parents too, continue to receive support after they have returned home.

## Practical support from Upper Austria

Sister Narciza, Father Pepe and “their” children can count themselves lucky to have particularly dedicated supporters in Austria: the Ecuador action group in the parish of Christkindl near Steyr in Upper Austria has been regularly providing financial assistance to the project since 2003. It all started when Johanna Neuhauser worked as a volunteer on the project for street children funded by Jugend Eine Welt. This was followed by

other periods of voluntary work undertaken by young Upper Austrians such as Irene Stütz. As Georg Neuhauser explains: “Back then it was an adventure for the whole family. When our daughter Johanna returned home, we founded our action group with 12 members including the Stütz family.” When it comes to raising funds the members display considerable creativity. Their fundraising activities have so far included a cake-baking campaign, a flea market and a raffle. A range of informative events constantly inspires new people to take an active interest in the project, including members of the Upper Austrian government, and the network of Ambato supporters continues to grow. Even in the difficult COVID year 2020, the sale of so-called “building blocks for the education of street children” raised a handsome sum in support of the project.

Georg Neuhauser has visited the aid project twice himself. He describes Sister Narciza as good-natured, down-to-earth and practical and recalls that she once took him to a renowned shaman because he had a headache. “What we do to support this project has shown us that people live in very different circumstances,” says Mr Neuhauser, who is very pleased

with the cooperation. “Our regular e-mails and visits to each other have led to friendly and personal relations with the people there.” The motivation to help remains undimmed even after 18 years. “In my view it is more important than ever to think globally today and to show solidarity with people who need our help,” says the former teacher. “We thank the Ecuador action group and the parish of Christkindl for their extraordinary efforts,” says Reinhard Heiserer, director of Jugend Eine Welt. Naturally delighted with this level of commitment, he continues: “Without this fantastic support our project partners could not help anywhere near so many children.” This assistance for the Don Bosco project in Ambato has become even more important and urgent in recent years because state institutions have almost completely stopped providing any support.

## Project sponsorship

If you would like to sponsor a project with a group of friends, get in touch with us by phone on +43 1 879 07 07 - 0 or e-mail to [spenden@jugendeinewelt.at](mailto:spenden@jugendeinewelt.at). Long-term project sponsorship and the regular support it ensures help our project partners enormously with planning their aid programmes.

## In the cocoa industry, exploitation of children was long considered normal

The FAIRTRADE seal of approval denotes products that have been produced under fair conditions in countries in the southern hemisphere. To support this important objective, Jugend Eine Welt decided to become a partner and supporter of FAIRTRADE Austria. One man who knows how child labour can be completely eliminated from business is Hartwig Kirner. He has been director of the organisation since 2007 and continues to work tirelessly every day to promote fair trade.



### Why are supporter organisations like Jugend Eine Welt so important for FAIRTRADE?

Jugend Eine Welt was one of our first partner organisations, which today number 23. What we have in common is that we help people in the southern hemisphere to help themselves. We also want to make structures fairer, because the distribution of wealth in this world is not God-given. It is particular structures that prevent people from attaining prosperity and keep them in poverty. The greater the number of organisations that join forces and work towards a fairer world, the more effective these efforts are.

### According to the International Labour Organisation, cocoa is produced in 7 countries using exploitation through child labour. Which countries does FAIRTRADE cocoa come from?

Traditionally, FAIRTRADE cocoa, which has been sold in our shops since 1996, comes from Latin America. Currently, approximately 15 per cent of the world's cocoa comes from that region where the majority is cultivated organically. Around five years ago we began awarding our seal of approval increasingly to cocoa from West Africa. With our seal of approval for individual ingredients we succeeded in attracting the interest of larger brands whose cocoa generally comes from sources that use conventional cultivation methods rather than organic ones. Our partner companies are now sourcing their cocoa from Ivory Coast and Ghana. What is interesting is that no less than 70 per cent of the total global cocoa harvest comes from these two countries.

### How does the integral FAIRTRADE concept work with regard to cocoa?

At FAIRTRADE there are minimum prices that must not be undercut irrespective of the world market price. In addition to this minimum price there is a contractually binding FAIRTRADE bonus. The farming families and plantation workers reach a consensus on which social,



FAIRTRADE managing director Hartwig Kirner

environment-protecting or economic projects the bonus is invested in and what targets these projects should achieve. The FAIRTRADE standards also include ecological criteria alongside the economic ones. For instance, use of particularly poisonous pesticides is prohibited. Another stipulation is that empty pesticide canisters must be destroyed because otherwise people tend to use them as water containers and consequently damage their health. The environmental standards also include promoting biodiversity and switching to organic farming methods. Checks are carried out along the entire supply chain to ensure that these standards are complied with. This makes it possible to keep track of the movements of both money and goods from their source to the finished product.

### At FAIRTRADE, exploitation through child labour is prohibited. You say that you focus primarily on prevention in this regard?

Child labour does not simply come out of thin air: it happens because parents do not earn enough to support their families and because awareness of child labour as a problem lessens when living conditions are so precarious. In the conventional cocoa industry in West Africa in particular it is still considered acceptable for children to work in the most arduous conditions. So awareness-raising is still necessary. The FAIRTRADE standards stipulate that exploitation through child labour is forbidden. It is extremely harmful because it prevents young people's education and development and pushes them into a situation that destroys any future prospects they may have had. That's why we explain to the children in the schools run by the cooperatives that working in such harsh conditions is not acceptable, and that they must not work with a machete, for example, because of the risk of serious injury. Simple pictograms are used to show the

children what is allowed and what is not. If, despite all these efforts, a child is found in such a predicament it is either sent home to its parents or taken in by an appropriate institution. Here, FAIRTRADE cooperates with other NGOs that work in the country in question and deal with topics relating to child protection.

### What do you think needs to be done to ban products and goods made by children completely from the shelves?

Appropriate and fair prices – along the entire supply chain, all the way to the source of the raw materials. With cocoa, for example, the farmers must quite simply be paid in a way that allows them to support their families with their income. But politicians are also called upon to create policies that ensure fair conditions for everyone. Voluntary measures for responsible commercial practices have, on their own, so far proved insufficient to combat the structural causes of exploitation through child labour. To make worldwide industry more sustainable, provide legal instruments for guaranteeing human rights and drive environmental protection forward a comprehensive legally binding basis is required.

### What motivates you to keep working for fair trade day in, day out?

When I travel to the countries of the Global South and see just how many dedicated people are doing their utmost to improve their living conditions and those of the people around them I'm always powerfully motivated! I'm thinking here of a small-scale organic farmer, for example, who was one of the first to try to make organic farming popular in Senegal. No easy task because the agricultural industry naturally has no interest in that. But these lighthouse projects send out a signal which is tremendously important for all those that come after – even if they only succeed in their own small and immediate context at first.

**i** In 1993, FAIRTRADE in Austria started selling coffee. Other products followed. Austria is currently among the world's top 5 FAIRTRADE countries worldwide. An interesting development is that in COVID year 2020 Austrian consumers looked for the FAIRTRADE seal of approval on products even more than before. Sales of FAIRTRADE products totalled an estimated EUR 390 million which represents an increase of 11 per cent. For many years, Jugend Eine Welt has itself been selling footballs that carry the FAIRTRADE logo. They can be bought from the Jugend Eine Welt online shop: [shop.jugendeinewelt.at](http://shop.jugendeinewelt.at)

# NO ONE WANTS PRODUCTS THAT INVOLVE CHILD LABOUR!

Apart from the important help provided on site, we can also do something about exploitation through child labour here at home. Often we have no idea of the suffering we perpetuate through the things we buy. Many products and articles that we use every day have been made with the involvement of children toiling in inhumane conditions.



According to a report by the US Department of Labor published in September 2020, particular caution with regard to child labour is advised for 155 products from 77 countries. The dispiriting list is headed by, of all things, a luxury commodity: gold. In 22 countries, children are involved in obtaining the precious metal. In second place are bricks, which involve child labour in 19 countries. Then come sugar cane (18 countries), coffee and tobacco (17 countries), cotton (15 countries), fish (11 countries), rice (9 countries) and cocoa (7 countries). Other goods often produced with the help of child labour include bananas, tea, textiles, shoes, jewellery, toys, rugs, fireworks and mined materials such as natural stone, coal and metals including cobalt which is used for smartphone batteries and electric vehicles. You've already heard all these products mentioned in connection with child labour? But did you know that hazelnuts are generally harvested with the aid of children too?



## HAZELNUTS

Three-quarters of all hazelnuts come from Turkey. According to the International Labour Organisation there were no fewer than 720,000 child labourers aged 5 to 17 in Turkey in 2019. One-third of these children worked in agriculture.



## GRAPES

Unfortunately, imported fruits such as grapes often have a connection with child labour too. In countries such as Argentina and Colombia it is not unusual for children to be involved in harvesting and processing seed and stone fruits. In Argentina, children are also used for harvesting and processing blueberries and strawberries.



## MICA

The dark secret surrounding the mineral mica, an ingredient often used in cosmetics, is also largely unknown. Mica provides the pearly sheen on the skin and nails, but is also found in several toothpastes and electronic products. It is mined and sorted chiefly in India and Madagascar by children working in conditions that exploit them. In Madagascar alone approximately 11,000 children aged 3 to 17 work in the mica mines.

aged 3 to 17 work in the mica mines. Appalling as these figures are, the trade is doing little to change them. It is therefore up to the consumers to ensure they have all the information they can get and, in cases of doubt, choose fair trade products. That is why Jugend Eine Welt is a supporter organisation of FAIRTRADE Austria. Every company that unequivocally refuses to allow exploitation through child labour at any stage of its supply chain, and every individual who considers children's rights and human rights when choosing what to buy makes an important contribution to tomorrow's world! A world where hopefully millions of girls and boys are no longer exploited by child labour that violates their rights.

## And what can YOU do?



### FAIR SHOPPING

**YOU** can keep fair production conditions in mind when buying food and everyday items! **TIP:** The Jugend Eine Welt shop stocks "one world" volleyballs and footballs, and other things as well, that are manufactured in fair conditions: [shop.jugendeinewelt.at/produkt-kategorie/baelle](http://shop.jugendeinewelt.at/produkt-kategorie/baelle)



### DONATIONS

**YOU** can make a donation in support of our worldwide projects for disadvantaged children and young people! There are many different ways of giving financial aid to our efforts to bring about a fair world. **TIP:** Go here to find numerous suggestions for "donating and helping": [www.jugendeinewelt.at/spenden-ist-helfen](http://www.jugendeinewelt.at/spenden-ist-helfen)



### PASS IT ON

**YOU** can organise your own workshops and presentations on child labour and tell your friends, family and acquaintances all about it! The Jugend Eine Welt education team would be happy to help by sending you resources.

**TIP 1:** Once a month during this Year for the Elimination of Child Labour we present a product that is chiefly made using exploitation through child labour. The project info sheets are all here for you to download: • [www.jugendeinewelt.at/produkte-kinderarbeit](http://www.jugendeinewelt.at/produkte-kinderarbeit)

**TIP 2:** Here's the link to our informative video on the Year for the Elimination of Child Labour. In only 3 minutes you discover many interesting facts about this global problem and can use the video as a lively audiovisual introduction to your talk: [www.jugendeinewelt.at/kinderarbeit](http://www.jugendeinewelt.at/kinderarbeit)



**Become an ambassador for observing children's rights all over the world! Every single person who informs others, thinks of children's rights and human rights when shopping and supports our projects for children's rights makes an important contribution to a fairer world!**

# GLOBAL EDUCATION ON CHILD LABOUR GOES DIGITAL

The **Jugend Eine Welt** education team promotes education on development policy in Austria. When the **coronavirus pandemic** brought our workshops at schools to a temporary halt, we quickly found other ways to continue our education activities on development policy and put global and structural injustice in the spotlight. This led to the creation of many **digital education resources** relating to the main topics of

(un)equal opportunities and child labour. The structures responsible for inequality in the world we live in become more apparent in times of crisis. The increasing poverty and lower family incomes caused by COVID-19 are causing a significant rise in child labour worldwide, and often we do not know what products child labour has been used for.

## Here's a little look at our new educational building blocks:

... Facts that we don't mind "forgetting" when a 3-euro T-shirt from the large fashion chain catches our eye..

The number of children engaged in child labour worldwide has risen to 160 million – that's an increase of 8.4 million children in the last four years

### QUESTIONS FOR CLASSROOM DISCUSSION:

- Wie How are poverty and child labour linked?
- What have our habits and our lifestyle got to do with child labour and what can we do to counter it?

### From: Globalisation building block – examples of a networked world

Our consumer lifestyle often supports exploitation through child labour without our realising. Take a look in your wardrobe.

### Task: What do you wear?

Choose three items of clothing and try to find out more about how they were made. Where were they made? Who made them? Can you find out more about the conditions these people work in? How valuable are these items of clothing to you?

These building blocks are suitable for both classroom lessons and distance learning. The questions are first discussed in small groups (in a video conference if need be) for about 15 minutes. The results are then presented to the whole group for reflection.

We are convinced that every single one of us can promote equal opportunities by acting as global political players!

**More resources and information on our education activities are available for free download at [www.jugendeinewelt.at/engagement/bildungsarbeit](http://www.jugendeinewelt.at/engagement/bildungsarbeit).**

If circumstances permit, the education teams are looking forward to getting back to their usual education activities in classrooms in the autumn and working with schools and other educational institutions again. What really makes our education work is the regular mutual exchange and learning as equal partners



## WAAKYE

A classic dish from Ghana that can be served with a huge range of sides.

**Preparation time:** 80 minutes

### Ingredients for 4 portions:

- 2 cups of rice
- ½ cup of kidney beans
- 1 onion
- 1 ginger
- 1 paprika
- 3 aubergines
- 1 tsp salt
- 3 tbsp tomato purée
- 2 – 4 fishes
- 2 stock cubes

### Method:

- 1 Wash the beans and boil for 30 minutes. Add the rice (to the same water) and add 4 more cups of water. Add salt and boil for another 30 minutes. Mix or crush ½ the onion, the ginger and the aubergines.
- 2 Sauce: cut ½ the onion into strips and chop the paprika. Fry briefly in oil, then add the mixed onion, ginger and aubergines. Bring to the boil and add the tomato purée. Add water to the sauce to stop it thickening too much. Add stock cubes and salt.
- 3 Remove fins and innards from the fish, salt and season with stock cubes. Fry the fish in a pan in hot oil. Instead of fish you can serve the dish with chicken, pasta, fried bananas or coleslaw.

Enjoy!



## Background

**When it was founded in 1997, Jugend Eine Welt also started a volunteers' programme. Since 2013, Jugend Eine Welt and the Salesians of Don Bosco in Austria have run the organisation "Volontariat bewegt" which sends volunteers abroad.**

**Exploitation through child labour** is still widespread on the **cocoa plantations** and in the **gold mines** of Ghana. But the country also has **much that is beautiful**. Bernhard Mayrhofer spent a year as a volunteer teacher at a Don Bosco school in Ghana, during which a cookery book was compiled. "In Ghana, cooking is an important job that often takes up a great deal of time. For me it wasn't always easy because many European ingredients were unavailable and many African ingredients were new to me. With the help of two cooks, Vida and Joice, and the latter's pupil Rita, I was able to learn and try out many new recipes during the year. I'd like to say a big thank-you to them for the time they took to cook with me and to go shopping at the market with me beforehand," says the former Jugend Eine Welt volunteer Bernhard Mayrhofer.



## “Jugend-Stil” for “ONE World”

Hannes Velik was the first staff member at Jugend Eine Welt. Today he is still helping to make our one world that bit better and to ensure that values such as mutual respect and appreciation are practised across national borders.

**Hannes, you've been with Jugend Eine Welt since the very beginning. “Each beginning bears a special magic”, as Hermann Hesse said. What constituted the magic of the beginning of Jugend Eine Welt? When you look back, what were the most important milestones for you at Jugend Eine Welt?**

Like the phases of a life, there was also a prenatal phase at Jugend Eine Welt, before its foundation in 1997, for which Reinhard Heiserer, volunteers and several others were responsible. Some of them are still on the board today. These roots are very important!

In 1998 I joined Jugend Eine Welt straight from a period spent as a development aid worker in Brazil and was able to enjoy the charm of the family-like structure as its first employee during the organisation's infancy.

Its growth was characterised by fast, professional, flexible, friendly and, of course, plentiful work which is reflected in the successes achieved in the various fields of activity. One thing I remember particularly is the conclusion of a skeleton agreement with the Foreign Ministry which developed so well that years later it led to our own general programme for voluntary work.

After nearly 25 years, Jugend Eine Welt has now grown up to become an organisation active in many fields that makes a large contribution to “ONE WORLD” with “JUGEND-Stil” the world over. Even though we still have much to do and learn.

**You are widely travelled and know almost the whole world. Is there a moment that you think back on with particular fondness?**

There are very many moments, especially encounters with people! A visit to our rural development pro-

gramme in eastern Nepal typifies the kind of thing we do. I was standing there with our project partners by the new Don Bosco school that was just being built between the water buffaloes' waterholes. We were trying to pinpoint the essence of our joint efforts. Sr. Smitha, who was looking after the cooperative of small farmers that had been set up there, summed it up perfectly for us: “What is important for the people is not only WHAT we do, but above all HOW we do it. Apart from funds, the most important factors in the success of a project are respect, attentiveness and trust including confidence in others' capabilities.

**Development needs the support, and particularly the financial support, of countries in the northern hemisphere. What role do foundations play in this?**

When I was still a young man in Brazil I had the desire to contribute to shaping our world. It was possible to do that directly there with groups of small farmers, basic Christian communities and inspirational representatives of the Catholic church. I imagine that many donors who wish to make a difference to the world, and ultimately improve it, with their donations feel the same way. Jugend Eine Welt is happy to help implement this desire to effect change, for example with the Jugend Eine Welt Stiftung of which I'm a board member.

**This year is International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour. What do you see as the principal starting points that also typify the work done by Jugend Eine Welt?**

Respect practised as an example to others, appreciation, empathy, attentiveness, human rights and especially children's rights, education, mutual support, partnerships and communication would, in my view, render child labour obsolete. Jugend Eine Welt helps to bring all that to life and fill the gaps until everyone has life, and has it abundantly.



## THE SCHOOL BUS AS THE COVID EMERGENCY AID BUS

Shortly before all travel was halted by the global coronavirus pandemic, Senior Expert Sonja Hanappi returned from India in January 2020 having gained a wealth of new experience.

**Sonja lives in the province of Burgenland and decided to go abroad as a Senior Expert to work as a volunteer on a project supported by Jugend Eine Welt for three months. In her case, the project was Don Bosco schools in the southern Indian state of Telangana. “In Austria I'm an elementary school teacher and also hold further education courses for teachers at compulsory school level at the teacher training college,” she explains.**

She was now able to contribute her skills and knowledge in India. Describing the work she did there, Hanappi says, “It was mainly developing and training learning strategies together that would promote the children's skills.” Lessons of this type took some getting used to for many of the children. Participatory exercises, work in small groups, educational games – but it wasn't long before the children were enthusiastically joining in.

**Child trafficking is widespread in India**

In her first week, Sonja also took part in a congress for social workers at the Don Bosco House in Hyderabad: “I was deeply saddened when I heard for the first time about the major problem that India has with child trafficking and how many children are forced to work in unthinkable conditions!”

One story in particular stuck in her mind for a long time: To save the rest of her family from certain starvation, one young mother was forced to sell her son to a gang of street criminals for the equivalent of 11 (!) euros. “Fortunately, a social worker was able to buy back the 6-month-old baby and place him in a project for street children where he is now in safety,” says Sonja Hanappi.

**A school bus delivers COVID emergency relief packages**

Sonja is still in touch with “her” teachers, receives e-mails and WhatsApp messages. She also knows that the people in India are not having an easy time of it owing to the effects of the COVID pandemic. Every day the dedicated teacher travelled in the school bus with dozens of Indian schoolchildren over dusty country roads. “A few weeks later, this very bus was no longer carrying laughing children but COVID emergency relief packages to the people in the surrounding villages,” she says.

The latest news from India causes her some concern. “Once you've got to know a country and its people you share in their lives,” she says. Sonja Hanappi would not have missed her spell working as a Senior Expert for the world.



You'd be interested in being a Senior Expert? Visit our website for everything you need to know about periods working abroad: [www.jugendeinewelt.at/seniorexpertsaustralia](http://www.jugendeinewelt.at/seniorexpertsaustralia)

# COVID Aid for our Projects



COVID meets poverty – join forces to help. That was the Jugend Eine Welt motto when the global coronavirus pandemic broke out over one year ago. What the situation required was fast and unbureaucratic help. Because in the countries where Jugend Eine Welt supports projects, COVID

hit those families who have barely enough to live on as it is. Thanks to the generous support of our donors, we have been able to provide no less than EUR 593,000 to our project partners in 24 countries as emergency COVID aid. For more details, visit [www.jugendeinewelt.at/corona](http://www.jugendeinewelt.at/corona)

## Extensive COVID relief programme India

The second wave of coronavirus hit the Indian subcontinent with its nearly 1.4 billion inhabitants far harder than the first. The number of cases skyrocketed and the health system was deluged from one day to the next. With the support of Jugend Eine Welt, Father Noel Maddhichetty organised a comprehensive and nationwide COVID relief programme in next to no time. The Jugend Eine Welt partners handed out parcels of food and sanitary products to people who are isolating and helped provide medical care in the form of oxygen, painkillers and antipyretics. In addition, they took children in at the Don Bosco centres whose parents were in hospital or had already died. It was also possible to recruit 100 volunteers who, having been trained by medical experts, were able to come to the assistance of the utterly overburdened hospital staff and help with patient care. This relief operation would have been entirely in keeping with the objectives pursued by Don Bosco who, during the cholera epidemic in Turin, gathered young people around him to help the sick.



## War and pandemic: Emergency relief for Syria Syria

Following 10 years of war, no fewer than 90 per cent of all Syrians are living in poverty and, according to US reports, 13 million of the country's 18 million inhabitants depend on humanitarian aid. In the kindergartens in Aleppo and Damascus that Jugend Eine Welt supports, needy children and their parents were provided with food parcels. The spread of the COVID-19 virus through the population was also felt in the hospital in Damascus, which also receives support from Jugend Eine Welt. Thanks to all the donations, the treatment of many destitute patients continued and it was possible to supply them with life-saving medicines. Once again, Sr. Anna Maria Scarzello also used the money to buy disinfectant, face masks and sterile surgical gloves as well as respirators for COVID patients.

## Relief campaign: "Our Daily Bread" Ecuador

Thanks to the "Our Daily Bread" relief campaign, 3,694 disadvantaged families were supplied with meal vouchers. The 60-euro vouchers for buying food at the supermarket were distributed once a month in person. When the beneficiaries came to collect their vouchers it was important to listen to what they had to say and to give them words of encouragement. Because of the current coronavirus crisis they are in serious difficulty. In addition, a large-scale food aid campaign was carried out for the numerous street children, and urgently required respirators were supplied to many hospitals.



**We thank all those who donated, and continue to donate, towards the worldwide fight against the virus and its effects.**

**Your contribution makes the difference! Account for donations:**

**AT66 3600 0000 0002 4000**

For more project updates, visit our website at: [www.jugendeinewelt.at/projektupdates](http://www.jugendeinewelt.at/projektupdates)

# Project visit in Ethiopia



Austria's foreign minister Alexander Schallenberg travelled to Ethiopia to see for himself the work being done by the Jugend Eine Welt projects there. Jugend Eine Welt went with him.

**At the end of the tour** refreshment was on hand in the form of a cup of good Ethiopian coffee. Served by participants in the catering course, it was a little thank-you to the distinguished visitors who had just inspected with great interest various stations on the sprawling grounds of the Bosco Children centre in Jomo, a district of Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa.

"This custom also shows appreciation for the work being done here in Ethiopia by our project partners, the Salesians of Don Bosco," said Jugend Eine Welt director Reinhard Heiserer, as he took the opportunity to thank the illustrious visitor, Austria's foreign minister Alexander Schallenberg. Schallenberg had travelled to Addis Ababa in early 2021 to discuss the bloody conflict in the Tigray region, the effects of the coronavirus crisis and other long-term aid programmes with Ethiopia's political leaders.

**"I'm extremely impressed by the opportunities offered here to young people to learn a trade."**

*Foreign Minister Schallenberg*

A flying visit to the Bosco Children centre, which has long been supported by Jugend Eine Welt, was also on the itinerary. The visit gave the minister the chance to gain an insight into the work being done for disadvantaged children and young people. Ethiopia has been a target country of the Austrian Development Agency (ADA)



Foreign Minister Schallenberg chats to solar engineering students



Foreign Minister Schallenberg (3rd from left) and Reinhard Heiserer during the coffee break after the tour

for nearly three decades. During this time Jugend Eine Welt has, in cooperation with the Austrian Foreign Ministry and ADA, played a major role in increasing the number and size of vocational training centres run by its Don Bosco project partners in Ethiopia. A major recent success has been the development and establishment of the centres' own training courses for solar engineers, activities that are funded by ADA. There are six of these "solar schools" in Ethiopia, one of which is the Bosco Children centre.

"We are very grateful for this successful and long-standing cooperation," said Father Hailemariam Medhin, SDB, the Salesian provincial in Ethiopia who had shown Foreign Minister Schallenberg around the centre along with Reinhard Heiserer. "I'm extremely impressed by the opportunities offered here to young people to

learn a trade," said the minister during the "coffee break" after the tour, which had gone on a lot longer than planned. Don Bosco Children was established several years ago as an addition to the older Mekanissa school and vocational training centre in the neighbouring district. The activities here focus particularly on the numerous children living on the streets of Addis Ababa who are forced to earn a living from casual labour under the most difficult of conditions.

Don Bosco Children provides them with social and emotional support. The technical school runs courses in fields such as solar engineering, metalwork, carpentry and joinery, tailoring and activities from the catering trade such as cookery and service.



# DOING GOOD POSTHUMOUSLY



Gertraud Nöbel lives in the province of Styria and has long been a supporter of Jugend Eine Welt. Time and again we are touched by the willingness to help of people like Mrs Nöbel who remember us in their wills. With their bequests they ensure that their help remains effective after their passing and gives young people the world over a chance of a better future.

**Mrs Nöbel, please tell us a bit about yourself and your life!**

I was born in 1944 in a small village in Germany called Eschmar as the youngest of six children. With regard to how my life unfolded I think it's important to say that I had the good fortune to hear fascinating stories about people of other cultures from a very early age. As a little girl I was spellbound by the stories told by a school friend of my mother's who had worked for many years as a church minister and development aid worker in Mozambique and often came to visit us. I went to the elementary school in Eschmar and afterwards to a commercial school where I also trained as a shorthand typist. After school I worked as a secretary and a pastoral assistant. I found working as an assistant in pastoral care for the disabled particularly rewarding. It was my job that ultimately brought me from Germany to the beautiful town of Mariazell where I still live.

**Our motto is "Education overcomes poverty". Is there a moment from your schooldays that you remember particularly well?**

One anecdote immediately springs to mind: it was coming up to Christmas and our teacher asked us what we wanted for Christmas. Other children wanted things like dolls, but what I wished for more than

anything was a simple pencil. You must remember that we first years only had a slate and the corresponding pencils, so a proper pencil was really something special to me! Our teacher found my humility very touching.

**Donations in wills and bequests help Jugend Eine Welt to continue the legacy of John Bosco, the patron saint of youth. Tell us a little about your personal interest in Don Bosco.**

I can't remember exactly when I first heard about the important work of this great teacher. What I do know is that I was still a child when I heard

Don Bosco's wonderful guiding principle, "Be cheerful, do good and let the sparrows chirp". I also found it very impressive at that time that John Bosco was able to captivate people with his ability to do little conjuring tricks and tightrope walking.

**What prompted you to leave a donation to Jugend Eine Welt in your will?**

It was without doubt my mother who aroused my interest in development assistance around the world from a very early age. Later on, my boss was head of the Office for Pastoral Care of the Disabled of the German episcopal conference



and at the same time chairman of the Ecumenical Pastoral Office for the Hearing-Impaired. Working with him enabled me to learn a lot about worldwide development assistance matters at international conferences. I found out a great deal about the concerns and problems of people in developing countries because Msgr. Wolfgang Römer also performed many international tasks as part of pastoral care for the blind which led, for example, to an invitation from a

missionary from Hong Kong to visit China. A fascinating experience that I wouldn't have missed for the world!

**Have you dedicated your bequest to Jugend Eine Welt to a specific project?**

Yes, I've decided to support the education and social projects for disadvantaged children in Nepal. I feel a close affinity for Nepal, even though I was never able to go there. The reason may be that

I had many pleasant encounters with people from Asia while I was still working.

**What is it that gives you personally pleasure in this world?**

I take special pleasure in being able to support the aims of Jugend Eine Welt, which are so important, through my financial contributions. The wise saying "Joy shared is joy doubled!" is my philosophy of life, so to speak. It simply makes me glad and happy!

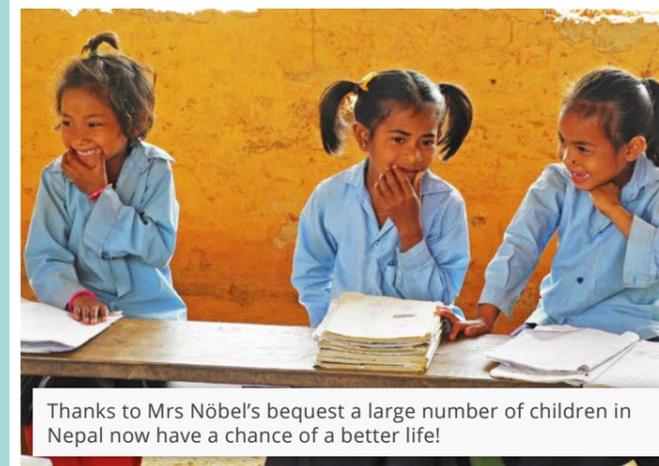


**The Bequest**

Donations in wills help Jugend Eine Welt to continue the legacy of John Bosco, the founder of a religious order, patron saint of youth, and pioneer of social work. He devoted his whole life to working tirelessly for children and young people who had no one else. He founded a society of love that still exists all over the world after more than 200 years.

A donation left in a will can be assigned to the types of social work supported by Jugend Eine Welt in general, a particular area of this work (street children, vocational training, emergency relief etc.) or a specific project. The portion of your bequest you have assigned will be used in complete accordance with your wishes.

In other words, you yourself stipulate that the part of your inheritance you leave to Jugend Eine Welt will continue to make a difference in the lives of young people. We are also grateful for non-dedicated donations which allow Jugend Eine Welt to use the funds where they are most urgently needed at any given time. Would you like to know more? Contact us by phone on +43 1 879 07 07-18, or by e-mail to: [legat@jugendeinewelt.at](mailto:legat@jugendeinewelt.at)



Thanks to Mrs Nöbel's bequest a large number of children in Nepal now have a chance of a better life!



## DON BOSCO – First indentures require masters to “treat their apprentices humanely”

The Turin that Don Bosco lived in was a thriving city. In the midst of the Industrial Revolution a new class of people emerged: the workers. Initially, this group had practically no rights at all. The most vulnerable members of it were children, some of whom were even cut off from their families. The conditions they had to work in were generally catastrophic. For example, one boy in Don Bosco’s group fell several metres from a scaffold and was left permanently disabled. He was later to become the first lay brother in the newly founded Salesian order.

Those street children who had the good fortune to be taken in at the first oratory in Valdocco had a powerful advocate in Don Bosco. He was not prepared to tolerate any injustice. The young priest was particularly energetic in his support of apprentices. As a child, he himself had done heavy work on a farm belonging to relatives. Later, as a working student, he was never averse to getting his hands dirty. Many boys did their apprenticeships somewhere in the city. Some of the masters were unscrupulous slave-drivers, volatile brutes and unfeeling bullies. At that time no laws limited working hours and there was no social

welfare legislation. Don Bosco made sure that the young people were regularly paid, treated humanely and learned some skills as well. To this effect he concluded written indentures, something very unusual for the time.

Some of these contracts have survived to the present day. A certain master glazier called Bertolli, for instance, undertook

“only to use words and no other means”, i.e. beatings or severe punishments, to correct his apprentice, and “not to give him tasks to perform unconnected to the trade”, such as going shopping for the master’s wife. Every apprentice was to be given two weeks’ annual leave, no work was to be done on Sundays, and wages and workload were to be appropriate to the apprentice’s capabilities and skills. All that was set down in writing and constituted sensational conditions for the 19th century. Starting in

1853, Don Bosco realised a long-cherished dream and set up training workshops for the youngsters in his charge. Behind this move was one major objective: to make young people good citizens and good Christians.



These delighted youngsters have just passed their final apprenticeship examination at the vocational training centre supported by Jugend Eine Welt in Colombia.



**Don Bosco (1815 - 1888)**  
apostle of the young and pioneer of social work

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.



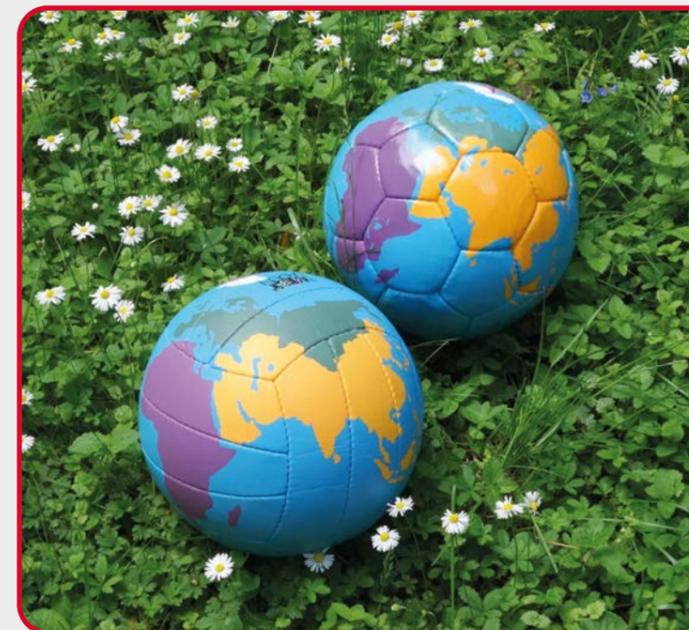
## JUGEND EINE WELT SHOP



[jugendeinewelt.at/shop](http://jugendeinewelt.at/shop)

### Jugend Eine Welt balls

Football has long since become big business – but not for everyone! The vast majority of all hand-sewn balls worldwide are manufactured in inhumane conditions. And while in some countries the sport makes a handful of people rich, footballs remain an impossibly expensive dream for many children. The ONE world football presented by Jugend Eine Welt, GEA, EZA Fairer Handel and the ninety Weltladen shops in Austria bears the FAIRTRADE seal of approval. The fair trade bonus guarantees the workers who sew the balls a decent wage and makes health care, social security benefits and a small-loan scheme possible. Stay on the ball – by showing commitment to a fairer world!



## JUGEND EINE WELT INFO



### Jugend Eine Welt and BAOBAB

**BAOBAB** is a library and a place of education and counselling. As an independent non-profit organisation, BAOBAB focuses on knowledge and education relating to global interdependencies, issues relating to social justice and sustainable development.

Since 2002, Jugend Eine Welt has been a partner organisation of BAOBAB and is also politically active in its efforts to raise the standing of development policy education and learning about global issues in Austria. “This is an area of great importance to us, and BAOBAB materially complements the work we do here,” says director Reinhard Heiserer.

### Film tip

“**Ridoy – Kinderarbeit für Fußballschuhe**” (“Ridoy - Child Labour for Football Boots”) is the story of a 12-year-old boy working in the leather industry in Bangladesh. This balanced portrayal reveals how closely linked and ambivalent the relationships are between environmental concerns, production, working conditions and children’s rights. “Ridoy” is suitable for children aged 8 and above. The package includes a wealth of illustrative material and specific ideas for education work in schools and outside it. Full details at [www.baobab.at/ridoy](http://www.baobab.at/ridoy)



**Our GIOVANNI is also online on our website:** [www.jugendeinewelt.at/giovanni](http://www.jugendeinewelt.at/giovanni)  
If you're interested, we'd be happy to send you several copies by post.  
Just send a brief e-mail to [info@jugendeinewelt.at](mailto:info@jugendeinewelt.at) or phone us on +43 1 879 07 07 - 0.



**JUGEND  
EINE  
WELT**

# THREE INNOVATIVE WAYS OF HELPING

There are many ways to provide help other than the classic donation. Every form of support helps children and young people at risk to escape from poverty and change their lives for the better. Change the world!



## **Your interest-free loan...**

...makes straightforward help possible. It allows us to react quickly in emergencies and in the case of disaster. And you remain flexible too: your loan can be repaid within a month at any time.



## **With your will and bequest...**

...you strengthen the foundations of Jugend Eine Welt and decide yourself how you wish to do good after the end of your life.



## **Your donation...**

...to the Jugend Eine Welt Not-for-profit Private Foundation funds social projects around the world. As a donor to this foundation you ensure that your help reaches a project for children and young people in need for a long time to come.

**Thank you for your financial support and voluntary work, whatever form they take.  
With your support, Jugend Eine Welt provides sustainable help for young people.**

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

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