

Report on the Activities of the Foundation Maria Theresa Scherer, Ingenbohl Year 2019

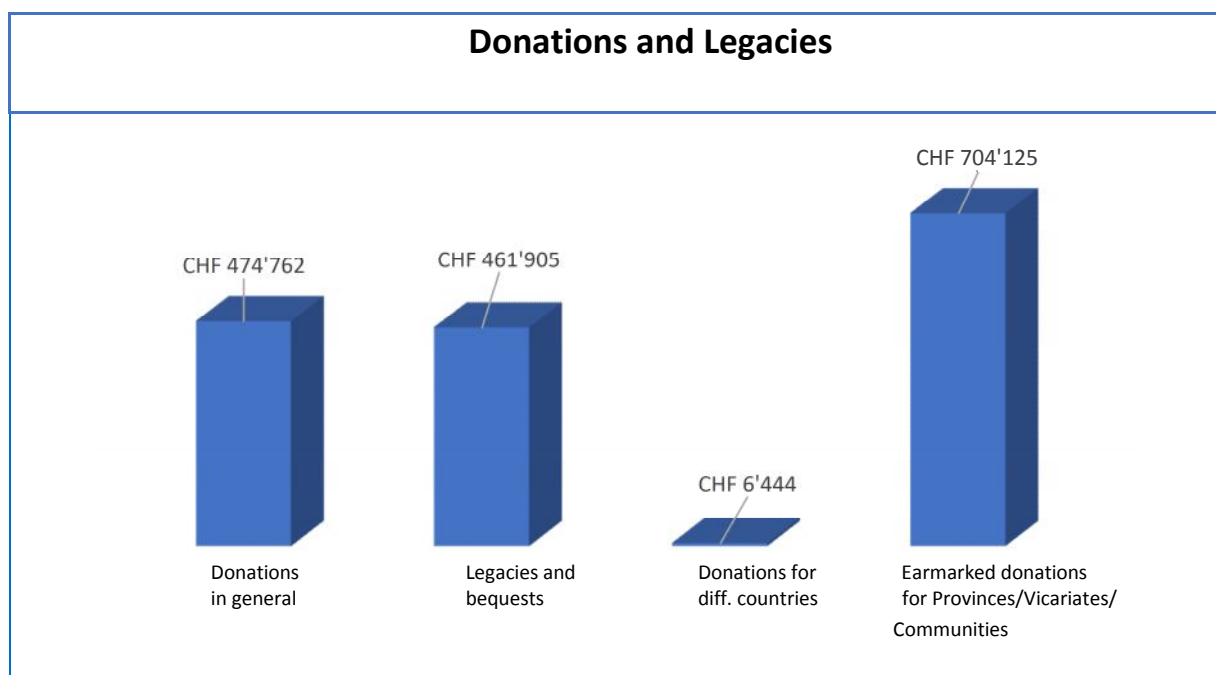
The Foundation Maria Theresa Scherer Ingenbohl, was established on March 7, 2013. It has its headquarters in Ingenbohl. In accordance with the way of life of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross, Ingenbohl - Brunnen, it aims at promoting, supporting and granting non-profit humanitarian aid, including emergency relief in ecclesial and secular tasks, nationally and internationally. The Foundation may grant such aid also to third parties, as well as to the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross.

Relief of all sorts of human need was and remains the special task of the Institute of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross. This requires us to be open for the needs of the time. Fr. Theodosius Florentini, our Founder, said: "I shall not rest as long as there is a poor child in the world."

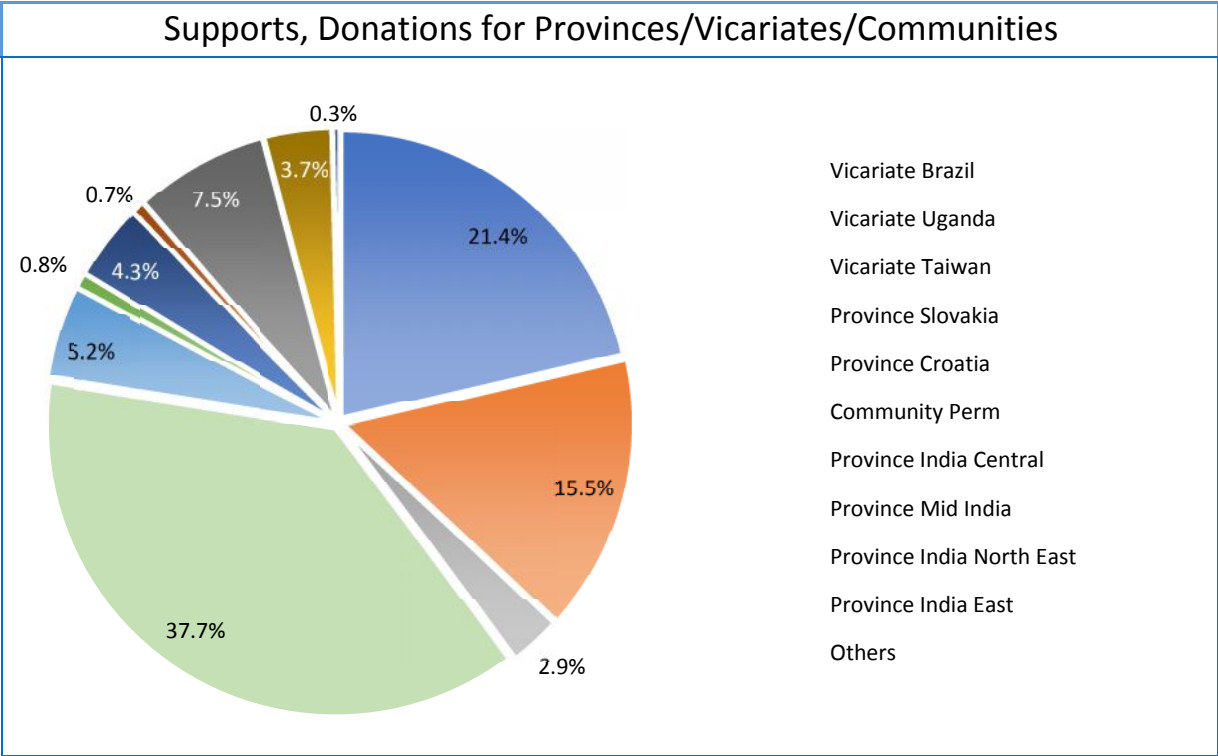
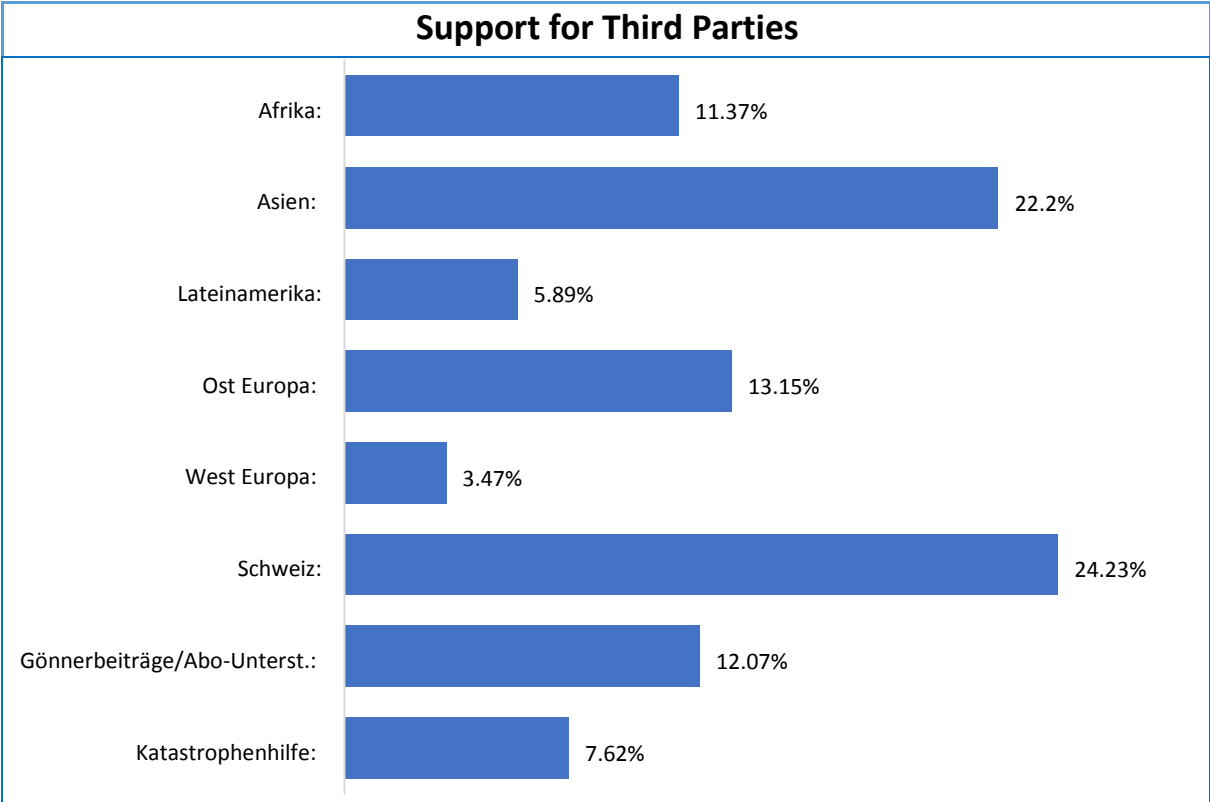
The highest authority of the Foundation is the Foundation Council. It is made up of eight members who operate on an honorary basis. In 2019, the Foundation Council met for two sessions. The Foundation Council discussed applications which were in excess of more than SFr. 5000.

The Executive Board is nominated by the Foundation Council; it consists of four members and carries out current transactions. In 2019, the Executive Board in seven sessions based on its statutes granted amounts for support of up to 5000. - sfrs. All the applications were previously examined through personal or written contacts with the applicants. The members of the Executive Board are assigned definite areas (provinces, vicariates, countries) to deal with. Applications beyond the competence of the Executive Board were presented to the Foundation Council.

The most important tasks of the Executive Board are the screening of, and dealing with applications, as well as the statements of accounts from the part of the applicants. These, moreover, stand in personal or written contact with the donors. The graph shows the survey on the allocation of the donations in the year 2019.



In the year 2019, 58 applications were dealt with, out of which 56 were granted; Asia: 21, Africa: 14, Latin America: 2, Eastern Europe: 10, Western Europe: 3, Natural disasters: 6. The graph next to this shows a survey.



1. Vicariate Uganda, Namugongo, Kampala, Uganda: Construction of the boarding school for girls in Kikyusa (No. 13_SK_UG_2019)



St. Kizito Primary School is a day, and boarding school in Kikyusa, Diocese of Kasana-Lu-weero in Uganda. As one of the good schools in this place with good educational facilities, the number of students in the school and boarding school is increasing year by year. Now the parents have come to know the value of education and want their children to be admitted to this school, and boarding.

On the one hand it is about security and on the other hand about good performance in studies. The parents are anxious to place their children in the responsible hands of the sisters, who are committed to a solid education and the teaching of Christian values.

Up to now the primary school pupils lived in the overcrowded boarding school of the secondary school girls. As the families wish to admit more children to the school, it is urgently necessary to create more capacities.



The sisters are sure that the parents will make their contribution to the effort. It is important and beneficial for the Kikyusa region when many young girls have access to a safe and quality education.

The monitoring, supervision and reporting on the progress of the project is done by Sr. Monica Auma, a teacher working there. She knows about the requirements for the construction of a boarding school and is able to supervise the construction work.

2. Gana Chetana Samai Hazarapur, Assam, India: Teaching - coaching for tribals in Assam, India (No. 38_EA_AS_2019)



The Gana Chetna Samaj (the awareness program for people) was founded in 1999 by the Jesuits of the Assam Mission. This organisation is committed to the empowerment and emancipation of women, children, young people and workers in tea plantations.

The aim of the project is to enable the tribal and other ethnic groups to live a just and dignified life in the society and to protect them from poverty and exclusion. For this purpose, this mission started to empower marginalized students through coaching. In this way they are enabled to pass the secondary school examination.



The project aims to enable at least 150 students in a year to pass the exams so that they can go to college.

In this way they can live their lives in society with dignity.

This project is carried out in four districts of Assam at five schools. The students attend the coaching for six months. The coaching courses are mainly focused on mathematics, natural sciences and Hindi.



3. Sisters of St. Ann, Don Bosco Nagar, Tenegana, India: Creation of a computer training program (No. 31_SK_AS_2019)



The target group of the project are young people from St. Ann's School, Macherla, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh. Through the project 900 young people receive qualified computer training in a good atmosphere. It is for poor and socially disadvantaged people. Their parents are small and marginal farmers, or simple agricultural workers with a very low daily wage.

There is a great need for trained and qualified personnel in the field of computer operation and at the same time a tremendous shortage of computer experts.

All those who can afford computer training have the best employment opportunities. However, they are beyond the reach of the poor. They can only dream of such jobs.

It is a program against the isolation, frustration, and helplessness, and it helps to live a dignified life:

- Increase in self-confidence and self-esteem, which has a positive effect on their values, attitudes and behaviour.
- Inspiration and encouragement and role model for others in society.
- Enhancement in quality of life through income for subsistence
- Recognition in society.



The computer course, including the knowledge of hard- and software are integrated into the normal school time.

Two full time instructors conduct the training. After completing the training course, an examination is conducted by an external examiner of the government department. The successful participants are awarded certificates for their computer training.

The group of teaching staff working on the implementation of the project is also responsible for the continuity of the course and for the sustainable operation of the computer centre. The responsible project group takes great care to ensure that the training centres are carefully maintained by the children and teachers.

A total number of ten computer systems with linked printers, scanners and copiers were purchased and installed in the school.

4. Sign of hope, Horst Peter Bühler, Schneckenburgst. 11, 784 67 Constance: Clean water for sick people in southern Sudan (No. 21_EA_AF_2019)



Oil extraction has been in progress in southern Sudan since 1999, with the consequences of massive water pollution. Waste from the extraction of oil seeps into the ground water. The consequences of groundwater pollution in the affected areas are dramatic. People and animals become chronically ill and die. It destroys the ecosystem and the ability of people to work and earn their living.

It is driving many people into starvation and into flight. In their desperation, thousands of them have fled from the affected regions to other regions of southern Sudan, to Uganda and as far as Europe. At the center of an effective and sustainable solution to the problem is "clean water" for the affected in the **"North and South Sudanese states"**.

This project involves the construction of eight pumping stations on site and thus clean drinking water. Water Management Committees are also being set up in the villages. These will be trained in such a way that in future they themselves will be able to carry out simple maintenance work on the pumping stations and on the solar power system.



In order to further improve the health situation of the population significantly, the people are being trained in hygiene rules. This training programme is called "WASH". It means "Water", "Sanitation" and "Hygiene". Important aspects include issues such as "washing hands", "washing dishes", "separating water to be used by people and animals."



5. Fondation Terre des hommes, Lausanne: Myanmar-Improving the health and nutrition of mothers and infants in HlaingThyar Township (No. 44_EA_AS_2019)



The project is based on close collaboration with the government.

The Terre des hommes has developed the model of integrated mother-child health specifically for the development and improvement of health systems in townships and poor rural areas and has tested it in several countries in Asia and Africa.

An estimated 40% of Yangon's population of 7 million are poor or extremely poor.

Terre des hommes informs the population by means of information events, sets up support groups for mothers and trains volunteer health workers who pay attention to health risks during home visits, teach them about appropriate child care and hygiene and at the same time refer vulnerable pregnant women, mothers and children to health centres and clinics.



This ensures that mothers and children receive the support they need directly from their families at home.



The main goal in Hlaing Thayar is to improve the health and nutrition of mothers, and children under the age of five, thereby reducing the rate of illness and death among mothers, and children under the age of five.

6. Caritas Switzerland, Lucerne: Urgent aid for cyclone victims in Mozambique (No. 16_JK_KF 2019)



There were hundreds of thousands of people who became homeless.

The natural disaster left a trail of destruction in southern Africa, caused by devastating storm tides and floods. In Mozambique alone, cyclone Idai probably killed more than 1000 people, travelling up to 230 kilometres per hour. According to eyewitness reports, every house in the worst affected port city of Beira, with 500,000 inhabitants, has been damaged, and many of them are so badly damaged that they are uninhabitable. No doors, no windows could

withstand the violent force of the water, sand and the stones.

Many of those affected were unable to get out of the buildings in time. For example, the collapsing roof of the hospital buried more than 160 people. Thousands of disaster victims sought shelter in undamaged public buildings such as churches, schools and community centres.

Entire villages have been wiped out. The communication network collapsed and information about the destruction reached the authorities very slowly. The cyclone has left death and destruction behind.

At present, the women, men and children affected are in need of drinking water, food and temporary shelter. The emergency aid workers were also extremely troubled by the fact that there were many corpses on the surface of the water, which increased the risk of epidemics. Caritas and its local partners distributed food and medicine. Protection against malaria and cholera was a major concern. According to current estimates by experts, demand will remain high and reconstruction in Beira alone will take several years. The Swiss Caritas provided an emergency contribution of SFr. 500,000 and together with the local Caritas and partner organisations of the international Caritas network, immediately initiated specific emergency relief measures.

7. Association ACT212, Berne: Urgent need to increase the number of reporting personnel dealing with trafficking, in particular, "Loveboy- cases" (No. 14_JK_WE_2019)



Association (founded in December 2014) wants:

- to be able to identify more victims of human trafficking and sexual exploitation;
- ensure full protection for victims;
- obtain an effective penalty for the culprit;

The association operates a counselling and training centre against human trafficking and sexual exploitation. A main focus of its work is the fight against human trafficking and sexual exploitation, especially the 'loverboy scam'. This is used to fool young Swiss women between the ages of 12 and 18 under the impression that they are in love. In reality, however, they are made dependent and gradually forced into prostitution.

With the 'loverboy scam' being spread by the social media, the workload of the reporting officer and case handling has increased considerably in recent years. In order to be able to seriously fulfil its duty, the association had to increase its job percentages from the beginning of 2019. They are doing this provisionally for a pilot phase, which will last from 2019 to 2021. The association is dependent on the financial support for its functioning.

8. Congregation of the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross, Trnava, Slovakia: Innovation of teaching materials in specialized teaching at the Maria Theresa Scherer Nursing School in Ruzomberok (No. 1_LZ_SK_2019)

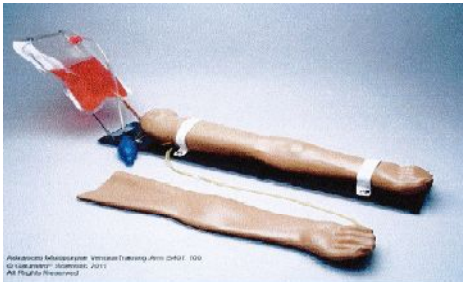


The Maria Theresa Scherer Nursing School in Ruzomberok was established by the Sisters of Mercy of the Holy Cross, Province Slovakia, in 1992.

In order to be able to provide a good, qualified education in the future, it is necessary to invest in new teaching materials.

The School of Nursing, as a non government school, receives a limited annual support from the state. The fixed contribution is intended to cover salaries and payments for school

staff and the running of the school, but does not cover the cost of necessary updating of teaching and instruction, or the acquisition of teaching materials.



The school promotes and organizes various activities within the town, and the region, aimed at the education and training of children, youth, as well as the general public. The pupils regularly take part in various voluntary activities of non-profit organizations. Under the auspices of the Maria Theresa Scherer School of Nursing, the students organize various charitable events.

As a nursing school, it organizes and conducts first aid courses in kindergartens, primary and secondary schools in the city and the region. It offers free blood sugar and blood pressure measurements and contributes to the medical education of the citizens of the city and region.

The available teaching materials are no more sufficient to qualify the pupils professionally. In particular, several nursing mannequins and anatomical models are needed.

The school has no financial means for this investment and made a request to the foundation.

The foundation works in a specific and transparent manner and demands accountability for the donations used.

At the end of our report we would like to express our joy that we have the opportunity to alleviate need and give hope without administrative costs through our foundation.

We sincerely thank all those who support our foundation with their donation and thus make this help possible. Thank you for your loyalty over many years.



Brunnen, 30.4.2020

President of the Foundation
Sr. Marija Brizar

Member of the Foundation Council
Sr. Jaroslava Kotulakova