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FINAL REPORTS

Three continents 15 villages – one vision Millennium Villages

A Initiative of Welthungerhilfe 2011–2015



Imprint

Published by:

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Status:

Bonn, August 2015

PDF Download:

www.welthungerhilfe.de/en/millenniumvillages.html

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Welthungerhilfe has received numerous awards for its transparent reporting and the excellent quality of its information.

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*Country reports also available in French

**Country reports also available in Spanish

www.welthungerhilfe.de/en/millenniumvillages.html

Foreword

A better self-determined life – The Millennium Village Initiative

When the 189 member states of the United Nations decided on the eight Millennium Development Goals in September 2000, they officially launched a global approach full of hope. Their aim: A dignified life without hunger and poverty.

In order to realise these goals, local concepts and innovative approaches were required alongside financial resources. Welthungerhilfe wanted to show that the eight Millennium Goals could be realised in remote regions, with few means and resources, but with a lot of personal dedication. To promote this, they started their Millennium Village Initiative in 2006.

Today, after more than ten years, we look back and are able to draw a positive conclusion. Despite many adversities, almost all of the villages have developed positively. This applies for the Millennium Villages Poirier and Mondésir in Haiti, which were first hit by the devastating earthquake in 2010, and, two years later, by hurricanes Sandy and Isaac. Nevertheless, the residents did not give up; they created self-help structures, planted trees and fields anew.

What is the recipe to this success? Well, there is not one single recipe; different concepts and context-specific approaches are necessary in each region. There are similarities, however, which can be described with the keywords participation, individual responsibility, women's empowerment, learning together, analysing and innovating new things.

Which steps have been implemented with Welthungerhilfe and its partner organisations, which methods have worked or have not worked – this report provides information and results. In order to provide this information, we have measured and evaluated results and impacts with the communities.

Thanks to numerous practical experiences gathered in all Millennium Villages, we know today that it is possible to reduce hunger and poverty. Women are a driving force behind this. Environmental protection is also a key to success. Our methods work when they are jointly implemented and supplemented by the necessary will. We view this simultaneously as an encouraging sign and a challenge for the time when the Sustainable Development Goals replace the Millennium Development Goals in 2016.



Mathias Mogge

Executive Director Programmes

Introduction

Millennium Village Initiative

All people should have an equal opportunity to live a self-determined life in dignity and justice, free from hunger and poverty. Welthungerhilfe has been pursuing this vision for more than 50 years in their projects for sustainable food and nutrition security. This central idea is also the reason behind the Millennium Village Initiative. The aim of the Initiative was to practise this vision in the context of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), to create dialogue and to reflect together.

In the selected Millennium Villages, the people faced all of the challenges, which make life difficult in rural areas of Africa, Asia and Latin America. Food insecurity, water shortages, poor infrastructure, a lack of power, over-exploited land and a lack of political structures or difficult political settings. In the Millennium Villages Welthungerhilfe wanted to put people in the position to utilise development opportunities and to show on a small scale what is possible on large scale – the reduction of hunger and poverty.

The principle of “help towards self-help” formed the main focus: Village communities stated their problems, developed context-specific solutions with the support of Welthungerhilfe and its partner organisations, implemented and analysed the results. The residents decided themselves which of the Millennium Development Goals they wanted to achieve locally by 2015. They adapted the content of the selected Millennium Goal to their local situation and possibilities. While reforestation played a key role for achieving ecological sustainability (MDG 7) in Ogur, the Millennium Village in Uganda, land rights (MDG 7) were important in Kanat Toch in Cambodia.

However, progress was not only observed in the Millennium Villages. Processes of change spread over the region, for example benefiting neighbouring villages from improved market structures and innovations in agricultural production.



Peru: Future leaders in action

Each village and each region contributed to reduce extreme poverty and hunger (MDG 1). It was important to measure the results so that experiences could be gathered, shared and learned from. Women played a key role in the Millennium Villages. Their empowerment (MDG 3) fuelled participative processes and a socio-economical dynamic. Among other things, women cultivated their own vegetable gardens, sold fruits and improved nutritional diversity for their families. Today, we can see more active women equally involved in the development of their villages.

The participation of women and men is only one side of the coin; the other is to promote awareness. Welthungerhilfe and its partners support local processes, strengthen commitment and, in doing so, belief that the goals are achievable.

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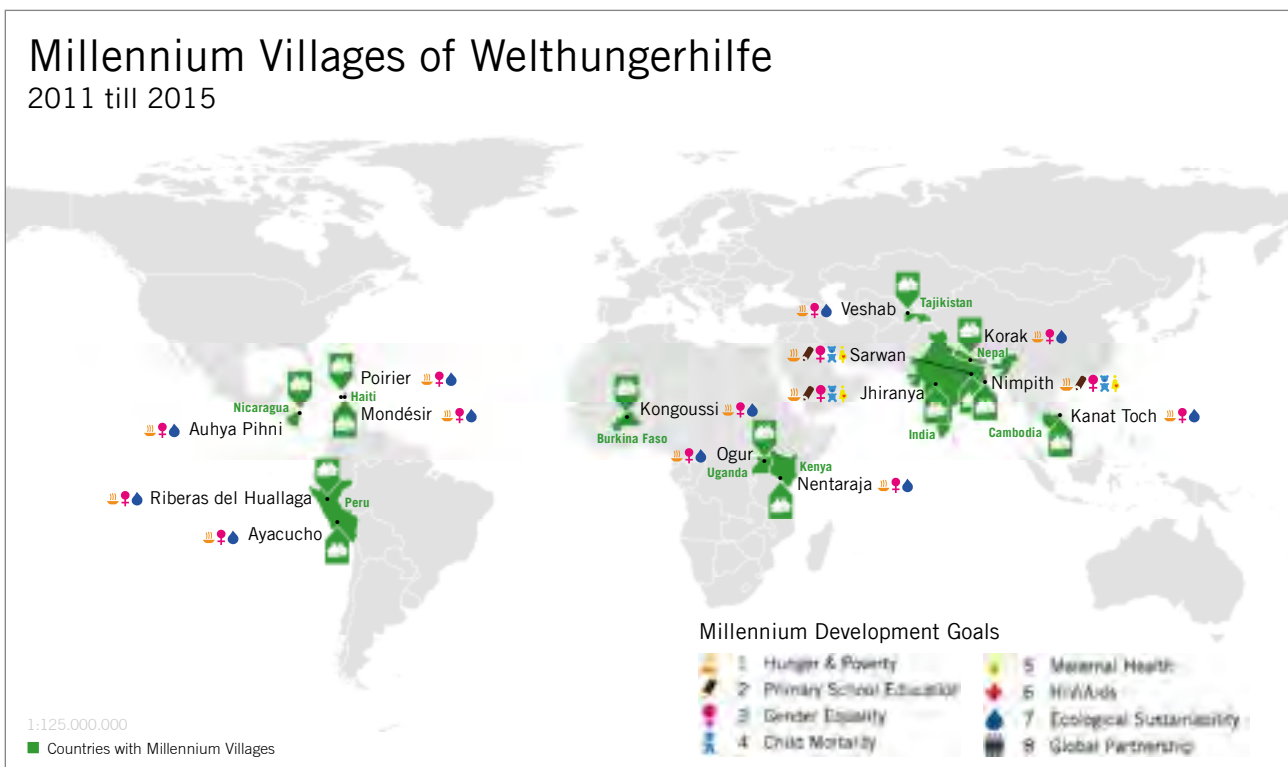
Haiti: Yearly – participatory workshops



Uganda: Well organized smallholder group

The long-term goal – lasting long after the duration of the Initiative – is an informed civil society, who can identify development constraints and obstacles themselves, discuss them and hold themselves and decision-makers responsible for the development process in their region. Therefore, a representative group of men and women was involved methodically in participative planning and steering processes in each Millennium Village. The monitoring results were discussed with project staff and village representatives, and activities adapted accordingly. We witnessed very different progress in the Millennium Villages. Progress hugely depends on the local context, but also on the development of civil society structures. If a method was proven in one place, it was suggested and tested in others. In Ogur, Uganda, for example, independent networks of farmers were formed, which supported each other and promoted improved marketing conditions.

Welthungerhilfe actively supported a South-South Exchange, for example with reciprocal village visits. After all, what is more convincing than an example of success? It brings hope and brought a new sense or encouragement to many of the Millennium Villages. These examples are on the one hand to communicate, and on the other hand, to adjust to the reality of other villages as a part of successful participation. At the end, Welthungerhilfe is convinced that future development is in good hands – and can conclude the Initiative in the Millennium Villages with success and hope.



Millennium Villages Country reports

Alfred Ocheng stands proudly amongst the thriving melons on his field in Ogur, Uganda. For the longest time, the small-scale farmers had refused to believe that vegetables could thrive in their region. Now they plant melons, tomatoes and cabbage. In doing so, they have cast away the old beliefs. This was an important experience for the residents of the Millennium Village in Ogur, an experience that they achieved through cooperation with Welthungerhilfe. They could not have initiated it alone.

“When we learn together, set goals as a group, analyse and evaluate and then we achieve sustainable, good results,” says Dennis Ocoka from Welthungerhilfe in Uganda. Communities have not only had this experience in Ogur, the same is true in the other Welthungerhilfe Millennium Villages. Anyone who wants to stop hunger has to integrate communities into development processes from the very beginning and help them to recognise and protect their rights. Participative workshops are an important tool and are conditional to achieve this. This is one of the many findings of the Millennium Villages initiative.

However, what exactly does participation mean, how can Welthungerhilfe guarantee this in all projects, how can this goal be realized? There were no answers to these questions when Welthungerhilfe started the Millennium Village initiative in Africa, Asia and Latin America and consequently continued into the second phase from 2011 to 2015, following positive interim results. Answers to these questions are presented in this report.

Fifteen villages were identified in such a way that they present the challenges for the global Millennium Development Goals and the results achieved, so that they may be considered – even if local – as exemplary. Fifteen villages were identified that were facing challenges along the Millennium Development Goals. They were chosen as part of the initiative so that their results could serve as examples for up-scaling. To ensure that the villages were accessible at all times and development successes could not be compromised by conflict, peaceful areas were concentrated on. Rekindled political unrest was the reason why the measures in the Mabote Millennium Village in Mozambique had to stop for security reasons.

Development was by no means straightforward in any of the Millennium Villages. There were also setbacks and fluctuations. External circumstances and events made it particularly difficult for



Cambodia: The next steps are discussed in the group



Uganda: Alfred Ocheng, proud of his melon harvest

“When we learn together, set goals as a group, analyse and evaluate and then we achieve sustainable, good results,” says Dennis Ocoka from Welthungerhilfe in Uganda.



Tajikistan: Group work during a Participatory Impact Assessment (PIA) workshop



Uganda: Singing and dancing – a short break is important during the workshop

positive developments. In Cambodia, land grabbing complicated long-term progress, Haiti and Nicaragua were struck by hurricanes.

Nevertheless, general living conditions developed positively for the communities in all Millennium Villages – with the exception of Mabote.

But which methods and approaches were successful? How exactly did the men and women improve their situations? How did they deal with set-backs? The communities on the three continents found answers of their own to all of these questions, as you will learn in the following country chapters.



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COUNTRY REPORT

Millennium Village Kongoussi – Burkina Faso





MDG 1: Traditional way of sun-drying okra



MDG 2: Preparation for their future at school



MDG 1: Flour mills simplify the daily work

Millennium Village Kongoussi – Burkina Faso

Green gardens in the Sahel





In Fénéguéné, one of the six locations making up the Millennium Village Kongoussi, around 20 women are patiently waiting their turn with their babies at the community centre. In the middle of the freshly painted room there are some weighing scales with a baby sling hanging from the ceiling. In the sling lies Valentine Ouedraogo's one-year-old son, wriggling impatiently. For the babies, this procedure is tiresome— for their mothers, however, the monthly baby weighing sessions are immensely important, as here they find out whether or not their child is suffering from malnutrition. “Luckily, my son is fine; he’s put on weight again,” says the mother of four. Here on the edge of the desert in the Sahel region of Burkina Faso, under- and malnutrition constitute one of the major problems facing the population.

The fact that today her son and her three other children have enough to eat is due to the numerous life-changing measures implemented by the 5,000 households of the Millennium Village Kongoussi. One such measure is the joint preparation of bouillie, a millet porridge which the women enrich with nutrients in order to keep their babies and children well nourished. Before, they had to buy bouillie in the village of Nassaré, which is eight kilometres away. Today they have a new corn mill and produce the porridge themselves in Fénéguéné using their own ingredients. “We women meet up every day at

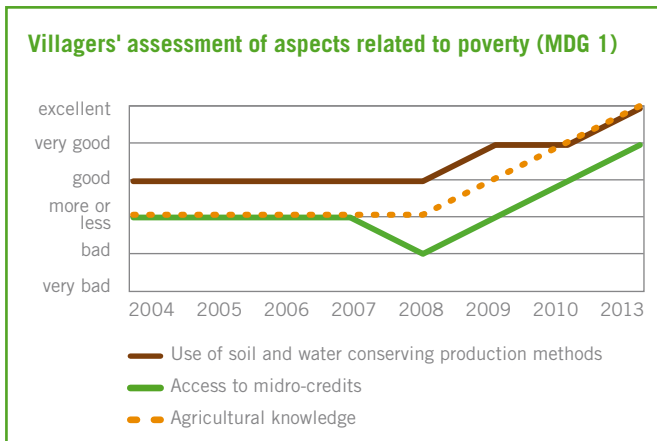
our new community centre and prepare the bouillie together. We chat and have fun together while we’re working,” says Béatrice Sawadogo, 29 years old and mother of three children. Valentine adds “Thanks to the new mill, that’s no problem. Now we can grind the millet a lot faster than with our traditional corn mill.”

This is just one of the many ways in which the people of Kongoussi are making their everyday lives easier and more efficient. Most importantly, they have built new wells. First and foremost, this helps the women and children, who are traditionally responsible for fetching fresh drinking water. They no longer need to walk a distance of several kilometres to Lake Bam in the dark early hours of the morning to draw poor-quality water. Today, when they press down the metal pump levers at the new wells in the village, fresh drinking water gushes out of the pipe directly into the brightly-coloured water canisters. As many families consist of ten or more members, the women still fetch water several times a day. However, it is now only a few hundred metres to the nearest well, the drinking water they draw from it is germ-free, and the procedure is less time-consuming.

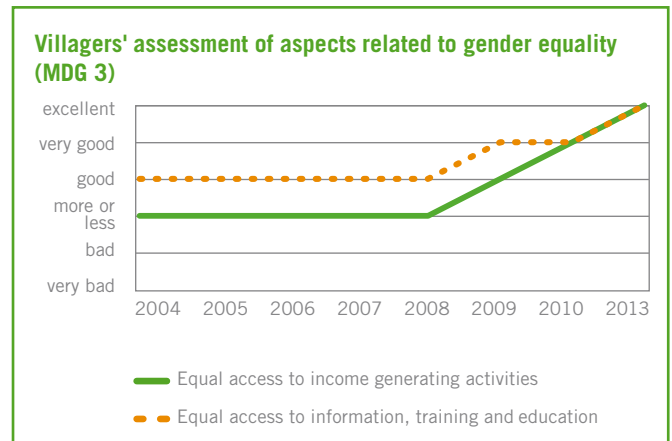
Thus the women save valuable time every day that they can put to better use: for learning to read and write, for breeding and selling cows, goats or hens, and for producing millet beer for

 <p>The number of people with access to credits has tripled</p>	 <p>The school enrolment rate has incredibly improved, especially for girls</p>	 <p>The majority of the population have their own vegetable garden</p>	 <p>Due to vegetable gardening and micro credits, women received new opportunities</p>	 <p>93 % of the population uses clean drinking water</p>	<p>40%</p> <p>of the women actively participate in community meetings</p>
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„Thanks to the new mill, that's no problem. Now we can grind the millet a lot faster than with our traditional corn mill” says 32 years old Valentine Ouedraogo.



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

selling. They also plant vegetable gardens and orchards in order to supplement their daily diet with valuable vitamins and to sell the surplus.

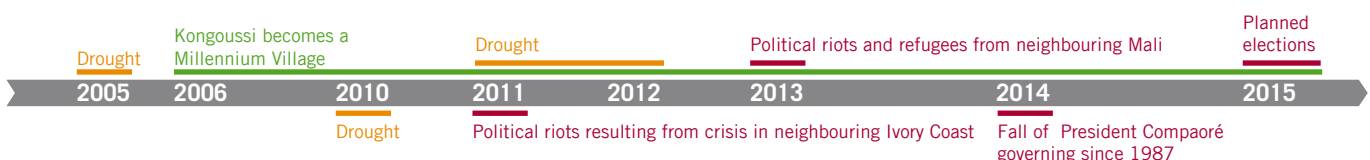
The gardens where mango trees, onions and tomatoes are grown and the fields in which the small-scale farming families cultivate maize, millet, sorghum and beans can also be irrigated on a regular basis. The families have dug a two-kilometre-long irrigation ditch to nearby Lake Bam, from which they water the fields by means of pumps. This is another measure which has made everyday life easier and increased the yields, as it allows the small-scale farmers not only to provide a better water supply for the crops, but also to cultivate a larger area.

The future here on the edge of the desert looks green and flourishing, thanks not least to the improved resources in schools, where the next generation is being far better prepared for life than their parents ever were. It is in the vicinity of the

schools that the new wells and community centres have been installed. They have been jointly built by the village inhabitants and the Burkinabe non-governmental body “Association Zood Nooma pour le Développement” (Zood Nooma Development Association), the local partner of Welthungerhilfe. As a result, education for all, not least for adults, has become an issue of key importance for village life. At school, people learn how to increase their agricultural yields and expand the crop cultivation acreage – and the women learn what foodstuffs they need and how best to use them for preparing healthy family meals on a daily basis. Nowadays, it is not only the boys who attend school, but increasingly the girls too, like twelve-year-old Andrea Ouedraogo. “I’m very happy at school,” she says beaming. “My parents have bought me a lamp so that I can learn in the evenings too. Last year I was even fourth best in my class.”

	Burkina Faso 2009	Burkina Faso 2015	Germany 2015
Population	15.8 m	18.4 m	80.6 m
Population Density	57 p/km ²	67 p/km ²	231 p/km ²
Gross Domestic Product per person & per year	402 €	497 €	33,606 €
Life Expectancy at Birth Men	51 years	52.8 years	78.6 years
Life Expectancy at Birth Women	54.9 years	56.9 years	83.3 years
Total Fertility Rate	6.28 per woman	5.93 per woman	1.38 per woman
Infant Mortality Rate	8.44%	7.68%	0.3%
Literacy	21.8%	28.7%	99%
Labour Force in Agriculture	90%	90%	1.6%
Global Hunger Index	20.4 – alarming	19.9 – serious	-
Human Development Index	0.389 (rank 177/182)	0.388 (rank 181/195)	0.911 (rank 6/195)
World Risk Report	11.58% (rank 29/173)	9.62% (rank 41/171)	3.01% (rank 147/171)
Gender Gap Score	0.6081 (rank 120/134)	0.6500 (rank 110/142)	0.7780 (rank 12/142)

Source: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft/UNU-EHS, CIA, IFPRI/Concern/Welthungerhilfe, UNDP, Worldbank, World Economic Forum





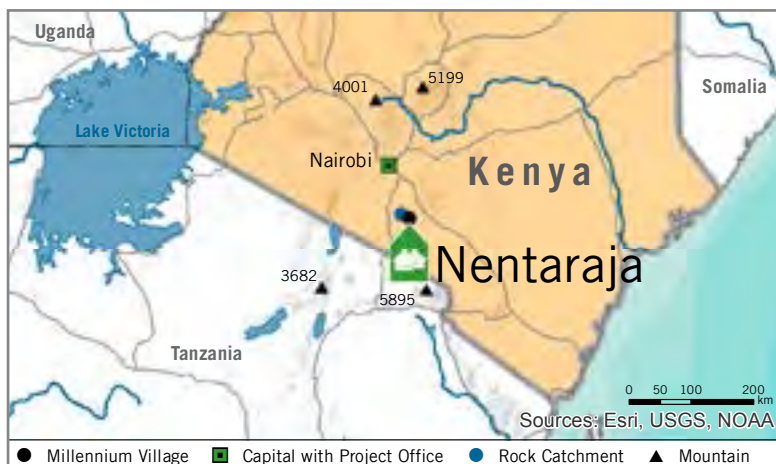
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COUNTRY REPORT

Millenium Village Nentaraja – Kenya





MDG 7: Rain water rock catchment for improved drinking water



MDG 1: Livestock as the main food and income source for the Maasai



MDG 1: Additional income through beekeeping

Millenium Village Nentaraja – Kenya

A new quality of life in a fragile environment

“Before the drought in 2010/2011 my husband had 52 cows,” remembers Naisula Karia. “He migrated with his animals to search for water and pasture, as our fathers had done before. But it was all no use. Because of the drought we lost all our animals bar four,” says the Massai from Nentaraja, 80 kilometres south of Kenya’s capital city, Nairobi.

Many families in the semi-arid, semi-dry region around the Millennium Village Nentaraja with its 2,500 inhabitants, are in a similar position to the Karias. Dry seasons are considered a season here, just as the spring is in Germany. However, droughts used to only come around every fifteen years. Today it is every two to three years. This endangers the Massai way of life, who predominantly rely on their cattle herds.

Everything in Nentaraja depends on the rain – only if the rain falls do the people have enough to drink, can they water their herds and till their fields. Nine out of ten people in the region live from agriculture and livestock farming. It is for this reasons that the measures of Welthungerhilfe are intended to improve the water supply, to adapt the agriculture to the new conditions and to make people less dependent on cattle farming.

How they collect water in Nentaraja

In times gone past, the women used to collect their water from wells or made the 5 kilometre walk in the dry season to the Olkerriai River. Humans shared the dirty water with their animals. The grown-ups, but the children in particular, suffered from diarrhoea. Every second illness in the region and one in ten causes of death could be traced back to polluted water.

Today men and women collect drinking water themselves, by catching rainwater below a large, rocky hill. To do so they have installed a collecting tank in which the water is accumulated, filtered and which then flows into smaller tanks. These hold 4,500 cubic metres of water. Enough for 2,000 people for an entire year. The quality is so good that the number of cases of diarrhoea declined.

A water committee is responsible for the distribution and fair use of the water. It runs a water kiosk where the drinking water is dispensed. The committee decided after long discussions that everyone should pay for their water, around 20 Kenyan shillings (3 Eurocents) for 20 litres. The water committee organises the distribution, keeps the rocks clean and takes care of necessary repairs. “The new system makes my life a lot easi-



The Millennium Village consists of 209 small settlements (manyattas) with 408 households

40 €

is the average monthly income of a household



The construction of the rock catchment reduced the distance to the next water source from 5-15 km to < 0.5-2 km



14 bee-keeping groups were founded, annually selling 150-200 kg honey for 6 € per kg

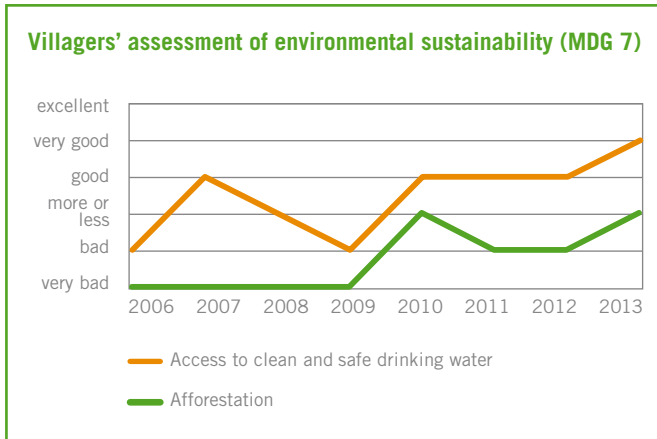


An average household at Nentaraja eats at least two meals a day

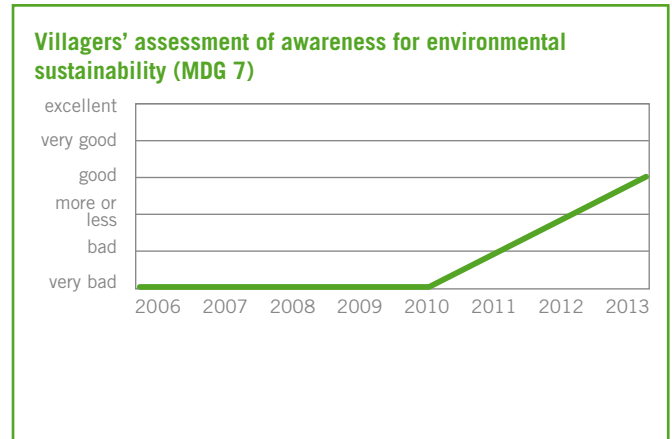


71 trainings, 164 community meetings and 5 exchange visits have been conducted

“Following the death of my husband, I was dependent on aid for a number of years. Now I earn my own money, can feed my children myself and can even pay the school fees,” explains Anna Lengeny.



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

er as I no longer have to carry water for hours on end,” explains Jaqueline Kanayoi, who lives nearby and runs the water kiosk for the committee.

Cowpeas instead of maize

If water doesn't come the situation also becomes precarious in agriculture. The pastures wither, not enough maize grows in the fields. While the men migrate with their animals, the women fell trees and produce coal which they can sell. Or they excavate sand. At least in doing so the women have a hand in their future. In order to counter overexploitation, the project made the population aware of the links between felling and devastation. Knowledge alone, however, is not enough – they also need alternatives to be able to survive.

For this reason the people are farming drought-resistant vegetables, for example mungo beans, cowpeas and Tonga beans. And they harvest grass and process it into large bails of hay, which they then store in a newly built barn. Demonstration farms can be found today in each of the seven village districts. Here the farmers can experiment with new varieties and fruits.

Like the men, the women earn good money with honey. There are more than enough bees and honey can be well preserved and sells well. Today, fourteen groups of women manage their own bee colonies. With the support of the project, the beekeepers were able to procure their own honey separator, with which they can filter and process the honey. In this way they are able to produce top-quality honey and generate high prices. “Following the death of my husband, I was dependent on aid for a number of years. Now I earn my own money, can feed my children myself and can even pay the school fees,” explains Anna Lengeny concerning the development.

Seeing is believing

When Welthungerhilfe discussed possible measures with the inhabitants, the men and women of the village listened intently. “However, they didn't truly believe that vegetable gardens or the planting of trees could actually work,” says Millicent Mbithi, Assistant Project Manager of Welthungerhilfe in Kenya. For this reason she made the journey to the Ogur Millennium Village in neighbouring Uganda with 14 smallholder farmers. There they could see the progress with their own eyes and discuss local methods and approaches with the residents.





MDG 1: Cattle as the main food source for the Maasai



MDG 1: Beekeeping as one source of income

Above all else, they were particularly impressed by the energy-saving oven. In Ogur, the people no longer cook on basic three-stone-hearths, but rather on efficient hearths made from brick clay. Anna Lengeny recreated one upon her return to Kenya: "Today I only need one bundle of wood per week, previously it was three."

Fragile living

Despite all of the progress, the people in Nentaraja live in fragile surroundings. Their future continues to depend on rainfall and the climate. But the population has implemented many important measures. The water supply has become much better, as have conditions for gender equality. Today women are active in decision making and are earning their own money with

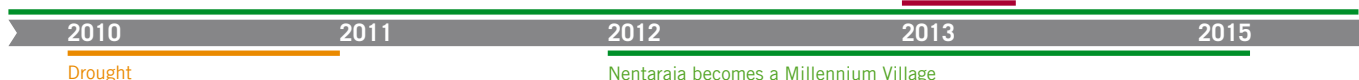
the help of their vegetable gardens and bee colonies. Jaqueline Kanayoi is delighted that her children are today able to drink clean water, are healthier and that she has extra time: "I have more time for my three children and am also able to look after my new vegetable garden."

	Kenya 2009	Kenya 2015	Germany 2015
Population	39 m	45.01 m	80.6 m
Population Density	67 p/km ²	78 p/km ²	231 p/km ²
Gross Domestic Product per person & per year	675 €	905 €	33,606 €
Life Expectancy at Birth Men	57.5 years	62.1 years	78.6 years
Life Expectancy at Birth Women	58.2 years	65 years	83.3 years
Total Fertility Rate	4.56 per woman	3.54 per woman	1.38 per woman
Infant Mortality Rate	5.47%	4.07%	0.3%
Literacy	85.1%	87.4%	99%
Labour Force in Agriculture	75%	75%	1.6%
Global Hunger Index	20.2 – alarming	16.5 – serious	-
Human Development Index	0.541 (rank 147/182)	0.535 (rank 147/195)	0.911 (rank 6/195)
World Risk Report	7.82% (rank 67/173)	7% (rank 75/171)	3.01% (rank 147/171)
Gender Gap Score	0.6512 (rank 97/134)	0.7258 (rank 37/142)	0.7780 (rank 12/142)

Map: Welthungerhilfe

Source: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft/UNU-EHS, CIA, IFPRI/Concern/Welthungerhilfe, UNDP, Worldbank, World Economic Forum

Change of government





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COUNTRY REPORT

Millennium Village Ogur – Uganda





MDG 7: Improving access to water



MDG 1: Saving clubs for increased investments



MDG 3: Joint market activities

Millennium Village Ogur – Uganda

Acquiring knowledge, setting goals, building a future

The Millennium Village Ogur is situated in the northern district of Lira, Uganda's former breadbasket. However, where once millet, beans and maize grew abundantly and trees provided for sufficient shade and water, there had been merely barren, dry fallow land for many years. For more than 20 years, the violent conflict between the rebel organisation Lord's Resistance Army and the Ugandan army raged here. In fear of their lives, approximately 1.7 million people fled and left behind their possessions then – including the families of today's Millennium Village Ogur. They spent many years in refugee camps in their own country.

After the ceasefire agreement was signed in mid 2006, the people began returning to their hometowns. And, were once again left with nothing: Their villages were destroyed, the fields overgrown, trees cut down. Furthermore, the young people who wanted to start a new life for themselves here, did not have any farming experience. They had no idea how to till a field, install an irrigation system or plant trees. And, they did not have any seeds, tools or tools or oxen to work the fields with.

The breadbasket is to prosper again

That's what it's all about in the millennium village Ogur: The villagers are gradually acquiring the skills needed to be able to live off the crops from their fields long term. At the same time, they take on the responsibility for developing their homeland. The men and women drew up the path to their goal themselves at the start of the project. Under the direction of Welthungerhilfe, they regularly discussed the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in participative workshops. Their vision for Ogur: To make the former breadbasket prosper again. For this purpose, they focused on eradicating hunger and poverty (MDG 1), promoting gender equality (MDG 3) and ensuring environmental sustainability (MDG 7). With the help of Welthungerhilfe staff, they developed precise measures for how they could implement this vision and established 15 Farmer Field Schools in the four dispersed settlements Awelo, Akano, Adwoa and Baradanga, each consisting of 30 members.

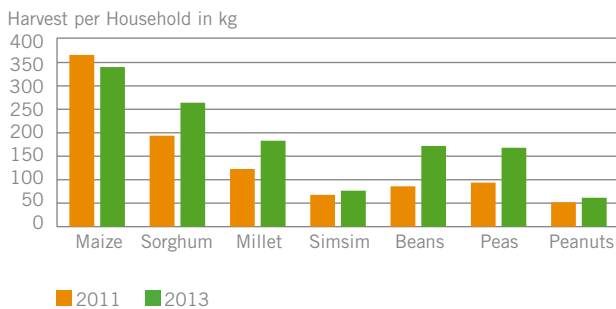
Today, no one has to go hungry in Ogur anymore. Grains, maize and beans as well as fruit and vegetables are growing on the fields. The farming families raise goats for their own personal use and for sale. They repaired roads, schools and bridges,



Alex Opoio and his wife describe proudly: **“We wanted to try something new. Today, we harvest so much cabbage that we can sell it on a weekly basis.”**

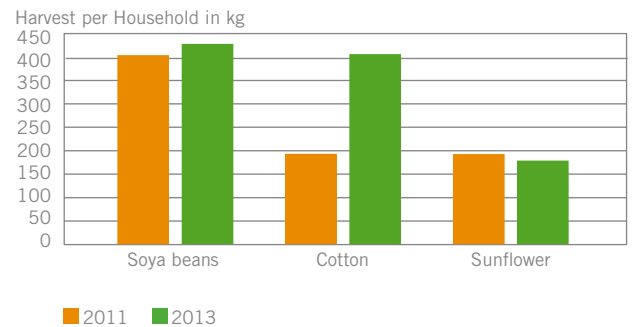


Average harvest of food crops



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

Average Harvest of Cash Crops



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

planted fruit-bearing and timber trees, repaired wells, and improved the sanitary conditions. Boys and girls go to school, and more and more women are taking on local leadership positions. In the last household survey, 84 per cent of the families surveyed confirmed their lives have improved, and some even significantly.

Three times the amount of agricultural crop land, two harvests per year

Welthungerhilfe distributed improved seeds to restart crop growing. Each of the 15 farmer groups also received five teams of oxen and ploughs, which they used to farm and ultimately cultivate the soil. In doing so, the families managed to nearly triple their farmed land from an average of 0.28 hectares to approximately 0.8 hectares within three years. Together they created model fields, which they used to experiment with cultivation methods as well as weed and pest control. And they developed marketing strategies for their produce, the yield of which increased considerably despite the severe drought period in 2013. Meanwhile, the number of households with two maize or bean harvests per year has more than doubled.

In order to boost the economy with cheap personal loans,

Welthungerhilfe supports the farmer groups in organising savings clubs. In 2013, this made it possible for seven out of ten farmers to buy their own livestock. Before, it was only four out of seven. And their reserve funds increased as well: In 2011, not even one in ten members of the 15 farmer groups had saved 190 Ugandan Shillings (59 Euros) – in 2013 it was nearly half of them (46 per cent).

Today, the people in Ogur very successfully grow and eat nutritious vegetables. And as a result they do not fall ill as often, and are stronger. “In the past we were told that tomatoes or onions could not be grown here”, small-scale farmer Abor Eremerik reports. “That is obviously not true. We received new seeds from Welthungerhilfe. Take a look and see what they produced!” The old men proudly points to the magnificent rows of cabbage, tomatoes, onions and garlic as well as carrots or eggplants.

Powerful women are the force behind the boom

Women in particular benefit from growing fruits and vegetables. Everything they need for a fresh meal grows in their kitchen gardens. The distances are short, the crops are secured all year round, and surplus adds to the family’s income. This allows

North Uganda and the district of Lira are a center of agricultural production

The conflict between the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) and the government causes refugee movements.



Villagers lose their livestock.

“In the past, my husband made all the decisions regarding things we bought on his own”, says 56-year-old Milly Atula. “Now we make those decisions together. I used to think girls should traditionally get married at the age of 14. Now, I know better and support my daughters in attending school longer.”



MDG 1: Cultivation of cash crops for better income

women to finally contribute to supporting the family financially. That makes them proud and self-confident. During seminars, the entire village discusses the issues of human rights, understanding their roles, and questions regarding gender equality. This has provoked a great deal of change: “In the past, my husband made all the decisions regarding things we bought on his own”, says 56-year-old Milly Atula. “Now we make those decisions together. I used to think girls should traditionally get married at the age of 14. Now, I know better and support my daughters in attending school longer.” Five farmer groups are now led by women and 41 per cent of all women have a leadership position in the group or at a communal level.

Wells and trees for sustainability

The small-scale farming families repaired dilapidated wells and built new ones. However, that is only the beginning: They established water committees, which today ensure that the wells remain clean and functional. The committees also maintain the water source and monitor discharge, to make sure that not too much is taken. Consequently, the supply of clean drinking water has improved drastically (see chart) over the pro-

ject period. In 2009 nearly three-quarters of the population had to travel more than two kilometres to the next clean water source – in 2014, 81 per cent lived within this distance.

From the very beginning, the reforestation of their homeland was a fundamental concern of the men and women in Ogur. The armed conflict had destroyed entire stretches of land; the bigger part of the tree population ended up as firewood in the refugee camps. Welthungerhilfe therefore distributed saplings right at the beginning of the project, and set up tree nurseries with the farmer groups. The numbers speak for themselves: In 2011, nearly half the households (48 per cent) had already planted trees, two years later, it was even two-thirds (63 per cent). And, this initiative also demonstrates qualitative success: Out of the 9,000 distributed orange trees, approximately 70 per cent grew splendidly. Today, these 6,365 trees provide the families with a sustainable source of income for the coming years.

Out of all the project activities, the reforestation impresses the small-scale farmer Isaac Okino the most. The single father of three is one of the driving forces in the Millennium Village Ogur.

Welthungerhilfe starts its engagement in the region

2006

2008

2010

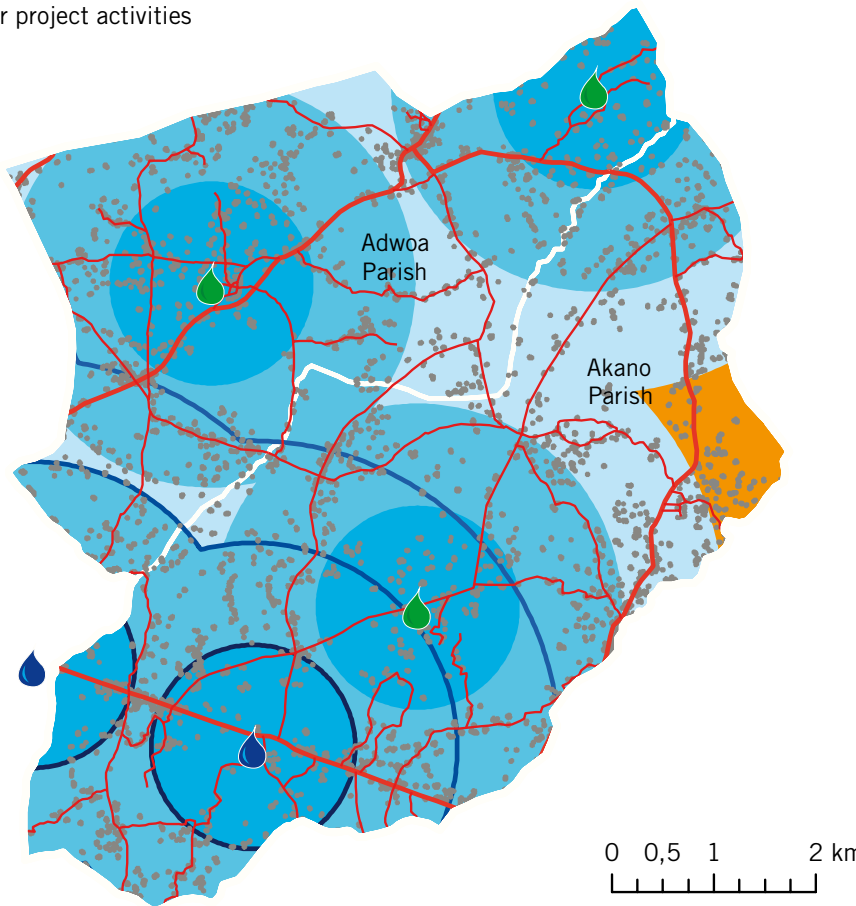
2015

Peace talks and villagers start to return to their home

Ogur becomes a Millennium Village

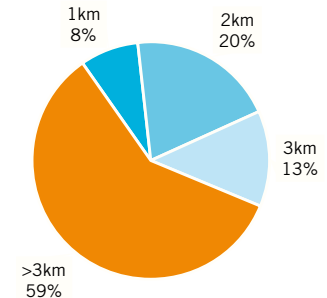
Millennium Village Ogur – Uganda

The water supply situation before and after project activities

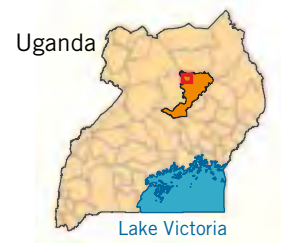
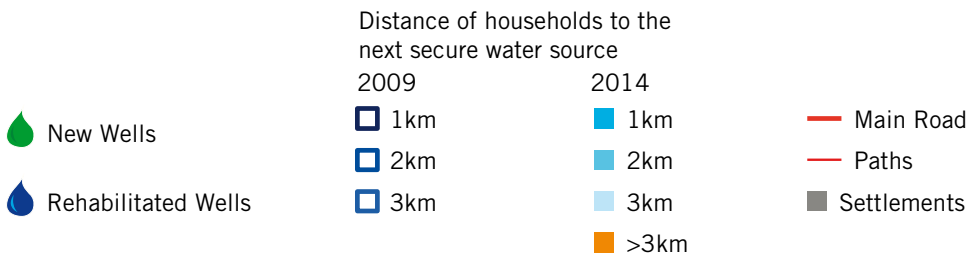
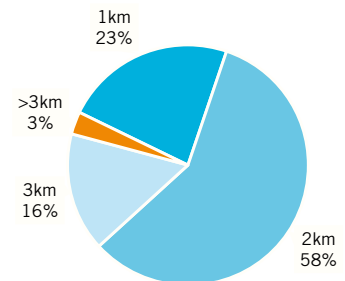


Distance of households to the next secure water source

2009



2014



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

He set up a great white cabbage production, which he sells on the market. He has a water canister in front of his toilet cubicle, and planted mango and citrus trees as well as timber trees. “When Welthungerhilfe is no longer here, I have to make it on

my own”, the 31-year-old says. “And I will do everything in my power to make sure it works.”

	Uganda 2009	Uganda 2015	Germany 2015
Population	32.4 m	35.9 m	80.6 m
Population Density	134 p/km ²	149 p/km ²	231 p/km ²
Gross Domestic Product per person & per year	328 €	415 €	33,606€
Life Expectancy at Birth Men	51.7 years	57.6 years	78.6 years
Life Expectancy at Birth Women	53.8 years	59.8 years	83.3 years
Total Fertility Rate	6.8 per woman	5.96 per woman	1.38 per woman
Infant Mortality Rate	6.5%	4.5%	0.3%
Literacy	66.8%	73.2%	99%
Labour Force in Agriculture	82%	82%	1.6%
Global Hunger Index	14.8 – serious	17 – serious	-
Human Development Index	0.450 (rank 157/182)	0.456 (rank 161/195)	0.911 (rank 6/195)
World Risk Report	7.57% (rank 72/173)	6.69% (rank 84/171)	3.01% (rank 147/171)
Gender Gap Score	0.7067 (rank 40/134)	0.6821 (rank 88/142)	0.7780 (rank 12/142)

Source: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft/UNU-EHS, CIA, IFPRI/Concern/Welthungerhilfe, UNDP, Worldbank, World Economic Forum



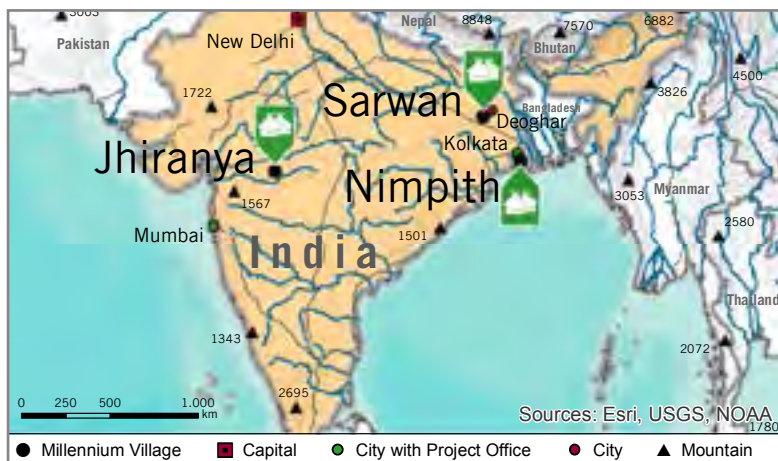
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COUNTRY REPORT

Three Millennium Villages, one major Goal – India





MDG 1: Jhiranya: Drying of chillies generating measure for income generation



MDG 1: Nimpith: Well construction with the state employment program



MDG 1 and 7: Nimpith: Edible wild flowers of the tree Mahsa are collected

Three Millennium Villages, one major Goal – India

Claiming Rights, Empowering People

Posing for photographs is not her thing. Seriously, Shymai Bai from the Jhiranya Millennium Village, in Madhya Pradesh in Central India, looks almost grumpy as she peers into the camera. Nowadays, the 65-year-old is a thoroughly confident woman. This was not always the case. Shymai Bai is part of the Barela community, which belongs to the Adivasis, one of the indigenous communities of India – with their own language and culture. The Adivasis are subject to discrimination in the country, as are the Dalits, the “untouchables”.

“We lived a hand-to-mouth existence. We didn’t even know that we had any rights”, says Shymai Bai. This has changed since her village, Jhiranya, became a Millennium Village. Altogether, there are three Millennium Villages in India. Sarwan is one of these and is located in the East Indian state of Jharkhand. The third village, Nimpith, is 400 kilometres south on the Bay of Bengal. The villages are geographically and culturally very different to one another, however they have a similar social and political background.

Like Shymai Bai, the men and women are Adivasis or Dalits. They do not profit from the impressive growth figures of the Indian economy. For this reason it comes as no surprise that






the infant mortality rate of 72 deaths per 1,000 live births in Jhiranya, one of the highest in the world and that there are more people starving here than in Sudan, for example.

A triad of malnutrition, suppression and unawareness keeps the people in a state of need. In all three villages, Welthungerhilfe and its partner organisations provide awareness raising and education – helping the people to help themselves. In this way, numerous indicators of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG) have significantly improved locally.

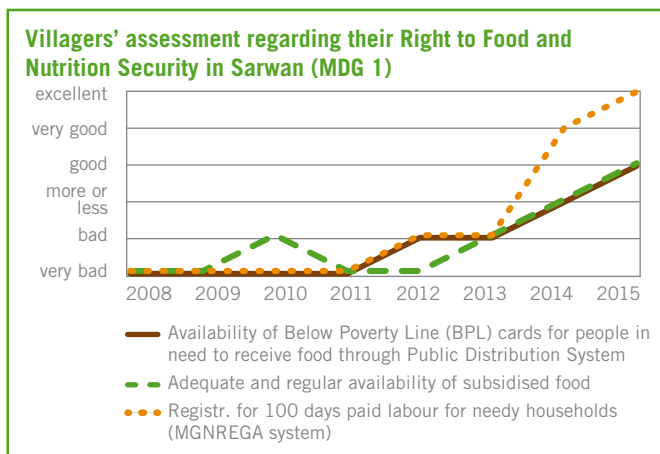
The political participation of Adivasis and Dalits is of particular importance. For this reason, the three Indian Millennium Villages are also part of the Welthungerhilfe cross-regional Fight Hunger First Initiative, which particularly focuses on the political link between poverty and hunger, and seeks to remind the State of its social responsibilities and the rights of its communities. This political work will play an increasingly important role in future: without it, poverty around the world will not be overcome.

Sarwan – diversification, irrigation, producing better harvests

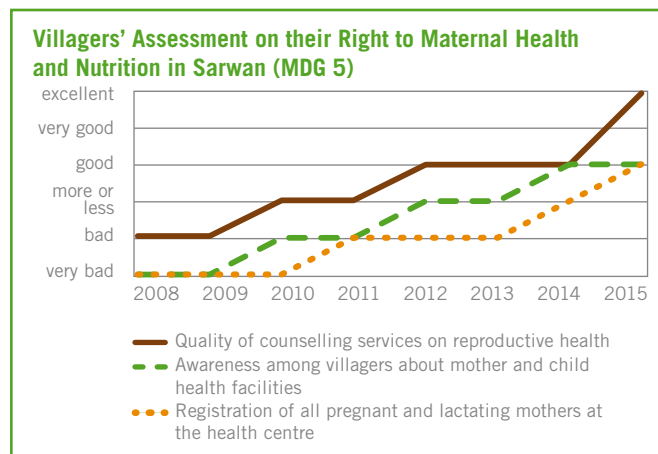
The 5,300 village residents in the remote region of the Jharkhand Federal State farmed rice for years. Monocultures leach the soils and are susceptible to pest attacks. The communities also suf-

 <p>Community meetings, committees and self-help groups promote cooperation and increase advocacy</p>	<p>227</p> <p>During 20 nutrition fairs in Jhiranya, 227 malnourished children were directly supported</p>	 <p>In Jhiranya, 17 irrigation wells were subsidised and constructed by the community members</p>	 <p>Today, all children in Sarwan attend school – a new experience, especially for girls</p>	 <p>During 15 cooking demonstrations, the population of Nimpith got to know nutrient-rich, complementary food</p>	 <p>50 vegetable gardens improve health and nutritional status of Nimpith's population</p>
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“We lived a hand-to-mouth existence. We didn’t even know that we had any rights”, says Shymai Bai.



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

fer from recurring droughts in the dry seasons and devastating floods in the monsoon season. Neither can be controlled. However, adaptation mechanisms can be learned and applied. For example, the people in Sarwan have learned the advantages of sustainable farming.

Instead of an average of ten types of agricultural crops, they now farm twice as many. As a first step for sustainable farmland management, men and women, along with the help of Welthungerhilfe and its partners, set up groups of smallholder farmers, women’s self-help groups and water committees. The people now collect rainwater with dams and canals and irrigate their fields. There is also now enough and clean water to drink. The partner organisation Pravah, trained smallholders how to adapt their lands using sustainable integrated farming methods. These methods are not concentrated on increasing performance of individual types, but rather combine crops, farm animals and aquaculture according to which geological zone the agricultural land is located in. Small-scale farmers in Sarwan learned how to farm fallow land without irrigation (dryland agriculture). In this way, they were able to set up new field sand to cultivate pulses, millet, oil plants and vegetables. Nowadays, the people benefit from higher yields. Harvests produce yields that last for three months longer than prior to the intervention. Farmer Sanjay

Yadav is full of praise, as are the fifteen others in his self-help group. “We never used to have enough corn to eat. Now we don’t have enough space to store the harvest”, says the 35 year-old father of two. They experimented together in the group with different grain and vegetable varieties and introduced a field management system, which respects the sacred cows and at the same time protects their harvests from the appetites of the free-roaming cows.

Nimpith – Healthy Mothers, healthy Children

Nimpith is located in a unique mangrove habitat, which seems idyllic to visitors. The reality, however, is sobering. The area in West Bengal is one of the poorest districts in India. Arable land is scarce. Half of the population cannot afford two appropriate meals a day. 95 percent of all pregnant women suffer from malnutrition, 83 percent from anaemia. Correspondingly, the infant mortality rate is high.

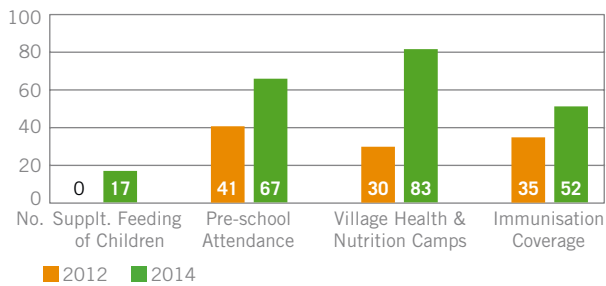
One of the reasons for hunger and poverty is a lack of education; others are social taboos and unawareness, as Sharmistha Some from the partner organisation Sri Ramakrishna (SRAN) knows only too well. “Some of the numerous taboos in the region are finally changing. Today women breastfeed their new-borns and vaccinate them against polio”, explains the 24 year-old.

1999	2004	2006	2007	2008	2009
PRAVAH becomes partner organisation of Welthungerhilfe	Manmohan Singh becomes first Sikh Prime Minister	Sarwan becomes Millennium Village, 1st phase	SRAN becomes partner organisation of Welthungerhilfe		Heavy cyclone Alia in West Bengal

Farmer Sanjay Yadav: “We never used to have enough corn to eat
**Now we don't have enough space to store
the harvest”**, says the 35 year-old father of two.



Children with access to Public Services in Nimpith (MDG 1, 2, 4)

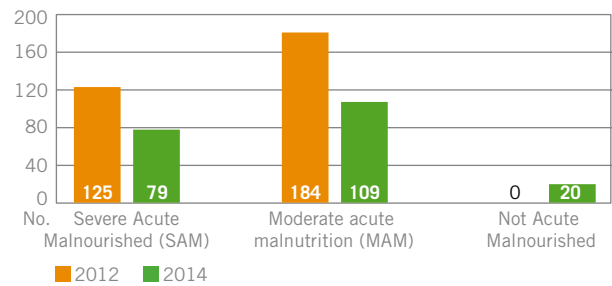


Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

A great deal of persuasion is and was necessary. SRAN and Welthungerhilfe organised 35 health camps in which more than 2,500 participants were sensitised to the hygiene, vaccination and nutritional needs of their babies. It was also discussed, why it is better to have children later in life. Apart from this, the mothers also learned in cooking courses how they could feed their new-borns nutritionally balanced with the foodstuffs and herbs available locally.

The awareness campaigns work, explains Sharmistha Some: “I am proud when I see significant changes. Thanks to active treatment, an acutely malnourished boy has changed from a lethargic child to an active, playful individual.” Mothers

Nutritionstatus of children in Nimpith (MDG 1, 4)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

are now aware of the advantages of good health care, which corresponds to their active use of these services of Government projects today.

Jhiranya – Claiming Rights

For a long time inhabitants of the Jhiranya Millennium Village lived from forest fruits, as their ancestors had done for many centuries before. Because companies cut down the forest, the Adivasi have to farm the land. There are numerous laws, which guarantee state support to those in need or give indigenous peoples the right to claim land rights. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA) also grants every Indian household the right to 100 days of paid



MDG 2 and 4: Nimpith: Singing and praying before the midday meal



MDG 4: Nimpith: The girl Mampi gets solid food. She was severe acute malnourished and gained 2 kg after proper advice

Jan Sahas becomes partner organisation of Welthungerhilfe

2010

2011

Jhiranya & Nimpith become Millennium Villages

2014

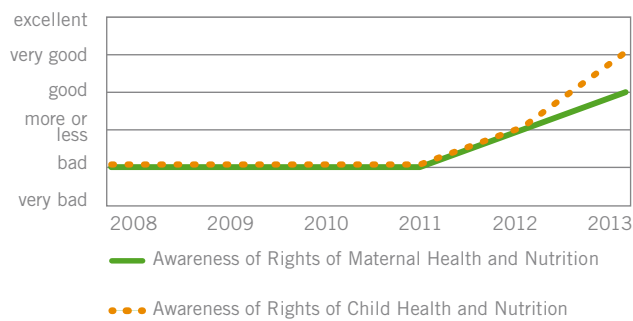
2015

Narendra Modi becomes Prime Minister

“I am proud when I see significant changes. Thanks to active treatment, an acutely malnourished boy has changed from a lethargic child to an active, playful individual.” says the 24-years old Sharmistha Some.

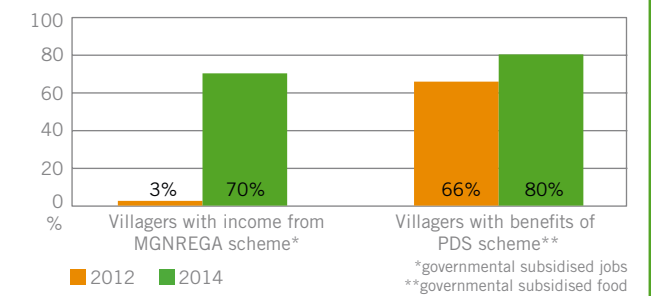


Villagers' assessment regarding the awareness of their rights in Jhiranya (MDG 4, 5)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

Villagers with benefits from Governmental Schemes in Jhiranya (MDG 1)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

work, for example in road construction. With the Forest Right Act, indigenous people can claim their right to the land where they used to live but where they were forced to move.

Guaranteed rights is one thing. To claim them and apply them is quite another. It is difficult, but it is possible. As a first step, the residents set up self-help groups with the support of Welthungerhilfe and their partner organisation Jan Sahas. 65 year-old Shymai Bai discovered for the first time in workshops which rights were entitled to her community. Moreover, she discussed with others how she could go about claiming these rights. For example: wall newspapers, which help to make schoolchildren aware of the problems in their schools.

Numerous committees began to look closely at the work of the state health centres and to monitor the adherence to budgets for state positions and laws, and to make use of state support. Step by step successes were achieved: In this way, the residents – with support from the state – were able to drill 17 wells. Schoolchildren received free lunch in four schools and in three health centres. Over 1,200 men and women profited from the MGNREGA state employment scheme.

Successes and new Targets

State support is important financially. Much more important, however, is that the people in Jhiranya, Nimpith and Sarwan know their rights and are able to claim these from the government



MDG 1: Sarwan: Women's self-help group discussion about microcredits



MDG 4: Jhiranya: Survey about malnutrition



MDG 5: Sarwan: The women's group discussing the service quality of the local health center



MDG 4: Nimpith: Mothers and children waiting for food distribution



MDG 7: Sarwan: Sri Srikanth Yada with its ecological grown egg plants

confidently. They have fought for access to employment support and nutrition programmes (MDG 1), as well as better school education for their children (MDG 2). Malnutrition of children in the project area has sunk by around eight percent. Apart from this, the level of medical treatment for mothers (MDG 5) has also improved and the infant mortality rate (MDG 4) has decreased. The people are now much more aware how they can farm their land more sustainably and how they can store their harvests better. Today they use compost they have produced themselves rather than pesticides and protect the environment in doing so (MDG 7).

The combination of agricultural methods for higher harvests, and claiming rights, has proved particularly successful for an improved nutritional status. "The government must fulfill promises concerning what the citizens are entitled to in this country", says Ashif Shaikh, founder of the partner organisation Jan Sahas in Jhiranya. People have internalised his fierce solution. 65 year-old Shymai Bai looks positively toward the future: "Everyone used to only look out for themselves. Now we have become a community. We recognise our rights together and are working together for a better future."

	India 2009	India 2015	Germany 2015
Population	1,166 m	1,236 m	80.6 m
Population Density	354,7 p/km ²	375,9 p/km ²	231 p/km ²
Gross Domestic Product per person & per year	833 €	1,088 €	33,606 €
Life Expectancy at Birth Men	67.5 years	66.7 years	78.6 years
Life Expectancy at Birth Women	72.6 years	69.1 years	83.3 years
Total Fertility Rate	2.72 per woman	2.51 per woman	1.38 per woman
Infant Mortality Rate	3.0%	4.3%	0.3%
Literacy	61.0%	62.8%	99%
Labour Force in Agriculture	60%	49%	1.6%
Global Hunger Index	23.9 – serious	17.8 – serious	-
Human Development Index	0.612 (rank 134/182)	0.586 (rank 135/195)	0.911 (rank 6/195)
World Risk Report	7.68% (rank 71/173)	7.04% (rank 85/171)	3.01% (rank 147/171)
Gender Gap Score	0.6151 (rank 114/134)	0.6455 (rank 114/142)	0.7780 (rank 12/142)

Source: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft/UNU-EHS, CIA, IFPRI/Concern/Welthungerhilfe, UNDP, Worldbank, World Economic Forum



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COUNTRY REPORT

Millennium Village Kanat Toch – Cambodia





MDG 7: The traditional use of natural resources is strengthened – Women on their way to harvest bamboo shoots in the forest



MDG 1: Improved nutrition through traditional diet and nutrient-rich foods under Improved



MDG 3: Women strengthen their cohesion in the cooking group

Millennium Village Kanat Toch – Cambodia

Progress in the rice field

Paradise could be in Kanat Toch: Northeast Cambodia has fertile soil, sufficient water, and fruits and vegetables grow wild everywhere. In the Virachey National Park the ethnic minorities once lived in harmony with the luscious nature there, which provided them with sufficient food. Then, the civil war raged for over 30 years and with it, the tyranny of the Khmer Rouge. Since then, the residents of the Ratanakiri province are among the most underprivileged people in the country. They were driven away and settled on the banks of the Se San river – without any seeds, tools or work. Hunger, hardship and life-threatening illnesses were rampant. Two thirds of all children suffered from chronic malnutrition.

Today, the rice fields in Cambodia’s Millennium Village are once again a magnificent green. The plants hang low from the weight of the crops. “We are now placing the plants farther apart. That increases root growth”, Youel Romam explains. The 43-year-old paddy farmer is actively involved in the village community despite having seven children. She has been in charge of the women’s cooking group of 12 women since 2010. Over the past eight years, she participated in every training course for agriculture, nutrition or hygiene. With its partner organisation Centre d’Etude et de Développement Agricole Cambodgien

(CEDAC), Welthungerhilfe has been committed to this neglected region since 2004.

A lot has happened in and around Kanat Toch since then. Many families in the two settlements of the Millennium Village till their rice fields using the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) seed saving method. Experts from the CEDAC showed how this method works; in theory and especially in practice on the fields. Welthungerhilfe provided high quality seeds and teams of oxen. “Now, the fields are just kept moist and no longer flooded; in doing so, we were able to double our crops whilst saving water”, Youel Romam says. These small-scale farmers keep a section of the rice fields fallow so the soil can recover and new nutrients can form for the next growing season. The families store the crops in storage containers; some are sold if the prices on the market are good.

Healthy with the help of vegetables, fruits and animal husbandry

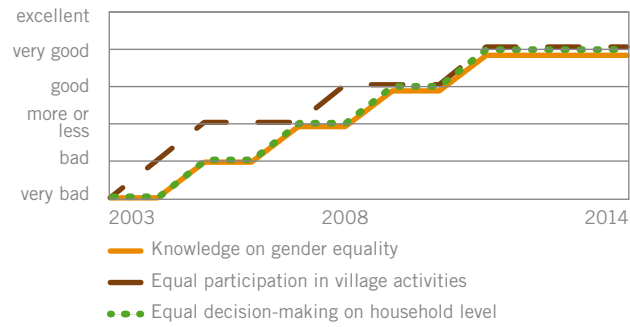
Today, in addition to the staple food rice, most families in Kanat Toch eat fruits and vegetables daily. Ten years ago that was still unthinkable. “We had no idea what vitamins were and that is why vegetables are so important for the human body”, 20-year-old Hanim Romam says. The young woman just recently joined the cooking group but she has already learned a great deal. She



“Now, the fields are just kept moist and no longer flooded; in doing so, we were able to double our crops whilst saving water”, Youel Romam says.

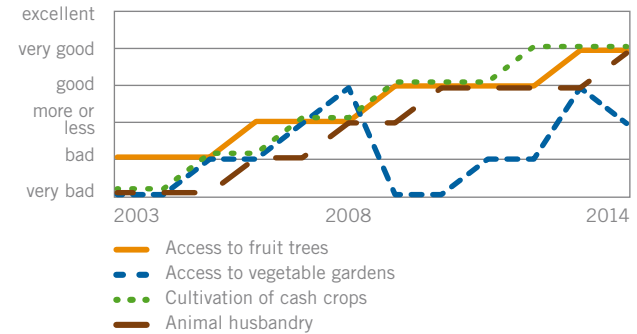


Villagers' assessment about gender equality (MDG 3)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

Villagers' assessment regarding their hunger and poverty situation (MDG 1)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

grows black-eyed peas, garlic, onions, watermelon and chilli in her vegetable garden. There is always something growing right outside the door all year long. “The food is rich in variety and always tastes good. Now I also know which leaves and roots I can look for in the woods, so I can make my meals even tastier and healthier.” An older woman in the cooking group adds: “We cut bamboo and peel the sprouts right in the woods; just like our ancestors used to do. Welthungerhilfe helped us remember that. Now, we use many of these traditional and nutrient-rich foods again.”

Today, the people in Kanat Toch eat a much wider variety of foods than in the past. They are therefore healthier and have more energy. In 2013, nine out of ten households had already planted fruit-bearing trees, half of them up to four different kinds. 38 per cent of small-scale farmers even grew more than five different kinds, and three percent more than ten. All families have chickens, ducks or geese. The quacking and honking emerging from the new coops can be heard throughout the village. Fish from ponds provide the people with an additional source of protein. Work in the forests is declining while the small-scale farming households are stepping up their farming. This doubled the monthly income, from 24,000 Cambodian riels (5.5 Euros) to 48,000 riels

(11 Euros). Families cultivate cashews, manioc, sesame and other cash crops for sale. And at the same time, progress in the Millennium Village is not at the expense of nature, due to the comprehensive approach Linking Agriculture, Natural Resource Management and Nutrition (LANN). In fact, it combines agriculture, environmental management and adequate food supply with resource-friendly cultivation methods, which have a positive effect on the environment. Soil and forest conservation are just as important as the preservation of natural water cycles.

Land grabbing – a new catastrophe

Land grabbing on the other hand, is causing drastic problems. Without any regard to the people, the government is providing large enterprises with more and more cropland, which is then turned into rubber and cashew plantations for export. The land is simply stolen from the ethnic minorities. And, the forests around Kanat Toch are diminishing and with them, the chances for small family farmers to survive. They do not hold any land titles and have little chance of enforcing their claims against multinational enterprises and corrupt politicians. And in addition to that, extreme weather conditions such as droughts or cyclones are becoming more common. The effects of these natural disasters are devastating due to deforestation and mono-cropping by large-scale investors.

30 years of civil war and terror of the Khmer Rouge

Welthungerhilfe starts its commitment in the region. CEDAC becomes partner organisation
Kanat Toch becomes a Millennium Village





MDG 7: Improving hygiene – comparing past and present



MDG 7: Clean drinking water for an improved hygiene

Welthungerhilfe and CEDAC are committed to taking on these new dangers and challenges. People are informed about their rights and advised with respect to legal questions and issues. More and more villagers are fighting for a land title – and can now proudly show one. However, that is by far not enough. “In the future, we want to do more rights-based work; provide the people with solicitors. We want them to have their land – or be compensated”, says Dirk Reber, Regional Coordinator of Welthungerhilfe for Cambodia and Laos.

Empowering women

This also applies to women’s rights. Their role in the development of the Millennium Village is growing. The traditional understanding of roles is slowly beginning to change. Meanwhile, some men, although not all, see this as an advantage. Women have a say at home and in matters pertaining to farming, and are involved in village committees with equal rights. “Some men needed to get used to the fact they are no longer deciding everything on their own”, says Youel Romam determined. The leader of the women’s cooking group gradually improved her new self-confidence. In the process it was important to contribute to the family income.

Welthungerhilfe and CEDAC introduced her to various recipes, of which she uses some to earn money. For example the popular dessert “Nom Korng”. Youel Romam sells the little rice cakes for just under 440 riels (10 cents) a piece. The courses in

hygiene taught her how to make washing up liquid from basic ingredients. She now sells it in half litre bottles and in the process earns up to 105,000 riels (24 Euros) a month. From this position, Youel Romam can now say: “Of course we needed support in the beginning. However in the future, we simply need to organise ourselves.”

Clean water is still a challenge

One of the main problems in Kanat Toch was also the poor supply of drinking water. The people were dependent on the dirty water from the Se San River. Since then, they have built 52 wells with the help of Welthungerhilfe and CEDAC. Now, two thirds of the families can use clean water near their homes. For seven out of ten, the next well is not farther than 50 metres away. Latrines and washbasins provide for better hygiene. Nevertheless, clean water and an intact environment are still future challenges. Land grabbing, deforestation and mono-cropping are destroying the natural cycles, which Welthungerhilfe is intent on supporting with its comprehensive LANN approach. All the more important to continue encouraging the village community, so they can claim their rights to a self-determined life in harmony with nature from the government.

	Cambodia 2009	Cambodia 2015	Germany 2015
Population	14.5 m	15.5 m	80.6 m
Population Density	80m ¹ p/km ²	85m ⁶ p/km ²	231 p/km ²
Gross Domestic Product per person & per year	534 €	731 €	33,606 €
Life Expectancy at Birth Men	60 years	61.4 years	78.6 years
Life Expectancy at Birth Women	64.3 years	66.3 years	83.3 years
Total Fertility Rate	3.04 per woman	2.66 per woman	1.38 per woman
Infant Mortality Rate	5.5%	5.1%	0.3%
Literacy	73.6%	73.9%	99%
Labour Force in Agriculture	75%	55.8%	1.6%
Global Hunger Index	21.2 – alarming	16.1 – serious	-
Human Development Index	0.593 (rank 137/182)	0.584 (rank 136/195)	0.911 (rank 6/195)
World Risk Report	16.58% (rank 9/173)	17.12% (rank 9/171)	3.01% (rank 147/171)
Gender Gap Score	0.6410 (rank 104/134)	0.6520 (rank 108/142)	0.7780 (rank 12/142)

Source: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft/UNU-EHS, CIA, IFPRI/Concern/Welthungerhilfe, UNDP, Worldbank, World Economic Forum



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COUNTRY REPORT

Millennium Village Korak – Nepal





MDG 1: Vegetables for an improved diet



MDG 7: Outdoor environmental studies with school children



MDG 2: Equal education for boys and girls



MDG 1: Livestock for better food and more income

Millennium Village Korak – Nepal

A green concept sets a precedent

Shreemaya Tamang opens the tap. Clear water flows into a plastic cup. She can tap water right in her kitchen twice a day. “In the past, I had to scoop the water from spring water holes. During dry seasons, it took me several hours to hike down to the river to fetch it. My children suffered from diarrhoea and could not go to school”, the mother of three says. That’s a thing of the past since the adopted measures have been effective in the Millennium Village Korak. The water flows out of a tank directly erected above the houses. “Today, instead of medication I buy school supplies”, Shreemaya Tamang says.

Shreemaya Tamang comes from Korak, located 180 kilometers west of Nepal’s capital city Kathmandu in the Chitwan district. Nearly 9,000 people live in the many small communities which form the project region of Korak. Most of the residents belong to the ethnic minorities Chepang and Tamang as well as the disadvantaged Dalits caste.

Like most of the families here, the Tamangs cultivate less than a hectare of land, on which they grow maize, millet and buckwheat. In former times, the crops yielded by the wearisome field work did not suffice to feed the families. Almost all families were food-deprived for six to nine months each year

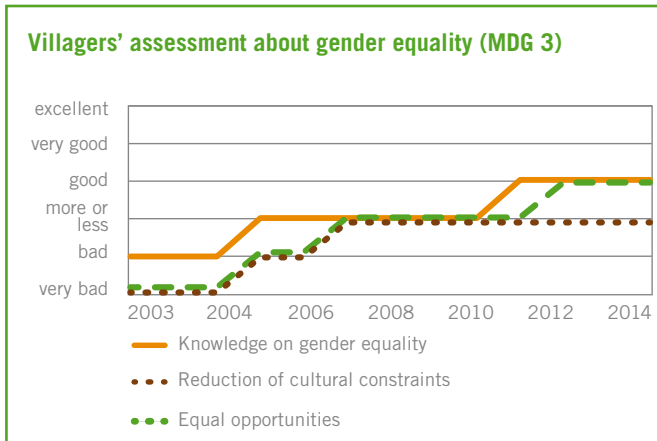
and survived due to wild food collection like roots and tubers. Yet the soil in Korak is fertile and the climate is favourable for agriculture. Precious timber and medicinal herbs grow in the forest. However, changing extreme weather conditions such as torrential rain and drought periods threaten the existence of the families time and time again.

Since Korak became a Millennium Village in 2011, the people have gradually been improving their situation with the help of Rural Construction Nepal (RRN), Welthungerhilfe’s local partner organisation: For example by growing new crops in a resource-efficient manner, making their own organic fertiliser and organic pesticide, and experimenting with new agricultural methods like organic farming. This is not easy given that the people grew up with their traditional cultivation methods. “Many projects fail because the people often do not accept new ideas. That is why we involve them in all developments from the very beginning”, says Surendra Gautam from Welthungerhilfe in Nepal.

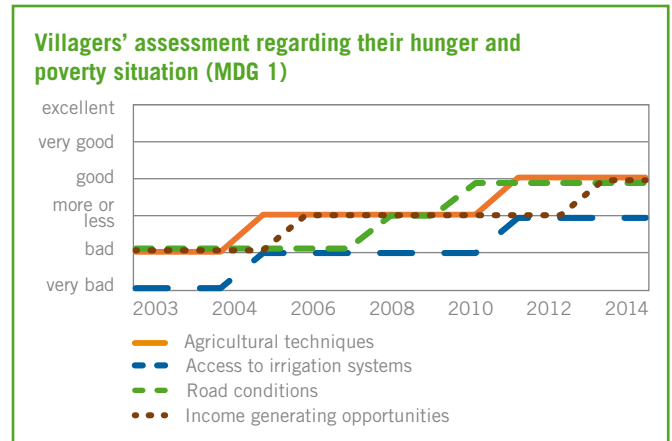
Mahendra Chepang remembers the beginnings very well. “All of the 1,200 families were asked about their wishes, their strengths and resources”, the 22-year-old resident explains. They devised a village development plan and targets. And,



“Today, instead of medication I buy school supplies”, Shreemaya Tamang says.



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

because the Nepalese government was hardly present, they built up their own democratic structures in the past four years. Meanwhile, there is a People's Forum made up of elected village members who drew up a development plan and stay in contact with authorities. Moreover, the residents established eight forest user groups, 56 construction groups, and a farmers' cooperative.

These democratic structures form the basis for development and support the Village Development Committee (VDC) Council, the planning constitutional body at local level. All people in Korak should be able to have access to sufficient food and a healthy diet. However, this is only possible if the farmers can sell their surplus produce on the markets in the vicinity. Residents therefore undertook the strenuous effort of repairing 22 kilometres of roads. They further built an eight-kilometre irrigation network and irrigation ponds for rainwater harvesting. Using this water infrastructure, more than 300 small-scale family farmers water approximately 176 hectares of agricultural crop land. They harvest 20 per cent more corn. Moreover, they also grow additional fruits: The farmers earn more money with mangos, lychees, pineapples, beans, spinach and squash. Meanwhile 3,150 fruit trees are growing throughout the project region and women are harvesting various types of vegetables in

more than 650 gardens, allowing them to feed their families a more balanced diet. The members of the farmers' cooperative transport the harvested produce to nearby markets to sell, using a jointly organised vehicle. Some of the farmers also became seed producers and supply seeds to a local seed company.

These achievements can be permanent if the people in Korak preserve the diversity of their environment and use their resources in a conservative manner. Welthungerhilfe and their partner organisation Friends of Nature use the concept "Green Schools", to appeal to girls and boys, thus future farmers. As a part of the teachings, adolescents learn how to collect rain-water, how to find and identify wild herbs, how to use the forest, and also how to reforest it. "By approaching the children, we also reach the parents", Surendra Gautam explains the concept.

There was good progress in meeting the Millennium Development Goals selected by the villagers. Not only did poverty and hunger decline. In former times, women were banned from participating in public discussions; they now play an active part, for example the 22-year-old Mahendra Chepang: "For me it is important to be a part of a mutual plan, and that for the first time in my life, I am asked about my wishes and ideas."

Welthungerhilfe supports Nepal again
 Welthungerhilfe and Rural Reconstruction Network (RRN) cooperate in the region
 Decreased food production and increased famine

Civil war between the Government and Maoist rebels



Mahendra Chepang says: **“For me it is important to be a part of a mutual plan, and that for the time in my life, I am asked about my wishes and ideas.”**



MDG 1: Sreemaya Chepang proudly feeds her cattle

On 25 April and 12 May 2015, a magnitude 7.8 and 7.3 struck Nepal, killing over 8,000 people and destroying more than 480,000 houses. Roads are blocked and cultural monuments reduced to rubble. More than 8 million Nepali dependent on humanitarian aid.

inputs and shelter goods to those affected by the crisis. However, the weeks to come will not be easy. Although schools will reopen soon and foster a kind of daily life, harvests will fail, income easily lost and families need to recover. During this severe setback, we continue to support the people to further strengthen their capacities and to quickly overcome such heavy stroke of fate.

While some of the districts were severely damaged, the people in Korak were very lucky: Everybody survived the earthquake and only few lost their houses – around 24 houses collapsed, in addition a number of latrines. In other parts of the country, Welthungerhilfe and its partner organisation already provided

	Nepal 2009	Nepal 2015	Germany 2015
Population	28.56 m	30.99 m	80.6 m
Population Density	194 p/km ²	211 p/km ²	231 p/km ²
Gross Domestic Product per person & per year	353 €	504 €	33,606 €
Life Expectancy at Birth Men	64.3 years	65.9 years	78.6 years
Life Expectancy at Birth Women	66.7 years	68.6 years	83.3 years
Total Fertility Rate	2.64 per woman	2.3 per woman	1.38 per woman
Infant Mortality Rate	4.75%	4.04%	0.3%
Literacy	48.6%	57.4%	99%
Labour Force in Agriculture	76%	75%	1.6%
Global Hunger Index	19.8 serious	16.4 serious	-
Human Development Index	0.553 (rank 144/182)	0.540 (rank 145/195)	0.911 (rank 6/195)
World Risk Report	6.15% (rank 99/173)	5.29% (rank 108/171)	3.01% (rank 147/171)
Gender Gap Score	0.6213 (rank 110/134)	0.6458 (rank 112/142)	0.7780 (rank 12/142)

Map: Welthungerhilfe

Source: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft/UNU-EHS, CIA, IFPRI/Concern/Welthungerhilfe, UNDP, Worldbank, World Economic Forum

Famine

Welthungerhilfe decided to expand its project work in Nepal



Climate change

Korak becomes a Millennium Village



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COUNTRY REPORT

Millennium Village Veshab – Tajikistan





MDG 7: Resource management can reduce erosion and contribute to environmental sustainability



MDG 1: Beekeeping for an improved income generation and food security



MDG 3: Sewing courses and income generation to empower women

Millennium Village Veshab – Tajikistan

Sense of hope in the Zerafshan valley

The houses and huts in Veshab are nestled up against the steep slopes of the Zerafshan valley in northwestern Tajikistan. A few trees, very little green countryside and above all, cliffs, rocks and boulders.





Veshab is a typical Tajik village. Until 2006, the approximately 2,000 residents had a great deal of land but barely any farmland and the crops it yielded did not suffice for them to live from. Many children suffered from malnutrition and the limited access to jobs and sources of income meant that the men had to look for work in other regions. The story was the same as the one echoed across the country: eight out of ten people here live on less than a dollar per day. However, much has happened since Veshab became a Millennium Village together with the neighbouring villages of Darg and Shamtuch in 2006.

The village has seen the introduction of new cultivation techniques, irrigation schemes, additional agricultural products and their marketing, new drinking water facilities and education for girls – the list of developments is long. “Before the project began, we drew our water right out of the streams but now, with the help of a pipeline, we can enjoy clean drinking water” says Rukia Nazarowa, mother of four. Severe cases of diarrhoea have become rare thanks to the routine awareness-raising of hygiene and sanitation practices and, should a child or adult fall ill, they are treated in the new health centre.

The villagers have initiated many individual steps with the support of Welthungerhilfe – all of which are part of a systematic plan. Mutual discussions have led to mutual decisions being made and to the establishment of the Public Organization Zarafshan (POZ) and a Women’s Committee. This local organization will persevere even when Welthungerhilfe completes its project; Rukia Nazarowa, head of the Women’s Committee, is convinced of that.

Educate and earn a higher income

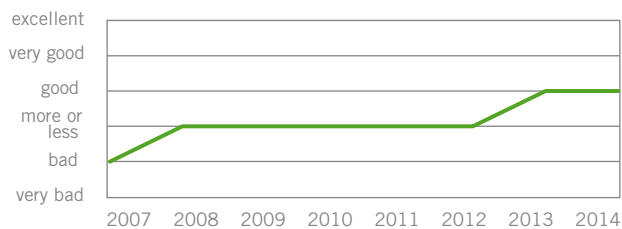
The education of girls in particular shows how much the perspective in Veshab has changed. In the beginning, most villagers were hesitant “convincing the parents of the idea took a great deal of time because girls are traditionally married off at a young age and therefore, have to leave school at the age of eleven at the latest”, 43-year-old Rukia Nazarowa reports. Today, she offers sewing classes for the girls which means that the people can now buy clothing in the village and no longer need to travel to the town of Aini, which is 90 minutes away. They save on the cost of transportation and the women earn money which stays in the village. Rukia Nazarowa has noticed how the relationship between men and women is changing. “Nowadays, even married women are going to university or are completing their vocational training. This would have been unimaginable in the past”, says the head of the Women’s Committee.

 <p>Today, there are 34 beekeeper with 230 beehives in Veshab</p>	<p>34 ha</p> <p>of apricot orchards with a yield of 40 to 70 tons per year</p>	 <p>The women group of Veshab offers sewing courses and a wedding dress for rent</p>	 <p>Honey and propolis ointment is sold regionally</p>	 <p>Everybody has access to and uses clean drinking water</p>	<p>18</p> <p>fruit driers have been produced locally and are in use and distributed locally</p>
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“Nowadays, even married women are going to university or are completing their Vocational training. This would have been unimaginable in the past”, says Rukia Nazarowa.



Villagers' assessment regarding community health (MDG 1)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

Villagers' assessment about gender equality (MDG 3)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

Agricultural yields are increasing

How can agricultural yields be increased when working on the limited farmland available? As a first step, the men and women repaired their dire irrigation system and with the help of experts, implemented an economical drip irrigation system. In order to avoid erosion, they built fields into terraces. They learned to use water sparingly in routine training sessions and established support groups in which they experimented with new cultivation methods, tested new fruits or grew seeds in greenhouses. A great example of their keenness for innovation is beekeeping – until recently unknown – and the drying of fruit using solar dryers. Meanwhile there are 34 beekeepers in Veshab, each of whom makes 34 Somoni (5 Euros) for each kilo of honey they produce. The honey's good quality has won the beekeepers some customers in the capital Dushanbe's hotel sector, including the Hyatt and others. Furthermore, women extract propolis or bee glue, which has an antibiotic and antiviral quality and which can be sold for a good price. The dried fruit can also be marketed well or helps to sustain the families through the winter period.

Despite great successes in Veshab over the past ten years, not all of the measures implemented have proved as successful as planned meaning that the people here are still faced with great challenges. Deforestation remains a problem due to the fact that people still cook using firewood and many young men and women are turning their backs on Veshab to seek greener pastures elsewhere.

According to Husein Sulonov, agricultural engineer and elected head of the POZ, the residents of Veshab have set a positive process into motion, which helps them to yield larger harvests and procure additional income. “Thanks to the mixture of small investments in infrastructure and further education on the one hand and superior products on the other, we have succeeded in achieving sustainable development” says Sulonov. It is particularly pleasing that word of Veshab's success is spreading. As the realisation that Veshab's development can be replicated elsewhere dawns, delegations from other villages are descending on Veshab to learn about how they can bring about similar changes in their communities.

	Tajikistan 2009	Tajikistan 2015	Germany 2015
Population	7.35 m	8.05 m	80.6 m
Population Density	51 p/km ²	56 p/km ²	231 p/km ²
Gross Domestic Product per person & per year	486 €	753 €	33,606 €
Life Expectancy at Birth Men	62.3 years	64 years	78.6 years
Life Expectancy at Birth Women	68.5 years	70.3 years	83.3 years
Total Fertility Rate	2.99 per women	2.76 per women	1.38 per women
Infant Mortality Rate	4.1%	3.5%	0.3%
Literacy	99.5%	99.7%	99%
Labour Force in Agriculture	67%	46%	1.6%
Global Hunger Index	18.5 – serious	16.4 – serious	-
Human Development Index	0.688 (rank 127/182)	0.607 (rank 133/195)	0.911 (rank 6/195)
World Risk Report	7.47% (rank 73/173)	7.17% (rank 70/171)	3.01% (rank 147/171)
Gender Gap Score	0.6661 (rank 87/134)	0.6654 (rank 102/142)	0.7780 (rank 12/142)

Source: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft/UNU-EHS, CIA, IFPRI/Concern/Welthungerhilfe, UNDP, Worldbank, World Economic Forum





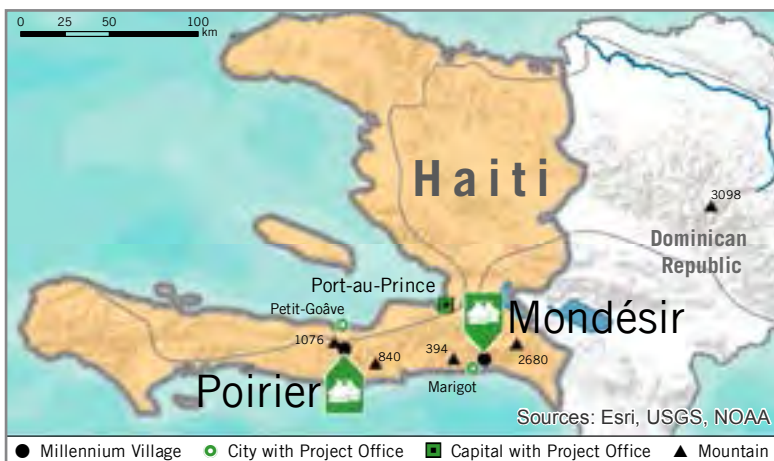
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COUNTRY REPORT

Millennium Villages Mondésir and Poirir – Haiti





MDG 7: In the nursery in Mondésir new seedlings are produced



MDG 1: The bakery in Poirier – new income opportunities



MDG 1: Carrots for an improved diet and an increased income

Millennium Villages Mondésir and Poirier – Haiti

Defying earthquakes and storms, people have hope again

When the earth begins to shake at 4 p.m. on 12 January 2010, houses and bridges collapse. Water pipes burst, the power is cut and the whole infrastructure collapses. 316,000 people die under the rubble or as a result of their injuries. Every second citizen loses their home.

Two years later Hurricane Sandy and Hurricane Isaac destroy the south of the country and with it the entire year's harvest. Groceries become scarce, prices increase. The frequent natural disasters intensify the distress in the country.

Haiti is the poorest country in the world, not least because political instability scares off investors and tourists. Two million people – twenty per cent of the population starving. The two Millennium Villages – Poirier in the south-east, Mondésir in the south – reflect the conditions in the Caribbean state with a growing population pressure. In Poirier, for example, 560 people live on one square metre; more than double the number of that in Germany. Because the people are virtually completely dependent on what their fields produce, the pressure is enormous. Year upon year, the land becomes less fertile, the harvests more and more meagre. The people exploit “new land”, fell more trees, even on steep cliffs. Heavy rainfall sweeps away the land, all that remains is barren slopes. Scarcely two per

cent of Haiti is still covered by forest.

Break the downward spiral

But what can we do? If we want to help the people, a variety of measures must interlink which protect the land and promise better harvests. At the same time, these measures must lead to reforestation of these degraded areas. It sounds like squaring the circle, and yet people have already started this process. Awareness raising and education are two keys to sustainable development in both Millennium Villages. With the help of Welthungerhilfe, the partner organisations Action pour un Développement Durable (ACDED) in Mondésir and Concert Action in Poirier have introduced alternative methods for agriculture and reforestation. In workshops, men and women have learned to cultivate new varieties of fruits and to preserve groceries, to plant new forests and to work the land sustainably. As the people in the project regions are frequently subjected to extreme weather, the measures are also targeted at minimising risks and to protect – insofar as possible – the people against natural disasters.

Participation

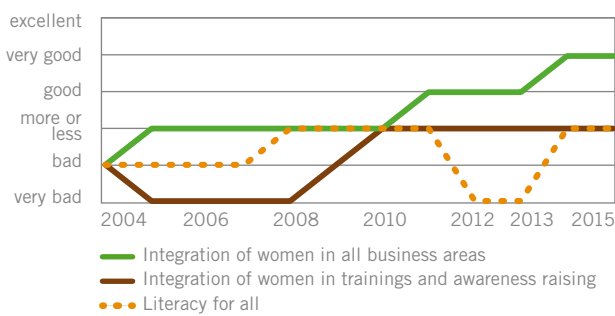
This is successful where communal structures take root and residents are involved. In Mondésir, ACDED has organised a total of 17 workshops with representatives of the local authorities

<p>400</p> <p>In Mondésir, around 400 persons were trained in refinement techniques and share their knowledge</p>	 <p>In Mondésir, fruits are transformed into jam and juices</p>	 <p>In 6 new nurseries in Mondésir more than 100,000 seedlings were produced</p>	 <p>The bakery supplies Poirier daily with fresh bread</p>	<p>113,000</p> <p>More than 113,000 seedlings were planted in Poirier</p>	 <p>In Poirier, 1,100 farmers grow new vegetables like cabbage, leek, pepper and tomatos</p>
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Jean-Philippe Hubert, a resident of Poirer: **“Women are the pillars of each family and each community and they bear more responsibility. Unfortunately, however, their rights are often not respected.”**

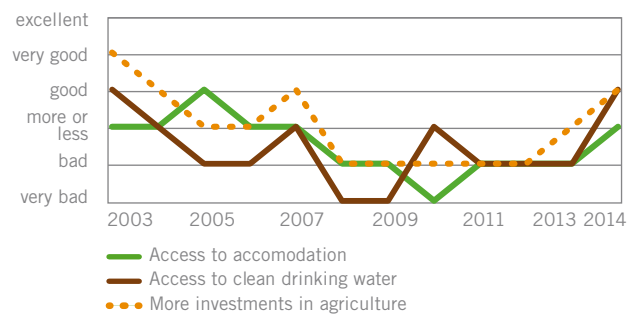


Villagers' assessment of aspects related to gender equality in Poirier (MDG 3)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

Villagers' assessment of aspects related to poverty in Mondésir (MDG 1)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

and farmers' organisations in which both parties discuss their roles and identify the respective tasks.

However, this is only one side of the coin. Jean-Philippe Hubert, a resident of Poirer, describes the other: “Women are the pillars of each family and each community and they bear more responsibility. Unfortunately, however, their rights are often not respected.” For this reason the father of 8 children chaired a debate with men and women about women’s rights and gender roles. Things are still a far way from equality, as Félisie Jean Louis is aware. “We must continue to fight for our place in society,” says the 60 year-old mother of 8 children. At the same time she can see progress.

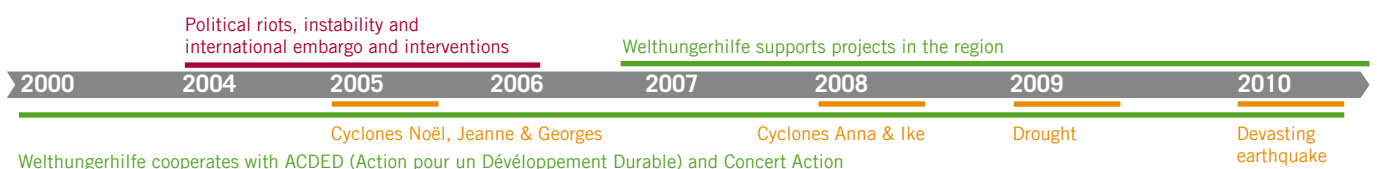
Vegetable gardens for more nourishment and independence

Vegetable gardens play an important role, for example in Poirier. Residents here, predominantly women, have planted numerous vegetable gardens in which peas, corn, tomatoes, peppers and leeks grow today. With the help of Concert Action, the women learned how they could grow vegetables, produce their own compost and do something against the ever present soil erosion. Today the women earn their own money through selling their own vegetables. “We can contribute to our children’s school fees, we can buy medicine and we no longer need to ask our husbands for money,” explains Félisie Hean Louis with delight.

Agriculture – new methods, greater harvests

The smallholders now use organic fertiliser and pesticide which they produce themselves. This protects the environment and unburdens families, as it saves the money which would otherwise be spent on chemical crop plant protection. And they eat healthier.

Which field crops the farmers plant is decisive for the income. “We have received seeds for pomegranate, chilli, and pepper from Concert Action. With these crops we can get very good prices in the city,” explains Benèche Jean Claude from Poirier. Simain Gustain, a farmer from Mondésir, also sees progress. “Today we produce much more than we used to. Some of it we eat, and we sell the rest,” says the 27 year-old. In doing so they cultivate their land in Mondésir with a method which combines livestock farming with agriculture and forest management, for example to produce organic fertiliser made from leaves and animal dung. “We have planted mango, citrus and avocado trees and have planted tomatoes, carrots and cabbage in the spaces inbetween,” explains Simain.



Simain Gustain, a farmer from Mondésir, also sees progress.
“Today we produce much more than we used to. Some of it we eat, and we sell the rest,” says the 27 year-old.



MDG 1: Production of fruit juices for sale



MDG 1: Fruits are transformed to jam

Trees make a good long-term investment

Because people now understand how important the shade from the trees is for many of their types of fruit, the residents are much more open to the idea of reforestation. This is difficult in the beginning because the rewards can only be seen in the long-term.

To make the links between erosion, harvest and reforestation clearer, Concert Action and ACDED organised numerous workshops with a total of nearly 1,700 participants. Around 300 people from the village learned in special courses how to reforest areas and to grow their own seedlings. In total, the partner organisation distributed over half a million seedlings to the population. Furthermore, in Poirier they developed a land use plan, which clearly shows how the available forested areas can be used without endangering current stocks.

Refining and conserving fruit

For a long time, the months before the next harvest used to be hard for the people in both Millennium Villages because

the groceries ran out weeks too early. Nowadays, vegetables are harvested in the vegetable gardens all year round. This alleviates the situation a little.

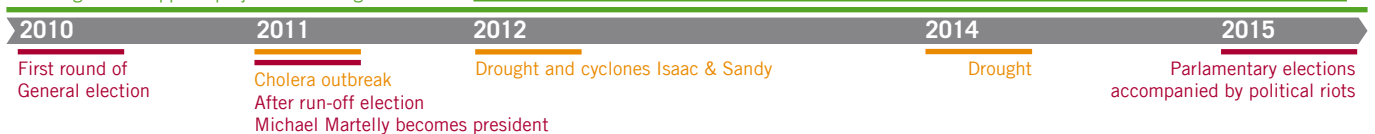
The new production centres play an important role, production centres which the Welthungerhilfe has supported in both project regions. Men and women conserve their agricultural products here by preserving or drying them. In doing so they minimise loss in storage and can fall back on these in times of need. They also refine fruit such as mangoes and tomatoes, avocados, pepper, chilli and pomegranate. From these they produce juices, jams and liqueurs which then generate high prices on the markets in neighbouring cities.

Own bread in Poirier

In Poirier there is now a brickwork bakery. They bake their own bread in a wood oven. Previously the bread was delivered to the village by donkey from the small town Petit-Goâve, 23 kilometres away. The money for the bread now stays in Poirier, the firewood comes from the sustainably managed forests. 12 men

Welthungerhilfe supports projects in the region

Mondésir & Poirier become Millennium Villages





MDG 7: Reforested area in comparison to a rocky, cleared mountain



and women are employed at the bakery today. Using the earnings from the bakery, the residents intend to extend the timber plantations and to expand their bakery.

Hope has returned

The people of Poirier and Mondésir have been working together with ACDED, Concert Action and Welthungerhilfe since September 2012. A total of 1,200 families in the two villages profit from the Millennium Initiative. The partners have initiated many projects in the three years since. Not all goals have been realised. As a result of the recurrent natural disasters, ecological sustainability in Poirier must be even further developed in order to reach Millennium Development Goal 7 (MDG). Mondésir has not been as badly affected and is able to show good results. Poverty continues to be rife in both villages, even if starvation (MDG 1) has decreased. These small successes were, however, foreseeable in view of the difficult framework conditions, as the majority of goals can be achieved by the people in the long term.

In Mondésir, the people are today count with drinking water and can fall back on micro-loans if they want to make an investment.

The women of Mondésir are also gaining in confidence. They participate in debates concerning the future and appreciate the changes. As does Pierre Jésula from Mondésir: “By refining our groceries we earn more money,” says the 23 year-old. “We also hope for a vocational school, where we can learn to cook and bake, while also learning how to make calculations and work with computers”. The vision for the future: A vocational school for men and women.

	Haiti 2009	Haiti 2015	Germany 2015
Population	9.04 m	10 m	80.6 m
Population Density	326 p/km ²	360 p/km ²	231 p/km ²
Gross Domestic Product per person & per year	490 €	596 €	33,606 €
Life Expectancy at Birth Men	59.1 years	61.8 years	78.6 years
Life Expectancy at Birth Women	62.5 years	64.6 years	83.3 years
Total Fertility Rate	3.81 per woman	2.79 per woman	1.38 per woman
Infant Mortality Rate	5.96%	4.94%	0.3%
Literacy	52.9%	48.7%	99%
Labour Force in Agriculture	66%	38.1%	1.6%
Global Hunger Index	28.6 – alarming	23.0 – alarming	-
Human Development Index	0.532 (rank 149/182)	0.471 (rank 168/195)	0.911 (rank 6/195)
World Risk Report	11.45% (rank 32/173)	12% (rank 21/171)	3.01% (rank 147/171)
Gender Gap Score	0.6859 (rank 67/134)	0.6906 (rank 78/142)	0.7780 (rank 12/142)

Source: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft/UNU-EHS, CIA, IFPRI/Concern/Welthungerhilfe, UNDP, Worldbank, World Economic Forum

The full report of the Millennium Village initiative and additional material can be found here: www.welthungerhilfe.de/en/millenniumvillages.html
 A short video is available here www.youtube.com

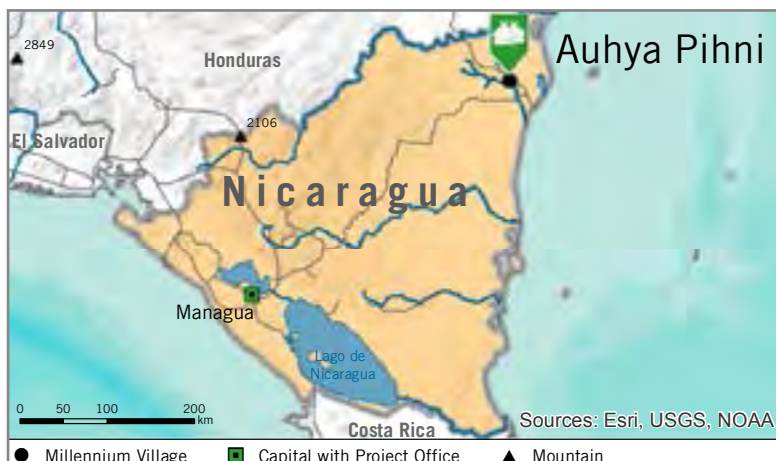


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COUNTRY REPORT

Millennium Village Auhya Pihni – Nicaragua





MDG 3: Education is important for girls



MDG 1: Important for Marketing – the rice peeling machine



MDG 7: One established eco toilet

Millennium Village Auhya Pihni – Nicaragua

Earning more with onions, rice and organic fertilisers

Tornadoes, torrential rain and recurring hurricanes complicate life in the particularly poor northeast of Nicaragua, the poorest country in Central America. Whatever the residents built up yesterday, can be destroyed again tomorrow. Therefore, it is no surprise that many people migrate to the USA or Costa Rica to find work. It is primarily the men, who leave – and the women stay behind to till the fields and raise the children.

The millennium village Auhya Pihni with its 2,300 residents in seven indigenous Miskito communities also suffers from these circumstances. However, for those who stayed many things have been moving in a positive direction in recent years. For example, for Santiago Lewis. The 56-year-old kneels in his field of beans and points at his thriving plants. “I never would have thought I would become a small-scale entrepreneur”, he says. He founded a small company together with other farmers: “Now, we produce seeds for our personal use and for sale.” Today, Santiago Lewis makes a profit by selling the surplus. These earnings enable him to make a better life for his four children and eight grandchildren. And when the next hurricane comes, he has enough seeds to sow the fields again. These circumstances give him the security he needs to stay in Auhya Pihni, and to gradually improve his life. “My ancestors only planted small fields”, says Santiago Lewis. “But now, I have

learned that it is important to work larger areas, to have sufficient crops and seeds for my personal use and for the next sowing period.”

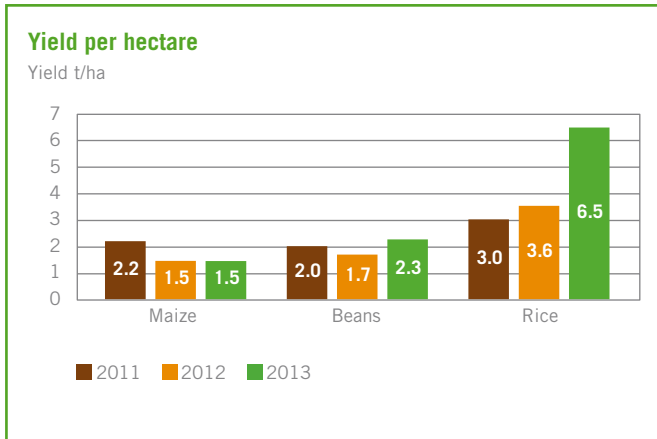
Food insecurity is the central problem in rural regions impacted by severe weather conditions and storms. Children in particular suffer under these circumstances; they quickly develop deficiency symptoms when there is not enough food. The people of Auhya Pihni therefore mutually decided to primarily fight hunger and poverty in their millennium village.

Today, the food the families grow themselves lasts for more than ten months of the year. In 2011 it was not even six months. This success is the result of many measures. For instance, the Miskito people were able to significantly increase their crop yields with the adapted seeds and improved cultivation methods. Meanwhile, they also rely on crop diversity, to meet the challenges of the weather and other harvest risks. While in the past, farmers usually only grew a single crop, today they harvest beans, maize, rice and much more. If maize or beans do not yield sufficient crops due to heavy rains, rice still provides for a good harvest.

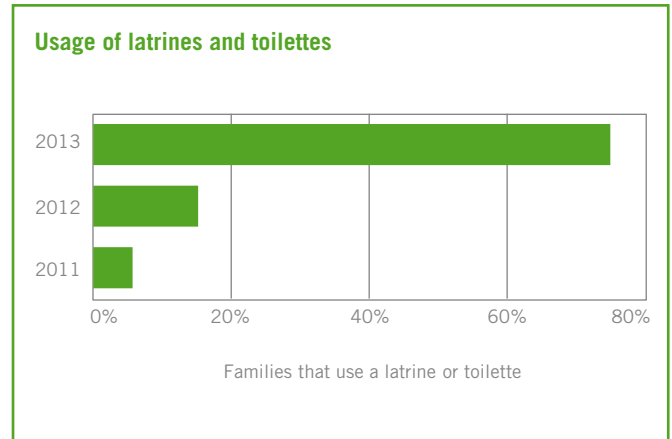
The Miskito people were able to increase the yield of their field crops significantly with all of these measures. Today, they



“Meanwhile, I grow so many vegetables in my own garden, that I can even sell some of them”, explains Ailita Panik Wilson.



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

produce more than six tons of rice per hectare, more than twice as much as only two years ago. The improved transportation routes are also important. Two new footbridges provide a better connection between the fields and the village, separated by the river. Furthermore, the Miskito people built a new road. Thanks to the shorter route to the market, their goods no longer spoil and they are less dependent on distributors, who paid them lower prices.

The Miskito people’s diet is also more diverse today. Tomatoes, cabbage, bulbous plants, peppers and cucumbers grow in approximately 50 newly set up household gardens. “In the past, vegetables were rare in our village. Today, vegetables have become an extremely delicious ingredient in our meals”, the 72-year-old Ailita Panik Wilson explains. “Meanwhile, I grow so many vegetables in my own garden, that I can even sell some of them.” The food not only tastes better but is also

good for physical health. Just like the more than 200 new toilets, the wash houses and the 22 new wells for the supply of drinking water. Hygiene, and consequently people’s health, has improved fundamentally.

“There have been a great deal of positive changes in our lives”, says Maria Zuñiga, mother of six. And, development is intended to continue; for instance with the new municipal microfinance system, which the Miskito people can use to improve marketing their produce and to improve the infrastructure in the villages.

	Nicaragua 2009	Nicaragua 2015	Germany 2015
Population	5.89 m	5.84 m	80.6 m
Population Density	45 p/km ²	44 p/km ²	231 p/km ²
Gross Domestic Product per person & per year	1,060 €	1,345 €	33,606 €
Life Expectancy at Birth Men	69.4 years	70.6 years	78.6 years
Life Expectancy at Birth Women	73.8 years	75 years	83.3 years
Total Fertility Rate	2.57 per woman	1.99 per woman	1.38 per woman
Infant Mortality Rate	2.5%	2.03%	0.3%
Literacy	67.5%	78%	99%
Labour Force in Agriculture	29%	31%	1.6%
Global Hunger Index	10.5 serious	9.5 – moderate	-
Human Development Index	0.699 (rank 124/182)	0.614 (rank 132/195)	0.911 (rank 6/195)
World Risk Report	15.74% (rank 11/173)	14.87% (rank 13/171)	3.01% (rank 147/171)
Gender Gap Score	0.7002 (rank 49/134)	0.7894 (rank 6/142)	0.7780 (rank 12/142)

Map: Welthungerhilfe

Source: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft/UNU-EHS, CIA, IFPRI/Concern/Welthungerhilfe, UNDP, Worldbank, World Economic Forum

Times of civil war, corruption and bad governance

Hurricane Mitch

Welthungerhilfe starts working in the region

Hurricane Felix

Auhya Pihni becomes a Millennium Village

1990

1998

2002 2003 2007

2010

2012

2015

Peace agreement; nevertheless bad governance and corruption persist

Great flood after a winter storm

The „El Niño“ weather phenomenon causes floods and crop failure

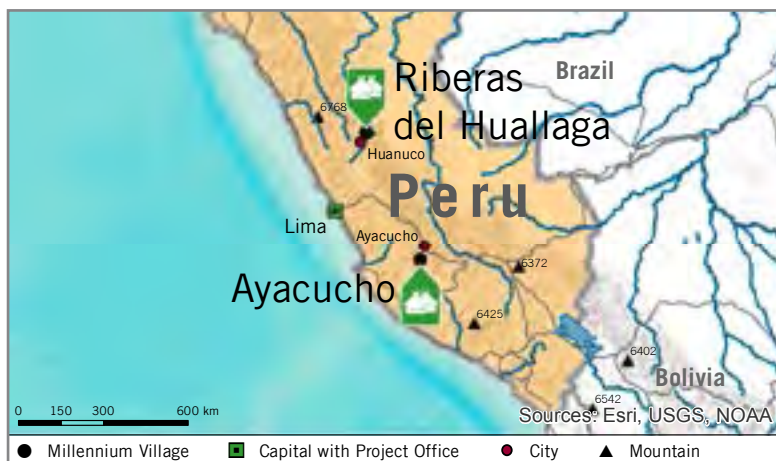


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For a world without hunger

COUNTRY REPORT

Millennium Villages Ayacucho and Riberas del Huallaga – Peru





MDG 7: Landscaping with stone fences



MDG 1: Guinea pig breeding



MDG 1: Cheese for the market



MDG 1: Many different tubers

Pictures: IDMA

Millennium Villages Ayacucho and Riberas del Huallaga – Peru

The combination makes the difference:

Traditional knowledge and modern organic farming





Life in the remote Andean regions is raw and hard. Not much grows at altitudes between 1,900 and 4,500 metres – however, the Inca descendants adapted to their inhospitable surroundings over the centuries. In harmony with nature the Quechua families wrestle potatoes, tubers and beans from the poor soils. They keep alpacas and guinea pigs and protect their steep slopes from erosion with stone walls, bushes and trees. Then in the 1960's, modern farming brought new varieties and chemicals to the region. Many of the traditional tubers were lost, trees were cut down. The armed conflict from 1980 to 2000 – between the Maoist “Shining Path” guerrilla organisation and the Peruvian military – forced thousands of people to flee. The 70,000 killed in the country included three quarters of the Quechua speaking population. The fields and pastures they left behind lay fallow and deserted.

Since then, the regions Ayacucho and Huanuco where the two Peruvian Millennium Villages are located, are among the poorest regions of the emerging Pacific state. The state has not managed to redistribute the earnings from its booming economy.

Around half of the Peruvian rural population lives below the subsistence level. In both Millennium Villages, the figure has risen to 85 percent. Climate change has also had dramatic effects in the highlands: Heavy rainfall causes mudslides and landslides which tear entire slopes and fertile soil along with them. The glaciers melt, and the deforested soil loses its ability to retain water. The freshly harvested seeds dry out in the fields during extreme dry periods. In addition, the seasons are also going crazy: Night frosts and hail destroy the plants during the growth phase. The harvests are becoming increasingly poor or fail completely.

Persistent development is worth it

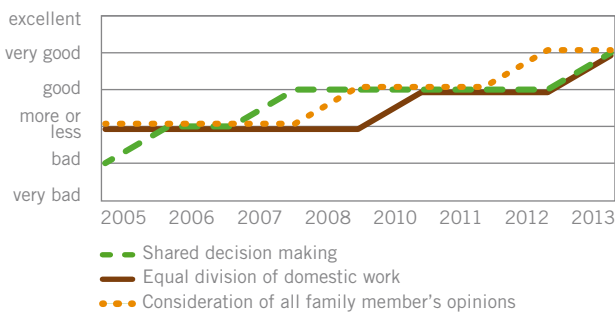
“When we returned to our farm at the beginning of the 1990s, it really looked like a desert”, remembers Romulo Vilca from the Ayacucho Millennium Village. The 37 year-old smallholder stands in his oat field which he has set up at 4,500 metres altitude as a source of concentrated fodder for his dairy cows. The wind is blowing fiercely. “At that time we still lived together with our cattle, as our grandparents used to do.” The women had to leave at the break of dawn to drive the lean cattle to far-away pastures. They only came back with their animals in

<p>8/10</p> <p>beneficiaries confirm in Riberas del Huallaga that women now participate equally in village decisions</p>	 <p>In Riberas del Huallaga 34 from 200 participating families (+17%) consume now vegetables daily</p>	 <p>Farmers of Riberas del Huallaga who applied the farm development plans, were able to increase their harvests by 60%</p>	 <p>In Ayacucho 80% of more than 26.500 newly planted trees have grown</p>	<p>50%</p> <p>Nearly 50% of the vegetables grown in the Millennium Village Ayacucho can be sold</p>	 <p>Cows in Ayacucho give now every day about 10 liters of milk, before only two liters</p>
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“We also farm agricultural crops. Previously we didn’t believe that crops would thrive at this altitude. But we have learned that it is possible.”, explains Romulo Vilca proudly.

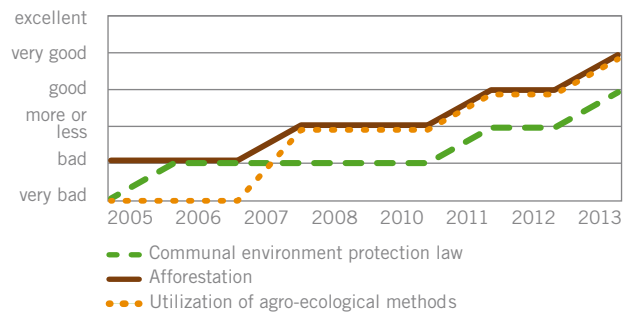


Villagers’ assessment regarding gender equality in Ayacucho (MDG 3)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

Villagers’ assessment of environmental sustainability in Riberas del Huallaga (MDG 7)



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

the evening, tired and exhausted. Today, half a dozen dairy cows graze on the lush pasture behind the house of the family of four.

The partner organisation Association Bartolomé de Aripayla (ABA) has been helping small farmers and their families to operate their farms in a profitable manner. Together with the local community, they have set up 100 rain fed water reservoirs in the area of the Millennium Village. The water can then trickle down to lower areas and supplies the fields and pastures with sufficient moisture. “Now we don’t only keep cows, which give more milk thanks to the nutritional feed, so that we can produce and sell cheese”, explains Romulo Vilca proudly. “We also farm agricultural crops. Previously we didn’t believe that crops would thrive at this altitude. But we have learned that it is possible.”

In both Millennium Villages, the partner organisations ABA and the Institute of Development and Environment (IDMA) and the local community have succeeded to combine traditional knowledge of their ancestors with modern ecological farming methods, and have significantly improved the soil quality in both regions in doing so. They have combined the traditional knowledge of their ancestors with modern ecological farming methods and have significantly improved the soil quality in both

regions in doing so. In the meantime, around 507 smallholders now use these methods. They produce organic fertilizer, use stone walls to protect from erosion, plant trees and bushes which anchor the soil even with heavy rainfall and take care to manage their water sustainably. They have reintroduced traditional potato and maize varieties as well as tubers which are resistant against extreme changes in the weather. In this way, the small farmer families have been able to increase the variety of their crops and in doing so the selection of food on their plates. In addition, the yield of the three main staple food like potatoes, beans and maize increased by 20 percent. Though they have been able to halve the time of nutritional uncertainty to less than two months of the year.

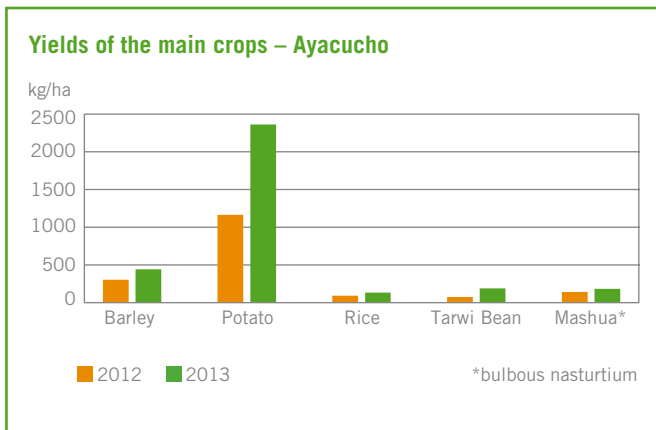
The neighbours also profit

The other neighbours became curious and copied the successful strategies from the Millennium Village. In total, 2,700 families in the territory of the two Millennium Villages that profit from the measures, particularly from the water management and environmental protection. 407 women have set up kitchen gardens where they grow vegetables and herbs. In doing so, they supply their families with sufficient vitamins and trace elements, which they used to lack. They have learned in cooking

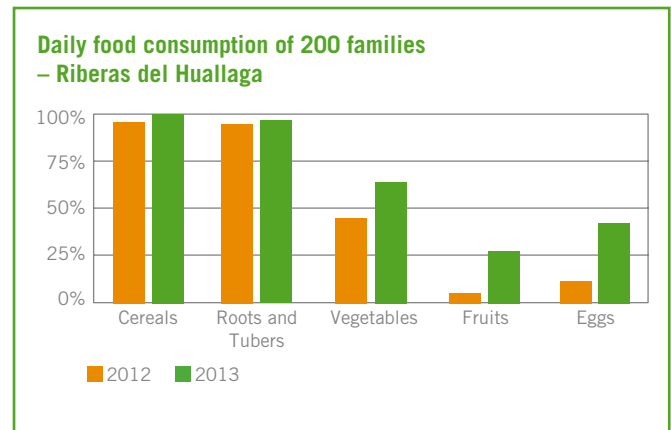
Armed conflict between government and terrorist groups „Shining Path“ & MRTA with 70,000 dead

1980s	1989	1997	1998	2000
	Welthungerhilfe and IDMA cooperate in the region		Weather phenomenon „El Niño“ causes many damages	Welthungerhilfe and ABA cooperate in the region

“We young people want to save the world!” says Aldo from the youth group ‘Machtachuya’.



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

courses how to prepare the unknown foodstuffs and what a healthy meal consists of. With their new improved ovens, they save firewood, protect the environment and protect their health. What is left over from the harvest is sold at the market, and the women are able to make a contribution to the family income for the first time. This strengthens the women’s confidence and their position within the family and the community.

IDMA and ABA promote gender equality in their projects. Many men now support their wives in the home and on the field. More and more frequently, they make decisions together. The married couples also generate alternative sources of income through the processing and selling of dairy products and alpaca meat. Women nowadays enjoy the same voting rights as men in the community, and make use of it too.

Empower the younger generation

Equality also applies for children and youths: Today in both Millennium Villages, girls attend school equally as often as boys do and graduate with a leaving diploma. In times gone by, girls rarely advanced past primary school. Now they continue with their male classmates into secondary school and sometimes even go on to study or to train vocationally. In their free time both genders take part in youth clubs. Above all else, environmental protection and tradition is on the programme.

The children and youths plant trees, dig water reservoirs and plant school gardens, the produce of which enriches the menu in the school canteen. “The environment is becoming more and more polluted”, says Aldo from the ‘Machtachuya’ youth group in the Ayacucho Millennium Village. The Quechua word means “Youth with a pure heart”, exactly how the young people conduct themselves. 14 year-old Aldo wants to later become an organic farmer and has big ambitions: “We young people want to save the world!”

Through rubbish sorting and courses for health and cooking, the new generation learns from an early age about everyday things which also protect nature. They have a great deal of fun while doing so and resurrect the traditions of their ancestors.

Self-confidence recovered

In total, the confidence of the once discriminated-against Quechua communities has grown tremendously – they no longer see their heritage as a stigma, but rather insistently demand their rights at community level. IDMA and ABA have developed sustainable land usage plans with the people for the communities. This also includes risk analyses, disaster control, water management and marketing strategies. In Riberas del Huallaga risk management plans at community level are about to be implemented in collaboration with the Regional

Decentralization process of government structures starts (DITO)

Ayacucho and Riberas del Huallaga become Millennium Villages



Welthungerhilfe cooperates with ABA & IDMA



MDG 7: Environmental pupils group of Ayacucho with action poster "We protect our environment"



MDG 1: Example for a farm development plan



MDG 1: Caring for potatoes

Directorate. Thanks to their perseverance, the small farming families have awakened the interest of the local authorities: They have taken the topics and discuss climate change, erosion protection and risk management in various dialogue forums. In this sense, IDMA participates in a working group to develop a regional strategy on climate change. During the last years, public investment in these areas has risen by 21.6 percent. The Quechua communities have also found recognition at national level: In 2014, ABA took part in the National Environmental Award together with the residents of the Ayacucho Millennium Village and won in the category "Good practices in climate change adaptation in rural areas". This gives the Andean farmers another reason to hope. They know that they can shape their own future.

	Peru 2009	Peru 2015	Germany 2015
Population	29,54 m	30,15 m	80,6 m
Population Density	23 p/km ²	24 p/km ²	231 p/km ²
Gross Domestic Product per person & per year	3,042 €	4,838 €	33,606 €
Life Expectancy at Birth Men	68.9 years	71.2 years	78.6 years
Life Expectancy at Birth Women	72.7 years	75.3 years	83.3 years
Total Fertility Rate	2.37 per woman	2.22 per woman	1.38 per woman
Infant Mortality Rate	2.86%	2.02%	0.3%
Literacy	92.9%	89.6%	99%
Labour Force in Agriculture	27.7%	25.8%	1.6%
Global Hunger Index	7.3 – moderate	5.7 – moderate	-
Human Development Index	0.806 (rank 78/182)	0.737 (rank 82/195)	0.911 (rank 6/195)
World Risk Report	7.24% (rank 75/173)	6.91% (rank 77/171)	3.01% (rank 147/171)
Gender Gap Score	0.7024 (rank 44/134)	0.7198 (rank 45/142)	0.7780 (rank 12/142)

Map: Welthungerhilfe

Source: Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft/UNU-EHS, CIA, IFPRI/Concern/Welthungerhilfe, UNDP, Worldbank, World Economic Forum

The full report of the Millennium Village initiative and additional material can be found here: www.welthungerhilfe.de/en/millenniumvillages.html
 The short video about how farmers face climate change „Moving forward with water“ can be found here: www.youtube.com

How we measure success

Welthungerhilfe's goal is to significantly improve people's lives in the long term. Even with the best preparation and implementation, success is not guaranteed, because framework conditions continuously change. For this reason, it is important to continuously assess, learn and measure the goals and the outcomes achieved, in order to prepare for new challenges and adjust to them when necessary. In the Millennium Village initiative, Welthungerhilfe systematically introduced outcome and impact-oriented monitoring from the very beginning.

Two central methods were applied. Firstly, colleagues regularly interviewed a representative number of people using a household questionnaire. Additionally, a Participatory Impact Assessment (PIA) was undertaken each year in the form of workshops. The combination of both methods brings advantages with it, says Arturo Bellot from Bolivia, Welthungerhilfe Monitoring Expert in Latin America. "The people explain in the PIA workshops how they have been going about the developments of the project. With the help of these methods, the changes can be analysed, proposed solutions can be discussed and measures can be drawn up." The questionnaires, on the other hand, validate the information and make it more precise. Both of these methods together form an effective monitoring tool.



India: Interview for the household survey



Uganda: Interview for the household survey



Nepal: Women increasingly have their say in the PIA workshops



India: Geeta Devi developed with the woman's group a successful business model

“The **people** explain in the **PIA workshops** how they have been going about the developments of the project. With the help of these methods, the changes can be analysed, proposed solutions can be discussed and measures can be drawn up.”, says **Arturo Bellot from Bolivia, Welthungerhilfe Monitoring Expert in Latin America.**



Arturo Bellot does not only appreciate the workshops for their capacity to recognise outcomes. Even more importantly, the PIA workshops promote the participation of the population in the projects and in their development. That participants, above all female participants, became increasingly involved in the workshops and articulated their opinions was a result not only noticed by Arturo Bellot. “At the beginning we had to motivate and mobilise the people; however the workshops visibly developed into an active platform for discussion.” In particular, women used the framework provided to visibly express their views in an equal manner. In doing so, the PIA workshops not only delivered important information, but also pushed gender equality forward. Milly Atula from Uganda also draws a positive conclusion: “I am happy to have learned more about women’s rights. My husband previously made purchasing decisions on his own, now we do this together.” Arturo Bellot sees this as a “good instrument for learning, to promote the confidence of the population for the interrelations of various aspects.” In Kenya, for example, the workshops were a place where the residents for the first time could discuss the links between lacking rainfall and deforestation. And business ideas were also developed here. In India, for example, Geeta Devi set up a company with six other women. “Together we came up with a business idea to buy equipment for weddings and parties, and to rent it out,” says the young woman. In the meantime, they have bought the equipment and the company pays for itself.



2005

Drawing about the poverty situation in Ayacucho, settlement Quispillacta



2015



1990

and the visual evidence of the same place



2015

Nothing is more convincing than a good example: South-South-Exchange

Millennium Villages exchange experiences

“I participated in several workshops and acquainted myself with farming techniques and methods. However, I was only really fully convinced when I saw the positive results with my own eyes in Ogur, the Millennium Village lived in by our Ugandan neighbours,” says Benjamin Lerueshi from Nentaraja, the Millennium Village in southern Kenya. Back from Uganda, the head of the family has started a vegetable garden, sowing tomato, potato, herb and carrot seeds, and planting trees.

There are few things more convincing than a successful example. This is due to the fact that observers interpret everything in their own way and can ask those involved in the project direct questions. Practical experience generates a lot more energy than technical workshops or conferences ever could. Or as Benjamin Lerueshi puts it: “Learning this way is so much easier than sitting in the classroom and trying to understand complex techniques.”

That’s why Welthungerhilfe supports South-South-Exchanges. In the agricultural areas of developing countries, people are finding themselves faced with similar challenges, like: How can they secure long term nutrition and adapt to climate change at the same time? How to strengthen their self-organisation and employ political initiatives to act in the best interests of their community? One answer to these questions would be to encourage the sharing of solutions and exchanging their experiences. This is the idea coming from the South-South-Exchange. To support this exchange, Welthungerhilfe has provided resources and initiated and accompanied national, international and intercontinental exchanges for different contexts and situations.



Welcoming of the Kenyan visitors under a Ugandan shade tree



The Latin Americans get to know a Keyhole Garden in India

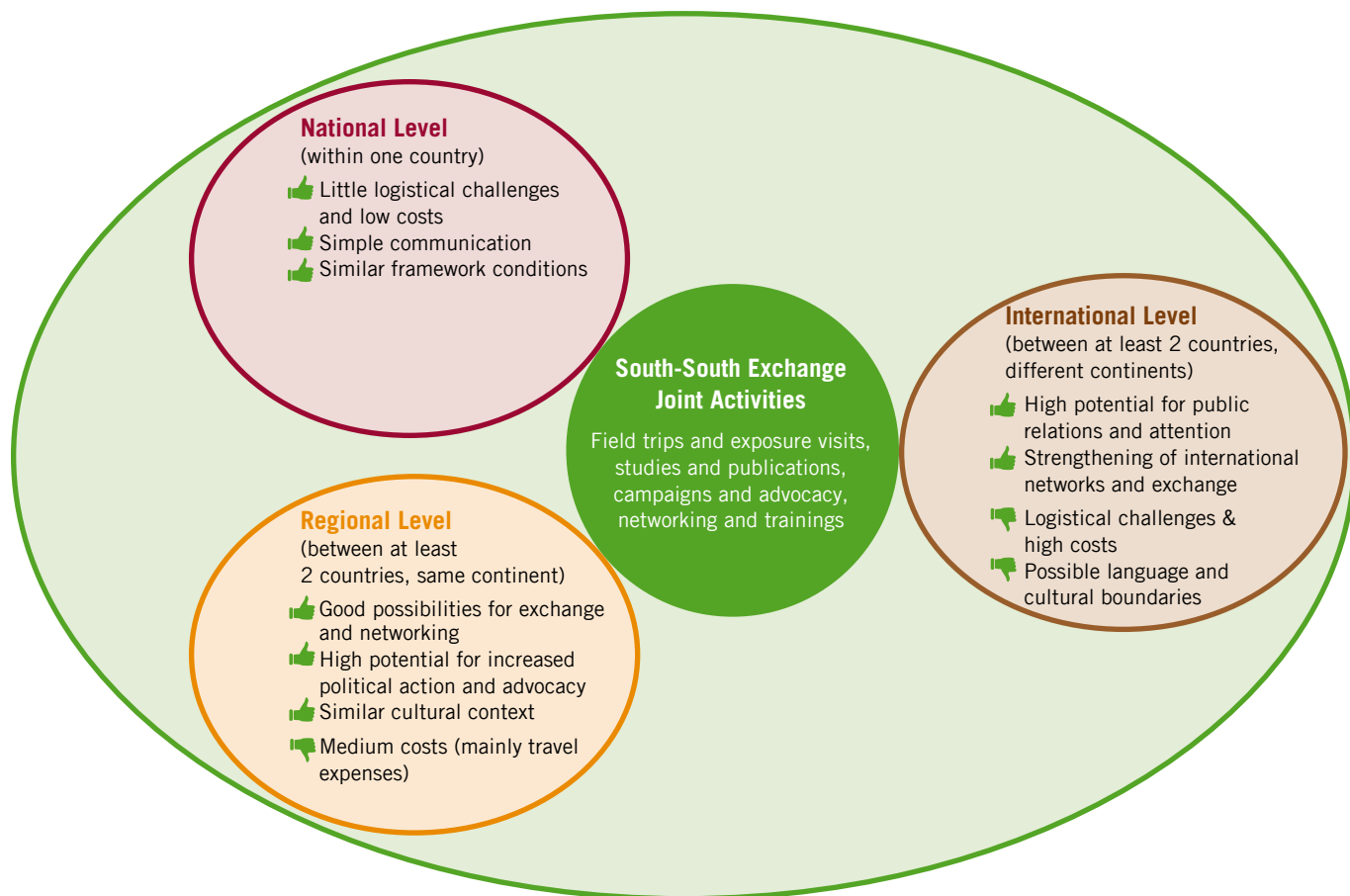


Ugandan visitors show in Kenya how to build an energy saving stove

“Learning this way is so much easier than sitting in the classroom and trying to understand complex techniques“, says Benjamin Lerueshi from Kenya.



South-South-Exchange for Welthungerhilfe



Source: Welthungerhilfe 2015

Accompanied by 13 residents and a number of colleagues, Benjamin Lerueshi travelled to Uganda. Within the space of a few short months he hosted a farming delegation from Ogur in Nentaraja. While the Kenyans were interested in their Ugandan neighbours’ vegetable gardens, fruit farming and efficient stoves, the Ugandans were impressed by the Maasai’s sophisticated bee-keeping and their methods of scooping water with the aid of a roof or rock catchments. “At home too much water drains away unused. That’s why I’ve started to gather rain water, just as I saw it done in Kenya,” says Milly Atula from Ogur in Uganda.

Organising an intercontinental exchange is time-consuming and expensive. But also worth it. So, in 2014 ten project leaders and representatives from partner organisations in Haiti, Nepal and India were able to visit Peru and Bolivia. The men and women taking part discussed joint frameworks and country-specific differences and how they could make their project work more accountable. There are many problems which threaten all regions equally, be it the pressure on natural resources or the question of how to network more intensively with local partner organisations or how structures of civil society like small farmer groups can be strengthened. A return visit to India and Nepal reinforced the participants’ links with one another. A direct exchange is now no longer a barrier.

4

However, for a long term exchange certain conditions have to be taken into consideration. It must be clear for what purpose the exchange has been initiated, which resources are necessary or what language or cultural barriers could make the exchange more difficult. And of course the methods and techniques applied, for example the vegetable gardens in Uganda and Kenya must also be useful in the relevant regions of the exchange countries. First experiences with the vegetable garden for Benjamin Lerueshi were not always successful. “I planted many varieties but the rainfall this year was less than we had expected, so some yields have been smaller than we had hoped.”

In cases like these a plan B is needed, so that triumph does not just fade instantly and take with it the desire for change and improvement. Here too, the exchange can help others who have perhaps also experienced similar setbacks and have introduced necessary measures for improvement. In any case, Benjamin Lerueshi wants to keep learning – he has seen what is possible and that it pays to think long-term.

5

The Millennium Village Initiative – Conclusion and Outlook

After many years of practical experience in the fifteen Millennium Villages, we are able to draw a positive conclusion today. The living conditions and livelihoods for the majority of the 72,000 people living in the Villages have improved. Together we have succeeded in fighting extreme poverty and hunger, promoting gender equality and also in reducing soil degradation and protecting the environment.

The successes at local level pave the way for those at global level. With the methods and approaches available, we were able to contribute to reach the Millennium Development Goals and to conquering the challenges associated with them, which were without any doubt substantial. Technical solutions played an important role in doing so, whether to support the communities with water and power supply, or to generate income and increase yields of small areas of lands, whilst preventing erosion and deforestation at the same time.

Even more important, however, is the fact that men, women and their families are involved at all stages and that they create their own paths, democratic and participatory structures. Where this was successful, the communities also improved their living conditions dramatically and were successful in overcoming hunger and poverty.

In order to strengthen this development, the state must uphold the basic rights of people, protect them and support them through adequate social systems. In many countries, the successful fight for these basic rights is just as elementary as the struggle for clean drinking water and improved seeds. For example in South Asia, it is not without reason that the Indian Millennium Villages Jhiranya, Nimpith and Sarwan, together with Korak in Nepal, are also part of the Fight Hunger First Initiative, with which Welthungerhilfe points out the connection between government policies and sustainable development. In these villages, Welthungerhilfe and its Indian and Nepalese partner organisations explained the responsibilities of local authorities to the people, and informed them about their rights. Nowadays, mothers in the Millennium Villages in India have access to local health centres and form self-help groups, to give more weight to their demands and support needed.

In addition, the south-south exchange ultimately proved to be very effective. Through reciprocal visits across local and national boundaries, communities became accustomed quickly with successful practices, such as vegetable cultivation, compared to technical training sessions in seminar rooms. Personal experiences and exchange with others who face similar challenges, shows fast results and get others on board.

These practical experiences and successful approaches of the Millennium Villages will also play an important role in future work of Welthungerhilfe. Ultimately, the global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will replace the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in 2016.

However, what have the Millennium Development Goals achieved? It cannot be denied that several targets have been reached. On the other hand, there is a long way to go until hunger and poverty are overcome. It must be concluded, however: The international community has for the first

time initiated a global tool to assess advances in combating hunger and poverty. This increased transparency held governments accountable and insured that poverty and hunger remain on the political agenda – despite financial and economic crises.

At the same time, challenges have continued to rise. Poverty and hunger are more than ever not only a local or regional problem, but also rather part of multinational and global processes. For this reason, multidimensional approaches to combat hunger and poverty are required more than ever. Through the SDGs, all nations and important agencies should be taken to task for worldwide sustainable development. The fact that the SDGs have been compiled in a global and participatory process is a good indication of this. The common agenda includes aspects such as inequality, economic growth, consumption patterns and biodiversity. Through the SDGs, hunger and poverty should ultimately be completely overcome by 2030.

Welthungerhilfe will play its part in reaching the Sustainable Development Goals. Future engagement is based on strong foundations that are built on numerous experiences and successes which we have achieved with our partner organisations and with the communities in the Millennium Villages. In partnership with civil society organisations and other agencies in the North and in the South, Welthungerhilfe will support the SDGs through development measures in regions of need, and will call for and take part in constructive political dialogue at national and international level.

5

Millennium Development Goals 2000–2015



Source: © United Nations

Sustainable Development Goals 2016–2030



Source: © United Nations

Acknowledgement

Thanks, Merci, Danke, Gracias

to all partners and participants of our Millennium Villages
and to all supporters and the whole team.

à tous les partenaires et participants des Villages du Millénaire
et tous les donateurs et toute l'équipe.

an alle Partner und Beteiligte der Initiative Millenniumsdörfer
und alle Unterstützer und das gesamte Team.

a todos los socios y participantes de las Aldeas del Milenio
y a todos los partidarios y todo el equipo.

Mangue in Angola

Manigri in Benin

Cañadon Peñas in Bolivia

Kongoussi in Burkina Faso

Kanat Toch in Cambodia

San Andrés in Ecuador

Sodo in Ethiopia

Mondésir & Poirier in Haiti

Gandhiji Songha in India

Jhiranya, Nimpith & Sarwan in India

Nentaraja in Kenya

Anosikely in Madagascar

Mabote in Mozambique

Korak in Nepal

Auhya Pihni in Nicaragua

Ayacucho & Riberas del Huallaga in Peru

Base-Kiryango Tal in Rwanda

Veshab in Tajikistan

Ogur in Uganda

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