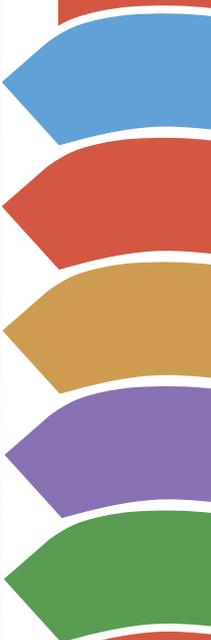




Armenian Caritas Annual Report

2006 2007 2008 **2009** 2010 2011 2012





Introduction

This is a recap of Armenian Caritas activities for one year, the year of 2009. Herewith Armenian Caritas represents itself by each strategic direction of the Strategic Plan 2009-2013. Thus, this annual report is somehow a report of the Strategic Plan 2009.

It prominently introduces the projects Armenian Caritas and the specific development they had, a number of facts and figures, as well as short narratives for each strategic direction. As always, social services and the community development strategic directions were dominating in 2009. Those were two main pillars that served as the most important torches for our mission; to serve different vulnerable groups with love and compassion, respecting the dignity of each individual.

Balance Sheet

In thousand Drams	As of 31.12.2009
Assets	
Non-Current Assets	
Property and Equipment	79 463
Intangible Assets Prepayments	15 036
total	94 499
Current Assets	
Stock	4 393
Accounts Receivable	2
Receivables from Donors	29 259
Cash and Cash Equivalents	138 157
total	173 809
Total assets	268 308
Liabilities and fund balances	
Non-Current Liabilities	
Grants Related to Assets	94 499
total	94 499
Current liabilities	
Grants Related to Income	173 446
Accounts Payable	363
total	173 809
Retained surplus/(deficit)	
Total liabilities and fund balances	268 308

Donations/Grants Received for Projects

Projects	2009	
	In thousand drams	Equivalent in Euros
Assistance to the Children	140 709	278 959
Water and Sanitation		
Support to Elderly	125 077	247 968
Primary Care Dispensary	46 864	92 908
Trafficking and Domestic Violence	22 698	45 000
Community Development	125 284	248 377
Parent School Partnership	25 221	50 000
Others	21 172	41 973
total	507 027	1,005 185
Administrative Expenses	37 306	73 959
TOTAL	544 331	1 079 144

Income Statement

In thousand Drams	Year ended 31.12.2009
Donations	
Property and Equipment	544 332
total	544 332
Expenses	
Program Expenses	(475 818)
Administrative Expenses	(44 011)
Non-Operating Expenses	16 006
total	535 835
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	8 497

Donations

Donors	2009	
	In thousand drams	Equivalent in Euros
Caritas Austria	122 797	243 446
Caritas Germany	122 290	242 442
Caritas Spain	97 305	192 908
Caritas Belgium	58 598	116 172
Caritas France	49 256	97 650
EU	27 928	55 368
Cordaid	18 159	36 000
Kardinal Frings Gymnasium	14 967	29 672
Action of 3 kings	8 058	15 975
Soros Foundation	7 840	15 543
Renovabis	6 886	13 652
Private Donations	4 098	8 125
Other donors	6 149	12 191
Total	544 331	1 079 144

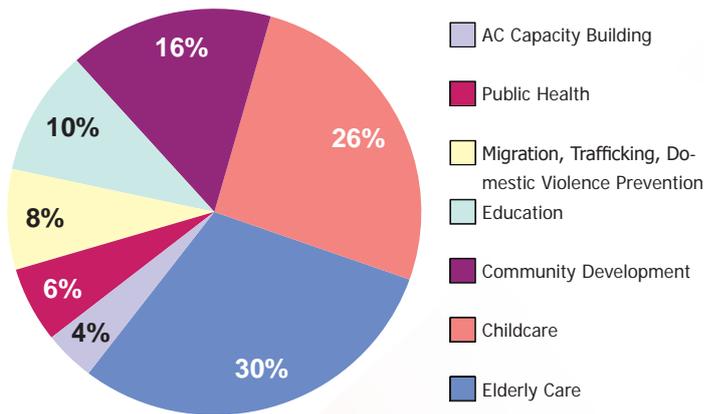
Program Expenses

Projects	2009	
	In thousand drams	Equivalent in Euros
Assistance to Children	124 585	262 624
Water and Sanitation	4 442	9 364
Support to Elderly	140 233	295 607
Primary Health Care Center	27 230	57 401
Trafficking and Domestic Violence	40 701	85 797
Community Development	71 140	149 963
Parent School Partnership	29 441	62 061
Others	38 046	80 199
TOTAL	475 818	1 003 016

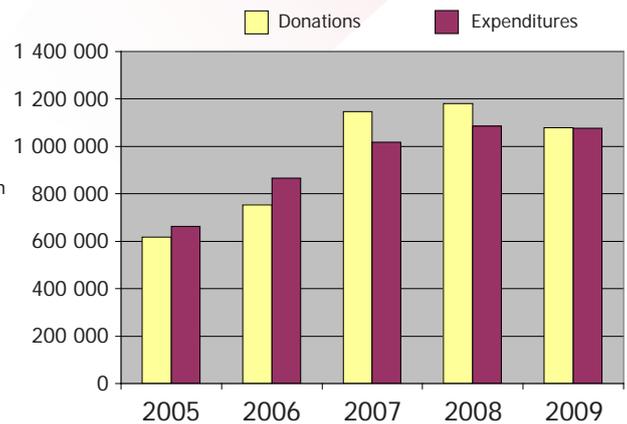
Administrative Expenses

Expenses	2009	
	In thousand drams	Equivalent in Euros
Salaries and Benefits	26 547	55 526
Office Expenses	3 400	7 112
Travel and Accomodation	4 810	10 061
Audit and Consulting	2 553	5 340
Bank Charges	474	991
Other	6 227	13 025
TOTAL	44 011	92 055

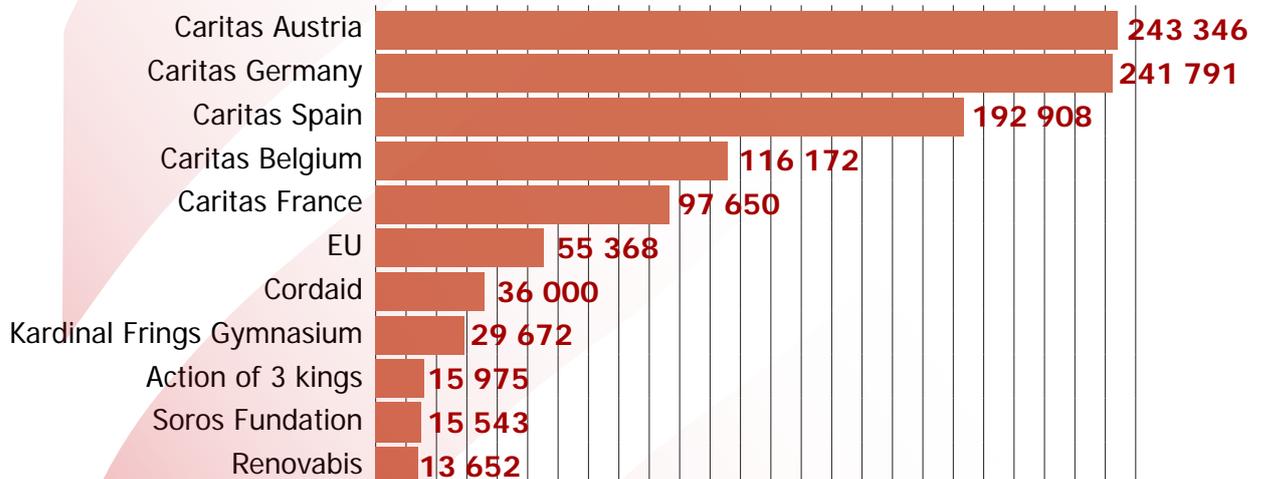
Projects of Armenian Caritas in 2009



Donations and Expenditures in 2005-2009



Donations made by the Donors, in Euro, 2009



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Strategic Direction 1

Social Services





Strategic Goal 1: Improving quality of life of different vulnerable groups

(vulnerable groups may include but not be limited to: elderly, poor families and individuals, pensioners, disabled, children and youth living under difficult circumstances).

Provision of social services constitutes one of the most important components of Armenian Caritas activities. For us it means being another family for those who need care, attention, counseling and company. Serving the most vulnerable people in our communities means also raising awareness about their problems and putting efforts in improving the integration patterns for those who suffer from the stigma and growing indifference in their communities (disabled people, old people living alone).

It is also the field where AC invests the most. In 2009 60 percent of the total budget was directed to social services. Three regions of Armenia were supported: Shirak, Gegharkunik and Lori (Gyumri, Gavar, Vanadzor and Tashir cities).

Here are some general statistics on the number of beneficiaries in three regions; in 2009 300 old people received home care, 260 old people attended the day care centers, 755 children in special institutions got material support, and 35 disabled children attended a day care center.

“Home Care for Elderly” National Project, 2002-2011

Donors: Caritas Germany, Caritas Austria,
Caritas Spain

The project offers comfort to the elderly and improves their living conditions through regular home visits and provision of healthcare, help with personal hygiene, support with housework and essential services. Once a month raw food parcels are provided to the elderly. The project regularly uses public awareness tools to alert the community members about difficulties old people experience due to the fact that they live alone.

Currently the program assists 140 elderly in Gyumri, 100 in Vanadzor and 60 in Gavar cities.



“Dignified and Well Sustained Life for the Elderly”, 2006-2009

Donor: Caritas Spain

This is a small project which ensures food provision to 100 old people of Home Care project in Vanadzor City. Two Vanadzor based NGOs; “Arajentats” (Progress) and “Khachvogh Ughiner” (Crossing Roads) voluntarily help the implementation of the project. Volunteer social workers distribute food parcels, offer moral support, and help with minor tasks at the homes of the beneficiaries.

Projects

**“Warm Winter for the Elderly”
2002-current**

Donors: Caritas Austria,
Caritas Germany

Each year Armenian Caritas raises funds to support old people who live alone with funds to heat their homes. Current beneficiaries of AC who are involved in elderly care projects are supported by this project, and each year the number of beneficiaries differs depending on the amount available. In 2009 only 200 beneficiaries of “Home Care” project (140 in Gyumri and 60 in Gavar), old people living alone who have chronic illnesses, were supported.



Day Care Center in Gyumri, 2006-2011

Donor: Italian Bishops’ Conference

The concept of the project has not changed since its inception. Old and poor people attend the center every second day to make company, spend time, have meals, play games and stay warm in winters. 200 old people are registered there and attend in two turns; the center hosts 100 old people every day. The beneficiaries are also assisted to get primary health care at the Armenian Caritas Primary Health Care Center operating near the Day Care Center. During the recent two years old people have started to voluntarily support the staff in cleaning and serving the center. Time after time they are invited to attend concerts, performances in Gyumri to also have a chance to be integrated into the public life.



Day Care Center for Disabled Elderly in Tashir, 2007-2010

Donors: European Union, Caritas Austria, Cordaid

Tashir is one of the small cities in Armenia which had a high rate of migration and has a big number of old people living alone. Caritas focused only to disabled old people who live alone and started the center for 60 people. It is a small home-like building which hosts 30 people daily. They attend the center with the help of a mini-bus hired by the project. The daily activities of the centre include: organization of leisure, nourishment, personal hygiene and primary health care provision, as well as legal counseling and social events. It collaborates with different social and medical institutions and helps that routine problems of the elderly are solved. The center was very active in organizing small scale fundraising actions. In total 255 800 Armenian Drams (appr. 500 Euro) was fundraised locally in 2009.



“Capacity Building of Eight Family Centers in Shirak and Lori Regions” 2006-2009

Donors: Caritas Germany, Caritas Austria

This project finished in August 2009 after being implemented for around 12 years. The goal of this project was to work in the direction of the de-institutionalization of children living in special institutions and help their reintegration into their families. As far as the conditions in the institutions were far from being perfect, the project invested in improving the living and educational standards of the children in the centers. Psychological and social support, material support were the main components of this project. Nine institutions with more than 800 children were assisted.



"Aregak" Day Care Center for Children with Multiple Disabilities in Gyumri, 2008-2010

Donor: Caritas Austria

"Aregak" is the first day care center of this type in Armenia, which is based in Gyumri. In 2009 it hosted 35 heavily disabled children. They are aged 5-17 and attend the center in two groups, three times a week. The aim of the project is to enable children with multiple disabilities and their families of Gyumri city to integrate into the society and be equally treated. The psychologist, physiotherapist, special pedagogue and art therapists work with them.



The program staff members and volunteers regularly hold events directed to the integration of the disabled children into the society. This is one of the Armenian Caritas projects, which is daily supported by volunteers. There were 16 young volunteers who invested their time, energy, compassion and love to the children.



Public Awareness Raising Campaign on the Issues of People with Mental Disabilities, 2008-2009

Donor: Royal Embassy of Norway

This project is an addition to "Aregak" day care center as a tool to start publicly speaking about the issues of disability in Gyumri. Roundtables, open air events were organized to discuss the issues at the level of civil society activists. PSAs and films were broadcasted in Gyumri to raise the awareness about the problems of disabled children and their needs. The project was an open call to the society to change the attitude and be more open minded in communicating with disabled children and their families. The experience of Armenian Caritas proved that there is a wrong perception even among the parents, thus, a brochure with tips how to treat a disabled child was produced for parents and teachers.



Professional Training for Alumni of Two Special Schools in Vanadzor, 2009

Donor: Action of the Three Kings



This is one of the important projects that Armenian Caritas implemented with an aim to improve the labor competitiveness of alumni of special schools. In 2009 21 schoolchildren from higher grade schoolchildren and 4 alumni from two special schools in Vanadzor were involved in the professional trainings. The following specializations were taught; Vehicle mechanic, Hairdressing, Flower and Table Design. 23 students have already successfully finished the practical training and received Certificates. The best students; 4 designers, 2 hairdressers and 1 vehicle mechanic received tools and equipment to be able to continue their activities individually. This project had another component, through which we provided material assistance to students of the mentioned two special schools in Vanadzor and Aregnadem village school.

Projects

“Social Rehabilitation of Youth and their Families in Vanadzor”
2009-2010

Donor: Caritas Germany

The goal of the project is to contribute to the integration of young people living under difficult circumstances into active community life of Vanadzor. This is an initiative which is carried out by stimulating social-psychological harmonious development of young people in families and the community, by contributing to development of life skills among young people and by supporting young people in difficult circumstances in gaining professional skills. Enhancement of life skills is a pivotal aspect in this project. It helps young people to advance in planning, self-realization, self-expression, communication and decision making. In 2009, 92 young people attended the center. The leading partner in this project is Vanadzor based “Crossroads” NGO.



“Problems of children with disability in Gyumri”
Sociological Research
2009

Donors: Caritas Spain,
 Caritas Austria

The aim of the sociological research was to reveal social – economic problems of disabled children living in Gyumri, to explore the main difficulties related to the caretaking of disabled children. The results of the research asserted that the need to invest efforts in this field is great. The research revealed that there were unsolved problems almost in all the aspects: social, psychological, economic, health, education and integration.



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Strategic Direction 2

Public Health





**Strategic Goal 2.1:
Ensuring direct health care services**

**Strategic Goal 2.2:
Fostering preventive health care services**

Armenian Caritas intervention in the health care sector is aimed at providing primary health care and quality medical services to the poorest members of the community who cannot afford to pay for public health services. Initially the intervention in public health was limited to providing primary health care services and free essential medicine. Later on, Caritas started to pay greater attention to preventive and rehabilitation actions, such as physiotherapy, psychological assistance and public health education.

There is a greater emphasis also on the dangers of drug addiction and HIV/AIDS, and the current strategic plan allocates space for exploring possible strategies of intervention. The current situation in Armenia suggests that the existing methodologies will not bring a tangible change, and new methodologies and approaches are more than necessary. Thus, a wider scale of awareness raising and peer to peer educational approaches were considered to be a part of this new strategy.

Primary Health Care Centre, 2002-2012

Donors: Caritas Spain, Caritas Austria and VivaCell-MTS

The Primary Health Care Center is located in Gyumri and mainly serves the needy population of Gyumri. The PHCC medical staff members see patients five days a week. They provide the following services; clinical consultations, basic laboratory services, Ultra-sound and ECG examinations, services of Physiotherapist, Endocrinologist, Cardiologist, and Psychologist. The center runs regular trainings on common illnesses and preventive measures.

A new initiative was launched in 2009 for pregnant women, who attend the center's counseling meetings and talk on issues that concern maternity and future child care. There have were four women attending the center in 2009.

The registered number of permanent beneficiaries is around 5 000-5 500, whereas, the annual visits were 4 647 in 2009.

As far as the running costs of the center are very high, there is a box for donations where patients donate as much as they can afford. The collected amount is used to cover the most urgent needs of the center. 126 850 Armenian drams (appr. 250 Euros) was donated by the patients in 2009.



Harm Reduction in Developing Countries: Global Partnerships for Sustainable Development 2009-2010

Donor: UNESCO through Caritas Germany



The project aims at preventing drug use and applying harm reduction strategies among the schoolchildren through a number of awareness raising tools and activities. The project is implemented in partnership with "Arevamanuk" foundation (Gyumri), "Crossing Roads" NGO (Vanadzor), and the "National Association of Parents' Council Members" NGO (Yerevan).

This is a pilot project which Armenian Caritas started in 2009 with exploring the situation through publicly available and underlying evidences about the real danger of drug addiction in Armenia. This was also a period for the program staff to develop partnership with the existing actors and analyse which aspects are under the shadow, and how Caritas could start its intervention.

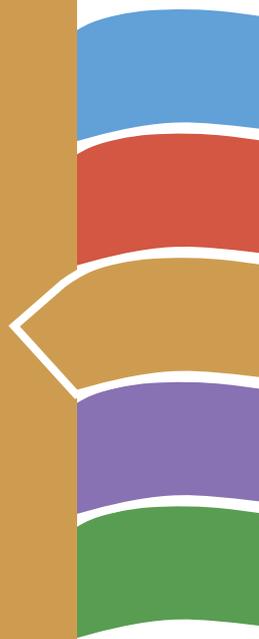
In 2009 the staff of the project and the partners researched the field, held workshops on urgent problems related to drug addiction and chose to carry out preventive actions that would target schoolchildren, as well as worked out a strategy for harm reduction.



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Strategic Direction 3 Community Development and Mobilization





**Strategic Goal 3.1:
Mobilizing communities to identify their
resources and build their social capital**

**Strategic Goal 3.2:
Empowering the communities and promoting
community growth**

Community development and mobilization is an important component for Armenian Caritas, and 16 per cent of the funds are allocated to develop this direction. We believe that development of volunteer movements in small communities and enhancement of self help mechanisms are the most effective tools to gradually work towards empowerment of the communities.

The change in the communities will not happen in one day. The transition period from centrally governed to democratically governed system still has not been fulfilled yet. One of the obstacles of the full transition is the low capacity of the community members and lack of awareness and belief on their inner resources and cumulative power. Thus, Armenian Caritas helps them with consultancy and trainings, small grants provision and guidance.

Successful cases are shared with other community members to encourage them and show evidence that mobilization of inner resources can indeed make a change.

Since 1997 Armenian Caritas has been implementing community development projects on different schemes, and during the last three years we started to invest also in the development of small business initiatives.

"Aramazd", 2006-2009

Donors: Caritas Spain, Caritas Austria, Caritas France

Three community centers were established in Amasia, Chambarak and Vardenis with the help of Armenian Caritas. For three years the newly established NGOs received financial assistance and consultancy from Armenian Caritas to be able to start their first initiatives and gain experience in NGO management, grant management, fundraising and partnership. In 2009 seven grant programs were implemented in the surrounding communities which were managed by the community centers.

The program is the logical continuation of the previous three-year project "Building of Civil Society among Refugee Communities of Armenia". The overall goal of the program is to stimulate and develop community resources through the capacity building and development of the already registered NGOs of the three Community Centers which were founded to serve the communities of 38 villages in Amasia (Shirak region), Chambarak and Vardenis sub-regions (Gegharkunik region).



"Parents are Powerful Squad of Reformers", 2009

Donors: Caritas France and Caritas Spain



The goal of the project was to empower the "School Parent Councils' NGOs, school administration and teachers' capacity to create a solid base for fostering democratic governance at school and undertaking the reforms in the sphere of education constructively. 28 secondary schools were involved from Shirak, Gegharkunik and Yerevan. This program had a strong emphasis on promoting inclusive education among the parents, teachers and students.

The program held actions to raise awareness on inclusive education and its importance, analyzed the difficulties that current educational system faces on the way of integrating this new approach in a society that is accustomed to see disabled people in public, or recognize their integration needs.

School mapping was another initiative that the program took and increased the capacity of parent council members to effectively assess the difficulties in collaboration. The leading partner of this project in Yerevan was the National Association of Members of Parent Councils NGO.

“Parish Social Ministry and Volunteerism in the South Caucasus”, 2006-2010

Donor: CRS/South Caucasus Sub-Region

Parish Social Ministry in Armenia originally started in Ashotsk sub-region of Shirak region, where it played a great role in mobilizing the local communities, inspiring and sharing valuable knowledge and experience on self mobilization and program implementation.

Parish Social Ministry project aims at improving the social conditions of Northern Armenia by encouraging behavior change among the parishes inspired by Catholic Social Teaching. PSM strives to increase the capacity of parish leaders, promote volunteerism and help them mobilize to support self-determination and community development.



In more technical description, the project promotes creation of PSM committees who work on volunteer basis to research, formulate the problems and implement projects that may solve the most urgent needs. The overall approach is more of sustainable nature as there is minimum involvement of Caritas staff and the Parish priest in the core implementation. We serve as an inspiring, guiding and capacity building party for them.

In 2009 Armenian Caritas started PSM in another northern region, Tashir. Currently

4 villages are involved in the project, where we held the initial meetings and the elections of PSM committees. The communities committed themselves on researching the problems that were of major concern to all the community members. This was also a stage to get acquainted to the communities, their problems and improvement perspectives.



“Social and Economic Self-determination in Rural Villages”, 2009-2011

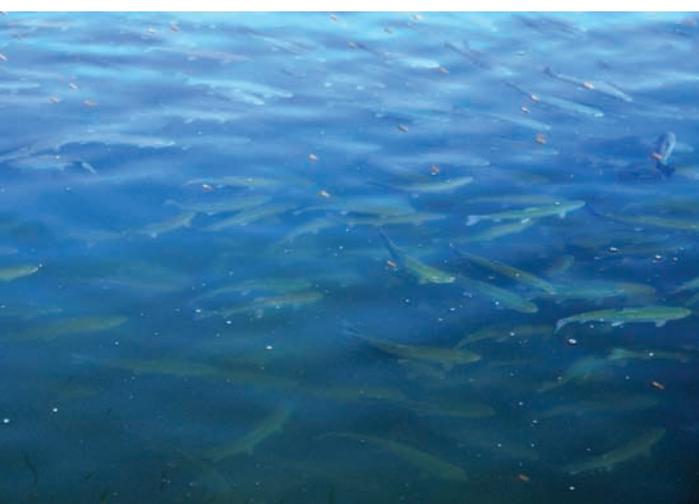
Donors: European Union, Caritas International in Belgium

The approval of this program was a major achievement for Armenian Caritas, as it ensured direct collaboration with the European Union at a larger scale. It's a three year project, which is implemented in three regions of Armenia and brings together three partner organizations from each region around one table.

The goal of the project is to provide economic and social development opportunities to 15 villages through a proven development system that challenges and empowers community members to become self-reliant and involved in improving their communities, using participatory methodology with key stakeholder groups to induce changed mind-sets, coupled with intense business training, expert advice and access to a revolving business incubation fund to create sustainable economic growth. The project is implemented in partnership with the following organizations; “Gyumri development fund” NGO (Gyumri), “Crossing Roads” NGO (Vanadzor), “Gegharkunik Chamber of Commerce and Industry” (Gavar).



In 2009 the project core team spent considerable efforts to transfer the ideology of the project to the partners, to train specialists and build common ground for starting the implementation of a project, which was not going to offer material assistance, or readymade services, but to motivate communities to take up the responsibility for making a change on their own.



“Fish Farm” 2009-2010

Donor: Peace Corps

In 2009 with the help of Peace Corps volunteer Elizabeth Peu's efforts around 2 million drams were raised by Peace Corps and an incubation fund was created. The non-interest loan was provided to a business idea, fish breeding in Mets Sepasar Village of Shirak Region. 5000 baby fish were bought, 3200 of which grew up to 1-1.5 kg. According to the contract the business holder should pay the whole amount back by September 2010, and later contribute 5 % of the income to social projects in Mets Sepasar village for one year. The paid back amount will later be used for funding another start-up business in rural communities.

German "Friendship" program 2003 - current

Donor: Kardinal Frings Gymnasium in Bonn

The idea of the project was initiated in 2003 by the teachers, students and parents of Kardinal Frings Gymnasium of Bonn, Germany. Up to now the Gymnasium organizes annual fundraising activities in favor of children, living in remote villages of Armenia, aimed at improvement of their educational conditions and solving of the primary problems of the targeted schools. The project also assists in building of community capacity by encouraging community participation in all the stages of project implementation. The community has its contribution in the projects, amounted to minimum 20% of the total budget, realized in the form of unpaid labor force, materials or finance.

The projects of the year 2009 involved the following schools:

- Construction of an additional space at the main entrance of the secondary school in Arapi village for fitting of the school toilets and the cloak-room in this space. The community contribution to the project was unprecedented; it amounted to almost 100% of the total budget.
- Basic renovation of two rooms and cosmetic renovation of the other space of Gyumri Art school after Merkurov. This project had also its specific achievement: the Municipality of Gyumri contributed 20% of the total project budget.
- In 2009 we continued provision of humanitarian assistance to 53 needy families.



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Strategic Direction 4 Migration and Trafficking





Strategic Goal 4.1:
Preventing illegal migration

Strategic Goal 4.2:
Integration of Returnees

Strategic Goal 4.3:
Prevention of Trafficking

The current state of the country is still motivating people to leave the country at any cost. The downfall of Armenia in combating poverty has driven many families towards one single decision; migration.

Migration and Trafficking component was integrated into Armenian Caritas activities since 2003, when the rate of migration was high, especially illegal migration. It was also a period when awareness about dangers of illegal migration and trafficking was very low. Thus, Armenian Caritas was among the first NGOs in Armenia that started investing in awareness-raising activities. Currently Armenia faces another wave for migration, and awareness-raising on basic precautions is still urgent.

From the other hand, the volunteer returnees face problems while adapting to the new reality. Many of them had sold all their property, and now come back with some hope that will succeed here in Armenia. We got involved with personalized support to volunteer returnees in 2006. Since then Caritas is developing its portfolio of reintegration of returnees through a wider range of support, including consultancy and material support to promote income generation activities.

“Prevention of Illegal Migration and Trafficking” 2009

Donors: Caritas Belgium, Caritas France

The project served as an effective tool to raise awareness about trafficking and dangers of illegal migration in six regions of Armenia. The main activities of the project were to hold Training of Trainers on Trafficking, Illegal Migration, legislations of recipient countries and ways to avoid exploitation and trafficking. Later on, the trainers held training in their schools, for 9-11 grade students. In 2009 the project was implemented in Yerevan, Kotayk and Armavir. In total 60 schools were involved, and respectively, 60 teachers were trained. 13605 students took part in these trainings.

Roundtable discussions and drawing competition were part of awareness raising actions that the project carried out. Drawing competition was an excellent way for the children in 58 schools to illustrate their feelings about human trafficking and exploitation.



“Sustainable Reintegration after Voluntary Return” 2006-2010

Donors: Belgian Ministry of Social Integration through FEDASIL & Caritas International in Belgium



This was one of the rare projects that addressed the problems of a returnee at a very flexible and personalized way. The potential volunteer returnee contacts Caritas International in Belgium and gets consultancy on the types of assistance in case the person/family returns to Armenia. Upon return, Armenian Caritas staff members got committed to discussing the problems they faced and integration difficulties. The consultancy and financial support was mainly dedicated to securing their basic living standards, education, and health issues. During the recent two years income generation activities were more welcome, as empowerment of returnees in Armenia, which still had a very high rate of unemployment, was more likely to ensure sustainable reintegration.



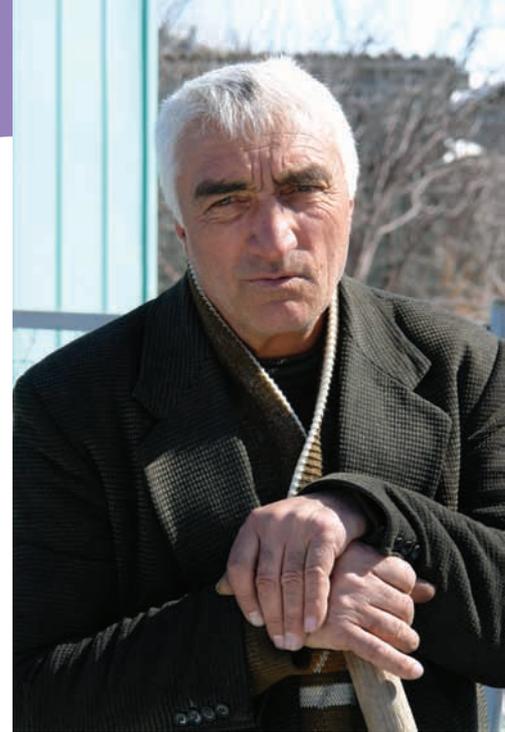
In 2009 9 cases/11 beneficiaries were supported by the program. As far as the collaboration was with Caritas International in Belgium, and the program operated upon reference from Caritas in Belgium, only the volunteer returnees from Belgium were eligible to apply for assistance.

Projects

ERSO (European Reintegration Support Organizations), 2008-2009**Leading partner: Caritas Austria**

This is a similar project to Sustainable Reintegration after Voluntary Return, but works also with volunteer returnees coming from other European countries. The same methodology and scale of support is applied in this program.

In 2009 4 cases/9 beneficiaries were assisted. They all have their very different stories, with key similarities; bright hopes for a better future while migrating, non-successful experience abroad and final decision to return back.

**“Country of Return Information”, 2006-2009****Donor: Caritas Belgium**

This is a small project with an aim to keep possible migrants and social workers concerned on issues in Armenia about current state of the country. The Armenian Caritas project manager constantly sends updates for the Armenia Country page, and replies to individual requests that potential returnees ask.

The updated country sheet is available on-line at www.cri-project.eu. The information helps future returnees to plan and organize their return to Armenia.

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Strategic Direction 5 Human Rights





Strategic Goal 5.1: Protecting and educating human rights for social justice and inclusion

Strategic Objective 5.1.1: To educate different groups of population on basic human rights and develop local approaches for protecting human rights.

Strategic Objective 5.1.2: To build a protective environment for different vulnerable groups developing the respect towards rights and fundamental freedoms of the human being.

Human Rights component has been articulated in Armenian Caritas activities also in the past, but it was not applied as a separate strategic direction. Human Rights approach will serve our goal in promoting the human rights in the context of maintaining social justice and inclusion in the Strategic Plan 2009-2013.

The action plan and the specific angles of implementation of this strategic goal are still not finally elaborated, and will be completed at the end of 2010.

“Handicraft Workshop for Women” 2007-2010

Donor: Renovabis

Initially this project started to respond to the needs of women who suffered domestic violence to have professional growth. Women and girls from poor families who could easily become victims of trafficking, girls from orphanages, mothers with many children and women whose husbands are unemployed, refugees were also targeted. The center was established to give an opportunity to any disadvantaged women to gain skills, have an alternative for socializing, and develop confidence and self respect. Thus, being a training center it ensured a space and tools to women to sustain themselves.

Every year two groups of women spend at least 6 months at the center and study sewing, basic modeling, batik, knitting and beading. 28 women graduated from sewing, knitting and beading classes In 2009. At the end of the course they wore their creations and introduced at a defile, and on 13 December, 2009, participated to the Christmas Bazaar at Yerevan Marriot Hotel. This was also an interesting experience for them, as they had a chance to see how other women promoted their products, and what range of handicraft techniques and directions were represented in the market.



Humanitarian Aid, 2008-2009

Donor: Caritas Austria

In 2008 Caritas Austria donated 9339 kg clothes, dishes and other goods to Armenian Caritas, which was distributed to the beneficiaries of Armenian Caritas.

The need for clothing is still high for the most disadvantaged layer of population, who hardly cover the costs of basic food.



Donation of Licensed Software, 2009

Donor: Microsoft

In 2009 Armenian Caritas received a generous donation from Microsoft; licensed software for Armenian Caritas three offices that had around 50 computers. The software comprised of the following items; OfficeProPlus 2007, VisioPro 2007, Visual Studio Pro 2008, WinWebSvr 2008, Windows XP Professional.





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