SUSTAINABLE SUPPORT FOR FAMILIES

CONTENT

04 MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT
05 MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY GENERAL
06 THE YEAR 2010 IN PICTURES
08 HOW WE ARE RUN
09 WHAT WE DO
10 PROGRAMME REPORTS
10 Care
16 Education
19 Health
22 Emergency

26 INNOVATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS
26 ADVOCACY
27 WHAT YOU CAN DO
28 OUR FINANCIAL RESULTS 2010
32 BRIEF HISTORY OF SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES
33 WHO WE ARE
34 SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES FACTS & FIGURES

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Deprived of love and laughter, children globally are afflicted by war, violence, disease, exploitation, neglect and other devastating circumstances. Progress has been made in strengthening their families of origin and preventing child abandonment, but much remains to be done.

A child born in a developing country continues to be 13 times more likely to die before his fifth birthday than a child born in an industrialised country. Although fewer people are infected with HIV, many children continue to be orphaned as a result. In countries where starvation and health issues are of less concern, the focus is directed towards child protection e.g. from sexual abuse, neglect and social exclusion.

Although it is recognised as one of their natural rights, 75 million children continue to be denied an education; poverty being a major contributing factor.

The number of natural disasters has continuously increased in recent decades, according to UNICEF. 200 million people are directly affected. In developing countries, natural disasters have compounded levels of child malnutrition, sickness and poverty; access to education has also been hindered as a result.

Against this background, SOS Children’s Villages endeavours not only to provide access to education and health services, but also to provide children in need of a loving home with lasting relationships within a family. In strengthening their families, we prevent the abandonment of children and help to break the poverty cycle.
THE SAFETY AND WELL-BEING OF CHILDREN IS NOT NEGOTIABLE

Our era is filled with crises, disasters and upheavals that move and affect us. The greatest victims are children and families who do not have the means to overcome crisis situations on their own. This means that SOS Children’s Villages are needed more than ever – to provide hope and offer new perspectives.

The year 2010 brought the devastating earthquake in Haiti, centennial floods in Pakistan, crop failures and starvation in Niger and many other disasters of smaller and larger scale. We helped wherever we could, and continue to do so to this day. However, help does not end as soon as the world stops watching. That is when it really begins: When the world turns to other topics because the images are too much to take, because the misery in which people dwell is no longer quite so obvious, because help seems to take too long to achieve results.

When the suffering becomes quieter, however, we must act all the more decisively. Children have the least power and the quietest voices to draw attention to their situation which is why we must advocate and stand by them with unwavering resolution. The safety and well-being of children is not negotiable.

The efforts of each and every co-worker around the globe allow us to provide hope to thousands of children each day, through experiencing care, kindness and trust – in addition to providing them with reasons for future optimism. Last year, every one of our co-workers put their whole heart into our efforts once again.

We would like to graciously thank our friends who continue to support us with such generosity and dedication during these difficult times. They help us to change children’s lives for the better. They are our strongest allies in the fight against the neglect, isolation, abuse and impoverishment of children. We owe it to the children and to our supporters to use each and every contribution for the benefit of children in the best way we possibly can.

We are now active in 133 countries and territories. This is a huge success – yet one coupled with great responsibility and challenges. Some of these countries, for example, are finally experiencing economic growth. While the respective states put a lot of effort into this economic success, we would like to see the same degree of commitment when it comes to its children. There is enormous potential to help underprivileged children and families in these countries!

We are experiencing times of change, which particularly developed dramatically during the first months of 2011. Times of change can also be opportunities for new beginnings because they can force us to reconsider our assumptions and show us new paths.

My hope is that we can all care enough to choose the path of greater compassion and responsibility, for the sake of our future and that of future generations – who happen to be the children of today.

Helmut Kutin
President
SOS Children’s Villages International

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1 In 2011, SOS Children’s Villages will begin its aid work in Djibouti. South Sudan will become an independent country when Sudan is partitioned in 2011.
We work directly with and for children. We know every single child under our care: his or her history and their development potential. That's why we place top priority on quality care. Children who cannot grow up in their biological family are especially dear to us. Their situation has changed for the better in recent decades. In many areas, however, there is still a pressing need for reform.

Large care institutions often exhibit serious weaknesses. Where individual support is lacking, children do not always experience a loving home. Coupled with this, educational opportunities and medical care is often insufficient. Smaller, more informally designed care models often lack quality standards, monitoring mechanisms and evaluation.

Yet all children and young adults, regardless of whether they are in state or non-state care, have a right to professional and loving support. We cannot allow children to become the victims of legal, political or societal shortcomings, just because they do not have a voice or a vote.

Currently, more than 74,000 children are growing up in SOS families and SOS residential youth groups. Through family strengthening activities we also help 287,000 children who live with their biological families. As globally active experts, we see massive problems in care systems across many countries. This is why we are engaged in a broad range of projects and forums to make quality standards in alternative care a reality for hundreds of thousands of children and young adults.

We must show by example to ensure that decision-makers, NGOs, authorities and care personnel strive to do likewise. We evaluate the support of children in our care so that we can constantly improve and be at the forefront in the provision of best-practice.

In order to establish this obligation within a general legal context in 2010, the senate of SOS Children’s Villages International adopted the UN Guidelines for Alternative Care – an effort in which we played a significant role – as the binding framework for our work.

Guidelines are only of use when put into practice with the active participation of children and young adults. In 2010, we focused attention specifically on teaching young people independent living skills, inside and outside of our own programmes. Young people actively worked with us on this project. After the Haitian earthquake, we strove to ensure that attention was, and will be paid to the issue of orphaned children in similar circumstances. In addition we expanded our family support worldwide. Unfortunately, too many children end up unnecessarily in alternative care, often because of the lack of political will required to ensure family cohesion and to support needy families.

Alternative care must guarantee one thing above all: the protection of children from harm - at all times. This is achieved through the provision of loving, reliable relationships between children and their parents, siblings or other carers, so that children can develop the self-esteem, strength and social competence required to be independent, self-sufficient adults. This is the heart of what we do every day.

Twenty-five years after the death of SOS Children's Villages founder Hermann Gmeiner, we are grateful that SOS Children's Villages is vibrant and continues to develop his work in his spirit to focus on helping children.

Richard Pichler
Secretary General
SOS Children's Villages
International
THE YEAR 2010 IN PICTURES

Devastating earthquakes and floods, new programmes for children and families, major achievements in our advocacy work ... we selected images from some of the major events of the past year.

top: UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador Angelina Jolie visits the SOS Children’s Village in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

left: SOS mother with three of the 33 children, who were taken by ten US citizens illegally. They are reunited with their families after being temporarily cared for by SOS families in Santo in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

big picture: Children waiting in line for their meals at a food distribution point run by SOS Children’s Villages in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.
Jan  HAITI
Haiti is struck by a devastating earthquake. SOS Children’s Villages launches one of its largest emergency relief programmes to date.

Feb  CHILE
SOS Children’s Villages supports 700 children who became victims of the deadly earthquake that struck Chile on February 27th.

Mar  COLOMBIA
In Colombia, the 500th SOS Children’s Village worldwide is inaugurated, where over 120 children now enjoy love and support in a family atmosphere.

Apr  HAITI
The SOS Hermann Gmeiner School reopens in Haiti and the children are reintegrated into a stable educational routine.

May  JAPAN
The first children’s village opens in Fukuoka, Japan.

June  NIGER
Due to droughts and erratic rains, SOS Children’s Villages battles the food crisis in Niger. The programme reaches some 10,000 of the most affected children and adults.

July  BELARUS
SOS Children’s Village Mogilev opens its first long-term crisis centre for women in Belarus featuring the country’s first shelter for long-term protection from domestic violence.

Aug  PAKISTAN
After severe floods in Pakistan and northern India, SOS Children’s Villages hands over food packages for more than 720,000 people, medical supplies for 269,000 and tents for 18,000 victims.

Sep  AUSTRIA
SOS Children’s Villages President Helmut Kutin meets with UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in Alpbach, Austria. Ban Ki-moon acknowledges the work of SOS Children’s Villages and assures his support.

Oct  WORLDWIDE
SOS Children’s Villages International is the first organisation to formally adopt the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children.

Nov  BELGIUM
SOS Children’s Villages organises two round tables in the European Parliament. Tennis player and SOS Ambassador Kim Clijsters calls for EU policymakers to continue to support families and fight child poverty.

Dec  COLOMBIA
More than 1.5 million people are affected by disastrous floods and landslides in northern Colombia. SOS Children’s Villages offers affected children pedagogical and psychological support.
SOS Children’s Villages is an international non-governmental social development organisation, active in the field of child rights. Since 1949, we have been committed to ensuring that children grow up in a caring family environment.

Today, we are active in 133\(^1\) countries and territories. Each affiliated national association is united through the umbrella organisation, SOS Children’s Villages International.

\(^1\) as per July 2011

In all countries where SOS Children’s Villages operates, an autonomous national association is formed as a separate legal entity, with its own statutes and Board of Directors. Associations are members of the international umbrella organisation, and their Board of Directors work on an honorary basis. Each member must comply with the SOS Children’s Villages’ international statutes and principles for child-care and education, as well as a predetermined set of financial and administrative practices.

Each national association is registered as a foundation, trust, association, non-profit company or society. As a full member of SOS Children’s Villages International, they have the right to apply for funding through the umbrella association, and to request services from the General Secretariat.
WHAT WE DO

We at SOS Children’s Villages believe that children can only develop to their full potential if they have a supportive and protective family environment. We work to make this a reality. At the core of SOS Children’s Villages programmes is the individual child who has lost the security of a well-functioning family. What is best for the child guides all our work. We focus on each child’s care, education and health and we encourage children to actively take part in the making of decisions that affect their lives.

EDUCATION  We believe that through quality education, the cycle of exclusion, poverty, domestic violence and breakdown of families can be broken. Therefore, SOS Children’s Villages operates kindergartens, day-care centres, schools and vocational training centres and promotes quality education together with partners such as public schools.

HEALTH  SOS Children’s Villages not only provides individualised care but also supports communities in the development of improved health service infrastructure, promotion of education, and child development. We also run medical centres in underdeveloped areas where an emphasis is placed on the specialised care of women and children.

ADVOCACY  Building on our experience, we are also a leading voice for children who have lost a parent or whose parents cannot care for them. We strive to initiate change that will improve the lives and living conditions of all these children, their families and their communities.

EMERGENCY  In situations of crisis, war and disaster, children are in particular need of specific protection and intensive care. SOS Children’s Villages is in a strong position to promptly fall back on an established infrastructure whenever rapid aid for children and families is urgently needed.
In a family support centre run by SOS Children’s Villages, families at risk of breakdown are given the social, medical, psychological, legal and financial support they need to properly care for their children.
When Hermann Gmeiner founded SOS Children’s Villages in 1949, the construction of a “village” for SOS families was considered the best way to create the caring family environment that he envisaged was necessary for children who had lost their parents. The UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children, to which SOS Children’s Villages made key contributions, stresses that children should grow up with their own family, and within a strong, supportive community. Helping children and their families by strengthening their communities from within is what we want to achieve globally in the long run.

Children whose parents can no longer care for them live with SOS families and foster families trained by SOS Children’s Villages.

The idea of a family support centre

In our family support centres we work with families of origin that are at risk of splitting up, by offering the social, medical, psychological, legal and financial support needed to properly care for the children affected.

Our facility in Urgench, Uzbekistan, was launched as an advanced pilot project in January 2010 to address the needs of many families, some of which have already been torn apart by ecological and ethno-political crises; many more are at constant risk.

In Urgench, access to quality education is limited and costly. We continue to make quality education more accessible by instructing the teachers of a local school and kindergarten in new teaching methods; support is also available to families in need of learning materials. The school will later serve as a model to help promote best teaching practices to other local schools.

Child protection group established

As a result of the interest expressed by local authorities and NGOs in Urgench, a long-term partnership was developed with SOS Children’s Villages which led to the creation of a child protection group in which they were represented. We provided them with legal advice on child-related issues through a series of trainings sessions. The next step is to strengthen the cooperation between all those involved in the local child welfare system.

Based on the experience of SOS Children’s Villages across the globe and our colleagues at Urgench, we are

HIGHLIGHTS 2010

SOS Children’s Villages PHILIPPINES opened its first community-integrated programme. SOS families live among other families and participate fully in community life.

Strong Families, Strong Children was published, illustrating our commitment to breaking the cycle of poverty and strengthening families. The booklet was widely welcomed in various quarters, including the EU.

The publication of Ageing Out of Care provides an unprecedented review and assessment of the circumstance under which young people in Europe and Central Asia leave alternative care.

SOS Children’s Villages ITALY was selected to lead a sub-group on alternative care for the National Working Group on Childhood and Adolescence. It is a group of eight expert associations including UNICEF.
now highlighting issues with stakeholders and those in positions of influence to initiate change for the well-being of children. In Uzbekistan the focus is on the creation of a database of children living with relatives and foster families. In addition, they are highlighting the difficulties faced by young adults leaving care; they are also speaking out against the unjust treatment of marginalised families.

They have demonstrated that the most enduring change is created by those who have benefited from the stability that change brings. This strong, supportive community has become almost like an extended family to its children. In striving to be an integrated part of such communities SOS Children’s Villages has helped bond not only families but also their communities.

Priscah Wachera, SOS Children’s Villages social worker in Mombasa, Kenya

The first step is to listen

My name is Priscah Wachera. I am 33 years old and have been working for SOS Children’s Villages for five years as a social worker. I moved to Mombasa two years ago to support families so that they can stay together and the children don’t end up alone. The people in the poorest areas of Mombasa would never ask for help of their own accord. I am always careful to treat them with sensitivity and respect when I first meet them in order to win their trust. I visit them repeatedly, listening closely to what they have to say. Otherwise, they wouldn’t believe that SOS Children’s Villages really want to help them.

There is a lot of suffering in Kenya and I hear the same stories every day. Poverty and AIDS rob parents of the strength to keep their jobs; children don’t have enough to eat, get ill and can’t go to school. The children are too young to understand when their parents become the victims of poverty, disease or alcoholism, but they realise that something’s wrong. Most don’t know how to talk to their parents about such problems and suffer dreadfully, both physically and emotionally. We aim to support families by giving parents the skills and means to support themselves, as well as educating them on health topics. We do this through projects that foster the launch of small businesses, or self-help groups that help people who have HIV/AIDS to accept the disease for what it is and to manage their treatment and medication. We work together with key members of the communities who help us identify children and families in need of our help. To see a family together that would have fallen apart without our help makes me happier than I can say! I know that we can only do this because so many people support SOS Children’s Villages. The children know that too! It’s very important for them to realise that there are people who care for them. After a long day, I like to sit and chat with SOS families. It’s good to see how happy they are. It gives me the strength to go back to the slums day after day.

If you would like to find out more about my work and the families we help, visit my blog at: http://outoftheslums.wordpress.com

SOS Children’s Villages in KENYA

• First SOS Children’s Village opened in 1973 in Nairobi.
• Focus on educational programmes, family strengthening programmes and medical support.
• Due to the AIDS pandemic, in 2003 SOS Children’s Villages started setting up social and medical centres in Nairobi, Eldoret, Mombasa and Kisumu.

22 SOS Programmes in Kenya:
4 SOS Children’s Villages, 3 SOS Youth Programmes,
4 SOS Kindergartens, 3 SOS Hermann Gmeiner Schools,
2 SOS Vocational Training Centres, 4 SOS Family Strengthening Programmes, 2 SOS Medical Centres

BENEFICIARIES total: 15,000
SOS families: A solid foundation for healthy development

In an ideal world, separating children from their parents and placing them in alternative care would not be necessary. Sadly, today’s reality – and that of many years to come – makes it indispensable. For more than 60 years, SOS Children’s Villages has been giving children what they need most: a family they can build on.

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child states that it is in the best interest of children to grow up in their own families, where they experience love, a sense of belonging and the kind of long-term relationships that prepare them well for adulthood. That is why we work actively to promote the strengthening of families to prevent separation, abuse and neglect, particularly for families and communities experiencing poverty.

In many cases, however, acting in the best interest of the child means placing him or her in family-based care – our speciality for more than 60 years. SOS Children’s Villages is the only organisation of global impact that gives direct care to children who can no longer stay with their families of origin. Biological siblings can grow up together. Some 80,000 children are currently living in an SOS family that is ideally indistinguishable from any other functional family.

Trust and stability: SOS families are unique

What makes SOS families so unique in the world of alternative care is the long-term relationship every child in an SOS family has with his or her SOS parent. SOS parents must be able to deal with any aspect of family life: they must handle a lot of stress, be mentally stable, dispose of extensive educational skills as well as knowledge in the field of housekeeping. SOS mothers (the overwhelming majority of SOS parents are women) are selected following an ever-evolving set of standards, undergo rigorous training and can rely on an extensive support network throughout their professional lives. Finally, in order to allow the children to build a relationship of trust, they are required to commit themselves to raising at least one generation of children to adulthood.

Every child that receives support from SOS Children’s Villages, be it in the framework of our family strengthening efforts or within an SOS family, is an individual and is entitled to be treated accordingly. This means that we know each and every child in our care, along with his or her personal history, and can establish an individual development plan for every single one of them.

SOS Children’s Villages: Experience is the best expertise

SOS Children’s Villages is widely recognised as the leading expert on alternative care and has been repeatedly referred to as the quality benchmark in this area. Based on our experience in alternative care, SOS Children’s Villages developed a set of 18 standards, called the Quality for Children Standards or Q4C standards. It was presented to the EU parliament in 2007 and has since been partially voted into law in several countries. Our ultimate goal is to improve care standards for all children by participating in the development of law, policy and practice so that millions more can benefit in the future.

In 2009, the UN General Assembly in New York welcomed the UN Guidelines for the Alternative Care of Children. This was a huge step towards ensuring the rights of millions of children worldwide. During its development since 2004, we were at the forefront as
participants representing civil society. We are long-standing members of the NGO Working Group on Children without Parental Care based in Geneva. Since 2008 we have been co-convenors of this group, which now strives to promote the guidelines.

**A commitment to children everywhere**

At SOS Children’s Villages, we maintain the vision of a world with no need for alternative care systems. Still, we have an obligation to face the realities of the coming decades. The ultimate aim of all our efforts should be to create the same positive, loving and empowering conditions for all children in all care settings. Children have the right to quality care and to quality decisions in questions regarding their development and future. This is the essence of SOS Children’s Villages’ commitment to children all over the world, right now and for the decades to come.

Fabian (not his real name) was eight years old when he and his sister moved in with an SOS family in Worpswede, Germany. As is the case for many of the other children who come into an SOS Children’s Village, Fabian’s parents were not able to support him. His mother spent most of her time in bed, suffering from depression. It was rare for Fabian to play outside with other children.

Initially, Fabian kept to himself in the SOS Children’s Village as well. “When a child hasn’t experienced a strong bonding phase at home, and maybe was even left to fare for himself, he suffers traumatically”, explains experiential educator René Möllenkamp. “There are 54 children living here with us, and about half of them have problems similar to Fabian’s.” Möllenkamp understands how difficult it is for traumatised children to build up trust and confidence. They have to go through a proper healing process. One thing helps more than anything else: a completely normal family life, with close bonds to caretakers and a structured everyday life.

To get the children to come together, supervisors observe the things that children do particularly well and enjoy, and then they are integrated into appropriate groups. At first, Fabian was so intimidated and shy that he did not want to participate in anything. As a result, Möllenkamp took him into his adventure-based education group. Once a month, four young boys come together for a whole day and work together on building a wooden house at a place where they are undisturbed. “This is important for the process”, says Möllenkamp. “The children should learn that this is their house and that no one else is allowed to go in. This creates a group dynamic, and the children open up.”

Things are already going much better for Fabian. The next task is to help him integrate into the world beyond the protective space of the SOS Children’s Village, where children make friends easily. He will soon be ready to begin attending a nearby sports club.

**SOS Children’s Villages in GERMANY**

- First SOS Children’s Village opened in 1957.
- Focus on social and psychological counselling and vocational training for young people.
- After the fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 nine SOS Children’s Villages were opened in East German cities.

**46 SOS Programmes in Germany:**
15 SOS Children’s Villages, 12 SOS Youth Programmes, 5 SOS Vocational Training Centres, 14 SOS Family Strengthening Programmes

**BENEFICIARIES total:** 54,000
SOS Children’s Villages in GEORGIA

• SOS Children’s Villages started working in Georgia in 1989.
• Following the break-up of the former Soviet Union, the social and economic conditions for families deteriorated dramatically. As a result, the number of street children increased rapidly.

8 SOS Programmes in Georgia:
2 SOS Children’s Villages, 2 SOS Youth Programmes,
1 SOS Kindergarten, 3 SOS Family Strengthening Programmes

BENEFICIARIES total: 9,200

Teona: “Leaving care is the most difficult stage”

For Teona, finding her first job was not easy. Luckily, though, she had a college degree, a place to live and a network to fall back on. “I know I had more support than most when I left care, because I grew up in an SOS family. I was fortunate,” explains Teona. “Unemployment is a problem in Georgia, but finding a job is even harder for young people who have grown up in care. Except for children who grew up in SOS families, young people have to leave care at 18. Most don’t go to college because they don’t get financial aid and can’t afford a place to live because they can’t get a job. They also don’t get any emotional support, which everyone needs when they become independent. Anybody with care experience will tell you that leaving care is the most difficult stage.”

Teona succeeded

Today, Teona works as a social worker in Georgia and, like many of her peers, she believes young people have the power to change things. “We want to improve our difficult situation ourselves. We believe we can do it.” Not only has Teona started her own youth organisation, but she also works with SOS Children’s Villages on the I Matter campaign (also see page 26, Advocacy). This advocacy work is designed to help ensure that young people receive adequate support before and after they leave care. Young people are involved in the campaign in each participating country and an international youth council, consisting of 25 young people from 15 countries, is raising awareness for the issues internationally. Teona explains, “I suspected that it wasn’t only Georgians who had difficulties leaving care, but now I know for sure. Thanks to the I Matter campaign, I now see it’s a problem around the world. I feel proud to be involved in the campaign because I can help other kids to find their way and improve their future.”
“Education means more than just a good grade. Education means that adults support young people to prepare for an unknown tomorrow.”

Barbara Schratz,
Head of Research & Development,
SOS Children’s Villages International

SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES
EDUCATION PROGRAMMES 2010

229 SOS Kindergartens
186 SOS Hermann Gmeiner Schools
58 SOS Vocational Training Centres

148,400 BENEFICIARIES worldwide
EDUCATION IS A RIGHT. Although the UN Convention on Human Rights and the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child acknowledges and establishes this fact, some 68 million primary-school-age children are still denied this right. In most cases, poverty prevents them from attending school. SOS Children’s Villages firmly believes that quality education can break the cycles of exclusion, poverty, domestic violence and disruption.¹

We respect and recognise each child’s right to education. The emphasis is not only on the availability and accessibility, but also on the quality of education for all children in the SOS Children’s Villages programme. The right to education requires that all children have access to high quality services in early childhood, e.g. in crèches, kindergartens and pre-schools. This presents a more holistic approach to ensure the best possible development of each child. We support education that is relevant and meaningful to the individual child in her/his context, according to the needs and interests which prove useful in later life.

Relevant education allows children to live dignified and secure lives, enabling them to develop all the skills they need to make free and informed choices and also to pursue goals that one values and has reason to value.

Partnering with parents, schools and authorities

Parents remain responsible for their children’s education, while states bear accountability to ensure that each child has access to an affordable, quality education. In schools where children from an SOS Children’s Village programme are among those in attendance, we support the parents of all children to claim their children’s educational rights. We seek to foster the capacity of schools for disadvantaged children in order to meet specific learning and developmental needs within a creative learning environment. That also means that we provide education services by building and running schools in cases where all duty bearers fall short in their responsibilities.

Local opportunities for financial partnerships between existing schools and kindergartens should be taken advantage of whenever possible.

¹ UNESCO Data Centre, 2010

HIGHLIGHTS 2010

Zimbabwe’s Ministry of Education invited SOS Children’s Villages ZIMBABWE to participate in the development of their five year strategic plan. This demonstrates the recognition and value the state places on our contribution not only to child welfare, but also to education.

In vocational training competitions both teachers and students of the SOS Hermann Gmeiner School in Viet Tri, VIETNAM, acquired the top three ranks at regional level.

The PHILIPPINE Department of Education, Division of Lipa City, awarded SOS Children’s Village Lipa second place in the Outstanding Literacy Programme.

After the earthquake in HAITI, student enrolment at the SOS Hermann Gmeiner School in Santo more than doubled to 900.

In 2010, an SOS Hermann Gmeiner Technical College opened in Lama-Feing, near the SOS Children’s Village Kara, TOGO. No other educational facility in the entire Kara region provides such electronic and electrotechnical training.

Daliborka from SOS Children’s Villages CROATIA was one of 30 students awarded a top scholarship among 449 candidates.
“Pupils now regard more as active players within the teaching and learning process and not just as passive recipients”
Grigori Hovhannisyan, National Programme Development Director of SOS Children’s Villages Armenia

The Yerevan teaching experience

In the vicinity of the SOS Children’s Village Kotayk near Yerevan state-funded schools were run down. Teaching materials were out-dated, and the teachers had little or no knowledge of teaching, much less an understanding of learning and child-centred methodologies. It came to the attention of SOS Children’s Villages that in the schools attended by children from SOS families, teachers were lacking motivation. This resulted in low student performance and for many years, teachers believed that the intellectual level of students was low.

As a first step, SOS Children’s Villages announced that it was no longer acceptable to finance after-school tutoring by the teachers who had not produced any results. Together with a group of experts, SOS Children’s Villages increased teacher awareness through learning and practicing new instructional techniques. The analysis findings revealed that nearly all teachers were experts in their fields, but did not know enough about child-centred methods to replace traditional instruction with a structure that focused on learning.

“At the beginning, there was some reluctance amongst teachers”, Grigori Hovhannisyan, National Programme Development Director of SOS Children’s Villages Armenia recalls. “After organising exchange visits and round table discussions with teaching staff from other educational facilities supported by SOS Children’s Villages Armenia over the last couple of years, the level of reluctance decreased.”

“SOS Children’s Villages Armenia has created an oasis in our desert.”
Zina Ashotyan, principle of the state school N 103, Yerevan, Armenia

Month after month, teachers witness in their daily work how these new approaches affect students, whom they had considered to have low intellectual levels. They saw how it increased student motivation to learn and perform. This has created a positive atmosphere and attitude amongst teachers and students which has progressively influenced the entire life of the school.

Not only has classroom participation increased, but also teachers’ use of computers for class preparation. This has caused more interaction within the teaching process. Some former educators have shifted from a teacher and subject-centred approach to a more child- and learning-centred approach. “They now regard pupils more as active players within the teaching and learning process, and not just as passive recipients”, says Hovhannisyan.

SOS Children’s Villages in ARMENIA

- Following the devastating earthquake in 1988, the first Armenian SOS Children’s Village opened in 1990, the second in 2010 in Idjevan.
- Since 2006 SOS Children’s Villages is running several schooling programmes which aim to improve the services of public schools and kindergartens by enhancing teachers’ and educators’ skills.

11 SOS Programmes in Armenia:
2 SOS Children’s Villages, 1 SOS Youth Programme, 1 SOS Kindergarten, 7 SOS Family Strengthening Programmes

BENEFICIARIES total: 3,900
Approximately 22 million children have no access to routine vaccinations.¹

SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES
HEALTH PROGRAMMES 2010

72       SOS Medical Centres
455,700   BENEFICIARIES worldwide

FOR HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT. According to the World Health Organisation, nearly nine million children under the age of five die every year. Around 70% of them could be saved by giving them access to simple, affordable interventions. Consequently, SOS Children’s Villages runs medical centres that provide basic health care and education on HIV/AIDS prevention.2

Hotspot HIV/AIDS

According to estimates, over 14 million children around the world have lost one or both of their parents to AIDS. Many of them are unable to attend school, suffer from crippling fear and are at greater risk of abuse. For these reasons, last year, SOS Children’s Villages’ placed a greater emphasis on HIV/AIDS. Now, around 90 of our social and medical centres specifically support and strengthen children and families impacted by HIV/AIDS. The global HIV/AIDS policy, "Joining the Fight Against HIV and AIDS", creates a framework for this project and describes SOS Children’s Villages’ position on this topic.

Simple measures against child mortality

Approximately 22 million young children have no access to routine vaccinations. Gastroenteritis and lung infections are among the most prevalent causes of death among children. Two thirds of child mortality cases could be prevented with simple, cost-effective measures such as those offered in SOS Medical Centres. Malnutrition causes more than a third of infant mortality worldwide. No less than three of the eight UN Millennium Development Goals address this problem.

Around the world, approximately 20 million children under the age of five are severely malnourished and are therefore at particular risk of preventable death in early childhood. A World Bank investigation revealed that the window for preventing the consequences of malnutrition among children ranges from the mother’s pregnancy to the child’s second year. During this time, damages in terms of growth and brain development are particularly severe and largely irreversible. Nutrition programmes like the one at the SOS Children’s Village in Samneua, Laos, have also saved little Thao Yong’s life.

Recovery for Thao Yong

Thao Yong was two and half years old and weighed less than eight kilogrammes when he, a small pale child, was taken in September 2010 into the nutrition programme at the SOS Children’s Village Samneua, Laos. He belongs to an ethnic group that lives in the Laotian mountains, whose children often suffer from severe malnutrition. As a consequence, the mortality rate among young children is particularly high there.

Together with state agencies, SOS Children’s Village Samneua runs a project in which children receive care and are fed for several months until they are restored to health and able to return to their families. Families and communities learn about available prevention options and the consequences of malnutrition.

Dao Huong is the director of the SOS Children’s Village in Samneua. During on-site visits he decides, together with state agency representatives, which children should be admitted into the programme. If the family consents, they sign an agreement that determines how the child will be cared for and when he or she will return to their family. “This agreement”, explains Dao Huong, “clearly signals to the family that they are responsible for their children as they were before. Agreements like this are important to prevent all kinds of child trafficking”.

Thao Yong underwent treatment for worms as the first step in the nutrition programme. He received healthy, invigorating food, vitamin tablets, and was vaccinated for various diseases. Thao Yong stayed five months in the temporary care of SOS Children’s Villages. During this time, his recovery went well and he gained almost four kilogrammes. He returns with his mother every three months for a check-up evaluation which is also part of the programme. His mother receives a small amount of support from SOS Children’s Villages to maintain Thao Yong’s health. His most recent check-up results indicate that Thao Yong is in full health and is developing normally for his age.

Up to now, almost 500 children have benefited from the programme. With only a few exceptions the medical evaluations show that they are all now enjoying good health. Authorities view SOS Children’s Villages as a reliable partner that tackles problems.
"We must accept the fact that there is no quick fix for the situation in Haiti. We must, nevertheless, push onwards, pursuing our redevelopment plan with determination, in order to give people the strength to help themselves. It must be said, however, that this process will take longer than we would like."

Helmut Kutin,
President of SOS Children’s Villages
IMMEDIATE HELP FOR THOSE IN NEED. Earthquakes, floods, starvation, armed conflicts and displacement - 2010 was yet another year in which millions of children and their families fell victim to natural and man-made disasters. SOS Children’s Villages was able to help thousands of children in desperate situations through a number of emergency relief programmes.

EARTHQUAKE IN HAITI

Hundreds of thousands of people died within minutes when an earthquake struck Haiti on January 12th. The capital, Port-au-Prince, was practically reduced to rubble – and the infrastructure of the poorest country of the continent collapsed with it. One third of the Haitian population was and continues to be affected by the earthquake.

The Haitian Government has drawn up a twelve-year action plan for national recovery and development. Twelve months after the earthquake, SOS Children’s Villages started the transition from emergency aid to sustainable programmes and a reconstruction effort that is scheduled to last for the next ten years.

SOS Children’s Villages, which has been active in Haiti since 1979, launched relief activities during the first days of the earthquake aftermath. Apart from the Tsunami relief operation, the projects in Haiti constitute the largest emergency relief programme we have ever undertaken in a single country.

Taking in unaccompanied children and reuniting families

During the first twelve months, the SOS Children’s Village in Santo – which was spared by the earthquake – provided sanctuary to an extra 462 children; the SOS Children’s Village in Cap Haitian, located in northern Haiti, admitted over 40. 186 of these children have already been reunited with their families. In one extreme case, up to 31 children lived briefly with a single SOS family in Santo while modular homes were built on the village compound as an intermediate housing solution. It will be possible to permanently expand the SOS Children’s Village in Santo. A third location for SOS families is due to open in Les Cayes located in southern Haiti in 2011.

Daily meals for thousands of children – From emergency relief to sustainable development

In the months following the disaster, we set up 112 food distribution points in Port-au-Prince. At the peak of the crisis these centres distributed 24,000 daily hot meals to children. We supported families in acute distress, offered medical assistance, taught classes and organised games. The remaining ten centres are being transformed into permanent SOS Community Centres with child day care, parental counselling and family support including the SOS Social Centre in Santo which now cares for twice as many children as it did before the earthquake.

Education is the key to a better future

According to UNICEF, only 45% of all Haitian children attended school before January 12th. 80% of the schools were damaged or destroyed by the earthquake; thousands of pupils and teachers lost their lives. We plan to build up to ten public schools in the coming years to assist disadvantaged children and to strengthen the local school system through knowledge transfer and teacher training. The number of pupils attending the SOS Hermann Gmeiner School in Santo doubled to more than 900 after the earthquake. The German Red Cross financed an extension of the complex that included eight new classrooms. An additional school is planned for late 2011, catering for 490 children at the SOS Children’s Village compound in Santo.
Haiti: 33 “orphans” reunited with their parents

After the earthquake in Haiti, 33 children – supposedly orphans – were about to be illegally taken to the Dominican Republic by ten US citizens. SOS Children’s Villages was assigned the task of taking care of them temporarily by the Haitian child welfare authority, The Institut du Bien Etre Sociale et De Recherches (IBERS).

During their stay, all 33 children participated in the daily life of the SOS Children’s Village and were integrated into a household. Siblings and cousins lived under the same roof and all received medical care and professional help from psychologists and SOS Children’s Villages social workers.

Following a lengthy process of family verification handled by IBERs, the children, aged four months to twelve years, were returned home.

This case highlighted again the risks of separation in emergency situations, when destitute families see no other way than to give up their children. Relief efforts have to focus on preventing separation by ensuring that families have access to medical care, food, water, shelter. SOS Children’s Villages urged everyone to pay special attention to unaccompanied and separated children and not to take any premature action that may hinder family reintegration.
CENTENIAL FLOODS IN PAKISTAN

The most severe rainfalls in over 80 years devastated vast areas of Pakistan in July and August 2010. According to the UN, more than 14 million people were affected particularly in the regions between the north-west and the south of the country; an estimated six to seven million people were dependent on humanitarian aid as a result.

In the provinces of Punjab, Sindh, Baluchistan and Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, SOS Children’s Villages Pakistan distributed food packages for more than 720,000 people, medical supplies for 260,000 and tents to accommodate 18,000 flood victims. Apart from the Multan catchment area where an SOS Children’s Village is located, aid supplies were distributed in remote, hard-to-reach regions by the army and other aid organisations. This collaboration resulted in an exceptionally efficient use of resources, as donated money was not required for transport or distribution. In April 2011, work was underway to build 200 private houses in four villages in Muzaffargarh in Punjab, which was one of the worst hit districts.

OTHER EMERGENCY RELIEF PROGRAMMES 2010

A severe earthquake and tsunami struck the CHILEAN COAST around Concepción at the end of February. For weeks SOS Children’s Villages Chile cared for over 700 children and provided aid to many families.

Severe floods and landslides hit NORTHERN INDIA in August. The local Tibetan SOS Children’s Village in Leh-Ladakh provided its neighbours with medical aid and temporary shelter at the SOS Hermann Gmeiner School.

From June to August, SOS Children’s Villages NIGER distributed food to 10,000 children and adults in drought-affected Niger and provided food and medical care to malnourished children. We also helped families to set up grain storage systems and to apply traditional, earth-sustaining farming methods.

The Merapi volcano on Java, INDONESIA, erupted between October and November. SOS Children’s Villages teams assisted in the evacuation of hundreds of children and families from the danger zone, and provided them with shelter and food in emergency camps at Yogyakarta.

BENIN was hit by severe rainfalls in October and November where hundreds of thousands of people were affected. We helped families by providing among other necessities: drinking water, mosquito nets, tents, medical and food supplies.

After parts of COLOMBIA were affected by severe rainfalls and landslides in December, SOS Children’s Villages set up an emergency relief centre in Bello in the province of Antioquia.
INNOVATION THROUGH PARTNERSHIPS

We value our partnerships with institutional donors as they build relationships that shape the ways of thinking and working together allowing for opportunities to explore innovative approaches.

The “Together 4Change Programme” is one good example: The SOS Children’s Villages Kenya, Nigeria, Ghana and the Netherlands have started this five year programme co-funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Based on a new concept known as Civic Driven Change for child wellbeing, programme participants define the change they would like to bring about in their community.

The “Framework Programme” financed by the Austrian Development Agency funds five Family Strengthening Programmes in Ethiopia, Uganda and Zimbabwe. The joint focus lies on the development of sustainability strategies for families and communities in Africa.

In the case of Haiti, institutional partners from Germany, Iceland, Luxembourg and Spain have supported SOS Children’s Villages emergency relief and long-term reconstruction efforts in 2010.

SOS Children’s Villages International is a partner of the Directorate for Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection of the European Commission (ECHO). Throughout 2010 ECHO has continued to co-finance the SOS Maternity and Emergency Paediatric Hospital in Mogadishu in Somalia, which opened in 1989. It is the only one of its kind in Mogadishu providing free medical services to the community.

Consequently, in 2011 SOS Children’s Villages will strive to increase the number of partnerships with institutional donors to continue and develop our work.

Main funding partners of the federation and its members in 2010 included (this list is not intended to be exhaustive):

ADVOCACY

I Matter – Young People Take Advocacy into Their Own Hands

Young persons coming of age, leaving an alternative care setting often do not receive the support they need to make this transition successfully. SOS Children’s Villages started the I Matter campaign, aimed at sparking a change that will help young people across Europe and Central Asia get the support they need. In 2010, the campaign really took flight.

Young people have participated directly in the running of the campaign itself and spoken publicly about the issues. A group of about 25 young people with first-hand experience of care form the campaign’s International Youth Council. It not only actively contributes to shaping the campaign – its members have also been inspired to take matters into their own hands, starting youth networks and NGOs of their own.

In Estonia the recently established youth network “Ühise Eesmärgi Nimel”, or “For a Common Goal”, received funding from the European Commission’s youth programme “Youth in Action”. This network of young people who have experienced living in alternative care emerged from a wish to change the situation of care leavers in the country. Merlin Kaljuvee, a young person who grew up in the care of SOS Children’s Villages and who is co-founder of the network explains: “We see how different the care settings that we grew up really are. Some young people are prepared to be independent, some aren’t. But mostly, young people coming out of care at the moment have no idea of the challenges they face and have no support at all. So who better to turn to than other young people who have been in the same situation?”

As the I Matter campaign continues, more and more young people who have grown up in care are starting their own initiatives, taking the idea initiated by SOS Children’s Villages, making it their own, and helping to change conditions for leaving care, one young person at a time.
WHAT YOU CAN DO

For over 60 years, we at SOS Children’s Villages have been committed to supporting children at risk around the world. However, we need regular support from friends, corporate partners, governmental organisations and foundations to enable us to continue our work all over the world.

SPONSORSHIP AND DONATIONS

Sponsorship is available for individual children or villages. You can register as a sponsor, a regular donor or make a donation over the website of the SOS Children’s Villages association in your country.

LEGACIES OR BEQUESTS

A large proportion of our income stems from gifts bequeathed after death through wills. Without the kindness of individuals who help to enable children live independent lives, we would not be in a position to make a long lasting difference for future generations. You can make a big difference by contacting the SOS Children’s Villages association in your country.

CORPORATE PARTNERSHIPS

SOS Children’s Villages has a global presence. Our organisation offers socially engaged companies exposure and a mutually beneficial relationship. Corporate funding allows us to continue our vital work on behalf of children, while a socially responsible ethos is nurtured within partner companies; an ethos that reflects positively on each company, not only within the marketplace, but among employees, customers and the general public. We build exciting, long-term, sustainable relationships with our corporate partners. For further information, please contact the SOS Children’s Villages association in your country.

FOUNDATIONS

SOS Children’s Villages is mainly financed through individual contributions. In order to diversify and broaden our donor base we are now seeking the support of foundations and public institutions. This will increase our resources and improve the lives of more children. We will engage more with foundations to build partnerships to ensure that more of our programmes remain sustainable in the long-term. This in turn will enable us to support more children and make stronger families.

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR SUPPORT!
OUR FINANCIAL RESULTS 2010

This financial report includes all information on the domestic and international work of SOS Children’s Villages and therefore provides a complete picture of the development of the entire federation. In order to provide more up-to-date information, the financial figures on the following pages have been composed from unaudited financial statements relating to 2010, rather than from audited financial statements relating to 2009. Final audited figures will be available in September 2011.

HIGHLIGHTS

- In 2010 our total income amounted to 865 million EUR, an increase of 8% over 2009 (800 million EUR).
- Local income in Latin America, Africa and Asia has increased by 24% or 13.1 million EUR, from 53.6 to 66.7 million EUR.
- Despite the volatile economic situation, our income from individual donors and sponsors has increased by almost 26 million EUR from 454.2 to 480.1 million EUR.
- SOS Children’s Villages has continued to expand its work with families of origin, spending 36.7 million EUR in 2010, which is 8 million EUR more than in 2009.

INCOME

18 SOS Promoting and Supporting Associations in Western Europe and Northern America raised 89% or 772.8 million EUR of SOS Children’s Villages’ total financial revenue. However, these 18 national associations do not only secure the expansion of the international work of SOS Children’s Villages, but many of them also operate domestic SOS facilities and programmes.

THE SOS PROMOTING AND SUPPORTING ASSOCIATIONS ARE:

- SOS-Børnebyerne Danmark (DK)
- SOS-Kinderdorf e.V. (DE)
- Hermann-Gmeiner-Fonds Deutschland e.V. (DE)
- SOS Villages d’Enfants France (FR)
- SOS Villages d’Enfants Monde asbl.Luxembourg (LU)
- SOS-Kinderdorpen (NL)
- Stiftelsen SOS barnebyer Norge (NO)
- SOS-Kinderdorf Österreich (AT)
- Stiftung SOS-Kinderdorf Schweiz (CH)
- SOS-Barnbyar Sverige (SE)
- SOS Children’s Villages UK (UK)
- SOS Village d’Enfants Belgique aide le monde asbl. (BE)
- SOS Children’s Villages Canada (CA)
- Asociación Aldeas Infantiles SOS de España (ES)
- SOS-Lapsikyläsäätiö/lapsikyläry (FI)
- SOS Barnaporpin (IS)
- Associazione SOS Italia Villaggi dei Bambini ONLUS (IT)
- SOS Children’s Villages USA Inc. (USA)
PERCENTAGE INCOME BY CONTINENT

Total income worldwide 865.2 million EUR

Western Europe & North America 89%
Africa & Middle East 3%
Latin America 3%
Central & Eastern Europe, CIS, Baltics 3%
Asia 2%

TOP 10 COUNTRIES (in million EUR)

Total income of top 10 countries 699 million EUR

1. Germany 370 million EUR
2. Austria 79 million EUR
3. Norway 60 million EUR
4. France 57 million EUR
5. Spain 36 million EUR
6. Sweden 25 million EUR
7. Netherlands 22 million EUR
8. Denmark 21 million EUR
9. Italy 15 million EUR
10. Switzerland 14 million EUR

PERCENTAGE INCOME BY TYPE OF DONOR

SOS Children’s Villages has always relied on a large number of donations from individual donors all over the world. Accordingly, 56% of the total income in 2010 has been contributed by individual donors.

Corporate donations amounted to 61 million EUR in 2010. This is an increase of 15% or 8 million EUR compared to 53 million EUR in 2009.

Individual donors 56%
Sporadic one-time donations by private individuals, long-term regular donations to support a national SOS programme

Corporate donors 7%
Donations or income through partnerships with corporate partners

Domestic governmental subsidies 25%
Payments and donations in kind given by governments to support our programmes

Extraordinary appeals 3%
Donations for emergency relief programmes

Other income 8%
Income from National Associations and Promoting and Supporting Associations (i.e. events, merchandising, rent, interest)

Institutional funding 1%
Development cooperation funds for international projects
EXPENDITURE

PERCENTAGE EXPENDITURE BY PROGRAMME

Financial support is generally directed towards SOS families and family-based care. However, in the last two years, spending on work with families of origin has increased by almost 13 million EUR (53%) to 36.7 million EUR. This demonstrates a new focus by SOS Children’s Villages which is based on placing greater emphasis on developing models that strengthen the natural family environment.

12% was spent operating educational facilities such as SOS Kindergartens, SOS Hermann Gmeiner Schools and SOS Vocational Training Centres. As a result of extraordinary emergencies in Haiti, Latin America and Africa, 2% of total expenditure was allocated to Emergency Relief Programmes.

The training of carers and the operational costs of national offices accounted for 16% of programme expenses.

PERCENTAGE EXPENDITURE BY CONTINENT

Although 89% of our global income is raised in Western Europe and North America, only half of total programme costs are spent there. Running costs for programmes in Europe are higher than in other regions. A quarter of expenditure is met by domestic subsidies from national governments, which are reserved for use in the respective country only, and are therefore not available for international financing purposes.

TRANSPARENCY

Joint internal control by SOS Children’s Villages International and promoting and supporting associations ensures the transparency of the entire financial process. Each member association of SOS Children’s Villages is audited by local independent and recognised auditors, as manifested in statute by the umbrella organisation SOS Children’s Villages International, Innsbruck, Austria. As in previous years, in 2009, Ernst & Young issued us an unqualified audit and opinion in 2009.
Our worldwide financial results for 2010 show a surplus of 20.7 million EUR, which will be used to launch additional SOS Children’s Villages programmes in the future. The 14.4% increase in costs is due to higher living costs in beneficiary countries\(^1\), an increase in beneficiaries\(^2\) and a 3.3% increase in the value of the Euro against the US Dollar.\(^3\)

### Financial Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of REVENUES by CONTINENT</th>
<th>Actuals 2009 audited</th>
<th>Actuals 2010 partially audited*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Latin America</td>
<td>21,091</td>
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<tr>
<td>Africa &amp; Middle East</td>
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<td>Asia</td>
<td>10,244</td>
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<td>Central &amp; Eastern Europe, CIS, Baltics</td>
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<td>Western Europe, North America &amp; Australia</td>
<td>722,741</td>
<td>772,795</td>
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<td>Programme Support</td>
<td>1,316</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>799,738</td>
<td>865,172</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Change to previous year in %

\(+6.4\%\)\(^*\) \(+8.2\%\)\(^*\)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of REVENUES by SEGMENT</th>
<th>Actuals 2009 audited</th>
<th>Actuals 2010 partially audited*</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sporadic gifts (Individual donors)</td>
<td>335,983</td>
<td>354,712</td>
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<td>International sponsorships (Individual donors)</td>
<td>109,630</td>
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<tr>
<td>National sponsorships (Individual donors)</td>
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<td>7,887</td>
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<td>Corporate donors</td>
<td>52,980</td>
<td>61,040</td>
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<td>Governmental development cooperation funding</td>
<td>5,400</td>
<td>7,248</td>
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<td>Domestic governmental subsidies</td>
<td>205,726</td>
<td>220,323</td>
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<td>Other income(^6)</td>
<td>80,375</td>
<td>71,786</td>
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<td>Public donations in kind</td>
<td>1,014</td>
<td>1,451</td>
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<td>Extraordinary appeals (eg. Haiti)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>23,214</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Revenues</td>
<td>799,738</td>
<td>865,172</td>
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### Operating EXPENSES (Running costs of SOS Programmes) by PROGRAMME UNIT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operating EXPENSES (Running costs of SOS Programmes) by PROGRAMME UNIT</th>
<th>Actuals 2009 audited</th>
<th>Actuals 2010 partially audited*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Work with families of origin(^6)</td>
<td>28,525</td>
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<td>Education(^6)</td>
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<td>Health(^6)</td>
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<td>International programme development support</td>
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<td>Western Europe, North America &amp; Australia domestic projects (incl. earmarked subsidies)(^7)</td>
<td>323,025</td>
<td>341,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Operating Expenses of SOS Programmes(^6)</td>
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<td>685,628</td>
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### Operating EXPENSES (Running costs of SOS Programmes) by CONTINENT

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Operating EXPENSES (Running costs of SOS Programmes) by CONTINENT</th>
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<td>Latin America</td>
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<td>Africa &amp; Middle East</td>
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<td>Asia</td>
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<td>Central &amp; Eastern Europe, CIS, Baltics</td>
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<td>Western Europe, North America &amp; Australia</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Programme Support</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Operating Expenses of SOS Programmes</td>
<td>599,368</td>
<td>685,628</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Overall Surplus

| Overall Surplus | 34,315 | 20,719 |

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1. + 7.9% in local currency;
2. Weighted increase of + 2.9% in SOS Families and family-based care, and work with families of origin, which is representative for the overall growth;
3. USD-receiving countries only
4. As at June 30 2011, independent external audits have not yet been completed in 133 countries.
5. Other income refers to financial income such as interest (Supporting Associations), operational income from facilities, and local income from e.g. events or merchandising
6. Outside Western Europe, North America and Australia
7. No accurate split according to programme unit possible due to difference in national accounting regulations
BRIEF HISTORY OF SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES

1949
SOS Children’s Villages founded in Austria by Hermann Gmeiner; first SOS Children’s Village built in Linz, Austria.

1950s
SOS Children’s Villages associations established in France, Germany and Italy.

1960s
SOS Children’s Villages International established as the umbrella organisation for all SOS Children’s Villages associations. Start of the work in Asia (South Korea) and Latin America (Uruguay).

1970s
First African SOS Children’s Villages built in Côte d’Ivoire, Ghana, Kenya and Sierra Leone.

1985
Helmut Kutin succeeds Hermann Gmeiner as President of SOS Children’s Villages International.

1986
Hermann Gmeiner dies on 26 April, having established some 230 SOS Children’s Villages all over the world. Both SOS Children’s Villages and Hermann Gmeiner himself have been nominated for the Nobel Peace Prize several times.

1990s
SOS Children’s Villages expands its work to countries of the former Soviet Union and builds two SOS Children’s Villages in the USA.

1995
UN membership: SOS Children’s Villages International becomes “NGO in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations”.

2002
SOS Children’s Villages International receives the Conrad N. Hilton Humanitarian Prize.

2005
Following the tsunami disaster in Asia, SOS Children’s Villages commences an emergency relief and reconstruction programme in India, Sri Lanka, Indonesia and Thailand.

2009
The 500th SOS Children’s Village is opened in Cali, Colombia in the year of the 60th anniversary of the organisation.

2010
After a devastating earthquake in Haiti, over 500 unaccompanied children are given a temporary home in SOS Children’s Villages in Santo and Cap Haitien.
WHO WE ARE

OUR ROOTS – Who we are
- We take action for children as an independent non-governmental social development organisation
- We respect various religions and cultures
- We work in the spirit of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- With the SOS Children’s Village concept, our organisation pioneered a family approach to the long-term care of children who have lost parental care or are at risk of losing it.

OUR VISION – What we want for the world’s children
Every child belongs to a family and grows with love, respect and security.

OUR MISSION – What we do
We build families for children in need, we help them shape their own futures and we share in the development of their communities.

OUR VALUES – What keeps us strong
- COURAGE – WE TAKE ACTION
- COMMITMENT – WE KEEP OUR PROMISES
- TRUST – WE BELIEVE IN EACH OTHER
- ACCOUNTABILITY – WE ARE RELIABLE PARTNERS
## SOS CHILDREN’S VILLAGES
### GLOBAL FACTS & FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>CARE</strong></td>
<td>80,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOS Children’s Villages</td>
<td>518</td>
</tr>
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<td>Beneficiaries</td>
<td>62,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOS Youth Programmes</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>FAMILY STRENGTHENING</strong></td>
<td>430,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Work with Families of Origin/Social Centres</td>
<td>607</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
<td>430,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EDUCATION</strong></td>
<td>148,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOS Kindergartens</td>
<td>229</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
<td>23,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOS Hermann Gmeiner Schools</td>
<td>186</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
<td>109,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOS Vocational Training Centres</td>
<td>58</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>HEALTH</strong></td>
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<td>SOS Medical Centres</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>EMERGENCY RELIEF</strong></td>
<td>1,137,700</td>
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<td>SOS Emergency Relief Programmes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
<td>1,137,700</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL PROGRAMMES</strong></td>
<td>2,116</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL BENEFICIARIES</strong></td>
<td>2,252,600</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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### PROGRAMMES AND BENEFICIARIES PER CONTINENT

#### AMERICA

We help 104,5001 children in SOS Family Strengthening Programmes and 1,600 SOS families in SOS Care Programmes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Programme</th>
<th>Beneficiaries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Programmes</strong></td>
<td>436</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Beneficiaries</strong></td>
<td>185,600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Care</td>
<td>128</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOS Children’s Villages</td>
<td>13,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOS Youth Programmes</td>
<td>2,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Family Strengthening</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Work with families of Origin/Social Centres</td>
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<tr>
<td>Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOS Kindergartens</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SOS Hermann Gmeiner Schools</td>
<td>7,700</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
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<td>SOS Vocational Training Centres</td>
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<td>Beneficiaries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>SOS Medical Centres</td>
<td>25,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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1 not including Social Centres
AFRICA

We help 74,300 children in SOS Family Strengthening Programmes and 1,700 SOS families in SOS Care Programmes.

Total Programmes 715
Total Beneficiaries 690,600

Care
SOS Children’s Villages 131
Beneficiaries 15,000
SOS Youth Programmes 91
Beneficiaries 7,400

Family Strengthening
Work with Families of Origin/Social Centres 167
Beneficiaries 96,300

Education
SOS Kindergartens 127
Beneficiaries 13,600
SOS Hermann Gmeiner Schools 111
Beneficiaries 52,600
SOS Vocational Training Centres 19
Beneficiaries 4,800

Health
SOS Medical Centres 55
Beneficiaries 393,600

Emergency Relief Programmes
SOS Emergency Relief Programmes 3
Beneficiaries 107,300

ASIA/OCEANIA

We help 51,500 children in SOS Family Strengthening Programmes and 2,100 SOS families in SOS Care Programmes (12 in Oceania).

Total Programmes 596
Total Beneficiaries 1,224,200

Care
SOS Children’s Villages 151 (Asia)
Beneficiaries 29,300 (Asia)
1 (Oceania)
Beneficiaries 100 (Oceania)
SOS Youth Programmes 125
Beneficiaries 5,300

Family Strengthening
Work with Families of Origin/Social Centres 141
Beneficiaries 88,500

Education
SOS Kindergartens 76
Beneficiaries 8,300
SOS Hermann Gmeiner Schools 60
Beneficiaries 48,700
SOS Vocational Training Centres 24
Beneficiaries 4,000

Health
SOS Medical Centres 12
Beneficiaries 35,000

Emergency Relief Programmes
SOS Emergency Relief Programmes 6
Beneficiaries 1,005,000

EUROPE, CIS, BALTICS

We help 56,600 children in SOS Family Strengthening Programmes and 1000 SOS families in SOS Care Programmes.

Total Programmes 339
Total Beneficiaries 152,200

Care
SOS Children’s Villages 107
Beneficiaries 5,100
SOS Youth Programmes 76
Beneficiaries 2,300

Family Strengthening
Work with Families of Origin/Social Centres 126
Beneficiaries 140,700

Education
SOS Kindergartens 20
Beneficiaries 700
SOS Hermann Gmeiner Schools 1
Beneficiaries 300
SOS Vocational Training Centres 8
Beneficiaries 3,000

Health
SOS Medical Centres 1
Beneficiaries 100
SOS Children’s Villages helps children and their families in 133 countries and territories around the world:

Albania
Algeria
Angola
Argentina
Armenia
Australia
Austria
Azerbaijan
Bangladesh
Belarus
Belgium
Benin
Bolivia
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Botswana
Brazil
Bulgaria
Burkina Faso
Burundi
Cambodia
Cameroon
Canada
Cape Verde
Central African Republic
Chad
Chile
China
Colombia
DR of the Congo
Costa Rica
Côte d’Ivoire
Croatia
Czech Republic
Denmark
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
Egypt
El Salvador
Equatorial Guinea
Estonia
Ethiopia
Finland
France
French Polynesia
Gambia
Georgia
Germany
Ghana
Greece
Guatemala
Guinea
Guinea-Bissau
Haiti
Honduras
Hungary
Iceland
India
Indonesia
Israel
Italy
Japan
Jordan
Kazakhstan
Kenya
Kosovo
Kyrgyzstan
Laos
Latvia
Lebanon
Lesotho
Liberia
Lithuania
Luxembourg
FYR of Macedonia
Madagascar
Malawi
Mali
Mauritius
Mexico
Mongolia
Morocco
Mozambique
Namibia
Nepal
Netherlands
Nicaragua
Niger
Nigeria
Northern Cyprus
Norway
Pakistan
Palestinian territories
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Philippines
Poland
Portugal
Romania
Russia
Rwanda
Senegal
Serbia
Sierra Leone
Somalia
Somaliland
South Africa
South Korea
South Sudan
Spain
Sri Lanka
Sudan
Sweden
Switzerland
Syria
Taiwan, China
Tanzania
Thailand
Togo
Tunisia
Turkey
Uganda
UK
United Kingdom
USA
Uruguay
Uzbekistan
Venezuela
Vietnam
Zambia
Zimbabwe

as per July 2011

www.sos-childrensvillages.org

SOS Children’s Village Assomada, Cape Verde