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People fleeing from floods in Punjab province in Pakistan

Editorial



Aurelia Frick talking with nurses in training at St. Luke's Mission Hospital in Mpanshya (Zambia)

People leave their place of origin for a wide variety of reasons: voluntarily or because they are forced to, temporarily or permanently, as a strategy for survival, or for economic, social, political, or climate-related reasons.

In terms of numbers, it is impressive how many people are moving from place to place. The UN refugee agency UNHCR currently counts more than 10 million refugees around the world. About 26 million people are estimated to be internally displaced within their own countries. Comparatively speaking, escape is a reason only for the fewest people to leave their homes: Worldwide, more than 240 million people migrate each year.

What fates are hidden by these numbers? One of the people we asked this question is Mr Teklegiorghis: a refugee from Eritrea who found a new home in Liechtenstein last year. In our discussion, he told us what it means to leave everything behind and to move forward into an uncertain future, and what dangers this path brings.

When people leave their homes, it is likewise not easy for those left behind. Entire countries feel the loss when their young people, many of whom with a good education, emigrate abroad because they lack prospects in their own country. During a project trip to Zambia in April 2013, I was able to experience directly how difficult it is to motivate medical doctors to serve in rural areas, given that both the working conditions and the personal environment are not attractive enough. Read more about this interesting project in the LED article.

The other articles in the Annual Report 2012 also deal with the complex and diverse topic of escape and migration. The articles aim to show that International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD) as one of the main pillars of Liechtenstein's foreign policy does not close itself off to this phenomenon. On the contrary: It seeks ways to improve the living conditions of the people concerned and to open up prospects for them. Also in this field, Liechtenstein demonstrates it is a reliable partner showing solidarity in the international community.

I hope you enjoy reading this Annual Report.

Foreign Minister Aurelia Frick



Women on the way to Medor market in Haiti

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As a refugee in Liechtenstein

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Interview with Mr Musie Teklegiorghis

Musie Teklegiorghis is 38 years old, comes from Eritrea, and has been living in Liechtenstein as a recognised refugee for about a year now. Panagiotis Potolidis-Beck and Manuel Frick of the Office for Foreign Affairs spoke with him.



Mr Teklegiorghis, why did you leave your home country, Eritrea?

Until the 1990s, it was very peaceful. Eritrea was a small, poor country, but life was good. We had to serve in the military for a year and a half. I did that and then worked as a mechanic. Then the war with Ethiopia broke out. Everyone had to serve in the military. Many died during the war. I didn't have a problem defending my country. After the war, I wanted to leave the military to take care of my mother and sick sister. Nobody else could take care of them. My commanding officer wouldn't allow it, however. Although I would have been entitled to leave, my commanding officer didn't let me. This was an unfair decision. I was arrested. Without a reason. I was desperate. Then I fled, since escape was the only solution for me.

How did you leave the country?

I fled to Sudan illegally overnight. I didn't have a passport. It is easy to get to Sudan from Eritrea. Sudan is nearby, but also very dangerous. There were many corrupt police officers. Staying in Sudan was not an option. After about half a year, I decided to flee to Libya. The way there was very dangerous, and many people died in the desert. Many smugglers lead people into the desert and promise to bring them to Libya, but they never arrive. I was lucky. After about three weeks, I arrived in Benghazi.

How did you do in Libya?

Poorly. We were happy when we arrived in Libya, but it was the worst place. Much worse than Sudan. The first question was: «Are you Christian or Muslim?» We answered: «Christian.» Wrong answer. We were arrested. They tortured us though we hadn't done anything. They broke the bones of some of my friends. It was a horrible time. Then we escaped from prison. They shot at us, but I escaped and went to Tripoli.

How did you come to Europe from Libya?

I received money from my sister in Sweden and was able to pay smugglers. They got me a spot on a ship. The transit costs about 1,200 dollars. Many smugglers are scammers and take people's money without giving them a spot on the boat. Or they give people bad boats that sink after three or four kilometres. That was very dangerous too. Many people die in transit. I actually wanted to go to Italy, but because of the rough sea we were stranded in Malta first. One day later, we continued on to Italy, but the authorities in Italy flew us back to Malta after about ten days. Since we'd arrived first in Malta, we had to return to Malta. I didn't know that beforehand. Nobody told us anything. They put us on an airplane. We thought we'd have to go back to Libya, but they brought us to Malta. I spent the next eight years there.

What could you do in Malta?

Nothing. In Malta, there was no chance to work or go to school, nothing. I applied many times, but without success. I am not condemning anyone – Malta is a small island with a great number of immigrants. Almost every day, new boats arrive. Nobody wants to stay in Malta. They said to some of us, «We will kill you if you don't leave.» I tried to leave Malta for eight years. First I tried to go to my brother in Germany or my sister in Sweden. Then I tried to get to Canada or the United States with fake documents. Without success.

How did you finally get to Liechtenstein?

Many people in Malta supported us. An asylum counsellor in Malta, who was also a priest, helped me. Switzerland and Norway accepted people, and I wanted to go to Switzerland because I had friends there. Then they asked me if I would like to go to Liechtenstein. I had never heard of Liechtenstein before. I had no idea. An Eritrean acquaintance told me more and said that Liechtenstein would be closer to my friends in Zurich and St. Gallen than Bern would be. After a few interviews, I finally came to Liechtenstein. I was very lucky. All my friends and acquaintances were happy for me.

How have you done in Liechtenstein since then?

Amazingly well. I thought Liechtenstein would be similar to Malta, since it is also a small country. But it is very different. The people have been kind to me. That was new for me. I am very happy that I can be here. I can finally work. I prayed, and now I am here. I am very thankful for that. I thank God and the Liechtenstein Government.

Mr Teklegiorghis, thank you very much for the interview.

From help to partnership

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Bilateral migration cooperation evolves

When several wars raged in the former Yugoslavia in the 1990s, numerous inhabitants of the affected republics in the multi-ethnic state sought protection in Liechtenstein. Many of them returned to their meanwhile independent home countries after the chaos of war subsided – home countries often suffering from severe devastation. To make it possible or easier for these people to return home, Liechtenstein Reconstruction Assistance was created as part of International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD).



Heribert Beck
Immigration and
Passport Office

Alleviating migration pressure

The situation in all the affected areas and regions has largely stabilised in the meantime, and administration, the economy, and infrastructure have been rebuilt. Nevertheless, the countries established during the course of the wars are still partially undergoing a process of reconstruction. To support this process, Reconstruction Assistance over the years evolved into International Refugee and Migration Assi-



stance (IRMA), whose resources of currently about 2.7 million francs each year are largely administered by the Immigration and Passport Office (IPO). The goal of IRMA was and is to alleviate immigration pressure in Western countries by funding projects in the home countries of potential migrants to improve the local living conditions. This work is bearing fruit.

This is seen in the migration partnerships that Liechtenstein has meanwhile concluded with the two priority countries of IRMA, Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Kosovo. The Liechtenstein Government concluded memoranda of understanding (MoUs) with both countries, confirming the intent to strengthen cooperation in future. These declarations of intent follow Swiss examples, covering a broad range of topics from the fight against human trafficking to support for voluntary return of asylum-seekers as well as circular labour and education migration.

Conveying Liechtenstein know-how

The migration partnerships aim to bring about a give-and-take that benefits both sides – in the sense of a partnership put into practice. The example of Bosnia and Herzegovina already shows that this concept works. At the end of October 2012, just about a year after the MoU was signed, six interns from that country – of both Bosniak and Serb ethnicity – began a training programme at Liechtenstein farms.

This programme was preceded by intensive preparatory work by Caritas Switzerland, the Association of Farming Organisations (VBO), and the Immigration and Passport Office. For half a year, the interns attended German and specialised courses as preparation for the two-year agricultural training programme. In this way, the VBO offers young people interested in agriculture from the region of Goražde in Eastern Bosnia, which was hit especially hard by the war, the opportunity to learn practical work and work processes in Liechtenstein agriculture. The practical training is supplemented by language courses, specialised courses, and excursions. Thanks to what they learn, the interns gain the tools to secure their future in agriculture in their home country.

Additionally, the programme makes a contribution which, while it may be small, should not be underestimated for the individuals involved: to the mutual understanding of Serbs and Bosniaks in and around Goražde – a region still considered a synonym for the Bosnian war because of the approximately three-year siege of the city by Serbs (1992 to 1995).

From war ruins to dwelling:
The home of Semir Muhelic and his family in Donji Vakuf was destroyed in the Bosnian war. It has now been rebuilt with Liechtenstein help.

International refugee and migration assistance

International refugee and migration assistance follows a sustainable and comprehensive approach to manage the global refugee and migration problem and seeks worldwide protection for the rights of refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees, stateless persons and other persons abroad in need of international protection.

Interns, families, and village communities benefit

«For our interns, this training programme offers a unique opportunity for the future», says Hemo Jusovic, project coordinator of Caritas Switzerland in Bosnia and Herzegovina, when welcoming the interns to Liechtenstein at the beginning of the programme. With what they learn and save, they can build up their own existence upon returning to their homes, and their entire families and village communities benefit. Not least of all, Liechtenstein farmers also benefit from this type of circular migration, since they gain dedicated and often urgently needed workers. Other groups of interns from Bosnia and Herzegovina are thus likely to follow.

Apart from this, the migration partnership – whose success is guaranteed by regular, trilateral expert meetings in Switzerland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Liechtenstein – is also bearing its first fruit at the official level: A bilateral readmission agreement between Liechtenstein and Bosnia and Herzegovina is currently being negotiated.

Establishing cooperation with Kosovo

The MoU with Kosovo is intended to develop in a similar way. Here again, regular expert meetings take place, and the commencement of negotiations on the conclusion of a readmission agreement has already been agreed. A possible internship programme for young Kosovars in Liechtenstein industry and agriculture and closer cooperation between official Kosovo and the diaspora living in Liechtenstein are also in preparation.



Migration partnership agreed: Liechtenstein's former Minister of Home Affairs Hugo Quaderer and his Kosovar counterpart, Bajram Rexhepi, sign the memorandum of understanding in October 2012 on stronger cooperation in the field of migration.



«Unique opportunity for the future»: The interns from Bosnia and Herzegovina were welcomed upon their arrival in Liechtenstein by the host farmers and the representatives of the VBO, the Immigration and Passport Office, and Caritas Switzerland.

Migration as a global challenge: Liechtenstein as a participant in the worldwide migration dialogue

Special Ambassador Eduard Gnesa:
«No state can manage the positive aspects and the negative challenges of migration on its own.»



The Immigration and Passport Office deals not only with national and bilateral migration questions, but also views migration as a global challenge and an opportunity that can be mastered and harnessed only globally. For this purpose, the IPO regularly takes part in the Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). This is a voluntary, transnational dialogue in the field of migration and development in which UN agencies and other international and regional organisations participate as observers.

The GFMD's goal is to foster international cooperation and partnership in the field of migration. Liechtenstein has participated actively in this process since the first meeting in 2007 in Brussels. The concept of the forum envisages that the annual meetings alternate each year between a developed country and a developing country. This year, the second High-Level Dialogue since 2006 will take place at UN Headquarters in New York.

Eduard Gnesa, Swiss Special Ambassador for International Cooperation on Migration Issues and former Director of the Federal Office for Migration (FOM), has been a promoter of the GFMD from the outset. In the following interview, he provides a brief insight into the extensive work behind the forum, on what has been achieved so far, and on prospects for the future.

«240 million people migrate each year»

Ambassador Gnesa, you are one of the fathers of the Global Forum on Migration and Development and have been at the forefront of its organisation and realisation since its founding. What was the incentive at the time to create such a platform?

The forum was established in 2006 at the initiative of then UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan subsequent to the High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development as a process to develop outside the United Nations. The forum was held for the first time in Belgium. Since then, the forum has been held in a different place each year, namely in the Philippines, Greece, Mexico, Switzerland, and Mauritius.

The forum was founded because states were unable to agree on establishing the topic of migration within the UN. The GFMD fills this vacuum by not strictly discussing only migration, but also including the development side. The GFMD is open to all UN member states. Switzerland has supported the forum since its founding and actively participates in it.

How has the forum developed since then, and what were the milestones you see in this development?

The specific added value of the GFMD consists in the focus on the nexus between migration and development, the voluntary participation of countries from all regions of the world (about 160 states), and the vision of serving as a catalyst for concrete bilateral and multilateral projects. The realisation is key that the current challenges in migration and development policy can be addressed effectively only through compre-

12 | hensive approaches and transnational partnership, including remittances, diaspora, education, integration, readmission, etc. For me personally, the Swiss chairmanship of the GFMD in 2011 was a milestone; we were able to contribute our many years of experience in migration policy.

Have there also been difficulties?

There have been no fundamental difficulties. All states are striving not to fall into the well-known North-South problem. It has been recognised that most countries face the same or similar challenges, since most are simultaneously immigration, emigration, and transit countries.

Where do you see potential for improvement?

The identified best practices are not yet implemented sufficiently, since regional differences are in part very great. It is understandable that states do not want to give up their sovereignty in migration and development policy. It would be desirable, however, for regular migration to be seen increasingly as an opportunity, especially in light of future demographic development.

What results do you expect from the High-Level Dialogue this autumn?

The High-Level Dialogue is a political process within the UN. I hope that the insights and best practices developed in the GFMD will flow into the discussions there. The international community has learnt especially over the past few years which migration flows are triggered by conflicts (e.g. Libya, Syria) and cannot be managed by individual states acting on their own. The same is true of regular migration, considering that an estimated 240 million people migrate worldwide each year.

What do you wish for the future of the GFMD, once it enters the second round after the High-Level Dialogue, so to speak?

With its practice-oriented working method, the GFMD is able to contribute even more to the realisation that no state can manage the positive aspects and negative challenges of migration on its own. I hope that cooperation at the regional and global level can be improved and that clearer guidelines for regular and irregular migration in the interest of the states and the migrants themselves can be enacted.

Ambassador Gnesa, thank you very much for the interview.

Escaping misery

Supporting refugees and internally displaced persons through Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance

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Manuel Frick
Office for Foreign Affairs



Taking a look at the newspapers or the television news can be sobering: Every day, we read reports and see images of natural disasters or armed conflicts and wars that cause suffering to many people around the world. And we know that the news reaching us via the media is only the tip of the iceberg. Many people are forced to escape misery and leave their homes. Escaping generally means just managing to save their lives. People fleeing their homes are often an especially vulnerable group requiring rapid assistance. The following two very different examples will show how Liechtenstein endeavours through Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance to help these people as quickly as possible, allowing them to lead lives with dignity.

Thanks to Liechtenstein's support, Syrian refugee children are able to attend school in Jordan. The picture shows pupils at the girls' school in Mafraq.



Support for Syrian refugee children in Jordan

The Syrian conflict was certainly one of the greatest humanitarian challenges in 2012. Due to the armed conflict, a very large number of people were forced to leave the country. Several tens of thousands fled to Jordan. A quick return cannot be expected, given that the conflict continues. This situation of uncertainty is especially difficult for Syrian refugee children. Although they are granted free access to Jordanian schools, many must be turned back due to lack of space or infrastructure. The Jordanian government has therefore approached the international community and asked for assistance. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) has declared its willingness to support the Ministry of Education in Jordan in renovating eight schools in Ramtha und Mafraq in the north of the country. In addition to improving buildings and infrastructure, the students have received the school materials they need. This has also reduced the financial burden on parents. The project, which was carried out in cooperation with the Jordanian Ministry of Education and UNICEF, has benefited about 6,000 Jordanian and Syrian children. Liechtenstein assumed most of the costs.

Emergency and reconstruction assistance

Emergency and reconstruction assistance provides short-term and urgent preventive and aid measures to preserve human life and to alleviate the consequences of natural disasters, political crises and armed conflicts. It also includes the medium-term development of social structures and infrastructure in regions affected by disasters, political crises and armed conflicts.

Help for internally displaced persons in Colombia

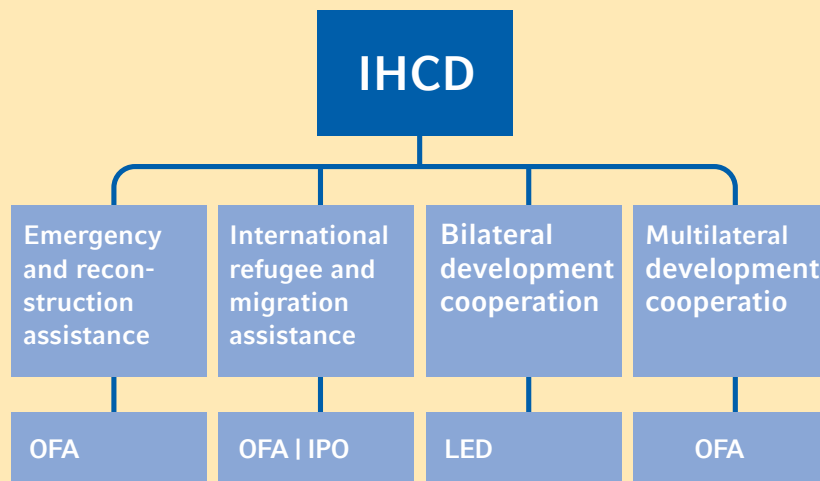
When thinking of escape, most people imagine having to leave one's country because of natural disasters or armed conflicts, such as in the case of Syria. But many more people flee to a different location within their home country. These internally displaced persons (IDPs) are not subject to the protection of the Geneva Refugee Convention, since they are by definition not refugees. IDPs are therefore often seen to be a «domestic problem» and are accordingly an especially marginalised group.

For nearly 50 years, Colombia has experienced domestic conflict and has one of the largest numbers of IDPs worldwide. Anti-personnel mines, death threats, gang warfare, killings of relatives, and forced recruitment of minors are cited by those affected as the main reasons for displacement from different parts of the country. Currently, the indigenous population in the northwest of the country is suffering especially from displacement because of numerous illegal armed groups. Despite the tough government policy against corruption, narcotics production and trade, and illegal armed groups, no significant improvement of the security situation has been seen. In this context, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) is continuing its proven engagement in Colombia, which began in 1969. It supports internally displaced persons in the affected areas as well as families of missing persons by providing information, medicine, and food, and by building up schools, health centres, and sanitary installations. The capacity of displaced families to take care of themselves is especially supported. Representatives of the ICRC inspect prison conditions and advocate with the authorities for compliance with international humanitarian law. The ICRC's engagement in Colombia has been supported by Liechtenstein since 2006. This is one of the most underfunded programmes of the ICRC. This is especially due to the fact that the country is not in the media spotlight. Additionally, some donors may find it difficult on political grounds to fund programmes in Colombia. These political obstacles do not apply to Liechtenstein. On the contrary: Liechtenstein pays special attention to forgotten conflicts and emergency situations.

Liechtenstein's International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD)

International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD) covers all forms of humanitarian and development policy engagement by the State of Liechtenstein, including the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED).

IHCD works in four categories: Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance, International Refugee and Migration Assistance, Bilateral Development Cooperation, and Multilateral Development Cooperation. The responsible institutions are the Office for Foreign Affairs, the Immigration and Passport Office, and the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED).



Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance

Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance offers short-term, urgent assistance measures in the event of natural disasters, political crises, and armed conflicts. The focus is primarily on preserving human life and protecting the affected population. Additionally, the medium-term development of social structures and infrastructure is supported in order to facilitate a return to normal life as quickly as possible. 10% of IHCD resources are earmarked for this area. The urgency of the situation is the main criterion for Emergency and Reconstruction Assistance. There are accordingly no geographic priorities. However, special attention is paid to emergency situations that are largely ignored and underfunded by the international community. Since 2011, Liechtenstein has been a member of the Good Humanitarian Donorship group. This internationally constituted working group is dedicated to compliance with key principles of humanitarian engagement.

International Refugee and Migration Assistance is based on a sustainable and comprehensive approach to dealing with global refugee and migration issues. This area also takes up 10% of the IHCD budget. Bilateral activities focus on the Balkan countries. People in need of protection, including minorities, receive support for local integration and long-term improvement of their living conditions. As part of a holistic view of the migration issue, possibilities of circular migration, readmission agreements, and visa questions are also discussed. At the multilateral level, compliance with international legal, human rights, and humanitarian standards for refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees, stateless persons, and other persons in need of international protection is promoted.

Bilateral Development Cooperation

The largest pillar of IHCD is Bilateral Development Cooperation, which is the responsibility of the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED; www.led.li). For this purpose, LED receives about 65% of the IHCD budget each year, most of which it employs via local partners (Southern partners) or partner organisations from Switzerland and Austria (Northern partners). In Chisinau (Republic of Moldova), Cochabamba (Bolivia), and Harare (Zimbabwe), LED maintains its own local offices. It also funds the secondment of persons from Liechtenstein to development projects and arranges internships.

LED is currently engaged in 13 priority countries. These are Moldova, Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan, Bolivia, Peru, Costa Rica, Senegal, Mali, Burkina Faso, Niger, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, and Zambia. Thematically, LED focuses on the development of rural regions, education, and health. The advancement of women, sustainable development, and social justice are horizontal topics. Food Security and Microfinance are supported with corresponding sectoral strategies.

Cooperation with LED, a foundation under private law, is governed by an owner's strategy, which is supplemented and further specified each year by performance mandates. The LED foundation council decides on the strategic direction of the LED and on individual projects.

Multilateral Development Cooperation

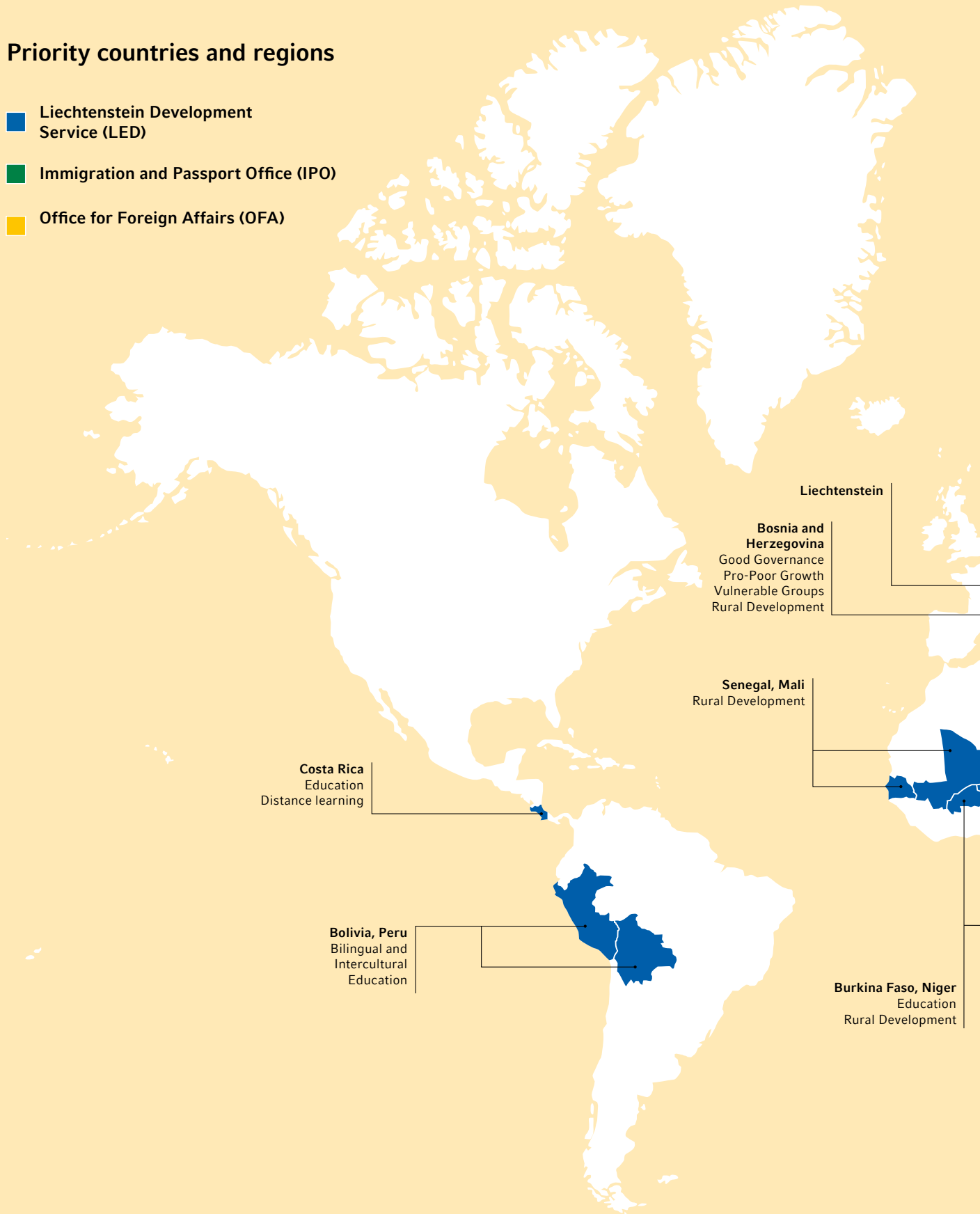
Multilateral Development Cooperation is used to fund projects of international organisations or internationally operating non-government organisations. This type of engagement is useful especially for problems of a global or cross-border nature where the international community jointly seeks solutions. In contrast to LED projects, which act mainly at the local level, this track can also be used to improve national and international framework conditions. Special attention is paid to fostering good governance. This includes advocacy for human rights, strengthening the rule of law and democracy, and combating international crime. Key priorities of Liechtenstein's foreign policy, especially in the area of human rights, are additionally promoted in this way as part of IHCD, which in turn underscores Liechtenstein's credibility. Of note in this regard is Liechtenstein's engagement for peace building, specifically advocacy of better inclusion of women in peacebuilding processes and the protection of children in armed conflict. Other priorities are health and the fight against HIV/AIDS as well as the environment and sustainable development. In this last priority area, Liechtenstein as an Alpine country is dedicated especially to development in mountain regions, primarily in the Caucasus. 10% of the IHCD budget is available for Multilateral Development Cooperation.

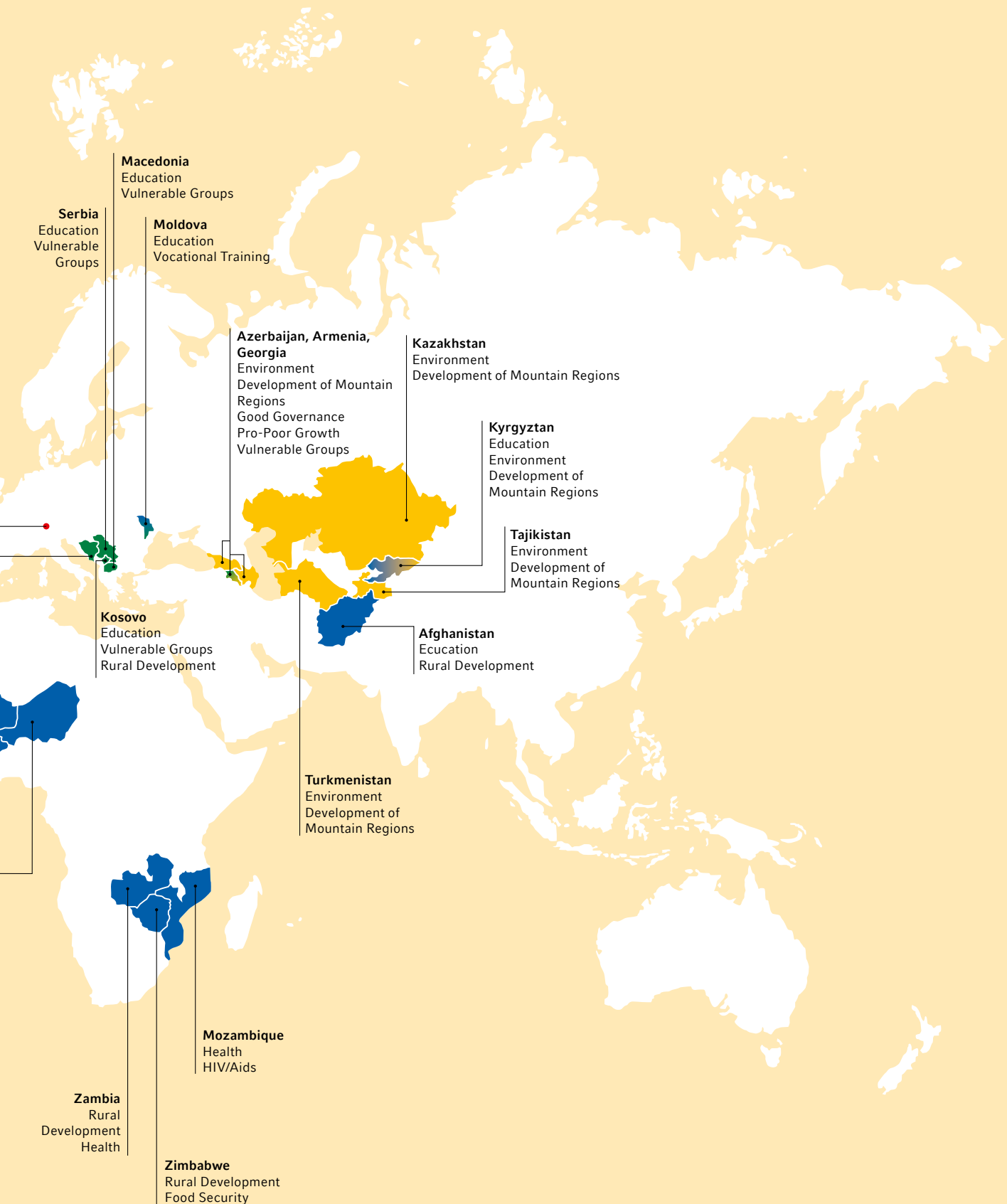
Microfinance Initiative Liechtenstein

The Liechtenstein Government and the Liechtenstein Development Service have been members of the Microfinance Initiative Liechtenstein (MIL; www.microfinance.li) since it was founded in 2005. Public and private stakeholders foster and coordinate Liechtenstein's engagement for microfinance. Since spring 2012, MIL has a secretariat and two working groups in the areas of technical assistance and impact investment. Both dedicate themselves to strengthening microfinance and support various projects as an entrepreneurial contribution to reducing poverty in developing countries.

Priority countries and regions

- Liechtenstein Development Service (LED)
- Immigration and Passport Office (IPO)
- Office for Foreign Affairs (OFA)



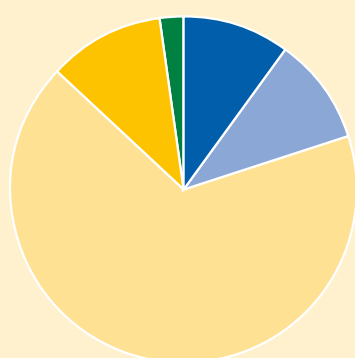


IHCD 2012 in figures

20 | Expenditures and allocation of resources

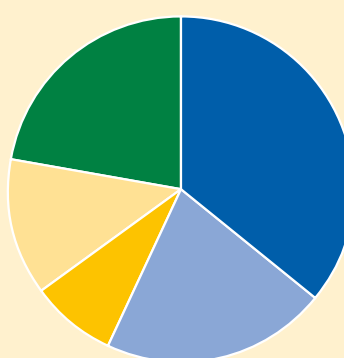
In 2012, the State of Liechtenstein expended a total of 25.8 million francs on International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD). About two thirds of these resources were spent on Bilateral Development Cooperation. About 10% of the total budget was expended on each of the other categories.

Allocation of resources by category



Emergency & Reconstruction Assistance	10%
Int. Refugee and Migration Assistance	10%
Bilateral DC	67%
Multilateral DC	11%
Miscellaneous	2%

Allocation of resources by region



Africa	36%
South and Central America	21%
Asia	8%
Europe	13%
International	22%

Priority countries and regions

By far the largest share of Liechtenstein IHCD resources goes to Africa. In 2012, the share was 36%. This especially illustrates the prioritisation of Africa by LED, but is also an expression of the numerous armed conflicts and food crises on that continent, often requiring the deployment of emergency funds.

Support is also needed in Europe. About one eighth (13%) of the budget was used for projects in the Balkans and the poorest country in Europa, Moldova. In the Balkan countries, especially Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Macedonia, the Immigration and Passport Office (IPO) is engaged in International Refugee and Migration Assistance. Moldova has been a priority country of LED for several years.

In Latin America (in total 21% of the resources), LED's activities focus on Bolivia and Peru. A small share of the resources is employed in Costa Rica.

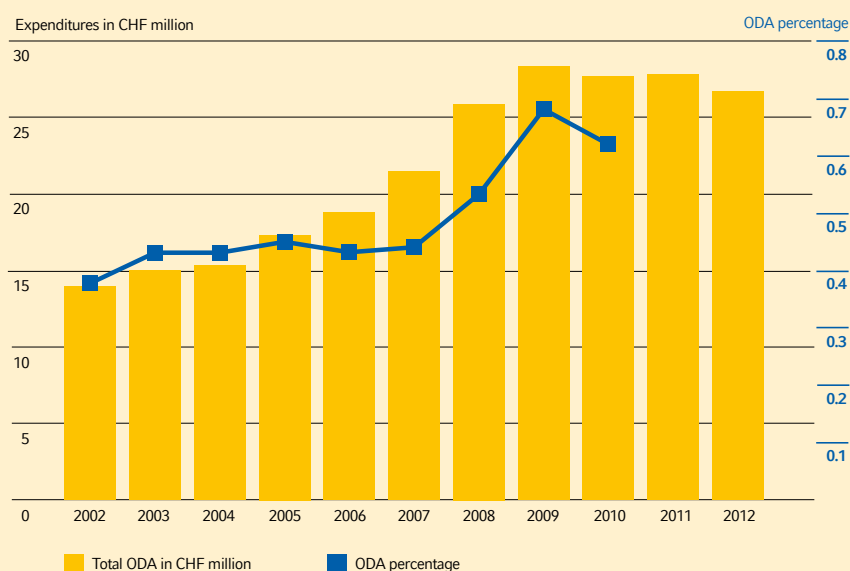
Liechtenstein's engagement in Asia is limited mainly to the LED priority countries of Kyrgyzstan and Afghanistan as well as to environmental and development projects in the Caucasus and in Central Asia. The share is 8%.

About 22% of resources were not allocated to specific projects or were invested in transnational programmes. These contributions – listed under «International» – are essential for supporting cross-border activities or underfunded programmes and for covering the basic costs of development organisations.

ODA development

Official development assistance (ODA) encompasses all disbursements of a state for development cooperation and humanitarian assistance according to the criteria of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). To compare ODA among states, an indicator is commonly used to measure ODA as a percentage of gross national income (GNI) of a state.

Development of Liechtenstein ODA percentage



The international ODA target is 0.7%. The Liechtenstein Government has repeatedly underscored its commitment to achieving this target as soon as possible. The current available ODA percentage for 2010 is 0.62. This means Liechtenstein ranks 7th world-wide. Only few states have already reached or exceeded the international ODA target of 0.7%.

Total ODA expenditures, including the disaster fund of the municipalities and the costs for taking care of asylum-seekers in Liechtenstein, amounted to 26.8 million francs in 2012. The definite GNI for the reporting year – and accordingly also the ODA percentage for 2012 – will be available only in autumn 2014.

People on the move

Peter Ritter
Director of the Liechtenstein
Development Service (LED)



The world is growing together, and distances are becoming relative. The world is on the move. The flow of people changes course and fluctuates because of positive and negative migration motives. The migration of people corresponds to the flow of information, money, and goods. Migration is both a precondition and a consequence of globalisation.

In every era, people have changed the centre of their life as a survival strategy or for economic, social, political, or climate-related reasons. Migration is also a consequence of the unequal distribution of the goods and services available worldwide. Along with people, knowledge and culture also migrate. Migration is an expression of social change and contributes to the transformation of the involved countries and regions. Especially in the destination countries, immigration is also a source of much fear and concern, although many economic success stories have been possible only thanks to migration.

Vast areas of development cooperation are affected by the movement of people. Emigrated workers and the children and older people left behind affect entire countries and especially their rural regions.

The Zambian solution against the emigration of health professionals

Specialists with a high level of education looking for better wage and working conditions in richer countries cannot be underestimated as a form of migration. This phenomenon is referred to as «brain drain», i.e. the outflow of knowledge from a society.

The health sector is heavily impacted by this form of labour migration. The emigration of health professionals leaves fatal gaps behind in the countries of origin. Especially in countries of the South, there is a severe lack of health professionals. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), access to health professionals is critical in 57 countries, including 36 sub-Saharan African countries. Worldwide, about one seventh of the population has no access or only limited access to basic healthcare.

The emigration of health professionals is in part a deliberate undertaking, in that Western countries actively recruit such professionals. For instance, the UK recruits health workers from its former colonies, since it often loses its own health workers to the US. Switzerland recruits in Germany, Germany in the former Eastern Bloc countries, and those in turn in Asia. This gives rise to a domino effect from which the poorest countries suffer the most – and there especially the people in rural regions.

In Zambia, the consequences of emigration of health professionals have been noticeable since the 1990s. About two thirds of the medical doctors trained in Zambia and about half of health professionals work abroad or in non-medical fields. Emigration is triggered not only by low wages, but also by poor working and living conditions, especially in the countryside.



Worldwide, more than 200 million people do not live in their home countries.



Africa urgently needs trained health professionals who do not emigrate.

To fill the gap, Zambia – like other African countries – has established a course of studies that trains «non-university doctors» for rural hospitals. These Medical Licentiates (ML) are designed specially for the needs and conditions of the country. Since this training is recognised only regionally, it works against emigration. The country currently has 133 trained MLs, but according to the Ministry of Health Zambia would need about 600 MLs. The government of Zambia and Chainama College, the only educational institution in the country, lack the necessary resources and capacities to expand the training programme. LED supports the programme of the Swiss organisation SolidarMed to promote ML training, thus making a valuable contribution to bringing urgently needed medical services to Zambia's rural areas.

Moldova – a country shaped by migration

Migration is an omnipresent issue in Moldova. Almost everyone has one or more relatives abroad. According to official estimates, between one quarter and one third of Moldova's working-age population is abroad. Remittances by labour migrants make up one third of GDP. That is the second-highest share in the world. Remittances help those left behind to survive, since many are unable to live off their wages, let alone their pensions, and accordingly require assistance. Migration is part of a survival strategy, especially since many people are unable to find work in their own country.

Apart from migration, the very low birth rate means that the population of Moldova is steadily declining. The annual decline in population corresponds to two to three villages or a small town.

This problem has a strong impact on education, the focus of LED's work in Moldova. Between the years 2000 and 2007 alone, the number of children entering school declined by 35%. At the secondary school level, the decline was 26%. Many schools

Bilateral development cooperation

Bilateral development cooperation concentrates on the development of rural regions in 13 priority countries, with special priority in all activities given to the promotion of women, social justice and the environment. Bilateral development cooperation is carried out by the Liechtenstein Development Service (LED), a foundation under private law, on the basis of a service agreement with the Liechtenstein Government.

have only a fraction of the student numbers for which they were designed. Class sizes are constantly declining. Maintaining half-empty schools is inefficient. Restructuring of the education system is overdue. The government long avoided making the necessary adjustments. But now it is forced to close schools on a large scale. Last year, more than 100 primary and secondary schools were closed, and another 200 schools will follow this year and next. A wave of closings is also imminent in vocational education. Over the past two years, four vocational schools were closed. The students of three closed schools were taken over by partner schools of the LED. Major restructuring is still on the horizon, however, and will be prepared this year and next.

LED works together directly with the Ministry of Education in Moldova, supporting it in adjusting the education system to the new circumstances. With a major vocational education project, LED contributes significantly to the consolidation of the vocational education system. Among other efforts, it makes an expert available to the Ministry of Education with the main task of preparing the restructuring process of vocational education in terms of content. The project supports 14 vocational schools in improving a total of five courses of study (welder, electrician, cook, confectioner, tailor). Continuing education of instructors is a focus of the project. For this purpose, it has

The family left behind lives of remittances from relatives abroad.



established a continuing education centre at the Technical University offering training courses especially for instructors at vocational schools. The centre already has an excellent reputation. School workshop facilities must also be improved. A pioneering effort has been made in the development of curricula. There are currently no binding curricula for vocational training courses, so that employers in principle do not know what skills they can expect of graduates. Finally, adjusted course materials must be prepared for the new curricula. With this package of support measures, schools are given the tools to provide more relevant and higher-quality education.

The children left behind by migrating parents are a priority of a Moldovan child rights organisation supported by LED. One of the organisation's projects has been to prepare a series of advice manuals: one for migrating parents, one for children left behind, and one for teachers and social workers. The goal is for everyone involved to adjust as smoothly as possible to the difficult circumstances. Migration happens, but it can also be shaped.

The projects of LED aim primarily to improve the living conditions of the population locally and to enable disadvantaged people to lead a life of dignity in their home countries.



With adapted education, vocational school graduates find work in their places of origin.



Pius Frick (on the right), LED representative in Moldova, talking with Mr Vasilachi, head of the vocational education department

Fleeing from armed conflict and nature

Panagiotis Potolidis-Beck
Office for Foreign Affairs



Sufficient food, a roof above one's head, and security are among the basic needs of human beings. Again and again, people are deprived of these elementary goods by armed conflicts and natural disasters, forcing them to leave their homes. Not infrequently, armed conflicts also lead to the systematic displacement of entire population groups. Escape to a safe place, whether in one's own country or abroad, is the only hope.

In the international context, «refugees» are distinguished from «internally displaced persons». According to the Geneva Refugee Convention of 1951, only persons seeking protection outside their home country are considered refugees. Persons fleeing to another place within their own country are referred to as «internally displaced persons» (IDPs). According to the most recent figures of the UN refugee agency (UNHCR), there were about 10.5 million refugees worldwide in 2011 taken care of by UNHCR. The number of IDPs as a consequence of violent conflicts or natural disasters is even much higher. The Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) estimates 26.4 million in 2011.

How can people in such situations be helped, and what does Liechtenstein do? The following remarks will present Liechtenstein's engagement in improving the situation of IDPs and refugees within the framework of International Refugee and Migration Assistance.

UNHCR an important partner in assisting refugees

UNHCR is an important partner of Liechtenstein in assisting refugees. Its responsibilities include protecting refugees and securing their basic needs. UNHCR also advocates for the interests of refugees. While UNHCR originally did not have a concrete mandate to take care of IDPs, it supports today a total of about 15 million IDPs with its expertise in dealing with refugees. In 2012, Liechtenstein made contributions to the general budget of UNHCR and to its regional programmes in North and West Africa.

The situation in West Africa is generally unstable. Apart from the drought and the resulting food crisis in 2012, there was unrest in Mali, where Tuareg rebels occupied large swathes of the country. These factors led to a strong increase in refugees and IDPs in the region in 2012. In Mali alone, the number of IDPs was estimated to be 200,000. Another 100,000 fled as refugees to neighbouring states. UNHCR offers emergency assistance in West Africa, depending on the situation, in the form of protection and registration of refugees, housing in camps, basic medical care, and food rations. Moreover, temporary schools are established and important infrastructures repaired. Especially education of refugees can contribute to a significant improvement of living situations. Another important responsibility of UNHCR in the region is the reintegration of returnees, especially in Côte d'Ivoire, where tension has recently receded and the return of refugees must be prepared and implemented.

The countries of North Africa have been affected by major migration flows since the beginning of the Arab Spring, but also due to the food crises in the Horn of Africa and the Sahel. The Libyan war in 2011 alone resulted in more than 900,000 people fleeing the country and another 550,000 being internally displaced. UNHCR expanded its presence in the region accordingly. The greatest challenge is the lack of asylum systems. Despite the high number of asylum-seekers in the region, still no North African country has a functioning asylum system. UNHCR supports the affected countries in incorporating international standards into national laws and in their concrete implementation. UNHCR also provides help with food, housing, medical care, education, and legal aid, but it also facilitates access to vocational education and microcredits. These measures aim to achieve the independence of the affected persons and their possible return.

Liechtenstein supports risk and needs analysis for IDPs

The original lack of a relevant UNHCR mandate entailed that governments and NGOs paid too little attention to IDPs. In this context, the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) was founded in 1998 by the Norwegian Refugee Council. IDMC is an international NGO headquartered in Geneva. It has been supported by Liechtenstein for several years.

IDMC was mandated by the United Nations to set up a database covering the worldwide movement of IDPs. The goal was to provide better information to the humanitarian community on the specific needs of IDPs and to raise awareness. Today, the organisation records the movements of IDPs in more than 55 conflict situations. The database maintained by IDMC is the only global collection of data on IDPs. It serves as a basis for political decision-makers domestically as well as for UN institutions to take appropriate measures and to develop a sustainable policy for the support of IDPs.

IDMC also represents the interests of IDPs by disseminating its Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement. The training of governmental and non-governmental institutions increasingly also falls within the scope of IDMC. Since 2010, greater attention has been paid to displacements as a consequence of sudden natural disasters. In connection with natural disasters, IDMC has recently begun designing models allowing an estimate to be made of the impact of climate change on the number of IDPs and their needs.



Internally displaced women in class
in Parwan/Afghanistan

Schooling for internally displaced women in Afghanistan

The NATO war against the Taliban regime in Afghanistan since 2001 led to a large number of IDPs. Women are affected especially strongly. As a consequence of war, poverty, oppression, and sociocultural restrictions, many Afghan girls and young women do not have access to post-primary education or are not able to enter the labour market. To counter this problem, the Government of Liechtenstein has funded a project of the Refugee Education Trust (RET), an NGO headquartered in Geneva, since 2009 to establish a school for internally displaced women in the Parwan province. The students receive basic education, and a goal is also to strengthen the role of women in local society. About 80 young women (between the ages of 15 and 35) each year receive advanced courses at a centre in mathematics, natural sciences, history, languages, reading, and writing. The programme is accompanied by an integrated day-care centre, where the women's children are taken care of during school hours, as well as a medical counselling service. The latter is especially important in this region, since there are only few professionals able to assist women during pregnancy and childbirth. The goal is to transfer the project in Parwan to the local authorities by 2014.

Leaving a mark in the Caucasus

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Interview with Mr Felix Näscher

The Greater Caucasus is a mountain range about 1,100 kilometres long between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea. 50 peoples with a population of about 30 million live in this region belonging to Russia, Georgia, Armenia, and Azerbaijan.

The former Director of the Office of Forests, Nature and Land Management, Felix Näscher, oversaw projects for the sustainable development of these mountain regions under the aegis of IHCD for many years. He explains the background of this engagement in the following interview with Andrea Hoch.

Mr Näscher, can you explain to us at the outset how Liechtenstein became involved in the Caucasus?

The challenges for people in mountain regions around the world are essentially the same everywhere: the constant threat of natural disasters such as avalanches, floods, landslides and rockfall, harsh climate, short growing seasons, and in conjunction with unfavourable topography more difficult conditions for agriculture. Apart from this, there are also limited opportunities for marketing products as well as limited access to education, healthcare, and social services. Social isolation and the danger of increasing loss of prospects are the consequence.

In light of these circumstances, the environment ministers of the Alpine states decided within the framework of the Alpine Convention to share their experiences with the neighbouring mountain regions in the Balkans, the Carpathians, the Caucasus, and Central Asia and to implement joint projects as well as country-specific projects to promote the sustainable development of mountain regions, as part of a privileged partnership. These projects have been underway since about ten years.

What kinds of projects were you involved in? Can you give us a few examples?

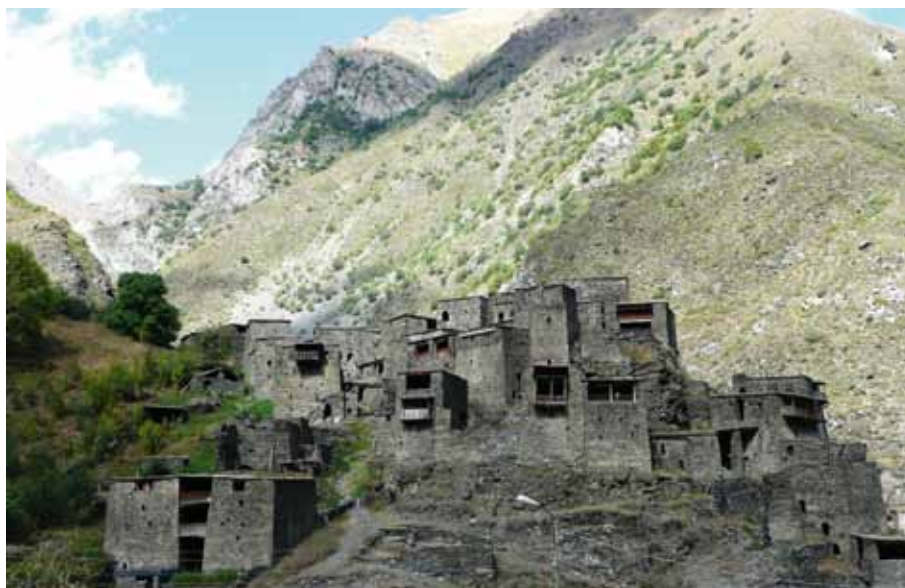
On the path toward the sustainable development of mountain regions, Liechtenstein has many years of experience thanks to the ordinance on the integral development of the mountain and Alpine region, which has been in force since the late 1960s. This ordinance and the Alpine Convention provided substantial guidance for the planning and implementation of projects in the mountain villages of Eastern Europe and Central Asia. As a rule, workshops with the local population form the basis for the projects, during which the local participants themselves analyse the current situation, discuss prospects for the future, evaluate options for action, and assess the availability of resources. The meanwhile more than 70 implemented projects cover the entire range of issues in sustainable development: protection from natural disasters, maintenance and cultivation of pastures, construction of mountain cabins, establishing markets for the sale of agricultural products, breeding of forest plants and reforestation, upgrading of energy systems in residential buildings, construction of a bakery and of kindergartens, schools, and a hospital accompanied by installation of alternative energy systems, and water supply and waste recycling projects.

Felix Näscher
(former Director of the Office of Forests,
Nature and Land Management):
«The situation of the refugees
is dramatic in every way.»



Because of the lack of secure markets, fishers sell their morning catch at a stand on the main street to earn money.

Shatili, situated in the historic province of Khevsureti, now in the Mtskheta-Mtianeti region at the border between Georgia and Chechnya, is a small village built around a medieval fortress still cut off from the major centres by a pass.



Generally speaking, the old planned economy led to the loss of much traditional knowledge and basic understanding necessary for dealing with the everyday lives of individuals, also in mountain regions – and yet, some irreplaceable experience was maintained and now forms the basis for survival, at least if minimum conditions can be upheld and fostered.



Multilateral development cooperation

Multilateral development cooperation addresses problems that, due to their complexity, political sensitivity, or global or cross-border relevance, necessitate the joint engagement of countries, peoples and organisations.

There are several political hotspots in the Caucasus, including Abkhazia, Nagorno-Karabakh, Chechnya, and North and South Ossetia, where armed conflicts have repeatedly erupted. This year's Annual Report deals with the topic of «escape». How serious is the problem for refugees and internally displaced persons in the region?

The approximately half a million refugees from Abkhazia and South Ossetia who have found refuge in Georgia – with a population of only 4 million – over just the last few years were forcibly uprooted, losing the ground under their feet from one day to the next, and are now trying to survive in regions where there is already a major shortage of resources. The situation of the refugees is dramatic in every way.

Do you see a difference between the living situation of the people when you began your work and their situation now? Or in other words, have the key needs of the population changed?

In Soviet times, the basic needs of everyone were covered, but of course different population classes existed even then. Today, the gap between the different population classes is getting bigger, and especially the socially weak segment of the population, which includes people in remote mountain regions, is faced with increasing losses.

Mr Näscher, do you think that Liechtenstein has left a mark with these projects in recent years and has been able to make a difference for the long term?

From the outset, Liechtenstein has limited itself to implementing projects that are supported by the political authorities, have been developed by the local population, can be realised in a relatively short time, and bring about long-term benefits. Liechtenstein's mark is evident, and the impact is recognised to a large degree.

Mr Näscher, thank you very much for this talk and for your many years of dedication to these projects and IHCD as a whole.

No peace, no development

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Only lasting peace and stability make long-term development possible. Conscious of this, IHCD supports activities that promote peace and make a contribution to the protection of civilians in armed conflicts.



Andrea Hoch
Office for Foreign Affairs

From a worldwide perspective, wars and armed conflicts are not in decline. Last year, Mali and Syria were the most prominent in the media, but many other conflicts – especially internal conflicts – have been going on for years and are no less cruel in their impact on civilian populations. Liechtenstein, in its geographically privileged situation and without its own armed forces, does not have expertise or experience in matters of war as such. Nevertheless, the country has in recent years established a reputation in the protection of civilians, especially women and children.

Under its «Women, Peace and Security» and «Children and Armed Conflict» agendas, the UN Security Council has adopted various resolutions condemning these crimes and calling for documentation and prosecution. Liechtenstein supports the activities of the UN Security Council and advocates more rigorous implementation of these resolutions.

In regard to women, this means first of all better protection from (sexual) violence, which is often employed as a means of warfare. Secondly, it means better inclusion of women in peace talks and the post-conflict phase. Peace negotiations are usually conducted only by the parties involved in combat. This entails that the rights and needs of large parts of the population are not taken into account sufficiently. Since only few women serve in important government and decision-making positions, they are generally also disadvantaged in terms of economic opportunities, justice, and reparations.

In January 2012, a workshop took place in Liechtenstein on implementing the women, peace and security agenda in Afghanistan. Various representatives of Afghan women's organisations took part in the workshop. It can be considered a success of the meeting that recommendations of the workshop were included in the extension of the UN peacekeeping operation's mandate in Afghanistan adopted by the UN Security Council.

In cooperation with the Liechtenstein Institute on Self-Determination at Princeton University and the NGO PeaceWomen, the Permanent Mission of Liechtenstein in New York is organising a series of lectures and panel discussions on women, peace and security from November 2012 to December 2013. These events with high-calibre participation have attracted great interest so far.

In the area of child soldiers, Liechtenstein cooperates with three organisations which in very different ways demand better protection of children from parties to conflict and the members of the UN Security Council: Child Soldiers International, Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, and Geneva Call. In many conflicts, children are very deliberately recruited. They become victims of violence and abuse, but they also become perpetrators. Deep-seated trauma and guilt over their own crimes make their later reintegration into family and society more difficult. A study by Child Soldiers

Midwives visit pregnant women in a camp for internally displaced persons in Kabul, Afghanistan (accompanied by village elder).



International showed that between 2010 and 2012, children were deployed as soldiers or for other purposes in 20 countries. The study also showed that even countries which have implemented the relevant international provisions and taken preventive measures still recruit children and adolescents in emergencies, i.e. when armed conflicts occur. Recruitment of children is accordingly still more the rule than the exception.

With the Centre for Humanitarian Dialogue in Geneva and the British NGO Concordis International, Liechtenstein supports two organisations serving as mediators in peace talks. Mediators are increasingly called upon to adopt a comprehensive approach and to involve as many affected population groups as possible – especially also women – in the talks, which is not easy given the usually complex historical and cultural context in armed conflicts.

In September 2012, Liechtenstein joined the Friends of Mediation group. This is an informal group of about 40 states and organisations especially engaged in peace promotion. This was a logical consequence of Liechtenstein's many years of dedication to women and children in armed conflicts and peace mediation in general. By supporting and funding various organisations and concrete projects within the framework of IHCD, Liechtenstein's voice is given more weight and credibility.



Child soldiers in the Democratic Republic of Congo

Closing words

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Making a life of dignity possible

Many people leave their place of origin, and they do so for a wide variety of reasons. This report presents examples of the impact of the phenomena of escape and migration in different areas: on individuals and their families, on countries of origin, and on host countries.



**Ambassador
Martin Frick**
Director of the Office
for Foreign Affairs

As different as the needs of the affected persons are, as diverse are the approaches taken by Liechtenstein's International Humanitarian Cooperation and Development (IHCD) in this field. Liechtenstein wants to make a contribution so that refugees, internally displaced persons, but also migrants receive vital support and are protected in their human dignity. Help appears to be most effective if it aims to offer prospects to people in their countries of origin.

As the Director of LED aptly wrote in his article, «Migration happens, but it can also be shaped.» Liechtenstein is called upon to deal with this topic and to show solidarity – conscious of the fact that, aside from wars and natural disasters, the great disparity between poor and rich is the main trigger of worldwide migration.



Children in Kosovo: Through its engagement, Liechtenstein helps people lead a life of dignity in their places of origin.

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