

Life Changes With God

- » Finding a new home
- » We will not grow weary
- » This is your place!

WITH
ANNUAL
REPORT
2021

Dear Reader,



Who ever comes to me, I will never drive away

John 6:37

The verse of the year makes it clear how a relationship with Jesus can change our lives. With him we experience unconditional acceptance and can make a difference as loved, gifted, called, and sent people: inviting people to God and encouraging them, that they too will find acceptance and life change with Jesus. At the end of this MAGAZINE is again our annual report, where it becomes clear how much good happens in our projects through the support of congregations and donors. Many thanks for that!

The various articles show how God is still working today: Nazim had to flee Syria and now has the responsibility of leading a church in Turkey. Christina Döhring will start her journey to Sierra Leone with her family to serve as a missionary there. And we continue to stand by the people in the disasters of this world, helping those who have lost everything, and supporting those who are alone - like the victims of the recent flood in Southern Africa.

Continue to help us so that we can continue to make many life-changing blessings this year. And as we write these pages, hundreds of thousands hope they will not be turned away as they are fleeing war out of Ukraine. Our intercession is for them and for peace in their country.

Christoph Haus

Christoph Haus

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An annual donation receipt will be issued for all donations without being asked. Therefore please always give complete sender information and the donor number – if known! If, in exceptional cases, more donations are received for an individual project than required the surplus will be used for a similar purpose. Individual donation receipts only on request. Thank you very much for understanding.



Cover:
church in Izmir/Türkey

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„We will not grow weary ...“

says Oscar Kunigk, our longtime missionary from the Alto Uruguay area in Argentina. He and his wife Alicia are tireless in their work and continue to face great challenges. They started with a mission site in El Soberbio, followed by others in Irigoyen and Dos de Mayo. When a mission project is completed or well underway, they prepare a new one. That is what their hearts burn for. Oscar writes:

My duties as coordinator for our network in Alto Uruguay include visiting the brothers and sisters in all the mission stations, teaching and strengthening them, and training new workers and leaders. We are supported by our Argentinian Baptist Association (AGA) and by EBM INTERNATIONAL. The Regional Representative for Latin America, Pastor Carlos Waldow, also advises and accompanies us spiritually in our work.

In El Soberbio, we had a wonderful year in 2021: On March 21 we were able to inaugurate our new church building; what a blessing! After much strenuous work, large, and sometimes seemingly unsolvable financial and organizational challenges, we see a miracle of the Lord. Today we have everything we need; including a large multi-purpose hall, bathrooms, kitchen, conference room, barbecue area, sports field, and of course, the brand new church.

In the meantime, we were officially established as a church. We had a big celebration! The now officially recognized Baptist church counted 45 members on the day of its founding. Last year, seven brothers and sisters were baptized and two more were received into the

church by testimony. I will continue to stay with the church as interim pastor. Elvio Rios and Andrea Kunigk will do a one-year internship in the church. After this year, it will be decided whether they will be employed there as a pastoral team.

In Bernardo de Irigoyen, Horacio and Patricia Miquetán are in charge of the small church, which is developing nicely. I am still happy to assist them as an advisor and give various seminars.



Horacio und Patricia Miquetán

Times of Prayer and Fasting strengthen the sisters, who experience hostility from their unbelieving husbands. We are happy to see positive changes in the lives of the young people and children, most of whose parents do not come to the church. We have started new house groups in two villages in the area. This is how we want to reach people with the Gospel.



El Soberbio: Many people lend a hand during construction



What a miracle! The new church!



Opening celebration for the glory of God



Dos de Mayo: the church plants are also growing steadily

Apart from the pandemic and the long trips to El Soberbio, it was a good year for us and for the small church in Dos de Mayo. We had two baptism ceremonies; eight brothers and sisters were newly received. Now this congregation has 34 members. They are working independently; the church services and Sunday school for children are going well and we, as leading missionaries, only give advice when asked. We were able to expand and remodel the church building so that all activities can now take place in it. In Gobernador Roca, a small town with about 4,500 inhabitants, about 90 km from Dos de Mayo, there is still no Baptist church. This is a new challenge for us! We want to start a mission work there. In the first half of 2022, we will set up the evangelism tent there for two weeks to start a ministry.

We moved to Dos de Mayo last year. Our

family is doing very well, Andrea, the oldest, is married and takes charge of the community in El Soberbio, Griselda works as a teacher, Sandra is studying veterinary medicine. Alicia and I are settling in Dos de Mayo as we gradually finish our house. We thank all who help us bring the Gospel to our area for their support, all financial help, and their trust.

I greet you with the peace of Jesus Christ our Lord and hope that you are blessed by our God.

*Alicia and Oscar Kunigk
Missionaries at Alto Uruguay*

LIFE STORY

We prayed for Vanessa, who had been sick with cancer for over a year. She was not a Christian. Several times I (Oscar) wanted to visit her, but did not find the opportunity. When I felt a clear impulse from God, I went to visit her in Posadas the same day. So I was able to pray for her a few days before she passed away. She gave her life to Christ and her face was full of peace. Now her parents attend our services and we hope that they will find Jesus and see their daughter again in eternity. Such experiences strengthen and motivate us to continue and keep our eyes on the goal.





A Pirate Island Hears the Gospel

The Isle of Youth, the largest surrounding island in Cuba, has had many names. Christopher Columbus called it "La Evangelista". Between the 16th and 18th centuries it was called Parrot Island and until 1978 Pine Island. The many names reflect its turbulent history.

In the early modern era, pirates like Francis Drake found shelter here. The stories inspired Robert Louis Stevenson to write his famous novel "Treasure Island". Fidel Castro gave this Caribbean island its present name. After using it as a prison island, he later wanted to promote agricultural development there. So he settled thousands of young people on the island to learn and work and henceforth called it "Isla de la Juventud": Youth Island. Today, most of the boarding schools and prison ruins are deserted.

Did Columbus suspect that his naming plays an important role for parts of the youth island today? "La Evangelista" means "The Evangelist". The Baptist church in the island's capital Nueva Gerona, founded by

Daniel González in 1998, now has nine daughter churches. There are seven other church planting projects and 15 missionaries. Together, these initiatives reach about 2,000 people. An impressive number with only 70,000 inhabitants on the island.

Pastor Ernesto, who coordinates this work for EBM INTERNATIONAL today, reports: "For a long time we were spared from the Corona pandemic on the island. But last year there were outbreaks and therefore restrictions for the church services. Some pastors fell ill and baptisms could not take place. House churches have it easier here. It's an important goal to start more small groups because we continue to face restrictions on churches." The difficulties of the last two years did not

slow down the commitment of Christians in Cuba: people help each other where they can and house churches share with their neighbors what little they have.

Pastor Ernesto has big goals: In addition to the new church plants on the island, he



Baptisms continue even in crisis

has already begun to get the congregations excited about world missions and has collected donations. Soon they would like to send out missionaries themselves to tell people about Jesus in other countries.

Last year, too, many found support and a new beginning in faith. Ana*, a doctor, was one of them: "Burned out, desperate, tired of life - that's how I zigzagged through the streets and no longer wanted to go home or to work. Christians saw me and took care of me. Finally, for the first time in a long time, someone paid noticeable attention to me. That day I accepted Christ as my Savior. I was able to go home again, and I experienced peace like never before." Now Ana on the island is also carrying the good news.

*Name changed

Michael Fischbeck



Pastor Ernesto and his wife Sandra continue to plant new churches



A crumbling prison on Youth Island



Building Church and educating church planters – worldwide!

Easter Offering 2022

It is not only on the youth island of Cuba that the churches are growing. On the main island, too, the power of the gospel is unbroken. Two factors play a large part in the momentum: First, missionaries are specifically taught to train new leaders. Second, church planting often begins in private homes, to which people have easy access. Children and young people also experience God's love through sports programs and Bible clubs.

In Argentina, Pedro and Noemí Boretsky care for the spiritual and material needs of the indigenous Mapuche people. As EBM INTERNATIONAL, we support over 30 people in Africa who are involved in local church planting projects.

Our missionary Johann Vollbracht is training pastors in South Africa. Many people experience the saving love of God and come to faith. In Turkey, our brothers and sisters care for the needs of the people and openly invite people to their church services. In specially developed seminar series, they are equipped for leadership tasks.

At Easter, we ask for donations for the area of church development, which we support with more than 500,000 euros a year - so that churches grow and people are trained for their ministry.



Become a patron!

You can also support the focus on church planting and evangelism as a project sponsor and thus become a blessing to many people on a regular basis. We are still looking for sponsors for these two projects:

- Church planting in Cuba
- Churchwork in Turkey

Your regular donation of 30 euros or more per month will support the work of our brothers and sisters in Cuba and Turkey in the long term. You can use the insert in the center of the booklet to request information or directly sign up for a sponsorship. It is even faster online:

www.ebm-international.org/projekt-pate-werden

Together with you, we want to promote church planting, train people to plant churches, and reach children and their families with the Gospel.



Your donation to the community development sector can go a long way:

20 EUROS 20 Euros cover the cost of an aid package that enables a Turkish community to provide for a refugee family and give them hope.

60 EUROS 60 Euros per month make it possible for girls and boys in Cuba to experience fellowship in Bible clubs, singing, praying, and finding hope in their faith.

125 EUROS 125 Euros finance the monthly costs of a church planter in Malawi.

DONATE

On our website you can donate quickly and securely online, for example by credit card, PayPal or Sofortüberweisung:

www.ebm-international.org/spenden

Thank you for your gifts and your prayers!

This is your place!

As I, Matthias Dichristin, email Christina a few questions, I immediately have to think back to my visit to Sierra Leone in January 2016: At that time, Pastor Joseph Fornah was appointed President at the Federal Conference of Baptists in Sierra Leone (BCSL) and the long-serving and last remaining EBM missionary in the country, Hans Willem Oosterloo, retired. In many conversations it became clear how great the openness is in the country for missionaries from Germany. After Katrin Kruse contributed to the education of teachers from 2017 to 2019, we are now happy about the appointment of a pastor for the theological work.

"This is your place!" was Christina's first thought when she read in May 2021 that in Sierra Leone, they are looking for a theological teacher. "I don't know the country yet, but I have the impression that God prepared me and us as a family for this work," Christina describes when asked how she experienced her calling. "And eventually we just tentatively began to set out and prayerfully consider this calling. Then, as time went on, it became more and more clear how God was making a way for us to go to Sierra Leone, and so we got involved."

God has been preparing Christina for her ministry for a long time: In addition to her work in the Baptist church in Siegburg, she worked as a religious education teacher for many years and discovered her love for teaching and teaching in the process. "I have also long been moved by a passion for meeting Christians from other cultures: I completed my one-year internship before starting University in the Evangelisch-Freikirchliche Gemeinde Wiehl with Pastor Edgar Lüllau and his wife Hildegard: at the time, they had returned from a missionary service in Cameroon. There I also met the Krüger couple, who shared about their missionary service in Sierra Leone. For me it was already clear at that time that we are connected in faith with people of many nations and I that I like to establish international contacts.

By participating in a trip of EBM INTERNATIONAL to India in 2018, I got to know their way of working

intensively, encountering others at eye level and their guidelines. Since then I have been enthusiastic about this unique mission organization! I was impressed by the courageous and devoted Christians I met in India. Despite all difficulties, they courageously meet the needs of their fellow human beings and live their God-given calling. I was able to visit the projects and personally see that they are unreservedly worthy of support."

Together with her husband Ralf, Christina worked as a pastor in Siegburg for over 19 years. With their 13-year-old son Nathanael, they will now move to Jui in Sierra Leone in the summer. Here, about an hour's drive outside the capital Freetown, is the ecumenical TECT Theological Seminary in Sierra Leone, where many Baptist pastors have been trained for decades. Over the years,



Lüllaus during her last trip to Cameroon



Projects worth supporting in India



Christina and Ralf Döhring with Nathanael

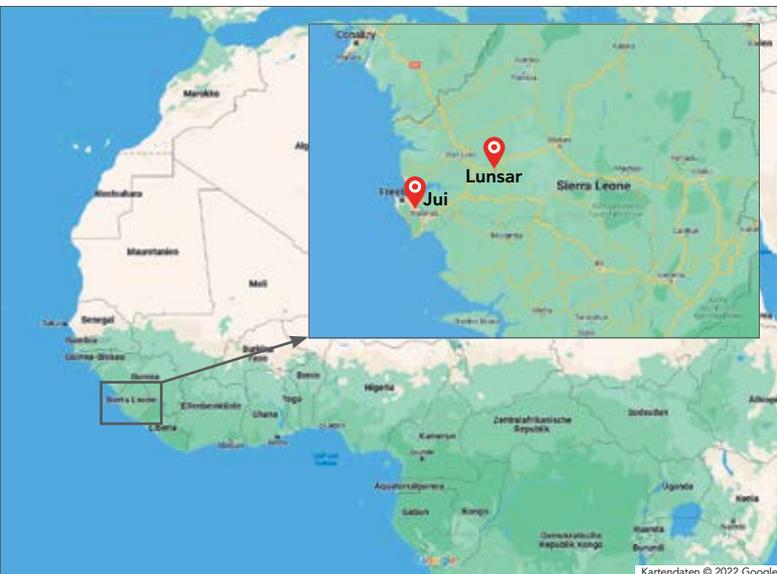
missionaries from EBM INTERNATIONAL have repeatedly lived and worked there. Christina's focus is to be teaching New Testament. "In addition, it is planned that I will conduct in-service training for pastors who do not have the opportunity for training at this institute," Christina already knows to report. For this purpose, she will also be regularly in Lunsar, where the BCSL has built a new office and training center.

"Even though the language of instruction is English, we will learn Krio, the language used in everyday speech there. We plan to join a local church and have spiritual fellowship with local brothers and sisters. We are looking forward to meeting people in Sierra Leone and are curious about this wonderful country. We see ourselves as learners and are excited to see what God has in store for us. It is our hope that our time together there will be a blessing to all involved. Nathanael will be attending an international English school in Freetown."

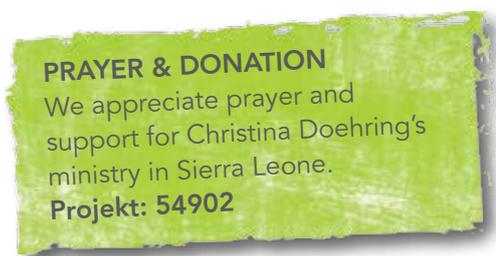
Before the departure, there are still many preparations to be made: In addition to medical examinations and vaccinations, it is a matter of saying goodbye to the many good friends in Siegburg with whom the Döhring family has grown close. In addition, Christina will still visit churches that are behind the family's ministry to tell them about their mission work.

"We are full of anticipation for my teaching, for the people in Sierra Leone and the new culture - for what we will experience with God. But we also know that we will reach our limits in many situations: The goodbyes and all the things that still need to be organized. Challenging will be the climate in Sierra Leone and the many impressions and traces in a country that, despite all its beauty, has also gone through a long civil war and the Ebola epidemic. It will be a completely new life to which we will have to adapt and re-adapt to. For all of this, we ask for prayer: that we will experience God's guidance, that He will preserve and protect us, and that good fruit will come from our service."

Christina Döhring in Conversation with Matthias Dichristin



Prayer bookmarks can be ordered at the mission office.



But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.

Acts. 1,8





Finding a new home

It's a normal Saturday evening in Izmir: as usual, the group of Arabic-speaking Christians gathers at the Baptist church. For many years now, people who have fled Iraq and Syria have had fellowship here and pray for one another. They often experience very substantial help: like Nazim, whose story is anything but normal.

"Two weeks ago, we helped Nazim and his family find a new apartment," reports Pastor Ertan Cevik. "The landlord is now retired and used to work in Austria. He told us that at that time, as a foreigner, he could rent an apartment from an Austrian without any problems, although the neighbors protested against it. At that time, he made the decision that he would also rent to foreigners one day if he had the opportunity." Now Nazim and his family finally have a good and safe place to live with him - even with gas heating. And with the support of an employee of the Turkish Crescent, Pastor Ertan will also be able to get some beds and other furniture.

The way to this apartment was arduous for Nazim and his family. He himself fought in the war in Syria for many years until he was seriously injured. Several bullets hit him in the upper body. Miraculously, his life was saved and he recovered. Visibly moved, he shows his scars on a video. When he was immediately drafted back into combat, he decided to flee Aleppo with his family. And so they made their way to Turkey via the Syrian city of Afrin and finally arrived in Izmir.

For several months now, Nazim has been the leader of the group of Arab brothers and sisters in the Izmir



Ceviks take care of many refugees

church. It was here that he himself found faith in Jesus Christ. And with the help of brothers and sisters from the congregation, one challenge after another are being overcome. In addition to the apartment, a new school could be found for the six-year-old son, who, as a child from Syria, had difficulties in the previous school.

The great willingness to help, the closeness to the people, and the perseverance to invest in relationships again and again, characterize the small congregation in Izmir. This is how the most diverse people find their way to church and to faith. Recently, a policewoman and a former belly dancer participated in faith courses. They both couldn't wait for their 1st Christmas as Christians and have been heavily involved in distributing gifts for refugees. All of these stories intentionally happen publicly and allow contact with people in authority. For example, Pastor Ertan got in contact with a mayor from a surrounding town and was able to pray and read words from the Bible at a memorial service in an old church in the town. God is working in Turkey!

According to reports by Ertan Cevik



Nizam came with his family from Aleppo

DONATE
An aid package for refugees costs 20 euros. Every donation helps! **Project: 35000**

First Aid has arrived

“I am in the middle of the areas where people were hit the hardest by the flood,” Fletcher Kaiya, EBM INTERNATIONAL’s regional representative in Southern Africa, wrote the morning of Feb. 17. “BACOMA (Baptist Convention of Malawi) is in the process of distributing food to people who lost everything in the Jan. 23 flood.”

Even four weeks after tropical storm “Ana”, which caused severe flooding in Zambia and Malawi, those affected have not yet been able to rest: The rains continue to be far too abundant and pictures and reports are still coming in from Southern Africa showing destroyed houses or flooded fields. In addition to the initial emergency aid that is currently being provided and for which EBM INTERNATIONAL has made more than 30,000 Euros available (as of February 17, 2022), the long-term effects will be devastating for the country, especially due to poor and reduced harvests. Malawi already suffers regularly from food shortages.

In the midst of the crisis, EBM INTERNATIONAL is a great light of hope through its network in the country: Just a few days after the disaster, Fletcher Kaiya, together with the church leadership of BACOMA, submitted a request for emergency aid. In the 1st phase, 2,000 people will be provided with food and six strategic community centers will be rebuilt. These will then also serve as emergency shelters.



Terrible destruction in Southern Africa.

The relief operations were first implemented in the Nsanje region, where Pastor Julius Damson has been doing church planting work for many years with the support of EBM INTERNATIONAL. The people from the now 15 church congregations in the region are close to the affected families, and Julius is a reliable expert in ensuring that the aid truly reaches the people who urgently need it quickly. How this aid is a powerful testimony of God’s love is that not only do people receive help, they also listen to devotions: These is held by Pastor Billy

Kamphata Banda, the vice president of BACOMA, who has also traveled with us from Blantyre and is quite consciously helping with the aid campaign as a church leader.

Malawi has been close to the hearts of many in Germany ever since the Baptist Unions had a partnership (2010-2015), which has resulted in a variety of relationships and partnerships between congregations. The quick help and donations from Germany are a real encouragement for many in Malawi - also for the leaders of the church, who become even more empowered as a result. In Germany we can be grateful for these relationships that we have as churches and as EBM INTERNATIONAL: Once again it has been shown that help is possible quickly and without complications because we know people on site who we can rely on – who we can call our friends and partners.

According to reports by Fletcher Kaiya



Fletcher Kaiya (left) and Julius Damson lend a helping hand

Signs of hope in the pandemic

Almost a year ago, at the beginning of May 2021, the second Corona wave hit India with full force. For many weeks, we used special donations to launch various aid projects. Nevertheless, during the course of the year, regular projects could be continued in many places. Our board member Dr. Santosh reported how much the hospital in Ludhiana is helping in the fight against Covid. There we were able to set up a small intensive care unit with ventilation places. Now the doctor tells us again about his actual work, which EBM INTERNATIONAL supports: complicated orthopedic operations, which help to correct deformities.

The nine-year-old boy in the picture with his parents has been suffering since birth: he was born a few weeks premature and was in a critical condition for a long time. He never learned to walk and due to polio, various deformities formed on his body. The financial situation of the family of five never allowed the boy to receive good treatment. Now, through an operation in Ludhiana, financed by EBM INTERNATIONAL, some corrections could be made. They give the boy a chance to live independently, for which the parents are very grateful. A teacher at the boy's school knew about this possibility and referred the parents to Dr. Santosh.



Tentative first steps

For many years, EBM INTERNATIONAL has been supporting training programs for nurses and midwives through its project partner CREAM in Tallarevu. Currently, three young women are being supported in their training. From May to July the school was closed due to the pandemic, but since August, the training has continued as normal and the women were able to resume their training due to the continuous



Changing lives with a good education

support. Pastor Samuel Sagar writes: "With the support they can finance the school and exam fees, study materials and work clothes. It also leaves some money to support themselves." In this way, not only is the women's independence encouraged, but they learn a profession with which they can make a difference in society.

Tony Yeguri of CRWDS in the Nellore district also talks about how project work has changed because of Covid: "During the school closures, tutoring for the 150 children in the project could not take place either. So households were visited daily to bring food aid and check on families." Although tutoring has since resumed, in the long term a new milk-and-egg project was added and 150 poor people, became the focus of the work. They are now being fed on a regular



Many children do very well in school

basis. Tony and his team continue to work in the villages to educate people about how to protect themselves from the pandemic and from natural disasters, and to provide preventive assistance. Several women were able to obtain cooking utensils with microloans and now sell dried fish or other meals to migrant workers.



A microcredit enables them to have their own small kitchen

DONATE

We appreciate any support for the whole work in India.

Project: 80000

ANNUAL REPORT 2021

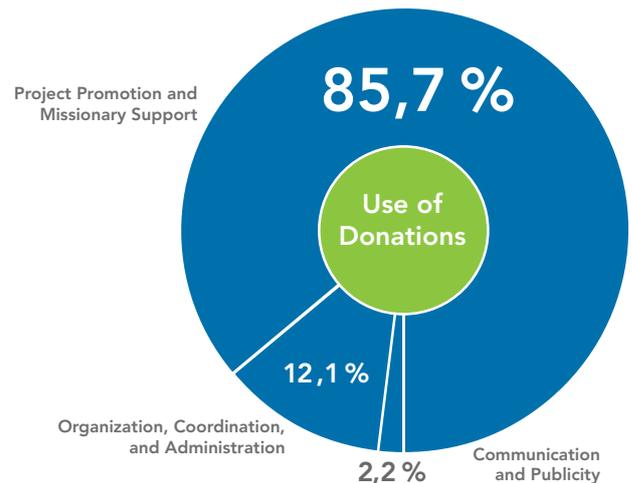
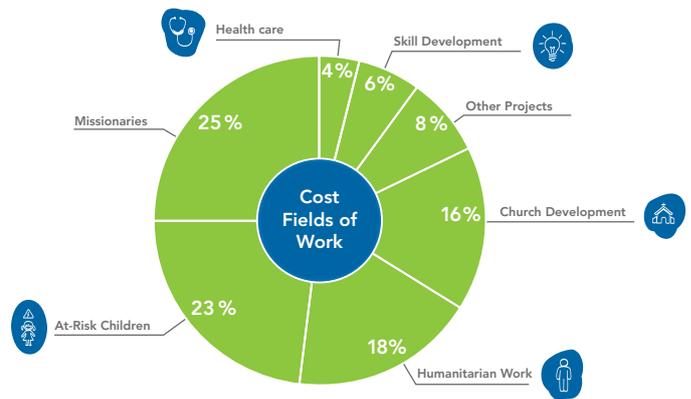


Dear brothers and sisters, dear supporters of EBM INTERNATIONAL,

Full of gratitude we look back on the year 2021 and are amazed how, through your prayers and donations, so much good could be done all over the world. With all the limitations that the Corona pandemic had on our projects, we are thrilled how our partners in Latin America, Africa, India, and Turkey continued, changed, and also expanded their impressive work. Your faithfulness made it possible for God's transforming love to reach countless people and make a difference.

Although we received fewer donations from Germany for our projects (3,161,000 euros in 2021 and 3,254,500 euros in 2020), we were also able to record almost half a million euros (495,000 euros) in additional donations for disaster relief projects because the overall willingness to donate was so great. For us as a mission, this is an expression of trust and an appreciation of the sustainable and partnership-based work we do. The many local project managers, all of whom we know personally, work under the leadership of our regional representatives to ensure that aid reaches the right places quickly. This high degree of local ownership is what defines us. The flexibility of our partners in the pandemic to adapt their projects to continue helping people was key to the fact that we were ultimately able to meet all budget requests and did not have to make any cuts. We owe this fact to your loyal donations. Our financial volume is correspondingly high at over 4.5 million euros in 2021.

With these encouraging figures, we are entering the new year with confidence. At the same time, we are aware that the Corona crisis is by no means over. Other catastrophes have also hit our partners hard. We want to and will remain capable of acting: To do so, we need donors and communities who faithfully stand by our side:



Therefore, continue to stay united with us in prayer and through your giving - also in 2022.

Christoph Haus

Your Christoph Haus



Vielen Dank für
die treue Unterstützung!



Humanitarian Work

We received over 500,000 euros in special donations for disaster relief. This provided additional support for over 20 individual projects. Corona aid accounted for, by far, the largest share (55%). In India alone, we were able to provide major support for the construction of three intensive care units. The improved medical care is already benefiting people who are suffering from corona and will help with many health problems in the long term.

In Turkey, the refugee aid continues to be a pressing matter for small communities. In this way, the aid makes a difference in the lives of people who have experienced unimaginable suffering and have fled countries such as Syria or Afghanistan. The BEFG's Disaster Relief Fund has always provided us with funds for this purpose for many years. In 2021, more than 75,000 euros have been additionally provided by German Baptist Aid for work with refugees in Turkey.

Most recently, the climate crisis is also visible in our disaster relief applications. Flood, famine, and fire disasters account for a large proportion of the applications. For the first time, we were able to help in the famine

disaster in Madagascar with around 17,000 euros. At the beginning of 2022, we have already transferred a further 13,000 euros to the country. Nearly 2,500 people have received food aid in this way. Although the Baptists in Madagascar are not yet officially members of EBM INTERNATIONAL, we were quickly able to establish a network through other unions in Southern Africa with the help of our Regional Representative Fletcher Kaiya.



Mission has many Faces

Well over 100 people receive their salaries from EBM INTERNATIONAL or directly from project funding. Often family members contribute greatly and in many places a large team of full-time and volunteer staff is added. Our international board of directors works on a voluntary basis and does not receive a salary. With the faithful and reliable donations we can secure the existence of many hundreds of families. The share of transnational missionaries from Europe is getting smaller and smaller. After the retirement of Regina Claas, we sent only three

Germans at the beginning of the year 2022. We are all the more pleased about the appointment of Christina Döhring, who will work as a theological teacher in Sierra Leone. The Döhring family will leave in the 2nd half of the year. We believe that local project leaders usually bring the most sustainable, effective and beneficial help. For sending people from Europe, in addition to our own clear calling, we need a requirement from the host church and a justification why external staff expertise is needed and cannot (yet) be found locally.



Projects competence development

Educational work is a matter close to the heart of EBM INTERNATIONAL, because we are convinced that this is how people's lives are changed long term. Often, an entire environment benefits from the support of individuals. In 2021, we were able to greatly expand the Sahel Vert project to combat the climate crisis. This reforestation program has been in place for about four decades in Dagai in northern Cameroon. In addition to planting

trees and wild hedges and caring for the soil, young people are trained in how to combat the ongoing destruction of the soil and the expansion of the Sahel. Of course, awareness of climate change and its far-reaching consequences is also being raised. New project manager Jonathan Woulkam has been implementing the project in 14 village communities since 2021. The budget has been increased to 20,000 euros annually for

this purpose. 30,000 trees will be planted in the coming months and countless people will be trained. In this area of work, the advancement of women is a priority that projects pay attention to. In addition to scholarships, we have invested 16,500 euros of aid for individual women in 2021. Another 13,500 euros could be provided for life-saving medical aid for ten project leaders abroad from the "colleague emergency aid". Some pastors of the German Federation donate to this pot as an expression of their solidarity.



Projects Children at risk

For Thanksgiving and Christmas, our video told how God changed Diego's life. As a child, he grew up in the Henrique Liebich children's home in Ijuí, Brazil. From there, he followed God's call, became a pastor, and is additionally involved in a leadership role at the social center in Ijuí. Almost 1,000 children and their families benefit from the social centers in Latin America (Diamema, Cotia, Ijuí, Mendoza) and Mozambique (Macia). In addition, there are children's homes in Alem and Porto and twelve children's homes in India. Here, too, the lives of about 800 children are being changed. And the importance of education is evident in all countries:

preschool projects in India and Latin America, more than 60 Baptist Convention schools in Sierra Leone, and many more schools in Africa are an expression of this conviction. The project costs for this area of work alone amount to more than one million euros annually. And countless employees contribute to this work beyond that. For this reason, we will again be promoting this project area during Advent in 2022 and are asking all congregations to participate with a generous Christmas offering. In 2021, this amounted to 360,000 euros that we received specifically from congregations and individuals as part of the Christmas Offering.



Church Development Projects

The video also makes clear how holistic the work is and how closely projects are linked to churches and also church planting. Training pastors or volunteers who are involved in church planting is a core part of our work in all countries. In Sierra Leone, the new missionary Christina Döhring will be involved in this area starting in September. Here, as in many other countries, training is also decentralized in order to give people the chance to qualify theologically in addition to their everyday lives and employment. In eastern Cuba, 40 people

completed a nine-month church planting course led by Marcos Riveiro and his team. In Peru, the first training sessions are again taking place in person, as Adrian Campero reports, after training sessions were organized over the radio during the pandemic. We are also supporting decentralized theological training in northern Mozambique. In addition, in 2021, we helped support a large number of church planters in the country with nearly 20,000 euros. This is typical for our work in Africa: church planters are funded everywhere in close



coordination with the local church federations. The area of church development was our main donation at Easter and Thanksgiving. We will continue to do so in 2022. In total, we received 280,000 euros in donations for the area during the campaigns. The annual donation requirement is over 500,000 euros.



Projects health care

In early May 2021, the 2nd wave of the Corona pandemic hit India hard. We reported how the work in the hospitals changed completely and focused on the treatment of Corona patients. Many have responded to our appeal for donations: We received almost 30,000 euros from 300 people for this purpose via the donation tool on our website alone. The response was encouraging, also for our partners in India. In addition to the intensive care units mentioned above, our partner Jesus Loves Ministries in Uppada spontaneously transformed its premises: Covid patients could isolate themselves in the vacant children's home and thus protect relatives, because the children had to be sent back to their families during the lockdowns. This prevented many illnesses and mitigated some spreading. Nevertheless, the normal work in the hospitals, the many eye surgeries, and complimentary procedures took place as usual. Dr. Amruth Lal, who is now co-managing the hospital in Pithapuram after his training with a scholarship from EBM INTERNATIONAL, mentions appreciatively in his report that 20% of the salaries of 17 employees are covered by EBM INTERNATIONAL: Retaining skilled staff is an important focus of our support.

In Africa, we continue to support medical work in Cameroon (8), Sierra Leone (4) and Malawi (2). In addition to the colleague emergency aid already mentioned above, there is also a lot of financial support for people who would otherwise not have access to good medical treatment.

Volunteering

As already indicated in the last annual report, we were again unable to send out volunteers in 2021 due to the pandemic. In 2022, the program will restart and the



first applications are in. If there are interested people in communities, we continue to welcome inquiries and applications. There are openings! Volunteer service will probably be possible in Argentina, Malawi, Cameroon, and India, and can go up to 12 months. For people under 28, government funding is available through the Weltwärts Program.

Events and Personnel

In the meantime, we have become accustomed to digital meetings. The Mission Council (General Assembly) even met twice in 2021 and already decided on the budget for 2022 in November 2021. For supporters of the work, there were four digital meetings attended by well over 100 different people. We will continue this in the future. Nevertheless, we are planning an In-Person mission council in Leipzig in May 2022. We will say goodbye to Regina Claas and send out the Döhring family to Sierra Leone. There will be elections to our board: this governing body is a visible expression of our work and understanding of mission: nine different nations are represented. The majority of the composition is from the global south. The chair (president) Emma Mabidilala is South African. And, of course, we look forward to the introduction of Michael Kißkalt, who will succeed Christoph Haus (retiring) as General Secretary from January 2023. Michael Fischbeck will be the new team leader for promotion and fundraising, because Matthias Dichristin is reorienting himself professionally at his own request. So there are many reasons to meet. We have experienced: a lot is possible digitally, but mission work lives on relationships - and these must also take place in real life. By the way: You are welcome to participate in mission councils as a guest.

INCOME STATEMENT

REVENUE	
Project Donations from Germany	3.365.086,26
Project Donations from other countries	511.483,71
Donations for Disaster Relief	522.079,93
Special payments (not in the budget)	168.639,73
Sum of all income	4.567.289,63
EXPENDITURE	
Expenses for core areas of work	3.263.670,56
Project support	190.753,03
Administrative Costs	491.476,83
Advertising and Reporting	88.525,88
Total spending	4.034.426,30
RESULT	
	532.863,33

Hope beyond Death

As Christians, we carry within us the hope of the resurrection. Death is not the end, but the transition to eternity with God in heaven. Nevertheless, the idea of dying frightens many people. We leave everything earthly behind. We rarely talk about our own feelings about death. But we should, says Elimar Brandt. The 74-year-old pastor of the BEFG and recipient of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany has spent his life accompanying people who were close to death. As a board member of the Borghardt Foundation, in his commitment to the Immanuel Albertinen Diakonie and as a founding member of the Pflege-Zukunfts-Initiative, he is familiar with the variety of emotions in people dealing with the topic of death and dying.

EBMI: Elimar, when you look back on your encounters with people who have had to deal with death and dying, what are the big questions?

Elimar Brandt: That is, of course, very different and based in the respective personal situations: Will someone be with me when I die? Will I receive God in eternity? How can I support my relatives so that they don't have so much trouble with the preparations? Who should be informed? Who should arrange the funeral?

Some are also moved by the anxious question: Are there people with whom I still have to clarify something? Where do I still have to make amends?

EBMI: Are there differences among people of faith? What is important to them in settling the final arrangements?

Elimar Brandt: People who have entrusted their lives to God can speak more consciously, confidently, and with greater assurance about the finite nature of life. Some say quite calmly, "I stand in my Lord's hand and will stand in it." They have faith certainty about where things are going. They wait - and some even urgently - for heaven.

However, when it comes to organizational matters and questions of provision and inheritance, I am surprised that Christians too often act too hesitantly. A lot of attention is focused on the questions of which songs should be sung at the funeral service and which Bible

text should be spoken about. And again and again the wish that the Gospel should shine forth at the funeral service. That is also good and right!

EBMI: But there is more to regulate than just the funeral. It starts with the living will and continues with the last will. Last year, we received more than 120,000 euros from inheritances and estates, which directly benefited the desired mission work. The assets that are inherited in Germany have doubled in the last ten years. In 2020, it was more than 50 billion euros. Despite this, around three quarters of the population have not made a will. Why do you think that is?

Elimar Brandt: Yes, the question of an appropriate, carefully considered Will is often suppressed - even among believers.

I can remember an old lady well, whom I cared for over many years, not from the church context. When I asked her about the will, she always said, "If I do this, then I must die."

There are too many who do not make their last wills at the time when they are still in full possession of their mental and physical abilities and also don't have an overview of their assets and their wishes. All too often wills are made at a time that seems like an emergency situation. I am deeply convinced that as Christians we can be serene. Jesus says; "In my Father's house are many rooms, and I am going to prepare them for you". We know that this is our goal. Therefore, we can gratefully leave behind what God has entrusted us in terms of

possessions and goods. As a result, I have a significant responsibility to decide what to do with my possessions after I go to my heavenly home. A will is the best way to go.

EBMI: What tip do you have for people who want to take the first steps in writing down and recording their wishes?

Elimar Brandt: Spouses, partners, families should start the discussions early. Then "the last will" can be considered together. How would we like to arrange it responsibly for each other? Perhaps you can make a few handwritten notes first and think about it. Additionally, a Healthcare proxy is very helpful. And finally, answer important questions for the will: Who comes to mind? What is something God has gifted us, that we find important? What serves the kingdom of God and helps other people?

Incidentally, a handwritten last will and testament, each signed with a date, is sufficient. This can be updated, again with a current date. If I want to be absolutely sure, I can give it to a notary or make a notarized will.

EBMI: What many people don't know: In the event of death without heirs, assets fall to the state. So it's nice to know that one's own commitment will continue to be supported after death. Non-profit organizations are usually exempt from inheritance tax and use the money where the deceased wishes. You have been involved with many churches, ministries and organizations in your life. Tell us: What causes do you want your estate to support - besides your family, of course?



Elimar Brandt (back, 2nd from left) visiting EBM employees in Cuba

Elimar Brandt: When my wife and I made a will years ago, we talked about it many times beforehand and gave it time to develop before we went to a notary. For us, it was clear that the goods entrusted and given to us by God in our life - we don't know what will be left of them in the end, whether it will be a lot or a little - should benefit those with whom we have shared our lives and for whom we were allowed to be responsible. And for us, EBM INTERNATIONAL is a natural part of this.

EBMI: Thank you for the open conversation!



TIPS ON THE SUBJECT

If you have any questions regarding donations and bequests in favor of EBM INTERNATIONAL, please contact us:



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Mr. Michael Fischbeck
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- A precautionary folder containing helpful information and forms is available from Oncken Verlag / Blessings4you: www.blessings4you.de, ISBN 978-3-87939-018-2, 28.95 euros.
- When it comes to the topic of "living wills", family doctor's offices also provide advice and help.
- On the website www.erbrecht.de, the German Association for Inheritance Law and Property Succession provides detailed information on legal issues and offers the brochure "Inheritance Law Understandable" for free download.

FOR THE SPONTANEOUS DECISION-MAKERS!



If you've ever thought about immersing yourself in a new culture for a limited time of the year, maybe now is the time to pluck up the courage and go for it!

EBM INTERNATIONAL has had great volunteer positions in our partners' projects for many years. Through a voluntary service, wonderful contacts and friendships often develop. A year in the midst of a new culture not only broadens the theoretical „horizon“, but gives everyone the opportunity to grow more, to learn from each other, to lend a hand, and to understand one other.

Most of our volunteer positions can be financially supported by the Weltwärts program of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). Conditions for a volunteer year funded by Weltwärts can be found here:
www.weltwaerts.de/de/voraussetzungen-freiwillige.html



For this summer we are still looking for volunteers for:

Two young men (18-28 years old) for the project at Balaka Farm in Malawi. Period: August 2022 until max. July 2023

In Malawi you can support the team on the Balaka farm. Young Malawians are trained in farm work, especially with an ecological approach. The young adults come from the surrounding villages to learn new skills in the project and then use them in their families and home villages. We are looking for volunteers who have previous experience or a strong interest in sustainable, organic agricultural work and who can fit well into a simple lifestyle and small community. The project was also partially affected by the flooding from Tropical Storm Ana, in late January. There is still some rebuilding to do, especially in agriculture. So, there is a lot to do. If you can adapt to a simple lifestyle and high heat, you will have the opportunity to experience the warm heart of Africa (this is how Malawians describe their country). Please bring a good proficiency of the English language and the will to contribute physically to the daily work.



If you are generally interested in volunteering abroad with us, please contact us or send us your application and we will see if it is possible this year.