



MISSION
EAST

ANNUAL
REPORT
2023

Table of contents

| | |
|-------------|----|
| About us | 2 |
| Foreword | 3 |
| Finances | 6 |
| Afghanistan | 10 |
| Ukraine | 11 |
| Iraq | 12 |
| Nigeria | 12 |
| Lebanon | 13 |
| Syria | 13 |
| Myanmar | 14 |
| Nepal | 14 |
| Armenia | 15 |
| Tajikistan | 15 |
| Thank you | 16 |

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 Henriette Ravn, Co-Char
 Gitte Stausholm
 Pia Jerslund
 Søren Hartig
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CEO

Betina Gollander-Jensen, Secretary General

Auditor

Ernst & Young (EY) Denmark

Front: Arev is a six-year-old girl from a poor Armenian family with six children, of which she is the youngest. Arev receives child speech development services from MEED's partner, Bridge of Hope, and is currently showing good progress at school. In the picture, she is celebrating her 5th birthday, and she was very happy as it was her first time having such a celebration.



Graphic Design and production
 Reese Grafisk Kommunikation



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About us

Our vision:

Thriving and empowered people and communities who have lifted themselves out of poverty and marginalization – and who now experience justice for all.

Our Mission:

We apply our values to our work: working with communities and partners to provide humanitarian response and development aid to vulnerable people and fragile communities affected by crisis so that they can thrive.



Our Values in Action

- COMPASSION
- HONESTY & INTEGRITY
- RESPECT FOR ALL PEOPLE
- VALUING THE INDIVIDUAL



Total employed headcount as of December 31st 2023

Foreword

Reflecting on 2023 we have a deep sense of gratitude. This might seem surprising, given the year's growing challenges, however, when we consider the trust of our donors and the dedication of our staff and partners, we can't help but feel thankful. Together, we reached nearly 300,000 people, often in areas where no one else is providing support.

Globally, humanitarian needs are soaring; 1 in every 23 people need help to survive. This is daunting, but Mission East continues to stand by those facing poverty, conflict, and injustice in our ten programme countries around the world. Our mission is clear: We act to save lives, to protect children and other vulnerable people, and to prevent disasters. *We Act for Hope.*

This was a year when working off-the-main-road became more difficult. There are large wars which are high on political agendas, and they overshadow the needs of the majority; people who are not living in the light of the media's attention. One of these countries is Afghanistan. This is Mission East's largest programme country with some 23 million people relying on humanitarian assistance, a five-fold increase since 2019. When the Taliban banned female aid workers in December 2022, large institutional donors lost their appetite for working in this risky environment and consequently our organisation, among others, lost millions in funding. With the advice of our local staff, we have remained engaged in Afghanistan despite our disagreement with the ban on female aid workers and the subsequent donor withdrawal. By staying and continuing our programmes, Mission East has been able to have a positive impact, saving lives and restoring livelihoods, with a strong emphasis on assisting vulnerable women and children.

As the war in Ukraine continued, we expanded our partnerships and opened a country office in Mykolaiv. Bombings have left millions of tonnes of rubble, and we have assisted local authorities in assessing the scale of damages with a view to re-cycle as much of the material as possible. Much of the donor attention shifted away from emergency response towards longer-term assistance.

Our response to the urgent needs in 2023 of countries like Ukraine and Afghanistan confirmed once again that Mission East is fit for purpose in supporting emergencies as well as longer-term development, and that we are a trusted, influential presence in light of injustice. Our donors respond to urgent needs and understand our dedication to forgotten crises. Acting quickly and with urgency can create fluctuations in our funding, and we acknowledge that this impacted our 2023 financial picture.

We are an organization where success could mean leaving a country. This seems difficult but is also a cause for celebration, as is the case for our programme in Iraq. This year our Iraq programme reached a natural end, and we are grateful for the sustainable improvements in the lives of those we served. In 2014 ISIS took control of Mosul and large parts of the country, and since this the attack on Yazidis in Sinjar has been confirmed a genocide by the UN. When women and girls captured by ISIS were released, often after 2-3 years in captivity, Mission East was there. By 2023, the vast majority of internally displaced people had returned home and local organizations were providing needed services. The Mission East office was closed in spring 2023, and we continued working with partners until the end of the year.

The climate crisis has caused widespread water scarcity, floodings, and other disasters. This leads to new food, health, and nutrition needs. High prevalence of poverty, inequality, and conflict magnify vulnerabilities to climate change impacts. In 2023 we continued to develop programmes which help the most vulnerable people adapt and mitigate the effects of climate change.

Foreword

Throughout our organisation, we have believed in local partnerships for more than 30 years. We have long understood that local actors play a leading role in the activities within their communities. Likewise, our team mainly is comprised of people who are working in their home country – 84% of us, in fact! This means that we have unique insights into the challenges and conditions of every crisis, and we can be financially efficient with locally-led operations. Our new regional hub in Tajikistan, established in 2023, includes some roles traditionally based in an international headquarters. By diversifying our operations, we can respond more immediately to disasters and our global footprint is reduced.

Mission East is committed to wise stewardship and the highest quality when delivering aid. We are happy to report that **92 percent** of our 2023 operating expenses were directed to programmes benefitting vulnerable children, families, and communities in need. Thankfully, due to the continued support from our loyal donors and supporters, 2023 was also the year where we were able to invest in infrastructure finance and customer systems, which will guarantee a more cost-efficient and even more accountable organisation in the years to come.

We believe in the accountability mechanisms of our sector, and diligently uphold the highest standards. This year the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs completed the 4-yearly standard review of our programme and finance activities, and Mission East was commended on our programmes. We welcome this opportunity to also receive valuable advice on future improvements. The 2023 was also the year when a comprehensive audit and re-certification was conducted surrounding the Core Humanitarian Standards (CHS) focused on our accountability towards the people we help. We commend our team on receiving the overall highest score amongst our peer organisations.

One day we hope that our work is no longer needed and the world is peaceful and abundant. Until such time, people in need, our members, donors and partners continue to believe in the work of Mission East, and we, together with Mission East staff around the world, could not be more grateful. Looking forward we are committed to our local-centric model of assistance, to explore new partnerships, particularly in places which are neglected by the international community or impacted by hunger, disasters or conflict.

Our world is changing rapidly, which puts many more people at risk. With your support we will continue to act with compassion, treating people affected by crisis with dignity and respect. We act on hope, and we couldn't do it without you.



Ole Ramsing
Chair of the Board

Ole Ramsing



Betina Gollander-Jensen
Secretary General

Betty



Finances 2023

Mission East's total revenue for 2023 was approximately 83 million DKK. This is a decrease compared with 2022, which received all-time high contributions in the wake of the humanitarian crises in Afghanistan and Ukraine. The 2023 revenue is satisfactory with its increase of around 10% compared to 2021. This bears testimony to the quality work of staff and the increasing trust in Mission East from donors.

The Afghanistan programme remained the largest operation in 2023. The Taliban ban on female aid workers, led large institutional donors to withhold funds and consequently Mission East, among others, lost millions in funding. Even in this risky and volatile environment, we managed to obtain new grants from the UN covering basic needs for the most vulnerable.

The crisis in Ukraine continued during 2023 and Mission East established an office in Mykolaiv, including innovation on the reuse of rubble from destroyed buildings and other waste streams in rebuilding efforts.

Mission East also managed to establish an office in Syria in 2023. Bank de-risking continued to make transfers of funds difficult. The Syria earthquake early 2023, however, increased the banks' appetite for facilitating transfers for humanitarian purposes, and we managed to pick up on implementation of project activities towards the end of the year.

The total amount of gifts from our generous private supporters gave Mission East an income of around DKK 9 million in 2023. The result is DKK 1 million short of 2022, which we assess was affected by the onset of the Gaza conflict, an area where Mission East does not have a presence.

The final result of the year is a net surplus of 0.9 million DKK. This is a satisfactory result given the world's humanitarian crises and institutional donors' shifting focus towards large escalating political conflicts. Likewise, it should be emphasized that the year end result includes substantial investments in new systems. The year-end result reaches the target set in the 2023 approved budget.

Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2023

| Profit and Loss Statement | 2023 | 2022 |
|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Income | DKK | DKK 000 |
| Public income | 60.092.782 | 98.593 |
| Gifts | 8.953.207 | 10.011 |
| Private grants | 13.902.869 | 25.129 |
| Total income | 82.948.858 | 133.733 |

| Expenditure | DKK | DKK 000 |
|--|-------------------|----------------|
| Activities funded by public donors | 56.267.730 | 91.054 |
| Activities funded by private donors | 18.987.495 | 32.898 |
| Engagement | 421.276 | 462 |
| Operational costs | 951.033 | 1.064 |
| Staff costs | 3.797.947 | 3.845 |
| Administration | 1.566.620 | 894 |
| Total Expenses | 81.992.101 | 130.216 |
| Operating contribution before financial items | 956.757 | 3.517 |

| | | |
|------------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Financing costs | 75.578 | 459 |
| Retained income | 881.179 | 3.058 |

| Balance sheet 31 December 2023 | 2023 | 2022 |
|--------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Assets | DKK | DKK 000 |
| Fixed Assets | 78.721 | 97 |
| Receivables | 5.043.415 | 7.929 |
| Liquid funds | 27.854.503 | 27.762 |
| Total Assets | 32.976.639 | 35.788 |

| Liabilities | DKK | DKK 000 |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Mission East equity | 5.061.339 | 4.180 |
| Project commitments | 21.907.387 | 20.656 |
| Other payables | 6.007.913 | 10.953 |
| Total liabilities | 32.976.639 | 35.788 |

The information presented here is a summary of the information contained in the accounts of Mission East. This summary may not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of Mission East. For further information, the full accounts should be consulted. Copies can be obtained from Mission East's registered head office or via missioneast.org.

Impact across five main sectors

In 2023, more than **298,852** people participated in and benefited from our projects within each of our five main sectors.



CLIMATE & ENVIRONMENT
CRISIS ACTION
15,684
PEOPLE



HUMANITARIAN
EMERGENCY RESPONSE
90,048
PEOPLE



WASH (WATER,
SANITATION, & HYGIENE)
68,470
PEOPLE



FOOD & LIVELIHOOD
SECURITY
26,348
PEOPLE



PROTECTION
103,316
PEOPLE

As some interventions cover multiple sectors, there may be overlap of beneficiaries between the sectors.

Where did the money come from?



DANIDA
47%



OTHER DANISH
PUBLIC DONORS
2%



PRIVATE
SUPPORTERS
13%



FOUNDATIONS
15%



UNITED NATIONS
AND OTHERS
23%

What was the money spent on?



EMERGENCY AID
73.8%



DEVELOPMENT AID
18.1%



ENGAGEMENT
1.6%

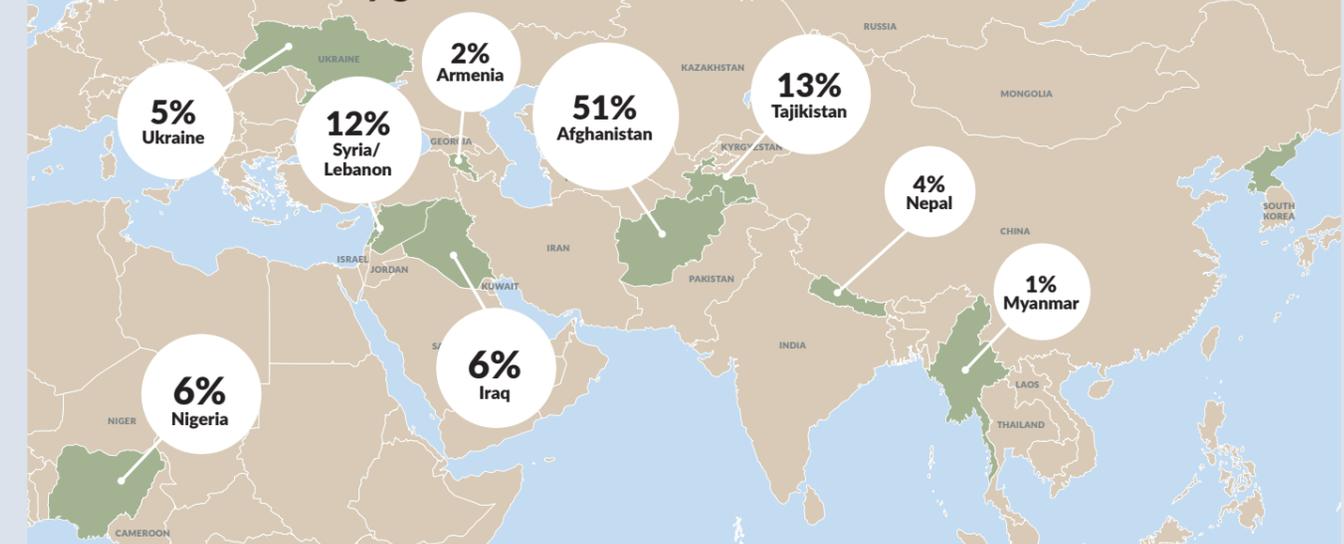


ADMINISTRATION,
EXCL. INVESTMENT
5.5%



ADMINISTRATION,
INVESTMENT
1.0%

Where did the money go?



Mission Østs samlede indtægter for 2023 var cirka 83 millioner DKK. Dette er en nedgang, sammenlignet med 2022, hvor vi modtog rekordhøje bidrag i kølvandet på de humanitære kriser i Afghanistan og Ukraine. Indtægterne for 2023 er tilfredsstillende, med en stigning på omkring 10%, sammenlignet med 2021. Dette vidner om medarbejdernes kvalitetsarbejde og den stigende tillid til Mission Øst fra donorer.

Afghanistan-programmet forblev den største operation i 2023. Taliban-forbuddet mod kvindelige hjælpearbejdere førte til, at store institutionelle donorer tilbageholdt midler, og derfor mistede Mission Øst blandt andre millioner i finansiering. Selv i dette risikofyldte og ustabile miljø lykkedes det os at opnå nye tilskud fra FN, til at dække basale behov for de mest sårbare.

Krisen i Ukraine fortsatte i 2023, og Mission Øst etablerede et kontor i Mykolaiv, som bl.a. arbejder med innovation ved genbrug af murbrokker fra ødelagte bygninger og andre affaldsstrømme i genopbygningsindsatsen.

Mission Øst lykkedes også med at etablere et kontor i Syrien i 2023. Bankernes "de-risking" fortsatte med at gøre pengeoverførsler vanskelige. Jordskælvet i Syrien tidligt i 2023 øgede dog bankernes vilje til facilitere overførsler til humanitære formål, og vi formåede at genoptage gennemførelsen af projektaktiviteter mod slutningen af året.

Det samlede beløb af gaver fra vores generøse private støtter gav Mission Øst en indkomst på omkring 9 millioner DKK i 2023. Resultatet er 1 million DKK lavere end i 2022, hvilket vi vurderer skyldes begyndelsen på Gaza-krisen, et område, hvor Mission Øst ikke er til stede.

Årets resultat er et nettooverskud på 0,9 millioner DKK. Dette er et tilfredsstillende resultat i betragtning af verdens humanitære kriser og institutionelle donorer skiftende fokus mod store, eskalerende politiske konflikter. Ligeledes skal det understreges, at årsresultatet inkluderer betydelige investeringer i nye systemer. Årsresultatet når det mål, der er fastsat i det godkendte budget for 2023.

Årsregnskab for 2023

| Resultatopgørelse | 2023 | 2022 |
|------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Indtægter | DKK | DKK 000 |
| Offentlige indtægter | 60.092.782 | 98.593 |
| Gaver | 8.953.207 | 10.011 |
| Private bevillinger | 13.902.869 | 25.129 |
| Indtægter i alt | 82.948.858 | 133.733 |

| Udgifter | DKK | DKK 000 |
|---|-------------------|----------------|
| Aktiviteter finansieret af offentlige donorer | 56.267.730 | 91.054 |
| Aktiviteter finansieret af private donorer | 18.987.495 | 32.898 |
| Engagement | 421.276 | 462 |
| Driftsomkostninger | 951.033 | 1.064 |
| Personaleomkostninger | 3.797.947 | 3.845 |
| Administration | 1.566.620 | 894 |
| Udgifter i alt | 81.992.101 | 130.216 |
| Driftresultat før finansielle poster | <u>956.757</u> | <u>3.517</u> |

| | | |
|--------------------|----------------|--------------|
| Finansielle poster | 75.578 | 459 |
| Overskud | 881.179 | 3.058 |

| Balance per 31. december 2023 | 2023 | 2022 |
|-------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Aktiver | DKK | DKK 000 |
| Anlægsaktiver | 78.721 | 97 |
| Tilgodehavender | 5.043.415 | 7.929 |
| Likvide midler | 27.854.503 | 27.762 |
| Aktiver i alt | 32.976.639 | 35.788 |

| Passiver | DKK | DKK 000 |
|--------------------------|-------------------|---------------|
| Mission Østs egenkapital | 5.061.339 | 4.180 |
| Projektforpligtelser | 21.907.387 | 20.656 |
| Anden gæld | 6.007.913 | 10.953 |
| Passiver i alt | 32.976.639 | 35.788 |

De oplysninger, der præsenteres her, er et sammendrag af oplysningerne i Mission Østs regnskab. Dette resumé indeholder muligvis ikke tilstrækkelige oplysninger til at give en fuld forståelse af Mission Østs økonomiske forhold. For yderligere information bør det fulde regnskab konsulteres. Kopier kan fås ved henvendelse til Mission Østs hovedkontor eller via missioneast.org.

Effekt på tværs af fem hovedsektorer

I 2023 modtog mere end **298.852** mennesker støtte fra vores indsatser inden for hver af vores fem hovedsektorer.



KLIMA- & MILJØINDSATS
15.684
MENNESKER



HUMANITÆR NØDHJÆLP
90.048
MENNESKER



VAND, SANITET OG HYGIJNE
68.470
MENNESKER



FØDEVARESIKKERHED OG LEVEBRØD
26.348
MENNESKER



BESKYTTELSE
103.316
MENNESKER

Da nogle indsatser dækker flere sektorer, kan der være overlap mellem modtagerne i de forskellige sektorer.

Hvor kom pengene fra?



DANIDA
47%



ANDRE DANSKE OFFENTLIGE DONORER
2%



PRIVATE STØTTER
13%



FONDE
15%



FN OG ANDRE
23%

Hvad blev pengene brugt til?



NØDHJÆLP
73,8%



UDVIKLINGSBISTAND
18,1%



ENGAGEMENT
1,6%

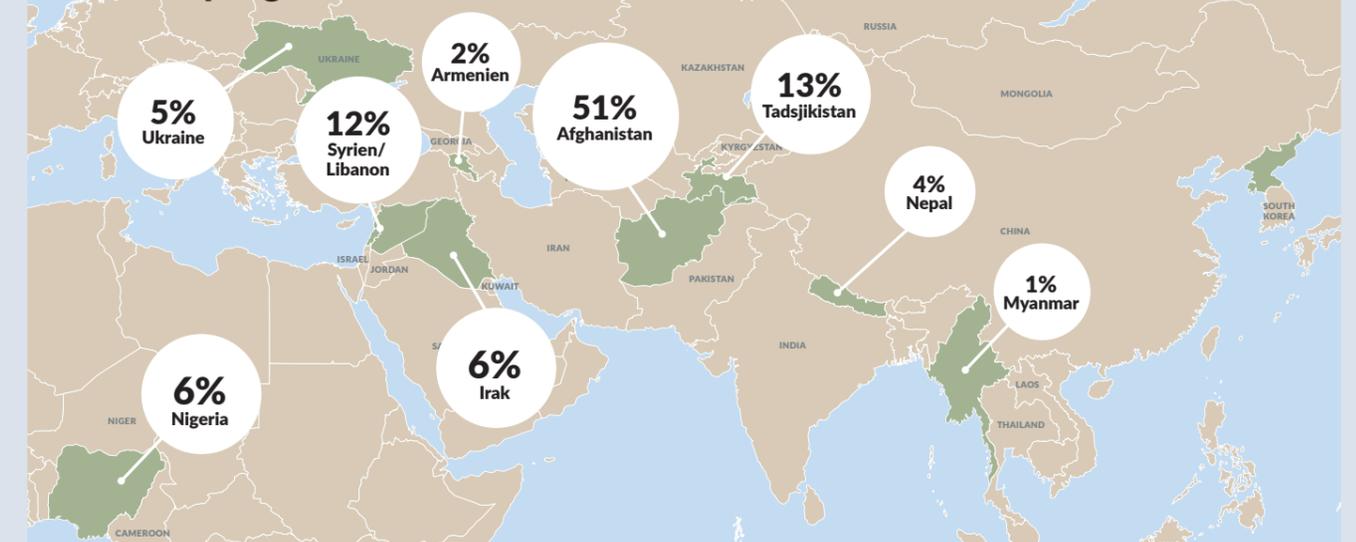


ADMINISTRATION, EKSKL. INVESTERINGER
5,5%



ADMINISTRATION, INVESTERINGER
1,0%

Hvor blev pengene af?





Afghanistan

The dramatic humanitarian crisis continued last year in Afghanistan. Women and girls were the most vulnerable, as they suffer from discriminatory laws, preventing their active participation in education and job markets. The needs remained high, due to the impact of the consecutive years of drought, economic collapse, the forced return of refugees from neighbouring countries, and the deterioration of women's rights. When the Taliban banned women from working in NGOs at the end of 2022, many donors reduced or stopped their funding for Afghanistan, reducing the resources to respond to the growing needs.



Balancing emergency response and building community resilience

With 28.3 million people in need of urgent assistance in Afghanistan, Mission East continued to meet our commitment through the delivery of life-saving emergency response, while working to build longer-term community resilience.

Our emergency support provided multi-purpose cash and materials assistance to vulnerable communities, particularly female-headed households, refugees, and persons with disabilities, allowing beneficiaries to select food and non-food items based on household needs. Community resilience was enhanced through improved water and sanitation systems, irrigation canals, agricultural inputs, greenhouses for vegetable production, and training for women on food preservation. Pastoral communities received livestock and poultry to support their livelihoods. Responding to the climate change induced calamities, Mission East built flood protection walls and promoted tree planting in provinces to protect livelihoods and houses.

Mission East collaborated with local partners to enhance their operational and technical capabilities, ensuring local actors are actively involved in project implementation, thereby contributing to aid localization.

-  **67,354** people could meet their basic needs including through cash to buy food and household items, emergency hygiene kits and tents.
-  **48,699** people had better WASH services including, safe drinking water, improved sanitation and hygiene.
-  **17,311** had improved food security through activities such as provision of livestock or bees for honey production, setting up kitchen gardens and green houses and training on food processing.
-  **13,874** individuals were helped by improved disaster risk management structures, agro-forestry and low carbon alternatives for winter heating.



DONORS
 Afghanistan Humanitarian Fund (UNOCHA)
 Danida
 WFP
 PATRIP foundation

PARTNERS
 Organization for Developing Services and Agriculture Development (ODSAD)
 Afghan Brothers Social Services Organization (ABSSO)

Syria

In 2023, Mission East responded to the protracted Syrian crisis in the governorate of Rural Damascus and to the earthquake that hit in February 2023 in Aleppo. Working through its direct implementing partners, Mission East addressed the emergency, protection, and food security and livelihood needs of the most vulnerable IDP, returnee, host and non-displaced households and individuals. Mission East also provided capacity strengthening to local actors working as “agents of change”.



Supporting vulnerable individuals in a complex humanitarian emergency

After 11 years, the Syrian crisis remains one of the world's most complex humanitarian emergencies. In 2023, an estimated 15.3 million people in Syria needed humanitarian assistance. Basic services and critical infrastructure are near collapse, limiting access to electricity and water. Life is increasingly unaffordable due to eroded savings and doubled prices for basic commodities, driving severe needs and new displacements. Many Syrians have lost jobs or income opportunities, making it hard to cope with inflation and currency depreciation as the economic situation worsens.

Mission East, through its partners, provided vulnerable households with emergency assistance, protection services, and food security support. By providing cash for emergency relief, Mission East helped vulnerable community members meet basic needs and reduce negative coping mechanisms, including following the earthquake in February. Support for restoring urban and rural livelihoods, through inputs and training, enabled men and women to increase food security and incomes, reducing dependence on aid. Essential protection services for the most vulnerable, like women, girls, and children, addressed trauma and protected against GBV, domestic violence, and child abuse. Mission East also strengthened local actors' leadership skills within their communities.

-  **11,889** individuals received cash assistance to meeting their basic needs.
-  **587** individuals trained and received inputs to restore their livelihoods and improve food security
-  **1,112** people individuals were provided with essential protection services.
25 individuals were supported with capacity strengthening to help them strengthen their leadership skills and roles within their communities.



DONORS
 DANIDA
 World Relief
 Transform Aid International

PARTNERS
 Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention for Local Development Association (SHEILD)
 Syrian Arab Red Crescent (SARC)



Iraq

Mission East was active in Iraq since 2014, when ISIS captured Mosul and surrounding areas. The country saw continued improvements in conditions in 2023, with more displaced people returning home and less reliance on humanitarian aid. The growing economy enables better local support for basic services. Mission East closed its Iraq office in May 2023, to support interventions through partner organizations.



As we closed the office in Iraq we looked back on the impact of Mission East's programming over almost 10 years of crisis in Iraq, starting with emergency support for people fleeing the ISIS invasion and living close to the front lines. This continued with provision of protection, shelter, WASH and livelihood services for displaced people and host communities and finally with support for people returning to their home areas.

The program gave particular attention to the Yazidi community of Sinjar over these years. It was successful in reaching Yazidi women, girls, and boys who survived the genocide and captivity under ISIS in a survivor-centric, holistic, protection-based manner, including provision of psychosocial support, specialized case management, cash reparations, and improved access to business opportunities and legal services.

Localising support

In 2023, the focus shifted to localizing the programme in Iraq as Mission East closed its office in May. Efforts concentrated on building the capacity of local partners to ensure the continuation and sustainability of the work.

Throughout the year, vulnerable individuals received business start-up grants prioritizing eco-friendly/ circular economic businesses, vocational training, enterprise development, cash grants and financial literacy programmes. These initiatives empowered participants, especially women, to secure dignified and respectable livelihoods.

DONORS

Archdiocese of Cologne
Danida
Nadia's Initiative

Partners

Nadia's Initiative
REZAN Organization

720 new returnees received non-food items to help them stay warm during the cold Iraqi winter.

210 individuals supported to establish mainly women-led businesses.

126 Yazidi survivors and their families were assisted with targeted support in psychosocial counselling and financial compensation.



Nigeria

MEED initiated its work in Nigeria in 2021 providing cash assistance to Internally Displaced People (IDPs) in Monguno, Borno State. Since 2022, MEED programming integrated a stronger resilience component aiming to improve household food production and nutrition, build the local community capacities, and give access to water in a sustainable and climate adapted way.



Addressing displacement, malnutrition, and water scarcity

The ongoing conflict between ISWAP and Boko Haram continues to devastate North-east Nigeria. Over 8 million people are in urgent need of humanitarian aid, making this one of the largest humanitarian crises in the world. Since 2022, the Nigerian's government started a resettlement policy forcing the closure of many IDP camps. New killings, kidnappings and violence have been experienced by IDPs who have been forcibly resettled.

Access to water is lacking in this dry Sahel region. The interventions of humanitarian actors are short-term solutions unable to answer the climate change challenges and ensure sustainable access to water for the local population. Poor water and sanitary facilities increased the outbreaks of Cholera and other water diseases caused by temporary flash floodings, overflowing of latrine pits and lack of drinkable water.

In 2023, to address the urgent and immediate needs of IDPs, Mission East's programme provided cash assistance and five days of prepared meals to newly arrived IDPs before their formal integration in the camps. To promote a resilient and sustainable intervention Mission East underpinned the rehabilitation of borehole and latrines, supported the IDPs to build sustainable food production and created income generating activities for the most vulnerable population reaching 19,628 people.

DONORS

Danida,
DR, Danish Broadcast Corporation

PARTNERS

ZOA, GISCOR

6,828 internally displaced people received emergency cash or food aid.

11,000 people got water from rehabilitation of 6 solar powered boreholes and 8 water points.

1,800 people reached through the food and livelihood security programme.

21 local humanitarian workers and volunteers capacitated through tailored trainings.



Lebanon

In 2023, Mission East supported its partners in Lebanon to provide essential emergency relief and protection services to vulnerable community members, both host and refugee populations, who have been pushed further into crisis conditions by the combined effects of the Syria displacement crisis and Lebanon's ongoing issues.



Supporting refugee and host populations

In 2023, Lebanon's multi-layered crisis worsened long-term vulnerabilities for both refugees and host communities. Since 2019, the country has faced a complex economic and financial crisis, aggravated by political deadlock, declining social stability, and shocks like the Gaza crisis spillover in late 2023. These issues have severely impacted society, pushing many into crisis conditions. An estimated 3.9 million people in Lebanon need humanitarian assistance, including 2.1 million vulnerable Lebanese, 1.5 million Syrian refugees as well as migrants, and Palestine refugees from Lebanon and Syria.

Mission East and its partners have provided emergency relief services to help vulnerable community members meet their basic needs and reduce negative coping mechanisms. Additionally, through three Social Development Centers (SDCs) across Lebanon, essential protection services were offered to all community members, including males and females of different ages. Within one of the SDCs, a child-friendly space was rehabilitated and equipped, providing safe spaces for children of vulnerable families. The protection activities reduced psychosocial stress and improved social ties among beneficiaries, enhancing social cohesion between refugees and host community members.

DONORS

Danida

PARTNERS

Social, Humanitarian, Economical Intervention for Local Development Association (SHEILD)

250 individuals received emergency cash.

3 community centres provided services to vulnerable host and refugee households.

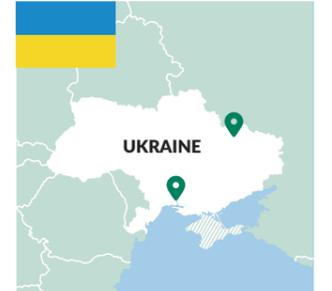
1 child-friendly space in an SDC was rehabilitated and equipped.

692 individuals were provided with essential protection services, case management, legal assistance and other services.



Ukraine

Following a year of providing emergency support to affected populations after the invasion on February 24th 2022, Mission East in 2023 shifted activities towards protecting climate and local environment while supporting the use of waste resources making rebuilding efforts more cost-efficient in the Danish priority area of Mykolaiv.



Preparing for green rebuilding

Mission East worked with the Danish architects, Lendager, specialising in circularity and the Ukrainian coalition of architects and urban planners, Ro3kvit, to identify opportunities for a green rebuilding, as well as identifying materials and designs applicable for circular approaches. Departing from this, Mission East partnered with Neo-Eco Ukraine and UA Damage to gain further knowledge for the planning of our green rebuilding interventions.

Based on satellite images and drone footage, UA Damage assessed the destructions levels and rubble volumes across 70 rural settlements of Mykolaiv region using Artificial Intelligence (AI). An international asbestos expert assessed asbestos prevalences in the demolition waste of the area, including the local handling practices and developed a guidance to Mission East and local authorities on best practices for safe asbestos handling. UA Damage further embarked on development of both a sub-surface Unexploded Ordnances (UXO) detection technology and an AI based high-definition camera notification system, detecting UXOs in rubble piles, to improve safety in rubble sorting processes. Finally, Neo-Eco mapped available waste streams relevant for recycling in building materials and existing actors with prospects for involvement in utilisation of waste streams. Mission East's recovery response took form, and funding was secured for implementation to begin by close of the year.

Also, the social media-based protection awareness campaign from 2022 continued and some minor emergency activities were completed.

DONORS

Danida
DR, Danish broadcasting Corporation

PARTNERS

Dorcas Ukraine
NeoEco Ukraine
UA Damage
Ro3kvit
Lendager

Study published mapping war damage levels in rural Mykolaiv.

Study published on circular-economy and recycling opportunities in the region of Mykolaiv.

80,000 lunch box packs facilitated school lunches for subway schools.

Protection awareness messages were distributed through internet and social media were fully watched **90,934** times.



Myanmar

Mission East has collaborated with local partners in the remote and isolated southern region of Chin State, Myanmar, since 2013. The focus of the efforts has been on building the organizational and technical capacities of local actors and promoting inclusive, sustainable development. Including environmentally responsible agricultural practices and the production of nutritious food.



Supporting the Mara people's sustainable food security and nutrition

Through 2023, the situation in Myanmar was exceptionally difficult both for the country and partner organisations. Both regarding the ongoing conflict which started with the coup d'état in 2021, and the cyclone which hit the area in May 2023.

The establishment of the military government continues to limit civil liberties, movement, and space for civil society. The population face severe restrictions, armed conflict between rebel factions, landmine placement, air bombings, and scarce access to commodities and communication. As a result, many in the Maraland have been forced to seek refuge abroad, mainly in India.

Mission East's partners continued with activities, leading to improvement in food security and nutrition. A training centre for youth and self-help groups has developed production and preservation of local products in a nutritious and eco-friendly manner.

The partner organisations improved their capacity in organisational, financial, advocacy and communication skills through concentrated efforts specifically tailored to each organisation.

In response to the devastating impact of the Mocha cyclone, in May 2023, assistance was provided to the most vulnerable families with kits tailored for shelter repair. Additionally, support was extended towards the reconstruction of vital public infrastructure such as community halls and schools.

DONORS

AEC-Fonden
Center for Church-Based Development (CKU)
Danida

PARTNERS

Health and Hope Myanmar
Mara Evangelical Church
Together for Sustainable Development

- 215** individuals and 4 public infrastructures received shelter support as response to Cyclone Mocha.
- 135** individuals (15 TSD staff and 120 members of the Self-Help Groups) increased their capacities towards improved food security and nutritious food processing.
- 2** local partners improved their organisational capacity to support food security and livelihoods for the Mara people.



Nepal

Since 2007, Mission East has worked together with local partners in Nepal's remote Karnali Province to build inclusive and resilient communities. The communities in Karnali face significant challenges from the adverse effects of the climate crisis. Mission East's interventions have positively impacted these communities, improving their lives and livelihoods amidst these challenges.



Strengthening Resilience and tackling climate crisis

In 2023, Mission East and its local partners implemented projects in emergency response, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene, livelihood enhancement, food security, and climate change, improving the economy of marginalized groups such as women and persons with disabilities, Dalits, farmers, and advocates of Freedom of Religion and Belief.

Through comprehensive sessions, farmers, including women, received training on sustainable agriculture, climate change adaptation and mitigation strategies. The cultivation of climate champions who engage their communities in climate issues was a notable outcome. Mission East conducted a study on loss and damage, presenting its findings at COP28 in Dubai.

Mission East's programmes also helped to empower women through off-farm and non-farm income-generating ventures including integrated livestock management, retail, and hospitality management. This increased their income and provided vital support to their families.

Furthermore, Mission East extended support to five CSOs, enhancing their capacity to contribute to their communities. These efforts signify Mission East's commitment to fostering sustainable development and resilience in Nepal's most vulnerable region.

DONORS

CKU
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DR, Danish Broadcasting Corporation
Silence Softly Speaks
AEC Foundation

PARTNERS

Himalayan Education and Development (HEAD)
Karnali Integrated Rural Development and Research Center (KIRDARC)
Women Welfare Service (WWS)

- 978** individuals affected by landslides and earthquake in Karnali province were reached with emergency relief.
- 2,085** people including 4 schools benefited from WASH activities focused on improving personal hygiene practices.
- 6,030** individuals benefited from activities improving food security and livelihood.
- 1,305** people were reached by awareness raising and training on climate change & DRR.
- 249** individuals from CSOs and government received capacity building support on climate and governance.



Armenia

Mission East has been active in Armenia since 1992, aiding during crises and conflict, and working with Bridge of Hope on the inclusion of children and youth with disabilities into society. In September 2023, renewed conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh led to over 100,000 people fleeing to Armenia. Mission East and local partner Communal Development NGO provided immediate aid, including food, NFIs and shelter.



Empowering communities: Humanitarian aid and disability inclusion in Armenia

In September 2023, in response to the displacement of people from Nagorno-Karabakh, Mission East swiftly initiated a humanitarian response in collaboration with our local partner, Communal Development NGO. This is the same partner we worked with during our 2020 intervention in Armenia. Our immediate response was to provide food, NFIs, and shelter for the displaced individuals in careful coordination with the government and other stakeholders. This was particularly crucial as Nagorno-Karabakh had been under a blockade for most of the year, leading to severe shortages of food and essential medicines. This intervention responded to needs in Vayots Dzor Province.

Furthermore, Mission East has a long-standing partnership with Bridge of Hope in Armenia, with a focus on human rights, particularly for children and youth with disability. This collaboration has successfully shifted the perception of disability from being a medical question to a social and human rights issue. In 2023, we continued our work towards inclusion of children and youth with disabilities in Armenia's remote areas, providing them with rehabilitation and psychosocial services. Additionally, we conducted training for their families, equipping them with better parenting skills and empowering them for joint advocacy.

DONORS

Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Center for Church-Based Development (CKU)
Erik Thunes Legat

Partners

Bridge of Hope
Communal Development NGO

- 104** people were reached with emergency relief efforts
- 329** children and youth received outpatient rehabilitation services
- 370** mothers of children with disabilities and refugee children were given the skills to contribute to their children's rehabilitation and wellbeing
- 3,070** children from community schools received kindness training to support an inclusive school environment
- 68** local partner staff took part in capacity building trainings



Tajikistan

Since 1997, Mission East has implemented a program in Tajikistan on social protection, disability and inclusion, Water Sanitation and Hygiene, and Disaster Risk Reduction. In 2023, Mission East expanded initiatives to encompass livelihood support for people with disabilities and emergency response efforts for those impacted by conflict and natural disasters.



Tackling marginalization and discrimination against vulnerable groups

Despite positive economic growth in 2023, Tajikistan faces significant gaps and inequalities in inclusive human rights development, green economic growth, climate risk management, and governance. It is the most climate-vulnerable country in Central Asia due to low adaptability, and limited disaster preparedness.

In Tajikistan, Mission East continued strengthening the advocacy capacity of civil society and persons with disability, focusing on the access to information on rights, entitlements and essential services. Programming in 2023 included physical rehabilitation services to children with disabilities and the building of a brighter future through vocational trainings to give new income generating opportunities for people with disabilities.

During the year Mission East continued to improve water, sanitation and hygiene services and to protect people from disaster risks. This had a particular emphasis on ensuring that people with disabilities are not left behind when disaster strikes. A specific greening perspective has been also part of the programme ensuring the use of renewable green energy in the rehabilitation of rural infrastructure.

DONORS

Danida
EU - DG INTPA
PATRIP Foundation

PARTNERS

Central Asian Partnership (CAPS)
Ehyo va Dastagiri
Mehrگون
Nuri Umed
Zamzam

- 1,430** Afghan refugees received humanitarian assistance.
- 3,018** people have access to clean water from 7 new or repaired water systems.
- 1,980** people benefited from new household and public latrines.
- 802** people were protected from disasters through the construction of 4 mitigation structures.
- 878** children with disabilities were provided rehabilitation through 3 centres and 3 rehabilitation corners.
- 240** Afghan refugees received psychosocial support.



Thank you

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Center for Church-Based Development (CKU)
Civil Society in Development (CISU)
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World Food Programme

Corporate partners

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Foundations

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Erik Thunes Foundation
PATRIP Foundation
LEGO Employee Fund
Global Survivors Fund

Others

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