Nutrition, education, human rights
Addressing climate change

Flood on
24 August 2017

Together for Bangladesh
The organisation NETZ supports in a spirit of partnership professional self-help for nutrition, education and human rights in Bangladesh. Climate change, the legacy of industrialisation in the rich Global North, is particularly affecting the disadvantaged people of the South. Also in Bangladesh. From a climate perspective, our annual report looks back to 2017 and our joint tasks in 2018.

Project area 1: Sustainable livelihoods
Shiuly Begum is one of 54,619 women who have overcome the worst forms of extreme poverty and now stand up for their political rights ..................................................... 3

Project area 2: Primary education
Moni Rani is one of the 38,190 students supported by NETZ. Their education strengthens the social participation of the whole family ............................................................. 4

Project area 3: Human rights
Sunjita Rani Sorma is one of 4,200 activists who fight for the freedom of speech and opinion on a small and large scale ............................................................. 7

Disaster preparedness and response ............................................ 8
Political dialogue and networking ............................................. 9
Global learning and international understanding ............................ 10
Organisational structure and transparency .................................. 11

Financial report 2017 ................................................................. 12

From each Euro NETZ uses
87 cents for direct changes in Bangladesh
4 cents for international understanding and global learning
9 cents for transparency and advertising

Today, Bangladesh as a role model is far ahead of many developing countries in social and economic indicators; we have attained the UN MDGs and we are looking forward to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) well before the deadline. The role of NETZ is very important in this context by partnering with local organisations to strengthen self-help capacities, improving nutrition, supporting income-generating activities and schools, and demanding women’s rights and access to the legal system. Through these actions, long lasting and far reaching structural changes are enabled. NETZ also promotes disaster coping capacities and provides sustainable support to the people in flood-prone areas. We hope, NETZ will continue to keep up its spirit of friendship towards Bangladesh.

Imtiaz Ahmed, Ambassador of Bangladesh to Germany
At the same time, the export oriented shrimp farming industry channels seawater into the soil. Mangrove forests are being cut down – so far they protect the hinterland from cyclones entering from the Bay of Bengal and hitting the mainland. In the north of Bangladesh, floods increase in summer as droughts do in winter.

The consumption-oriented life in Germany is closely linked to the life reality in Bangladesh. It is thus necessary to question a way of life at the expense of others and to take on political and individual responsibility. This includes mitigating the climate impact in Bangladesh.

The NETZ programme “Sustainable livelihoods” assists affected people in Bangladesh with start-up capital, training and the promotion of self-help structures to protect their rights. We are developing the project approaches together. The achievements are impressive: in flood-prone regions, the participating families fill up land, plant trees and provide disaster preparedness. They independently organise emergency aid for more severely affected neighbouring villages, as happened recently during the floods in August 2017.

Beyond our commitment to climate protection, this annual report also informs you about our other activities. I would like to thank all those who, together with us, have committed themselves to bring positive changes: human rights activists, teachers, social workers, parental committees and accountants in Bangladesh and India – donors in Germany and Europe, volunteers, funding institutions, companies and foundations, employees of the NETZ team.

Please remain by our side with your commitment.

Peter Dietzel, Executive Director
Project area 1: Sustainable livelihoods

More food and more rights for 54,000 families

Malnutrition is a reality in Bangladesh for millions of people. Families in structurally weak rural regions are particularly affected. Because they are being denied their basic rights, mothers cannot feed, clothe and care for their children sufficiently. NETZ improves this situation in a sustainable way. With start-up aid, families can establish future-proof livelihoods. Organised in self-help organisations the women shape everyday life in their villages.

- **54,619 women** improved their families’ income and nutrition through the project in 2017 – in Bangladesh and the Indian states of West Bengal and Jharkhand.
- **3,000 families** joined the programme in 2017.
- **In 22,871 cases**, women have successfully upheld the interests of disadvantaged people.

United against injustice –

The example of the women of Nezampur

In 2010, when the project started in Nezampur, the per capita income of their families was below 0.30 euros. Meanwhile, the 246 women who have self-organised in the self-help federation of Nezampur have not only a permanent income, but also political successes: their children receive school scholarships, widows receive their pensions and the community has financed toilets and water pumps.

“We are invited to local government meetings to share our concerns. In this way, we have ensured that even the poorest people will be able to use state land in accordance with the law. Until then, the already wealthier people in our community had taken advantage of it for themselves”, explains Shiuly Begum, the federation’s treasurer.

The NETZ programme “Sustainable livelihoods” enables people living in poverty to improve their livelihoods: they receive a cow, chickens and seeds as well as agricultural training. They establish their own livelihoods and generate profits in order to improve their families’ living conditions in the long term. The project participants found village groups to support each other. These groups in turn form federations – as happened in Nezampur. These federations advocate for the poorest people in the region. They fight corruption of public authorities, prevent infringements of all kinds and ensure their members’ access to the social security net.

**Project impact**

**Excellently:** In 180 cases of rights violations, the federations successfully supported their members.

**Ground-breaking:** 24 federations have been operating largely independently since 2018. They have consolidated to such an extent that only little support from partner organisations and NETZ is required.

**Challenging:** Global and national changes affect people’s lives in rural Bangladesh by changing the dynamics of extreme poverty. These transformation processes require a constant dialogue between the project participants and partner organisations in order to reflect and adapt the project strategies.
Fatema Khatun – here with her son Zakir – has successfully multiplied her starting capital from the programme “Sustainable livelihoods.” She now owns an ox, five goats, chickens, and a vegetable garden and contributes decisively to the family’s nourishment.

Sustainable livelihoods programme

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Development of self-help structures for people in extreme poverty.</th>
<th>54,619 women have organised themselves into 2,702 village groups.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Starting capital: Cows, goats, chickens, seeds, leased land for rice and vegetable cultivation.</td>
<td>NETZ has introduced 3,000 families to the programme in 2017.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trainings: Agriculture, women’s and civil rights, health care.</td>
<td>24,423 women took part and deepened their knowledge on a sustainable basis.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The 54,619 families earn their own income over the long term.</td>
<td>Over 186,000 family members have a significantly improved nutrition.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women are actors in village development, asserting their rights and the concerns of disadvantaged people.</td>
<td>In 22,871 cases, families assisted by village groups have received state social benefits to which they are entitled.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>They are committed to local politics for the benefit of the poorest.</td>
<td>The village groups have founded 237 federations, which have a voice in local politics.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Goals 2018

- From 2019, an additional 180 self-help associations will operate largely independently.
- NETZ will support 4,050 new families to overcome malnutrition and fight for their rights.
- People living in extreme poverty suffer most from the consequences of climate change. NETZ and local partners are preparing a project to help 8,000 people particularly affected to create livelihoods that will withstand climate change.

NETZ publishes the approach and methods of the programme in detail for experts and interested parties at www.end-extreme-poverty.org.

Project area 2: Primary education

New perspectives for over 38,000 children

Education creates self-confidence, strengthens potentials and shapes the character. Though the importance of education has been widely accepted, over 2.6 million girls and boys in Bangladesh are deprived of their right to education. The reasons are social exclusion and a lack of educational opportunities in structurally weak regions. NETZ works with partner organisations at the local and national level for inclusive access to equitable quality primary education in the affected regions.

- NETZ and local partners supported 274 primary schools in 2017.
- 38,190 children benefited from inclusive quality pre-school and primary education, characterised by equality and the joy of learning.

Shiben Pahan goes to school again

When Shiben and Velu Pahan lost their father two years ago, their mother Bishomoni became the sole provider of the family. While she was out looking for work, it was Shiben’s responsibility to look after his six-month-old brother. Shiben attended the second class of the Teghor Government Primary School in Joypurhat district at that time. The school’s educational social worker Khukumoni Rani took Shiben’s increasing number of absences and decreasing performance as an opportunity to visit the Pahan family. She realised how much the financial plight of the family endangered the student’s future perspectives. With her support, the mother ensured that she actually received the wid-
ow’s pension and food stamps to which she was legally entitled. Since then, the situation of the family has improved considerably and Shiben was able to build on old successes. Social worker Rani, whose salary is financed by NETZ, also ensured that the ten-year-old was accepted into the state scholarship programme. She is happy that Shiben wants to become a teacher in order to secure his mother’s future.

**NETZ supports four types of schools**

1. **Anandalok schools**: 180 children learn from pre-school to grade 5 in these NETZ supported schools. The village community gradually takes responsibility.
2. **NFPE schools**: In remote areas, 30 girls and boys attend classes.
3. **State-run primary schools**: Educational social workers support teachers in promoting disadvantaged children.
4. **Pre-schools**: specifically promote early childhood development.

School is more than just learning to read, write and calculate: children shall grow up to be self-confident and creative people. Already early childhood support in pre-school is essential, as it has a decisive influence on personal development and social behaviour. However, this experience is being denied to many. Their parents cannot afford the school utensils or there is no school nearby. Together with local partners NETZ closes these gaps. The primary education programme supports children from poor families with free education from pre-school to primary school. Equality, inclusion and cosmopolitanism are on the agenda here alongside math, Bengali and science. The classes follow the state curriculum, but incorporate modern teaching methods. Girls and boys from indigenous groups receive support in their mother tongue. Twice a year, a doctor examines the children and their families. Three Bangladeshi NETZ employees train the teachers and social workers.

In August 2017, heavy monsoon rains flooded large parts of Bangladesh. As the schools in the endangered regions are constructed to protect them from floods, the local population used these as emergency shelters. However, if a school was partially flooded, the school committees began to rebuild the school independently as the water level declined. The local population replaced destroyed parts by their own means. NETZ supported and assisted where necessary.

**Project impact**

- **Excellent**: All of the graduates of the primary school certificate examination at the end of grade 5 from the sponsored schools continued their school careers at a secondary school.
- **Ground-breaking**: Graduates have already held class reunions at many schools. Even after graduation, they remain strongly attached to the schools and promote their integration in the village.
- **Challenging**: A tornado irreparably destroyed an Anandalok school. Nearby state-run primary schools hosted the affected children. The local partner organisation supports these children in obtaining their primary school degree. Four other Anandalok schools are endangered by the changing course of the Jamuna River.

**Goals 2018**

- **960 schoolchildren** attend 32 Anandalok schools.
- Local partners and NETZ are preparing to expand the primary education programme to other regions.
- **25 children** living in slum areas of Dhaka receive quality pre-school education.
- **NETZ intensifies** the developmental exchange with organisations and networks in the education sector.

---

The primary education programme | What was achieved and who was assisted?
--- | ---
Teaching and learning materials at a total of 274 primary schools made possible and improved. | 38,190 children; 3,988 of them have passed the primary school certificate examination.
174 pre-schools for early childhood development. | 5,106 girls and boys.
Classes at 33 Anandalok schools run by the village community. | 5,277 children.
Classes at 100 NFPE schools. | 3,020 girls and boys.
Quality of education at 140 state-run primary schools improved. | 29,865 children, many of them from families living in poverty.
Salaries financed, training in child-centred pedagogy. | A total of 316 teachers and 70 educational social workers.

---

Moni Rani, a student at an Anandalok school, is happy to help her mother with the shopping calculation.
Project area 3: Human rights
Non-violently against injustice

Large parts of Bangladesh's population are suffering from social power structures and systematic rights violations including physical violence, land grabbing, discrimination and child marriages. 87 percent of the married women have experienced domestic violence. More than half of all girls get married before their 18th birthday. Together with local human rights organisations, NETZ fights non-violently against injustice and for human dignity – from village to national level.

- **4,200 human rights activists** worked non-violently against discrimination and injustice in four districts in 2017.
- **931 activists** from local to national level received human rights trainings.
- **A national platform** for conflict transformation highlighted the work and achievements of our partners.

**Sunjita Rani Sorma:**
My opinion also counts!

“Before I was a member of the group of our village Pardeshi Para, I did not question much. I did not even know how much my husband earned or why he often came home late. He made the decisions. I have always held back. That is the way I was taught. But after attending a training course on accountability of public authorities, I called for this transparency in my family as well. At first, my husband was not pleased. But he soon realised that participation and equality are part of a harmonic family life. In my family we make decisions together now!”

The methods learned in the training courses make it easier for activists to transform conflicts non-violently and to shape democratic dialogue. Organised in groups, they demand the accountability of public authorities and fight for the benefits to which they are entitled, such as maternity and widow’s pensions. 172 local human rights groups support village communities in cases of rights violations and mediate in conflicts. They learn to use the Right to Information Act to stop arbitrariness. 2,865 inquiries were submitted to local authorities in 2017. Many of the committed women and men are members of indigenous groups and religious minorities, and thus bring in valuable experiences.

**Project impact**

- **Excellent:** A human rights activist obtained the necessary power supply for herself and 15 families in her village. All families now have access to the public electricity grid.
- **Ground-breaking:** 21,758 people from marginalised groups received state benefits to which they are legally entitled. Together with local authorities, the human rights groups are developing action plans for road repairs and bridge construction. With the support of local partners, the project participants have the courage to fight injustice.

- **Challenging:** Delicate rights violations such as land grabbing are rarely actively dealt with, as the perpetrators are often influential.
- **To be improved:** Voices of disadvantaged parts of the society are to be made more visible the dialogue on national level.

**Goals 2018**

- **Expansion of the programme** to four additional districts together with two new partner organisations.
- **Training a further 4,200 human rights activists:** they are committed to women's rights, equality and non-violent conflict transformation.
- **4,800 young people** in 32 secondary schools take part in educational theatre workshops for the prevention of gender-related violence.
Project area 4: Disaster preparedness and response

Reconstruction aid for over 1,700 people

Natural disasters hit Bangladesh frequently – with far-reaching consequences, especially for people living in poverty. In the summer of 2017, Bangladesh was hit by a severe flood that destroyed over 700,000 houses and flooded hundreds of thousands of hectares of agricultural land. 145 people died. NETZ provided immediate assistance for reconstruction.

Project impact

- **Excellent**: NETZ was able to convince state institutions to extend the reconstruction and precautionary measures to other regions. More than 30,000 people are expected to benefit directly from this.
- **Ground-breaking**: 33 federations in the “Sustainable livelihoods” programme have independently implemented aid programmes. They distributed 5 tons of food and electrolyte powder to families in need and financed this completely from their own funds.
- **Challenging**: In flood-prone areas, permanent emergency aid funds are to be made available that can be rapidly deployed by the population in the event of a disaster, as well as systems for the purification of drinking water.
- **To be improved**: Current studies on the effects of climate change in Bangladesh mostly relate to coastal regions. But extreme weather changes are also threatening people’s livelihoods in the Northwest. The consequences of climate change in the North must be further researched in order to be able to design targeted measures for prevention and adaptation and to hold politicians accountable.

Impact monitoring

It is fundamental for NETZ and its local partners to critically examine the impact of projects. From this, the organisations draw sound conclusions for the training of employees and project participants, efficiency increase, scaling of models, redesign of projects and strategic planning. In the planning phase of projects, NETZ defines goals and desired effects and collects data on the initial situation. In the end, the data is recorded and compared again. NETZ employees in Bangladesh monitor the progress and implementation quality on a quarterly basis. This data is the basis of the impact analysis. The results are documented and discussed with the partners and project participants.

Before the planning of a project begins, the underlying problems often have to be analysed more closely on site. In order to specifically strengthen the self-help of people suffering from the consequences of climate change, NETZ has commissioned a study. The results show that weather catastrophes such as droughts, floods and seasonal cold spells have increased sharply in the North. This has a significant impact on agricultural production, and thus on income and food security. Access to drinking water is also at risk, as is people’s health. The study identifies specific adaptation measures and starting points for holding politicians accountable.
Political dialogue and networking
For a committed civil society in Bangladesh

Bangladesh’s civil society is non-violently advocating human rights and poverty reduction. NETZ supports these important efforts through political dialogue and networking in Bangladesh and Europe.

**Bangladesh Forum Germany**
NETZ is a managing member of the Bangladesh Forum Germany, an association of church aid organisations, development and human rights organisations, Bangladeshi in Germany and individual members. In close exchange with partners from the civil society in Bangladesh, the Bangladesh Forum Germany brings analyses and demands into discussions with political decision-makers. The Bangladesh Forum Germany supports parliamentary initiatives in Germany and at EU level to strengthen the scope for action of the civil society. Together with members of the German Parliament and the European Parliament, at the ministry level and together with the European Commission, the Forum develops strategies to expand the space for civil society to enable them representing and promoting people’s voices and agenda in political decision-making processes. To this end, the Bangladesh Forum Germany regularly brought together civil society actors from Bangladesh with representatives of the EU and the German government in Dhaka, Brussels and Berlin in 2017. Topics included repression and threats of violence against civil society actors, the human rights situation of women, indigenous peoples and religious minorities as well as the humanitarian crisis of the Rohingya who escaped to Bangladesh from the violence in Myanmar.

**Goals 2018**
- The Bangladesh Forum will work systematically to introduce strategies for the non-violent transformation of conflicts into the development and human rights activities in Bangladesh and to protect civil society’s democratic space.

It is a great challenge for women in our country to live a dignified life. NETZ is dedicated to supporting people in Bangladesh who fight for human dignity. Together with local partners, NETZ is committed to sustainable changes and equality in society with empathic respect, dedication and sincerity.

Jinat Ara Haque, Executive Coordinator, We Can Alliance

Since August 2017, more than 720,000 Rohingya refugees have been arriving in Bangladesh fleeing violence in Myanmar’s Rakhine State.

Photo: Noor Ahmed Gelal

The platform for conflict transformation brings together actors from Bangladeshi civil society to discuss non-violent methods for overcoming injustice. NETZ supports the development of the platform.
Global learning and international understanding

We make a difference

People are committed to NETZ out of conviction and a deep bond with families in Bangladesh who are severely disadvantaged. In many ways, they set an example for global justice all over Germany.

**Encounter and exchange**

In 2017, NETZ invited three graduates of NETZ supported Anandalok schools and one teacher to Germany for two weeks: Tasmin Akter, Shetu Roy and Lipi Akter reported together with teacher Biva Rani Sarkar on everyday school life in Bangladesh. During the journey, a lively exchange with interested people, educational experts and peers took place at schools and in parishes.

**Development education**

In 2017, active members of NETZ campaigned for global justice and human dignity by organising 100 events in Germany. School classes, parents and teachers, parishes, associations and one-world-shops have made Bangladesh an integral part of their everyday lives – with project days, workshops, lecture evenings, photo exhibitions and charity runs. In this way, educational work encourages many people to take a critical look at the global distribution of poverty and wealth and global challenges such as climate change, food security, education and human rights. Through activities of the carol singers, 26 parishes supported the school attendance of a total of 2,341 children in Bangladesh. 1,040 visitors came to see the photo exhibitions “Bangladesh – Other Perspectives” and “Water Worlds” in Wetzlar.

**Voluntary service**

Since 1991, NETZ has been sending young people to Bangladesh to support local partners and document their project work. The programme was awarded the quality seal by the Agency for Quality in Voluntary Services (QUIFD). In 2017, 22 former volunteers participated in educational events. Due to the fragile security situation for foreigners and the German Foreign Office’s recommendations, no assignments of new volunteers were possible in Bangladesh for another year. Starting in early 2019, young people from Bangladesh will be supported to do a voluntary service in Germany.

**Press and media work**

In 2017, local and regional media informed 71 times about the work of partners and participants in Bangladesh, voluntary solidarity actions...
in Germany and NETZ. Our press review illustrates this diversity:
www.bangladesch.org/pressepiegel (German)

With the “Bangladesh Magazine”, NETZ again published one important German-language source of information on Bangladesh in 2017, i.a. covering the topics “Climate and Change”, “Education” and “Comics in Bangladesh”:
www.bangladesch.org/zeitschrift (German)

Organisational structure
NETZ Partnerschaft für Entwicklung und Gerechtigkeit e.V.
is a registered association (Reg.-No. VR1790, Vereinsregister am Amtsgericht Wetzlar) and pursues exclusively non-profit and charitable purposes. The association has 274 voting-entitled members (March 2018). As the supreme body, the annual general meeting decides on the principles of NETZ, amendments to the statutes, the independent auditors and the acceptance of the annual financial statements. It elects the honorary board for a period of two years and the honorary auditors, who may not be members of the board. The executive committee decides on the cooperation with partners, project funding, and the annual budget and appoints the management. This is bound by the statutes of NETZ as well as the resolutions of the board and the annual general meeting. NETZ employs 27 full-time employees in Bangladesh and 12 (11.4 positions) full-time employees in Germany.

Salary structure in Germany
The monthly gross basic salary, including capital forming benefits, is 2,240 euros for a full-time position and increases according to the degree of responsibility and competence. Every two years, the salary increases by 70 euros up to a maximum of 350 euros. In addition, all full-time employees receive 120 euros for each dependent child. In 2017, the annual salary of the managing director was 39,360 euros gross (23,729 euros net).

High level of voluntary commitment
More than 6,000 volunteers are involved in the partnership with Bangladesh in many different ways throughout Germany. The honorary executive committee bears most of its travel expenses by itself. Full-time employees are also committed to NETZ beyond their working hours. In this way, all together make it possible to use the funds made available sparingly and efficiently.

In 2017, a total of 90 primary schools in Bangladesh were supported through the school partnership programme (WeltKlasse!) by churches, schools, associations, companies, foundations and individuals. Information at:
www.bangladesch.org/weltklasse (German)
### Income 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017 in Euro

| Category                                                                 | 2017       | %   | 2016       | %   | 2015       | %   | 2014       | %   
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----
| **Private Donations (except carol singer campaign)**                     | 559,232.72 | 13.8| 528,750.27 | 11.6| 528,750.27 | 13.2| 28,409.50  | 0.7 |
| Financial donations                                                      | 557,159.77 |      | 528,750.27 |     | 528,750.27 |     |            |     
| Donations in the form of a waiver of reimbursements of expenses           | 2,072.95   |      |            |     |            |     |            |     
| **Membership fees**                                                      | 17,661.42  | 0.4 | 17,661.42  | 0.4 | 17,896.18  | 0.4 |            |     
| **State grants**                                                         | 2,885,679.75 | 71.4|            |     | 2,117,304.85 |     |            |     
| Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Germany   | 2,578,683.62 |     | 2,549,032.72 |     | 1,734,163.44 |     |            |     
| Department for International Development of the British Government (DFID) | 0.00       |      | 0.00       |     | 367,568.91 |     |            |     
| European Union                                                           | 306,896.13 |      | 306,896.13 |     | 13,972.50 |     |            |     
| Lotto Hessen                                                             | 0.00       |      | 0.00       |     | 1,000.00 |     |            |     
| City of Weener                                                           | 0.00       |      | 0.00       |     | 500.00 |     |            |     
| City of Wetzlar                                                          | 100.00     |      | 100.00     |     | 100.00 |     |            |     
| **Grants from church bodies**                                            | 237,300.95 | 5.9 |            |     | 269,068.55 |     |            |     
| Action Committee Service for Peace                                       | 3,000.00   |      | 3,000.00   |     | 5,311.30 |     |            |     
| Bread for the World – Protestant Development Service                     | 63,755.17  |      | 52,000.00  |     | 41,082.76 |     |            |     
| Catholic Fund Cooperation One World                                      | 2,500.00   |      | 2,500.00   |     | 3,130.00 |     |            |     
| Kindermissionswerk: Carol singer campaign                                 | 145,045.78 |      | 145,045.78 |     | 155,170.27 |     |            |     
| Misereor                                                                 | 23,000.00  |      | 23,000.00  |     | 64,374.22 |     |            |     
| **Grants from private organisations**                                    | 330,830.43 | 8.2 |            |     | 317,896.09 |     |            |     
| AK 5%, Düsseldorf                                                        | 8,100.00   |      | 8,100.00   |     | 8,000.00 |     |            |     
| Alternaid Foundation, Linden                                             | 0.00       |      | 0.00       |     | 7,334.00 |     |            |     
| Amnesty International Germany                                            | 0.00       |      | 0.00       |     | 3,587.12 |     |            |     
| American International Women’s Club, Frankfurt/M.                       | 14,777.37  |      | 14,777.37  |     | 0.00 |     |            |     
| Childaid Network Foundation, Königstein                                   | 30,000.00  |      | 30,000.00  |     | 49,096.00 |     |            |     
| Ensinger Foundation, Nufringen                                           | 3,000.00   |      | 3,000.00   |     | 5,000.00 |     |            |     
| Entwicklungshilfe-Klub, Vienna                                           | 102,799.73 |      | 102,799.73 |     | 98,674.59 |     |            |     
| Futura Foundation, Hamburg                                               | 11,000.00  |      | 11,000.00  |     | 11,000.00 |     |            |     
| German Doctors, Bonn                                                     | 52,919.47  |      | 52,919.47  |     | 5,959.95 |     |            |     
| GLS Treuhand Foundation, Bochum                                          | 5,087.89   |      | 5,087.89   |     | 0.00 |     |            |     
| 24 gute Taten, Berlin                                                    | 0.00       |      | 0.00       |     | 7,529.26 |     |            |     
| Help – Help for Self-Help, Bonn                                         | 40,000.00  |      | 40,000.00  |     | 52,612.17 |     |            |     
| Harry Kroll Foundation, Schrozberg                                       | 10,800.00  |      | 10,800.00  |     | 26,620.00 |     |            |     
| Lions Clubs in Germany                                                   | 3,500.00   |      | 3,500.00   |     | 300.00 |     |            |     
| NETZ Partnership Baden-Württemberg, Freiburg/Br.                         | 1,122.97   |      | 1,122.97   |     | 0.00 |     |            |     
| Family Nowak Foundation, Usingen                                        | 20,000.00  |      | 20,000.00  |     | 29,000.00 |     |            |     
| Rivera Foundation, Bochum                                                | 5,403.00   |      | 5,403.00   |     | 5,403.00 |     |            |     
| Rotary Clubs in Germany                                                  | 17,320.00  |      | 17,320.00  |     | 280.00 |     |            |     
| Umverteilen Foundation, Berlin                                           | 5,000.00   |      | 5,000.00   |     | 7,500.00 |     |            |     
| **Others: project consulting, sales, interest payments in Dhaka office** | 4,259.07   | 0.1 | 4,259.07   | 0.1 | 3,578.61 |     |            |     
| Participation fees for conferences, dialogue and exchange programmes     | 3,035.90   | 0.1 | 3,035.90   | 0.1 | 5,307.47 |     |            |     
| Sales of magazines and media, renumeration (financial business operations)| 2,357.30   | 0.6 | 2,357.30   | 0.6 | 1,182.29 |     |            |     
| Interest payments                                                       | 21.08      | 0.00 | 21.08      | 0.00 | 10.31 |     |            |     
| Fines donated to NETZ                                                    | 700.00     | 0.02 | 700.00     | 0.02 | 0.00 |     |            |     
| **Total income**                                                         | 4,041,078.62 | 100 | 3,939,412.51 | 101 | 101,666.11 | 3,336,827.68 |
Expenditure 1 January 2017 – 31 December 2017 in Euro

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Financial Year 2017</th>
<th>Financial Year 2016</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Euro in %</td>
<td>Euro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A Development Cooperation with Bangladesh</td>
<td>3,515,062.64</td>
<td>2,585,465.98</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial contributions to development projects</td>
<td>3,186,282.47</td>
<td>2,320,636.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustainable livelihoods</td>
<td>2,241,704.00</td>
<td>1,343,980.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Primary education</td>
<td>695,163.47</td>
<td>659,780.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Human rights</td>
<td>199,415.00</td>
<td>264,447.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster preparedness and response</td>
<td>50,000.00</td>
<td>52,428.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project steering, quality and finance management; personnel costs thereof</td>
<td>222,905.25</td>
<td>143,150.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political dialogue and networking for poverty reduction, human rights, social standards and strengthening civil society in Bangladesh; personnel costs thereof</td>
<td>105,874.92</td>
<td>121,679.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B Global learning and international understanding</td>
<td>158,774.91</td>
<td>153,251.73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voluntary service in Bangladesh and exchange programmes; personnel costs thereof</td>
<td>13,867.64</td>
<td>13,934.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development education in Germany; personnel costs thereof</td>
<td>79,261.63</td>
<td>76,787.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NETZ magazine; personnel costs thereof</td>
<td>26,055.47</td>
<td>25,981.67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladesh-related public relations and media work in Germany; personnel costs thereof</td>
<td>39,590.18</td>
<td>36,548.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C Donations, governance and transparency for development cooperation and international understanding</td>
<td>347,321.41</td>
<td>329,158.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations, administration and advertisement; personnel costs thereof</td>
<td>209,947.17</td>
<td>184,517.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transparency, improved effectiveness, administration and governance; personnel costs thereof</td>
<td>137,374.24</td>
<td>144,641.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenditure</td>
<td>4,021,158.96</td>
<td>3,067,876.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accumulated net profit/loss</td>
<td>19,919.66</td>
<td>268,860.28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4,041,078.62</td>
<td>3,336,736.68</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In 2017, more than 20,500 hours of volunteer work were performed by active members of the partnership with Bangladesh.
Income 2017
The income of the association amounted to 4 million euros and thus increased by 21 percent compared to 2016. Donations, together with membership fees, accounted for 14 percent of revenues. They come from private individuals, parishes, schools, companies and other groups. NETZ only accepts donations from companies if their business areas do not have a negative impact on the people of Bangladesh. Government grants accounted for 71 percent of revenues, most of which went to projects in Bangladesh. Since 1993 they have been funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and – since 2007 – by the European Union. A further 14 percent of the income comes from project grants from church and private institutions, most of which were used to finance global learning and public relations work in Germany.

Expenditure 2017
NETZ uses association means strictly according to statute purposes: (A) Development cooperation with Bangladesh and India and (B) Global learning and international understanding. The expenses for (C) fundraising, association and transparency serve the statutory purposes A and B.
87 percent of the expenditures in 2017 went to development and human rights work in Bangladesh and India, 4 percent to global learning and 9 percent to public relations and transparency. Personnel costs in Germany amounted to 469,878 euros in 2017, while the reserve for personnel expenses was increased to 84,200 euros. Personnel and operating costs are assigned to the respective work areas and are presented in detail at www.bangladesch.org

Balance sheet 2017
Fixed assets amounted to 8,655 euros for office equipment and rent deposit. As of 31 December 2017, grants from 2017 amounting to 236,625 euros were on the accounts of NETZ, which for administrative reasons could only be transferred to the projects in Bangladesh at the beginning of 2018. In addition, the association had 119,284 euros in earmarked funds for development projects and a reserve for salaries amounting to 119,300 euros. Bank and cash balances as of 31 December 2017 amounted to 497,703 euros.

Prospects 2018
NETZ does not receive any institutional support and depends entirely on donations and grants. Due to the quality of the projects, its expertise, its transparency and its mobilisation potential, NETZ will continue to expand its commitment in the future.
Financial statement 2017
The financial statement has been prepared and audited in accordance with the provisions of the German Commercial Code (Handelsgesetzbuch, HGB), the guidelines of the DZI and the Code of Conduct of the Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid NGOs (VENRO) on transparency and monitoring. The honorary auditors Moritz Goldbeck and Denis Siraj, elected by the annual general meeting, audited the 2017 book-keeping in the German NETZ office on 22 April 2018. Their audit report confirms that the expenses were made in accordance with the principle of efficiency and in accordance with the articles of association. It was presented to the general meeting on 10 June 2018. By decision of the annual general meeting on 21 May 2017, the auditor Kurt Wenzel, Braunfels, was commissioned to audit the accounts for 2017 and the annual financial statement. On 17 May 2018, he issued an unconditional audit opinion without any objections: “In my opinion, based on the findings of my audit, the annual financial statement complies with the legal requirements and supplementary provisions of the articles of association and gives a true and fair view of the net assets, financial position and results of operations of the association in accordance with the principles of proper accounting.” The independent auditing company Hoda Vasi Chowdhury & Co, Dhaka, audited the annual financial statements of NETZ’s Bangladesh office in Dhaka, Bangladesh, for the year 2017 and certified its compliance on 18 March 2017.

Fiscal aspects
NETZ is recognised as charitable and non-profit because of the promotion of development aid and international understanding according to the last exemption notice of the tax authorities Wetzlar dated 18 September 2015 and is exempted from corporate income tax for the year 2014 according to § 5 Abs. 1 Nr. 9 KStG (tax number: 39 250 5182 5).

Is my money really reaching the people?
All individuals involved in NETZ want to make an effective contribution to overcoming injustice and misery. The employees of NETZ are committed to effective and cost-efficient work with a strong sense of responsibility towards disadvantaged people in Bangladesh. As an active member of VENRO, NETZ is committed to the VENRO Code of Transparency, Organisational Management and Monitoring as well as the “Development-related Public Relations Code”. NETZ also follows the guidelines of the “Initiative for a Transparent Civil Society” and the ethical principles of the German Fundraising Association. NETZ works in the projects on site, in the team in Bangladesh and in the office in Germany always according to defined standards of work and transparency and reports on this continuously and truthfully.

We provide information on the goals, strategies and results of our work through a wide variety of channels: in personal discussions and at events with supporters, in photo reports from the projects and our annual report, as well as via online publications, the NETZ magazine, newsletters and press releases. We also provide information about our work four times a year and ask for support in the form of donation mailings. Personnel, printing, postage and travel costs are related expenses in this dialogue. We do not work with professional fundraisers on a commission basis. NETZ neither buys external addresses for fundraising nor do we finance costly advertising campaigns.

DZI Seal-of-Approval
On 23 March 2018, the German Central Institute for Social Issues (DZI) awarded NETZ the DZI Seal-of-Approval for the 17th consecutive time. NETZ has carried the quality seal since 2002. Excerpts from the DZI assessment of NETZ:

- Advertising and public relations inform clearly, truthfully, objectively and honestly.
- The share of advertising and administrative expenditure in total expenditure is appropriate according to DZI standards (= 10% to below 20%).
- The organisation reports openly and comprehensively about its work, structures and finances.

Make out of 6

For every euro you donate, NETZ is able to invest 6 euros in Bangladesh with government subsidies. We achieve this potential through our lean structures and the highly professional project planning and support of our teams in Bangladesh and Germany. Help us to make a change - let’s make 6 out of 1 together! Find out more at www.bangladesch.org/transparenz (German)
Along the rivers Brahmaputra and Teesta, the poorest members of society are actively protecting themselves against floods, soil erosion and hunger: the NETZ programme “Sustainable livelihoods” is providing them with start-up capital for seeds, leases and farm animals as well as training. The families replenish land, plant trees and equip themselves with disaster preparedness.

**Your commitment** against climate change: less CO2 in everyday life and future-securing family start-up help of 85 € in Bangladesh. Or you support an entire quarter of a village with 850 €.

NETZ is a registered non-profit organisation: you will automatically receive your donation confirmation by post if you state your complete address on your bank remittance.

---

**Start-Up Help ... for people who withstand climate change.**

The NETZ team in Germany, from left to right: Florian Albrecht, Sabrina Syben, Boris Gemünd, Niko Richter, Kai Fritze, Dagmar Schwarze-Fiedler, Peter Dietzel, Dirk Saam, Elisa Bräutigam, Anastasia Rau and Franziska Gaube. Not in the picture are Tatjana Filinski and Philipp Kappenstein.

**Questions, ideas, suggestions regarding our work or the annual report? Contact us at any time and easily by phone or email.**

The NETZ team in Bangladesh, standing, from left to right: Zobaidur Rahman Lenin, Office Assistant, Farukur Rahman, Driver, Huraeen Jannat Ruhi, Finance Officer, Zakir Hossain, Programme Manager (PM&E), Razia Sultana, Office Assistant, Rajin Ahmed, Finance Officer, Habibur Rahman Chowdhury, Country Director, Satyajit Saha, Head of Finance and Administration, Mousumi Biswas, Senior Programme Officer, Manzoor-e-Elam Fatick, Accounts Officer, Shahidul Islam, Deputy Director, Riasat Karim, Programme Manager (Education), Shamsul Huda, Programme Manager (Education), Nazia Yeasmin, Programme Officer, Aminur Rahman, Programme Manager (Livelihood), Abul Akram Tuhin, Finance Manager, Manjusree Mitra, Senior Programme Manager (Education), Afsana Binte Amin, Programme Manager (Human Rights and Advocacy). Kneeling, from left to right: Anwar Hossain, Finance Manager, Suman Paul, Finance Manager, Pashidul Haque, Office Assistant, Mashiur Rahman, Finance & Administrative Officer, Asim Kumar Roy, Programme Officer (Livelihood), Md. Moniruzzaman, Programme Officer (Livelihood), Nuruzzaman Khan, Programme Manager (PM&E). Not shown: Sara Khatun, Programme Manager (Human Rights and Advocacy), Pankaj Kumar Sen, Finance Officer.

---

**NETZ Partnership for Development and Justice**

Moritz-Hensoldt-Str. 20
35576 Wetzlar, Germany
Phone: +49 6441 974 63-0
Fax: +49 6441 974 63-29
netz@bangladesch.org
www.bangladesch.org

**Donation Account/IBAN**

Volksbank Mittelhessen
DE 82 5139 0000 0000 0062 62
BIC: VB MH DE 5F

**NETZ is a member of**

- Association of German Development and Humanitarian Aid NGOs e.V. (VENRO)
- Bangladesh Forum Germany
- Action Committee Service for Peace e.V. (AGDF)
- Hesse Development Policy Network e.V. (EPN Hesse)