1. Organisation’s Profile

Karuna Deutschland e.V.

Office: Essen, Germany
Registered: 2007
Legal form: association registered at the local court under registration number VR 4760, latest entry on 18.11.2019
Tax status: non-profit, most recent notice of exemption from the tax office (Essen-NordOst) from 22.01.2021

Team
one full-time staff member,
eight voluntary staff members

Executive Board

1st Chairperson: Susanne Traud-Dubois
2nd Chairperson: Dr. Rosemarie Kosche
Treasurer: up to 27.09.2020 Christina Pawelczyk,
from 27.09.2020 Hannah Leonie Prinzler

The accounting is handled by
Czauderna & Güragac PartG mbB,
Tax and Business Consultancy,
Schmachtendorfer Str. 5, 46147 Oberhausen, Germany

Extended board members: Amogharatna
Christa Becker
Ciaran Maguire (CEO of Karuna Trust, London, Great Britain)
The executive board currently consists of six individuals: The core board consists of the 1st chairperson, the 2nd chairperson and the treasurer. Together with three other board members, including the secretary, they form the extended board. One member of the board is a representative of Karuna Trust, London, Great Britain.

Four members of the board of directors work exclusively on a voluntary basis, two members work partly on a voluntary basis and partly – in joint projects regarding the cooperation with Karuna Trust – on a full-time basis for Karuna Trust, Great Britain.

The executive committee oversees the day-to-day operations of the association and acts as trustee for all members. It is responsible for the administration of the association’s assets as well as the execution of its resolutions.

The executive committee is elected by the general assembly by a simple majority for a period of one year. However, it continues in office until a new board of directors is elected. The re-election of the board of directors is possible as and when the need arises.

Internal Tasks and Division of Responsibilities

The executive board is the disciplinary supervisor and personnel manager for the full-time staff member.

The 1st chairperson is responsible for managing and coordinating the activities of the extended and core board. She plans the meetings and is responsible for the internal coordination of tasks. The chairperson is also the contact person for communication and press related activities. The 2nd chairperson supports the 1st chairperson in her tasks. The treasurer is responsible for financial issues, in particular, the ongoing control of the accounts, as well as the monitoring of the annual audit.

The general assembly elects the executive board and a representative for external auditing. It reviews the reports submitted by the executive board (annual report and financial report) and has the power to discharge the executive board from liability. It discusses project funding and passes resolutions on amendments related to the statutes. The assembly discusses tasks submitted to it by the board of directors as well as handles matters delegated in consonance with the statutes.

A complete list of tasks and responsibilities can be found in the statutes.

Links with Other Organisations

Karuna Trust: Our British partner organisation was founded in the year 1980 by western Buddhists. Karuna Trust supports a wide range of projects and raises £ 1.8 million in donations each year. We cooperate on most of our projects, including those supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung – BMZ). By working together, Karuna Deutschland e.V. and Karuna Trust benefit from synergies by utilising joint project infrastructure in project development, fundraising, project supervision, evaluation and on-site monitoring, as well as through joint staff and the joint use of external services.

Further cooperations see https://www.karunadeutschland.org/de/partnerorganisationen-348.html.

Project partners in India and Nepal: For its various projects, Karuna Germany works together with organisations in India and Nepal and thus contributes to social change that stems from the country itself, one that
is comprehensible and credible for the people living there. In cooperation with our local project partners, we provide support rooted in the principle of self-help. The projects we support enable people to take charge of their lives into their own hands and improve their situation with regard to health care, education, livelihoods and self-determination. We empower people to regain their dignity and self-confidence as well as encourage them to stand up for their rights. It is important to us that each project is sustainable and becomes self-sufficient within a manageable timeframe.

online-Forum GmbH: The IT service provider hosts the website of Karuna Germany on a pro-bono basis.

Karuna Germany is a member of the German Volunteer Association (Deutsches Ehrenamt e.V.)

Guidelines and Voluntary Commitments

In 2020, Karuna Germany successfully applied for the DZI Donation Seal and was included in the list of certified organisations (www.dzi.de). The complex process was preceded by a significant professionalisation of organisational structures, due to which the association now has a signature guideline and rules of procedure for the board.

Karuna Germany has adopted further guidelines from Karuna Trust:
- Protection of children and vulnerable adults (Safeguarding Policy).
- Risk assessment in preparation for business trips to India and Nepal
- Social Media Policy.

Karuna Germany has signed the Declaration for the Transparent Civil Society Initiative (Initiative Transparente Zivilgesellschaft).
2. Tasks and Objectives

The purpose of the association is to improve the living situation, especially of members formerly labelled as “untouchables” in India and Nepal. The focus of the association’s activities is on women and children, who are often the most disadvantaged amongst this group. For details see website (https://www.karunadeutschland.org/en/our-statutes-252.html).

Karuna Deutschland e.V. is committed to improving the lives of people who belong to the poorest and most disadvantaged population groups in India and Nepal.

Although “untouchability” was officially abolished with the declaration of independence, the Dalits – the communities formerly stigmatised as “untouchables” – still suffer from marginalisation and face resentment. They remain among the poorest of India’s poor, and access to health care, education, housing and decent livelihoods is thus difficult for them. Dalit women and girls in particular suffer from pervasive violence and discrimination. Even though many Dalits have now turned to Buddhism and found a supportive spiritual refuge after centuries of collective humiliation, their socio-economic situation continues to be precarious. Through a self-help approach, Karuna Germany aims to support the marginalised groups.

Risk Assessment

The political circumstances in India have worsened. The atmosphere under which our partners operate is more hostile than it was a few years ago. Some areas of civil society are under the radar of suspicion while the very existence of some organisation is threatened due to changes in the law. Just like our partners, we strive not to attract attention through critical posts on the social media. Karuna supports its partners in fulfilling all legal requirements, which have recently become more stringent.

Karuna Germany attempts to counteract the risk of loss of trust due to violations in the area of child protection, corruption or misappropriation with the help of agreements and the Safeguarding Policy adopted by Karuna Trust. The local partner organisations are also bound by these agreements.

Institutional funding almost always requires the organisation to raise its own share of contribution through individual donors. Failing to do so poses a risk for the project as well as its continued support.

Karuna Germany believes that individual donations can be increased by expanding activities and organising campaigns online, including social media. This will further improve the organisations visibility and win more supporters.

3. Activities – Measures and Projects

Projects – New Applications and Renewals

In 2020, Karuna Germany supported a total of 49,873 beneficiaries in Nepal and India.

In the following section, we describe some of our sample projects. All projects are described in detail on our website karunadeutschland.org.
By now the Maitri Network consists of 15 organisations and entered its second funding period in June 2020.

The Maitri Network aims to enable women from marginalised groups in India to live free from violence, with equal rights and legal security. The local partner organisations provide social and legal support for women affected by violence. They strengthen the self-help structures, advocate for women’s interests with public authorities and conduct awareness-raising campaigns in the villages. The network has been active in five Indian states so far. June 2020 marked the commencement of a new project phase, in which additional partner organisations, districts and a total of five new states were added. Due to the lockdown, the trainings had to take place in an online format for the first half of the year.

Despite Corona, Maitri partners have been able to stay engaged.

Since the beginning of the project, the Maitri partners have investigated numerous cases of sexual violence, human trafficking, cybercrime and sexual abuse of children. In all cases, the people concerned have received social and legal counselling. Some also received psychological support. The travel restrictions due to the lockdown meant that Maitri staff could hardly go to the communities. Despite these difficulties, they were able to contact the women suffering from violence mostly through mobile phones.

Maitri trains self-help groups that help women to respond more effectively to social pressures and to make independent decisions. Maitri also works with the governmental agencies such as One-Stop-Crisis Centre (OSC). OSCs are central places where women who have suffered from abuse can be investigated in a legally secure manner and can receive combined legal, psychological and health support.
From 25 November to 10 December 2020, the Maitri network participated in an international campaign for the elimination of violence against women. During these 16 days, the campaign addressed the target groups in various ways, through workshops, information events for women and numerous social media posts. Poster competitions and announcements in the village square were also used as means to reach out to members of the community.

**Subject:** Prevention of violence, legal aid, empowerment of women  
**Location:** Indian states Madhya Pradesh (coordination), Delhi, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Odisha, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan  
**Duration:** 01.06.2020 to 31.12.2023  
**Expenses 2020:** 92,450 Euro  
**Beneficiaries in 2020:** 22,176 total beneficiaries, amongst them 15,251 are women and 1,961 are girls

**Projekt „Safe Deliveries, Nepal“**  
Supported by Else-Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung

The project promotes the establishment of eight new and two existing maternity wards, as well as supports courses for pregnant women and mothers, creation of self-help groups, family planning for young people and stresses upon cooperation with the health authorities. Due to the Corona pandemic, ad hoc emergency aid measures were utilised to support the target communities. Hygiene materials and protein-rich food supplements were distributed to pregnant women and young mothers. The staff in the health facilities received hygiene training and the obstetric wards were provided equipments such as protective clothing, masks and disinfectants.

**Purpose of use:** Refurbishment of 10 maternity wards in Nepal  
**Location:** Nawalparasi, South Nepal  
**Partner:** Green Tara Nepal  
**Budget:** 450,000 Euro, granted in January 2019 by Else-Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung  
**Duration:** 2019 to 2022  
**Expenses 2020:** 142,000 Euro  
**Beneficiaries in 2020:** 18,591 total Beneficiaries, amongst them 13,704 are women
The aim of this project is to empower girls and boys to stand up against violence, to sensitise teachers and to offer children a secure and welcoming environment at school. Adolescent girls and boys from the Amravati district learn to interact with each other in a relaxed and respectful manner in 20 “violence-free schools”. With the support of teachers and parents, girls learn to strengthen their self-confidence and to defend themselves. Boys learn to treat girls with respect and regard. In addition, girls coming from difficult family situations are able to live in the Solera girls hostel, where they receive loving support for their personal and academic development. Unfortunately, the hostel was closed for most of last year due to the pandemic. However, the team supported the girls individually.

Prevention of abuse! – Training for teachers

Child sexual abuse is a terrible crime that scars the affected girls and boys for life. Child abuse is widespread in India, however awareness remains low. Our partner Bahujan Hitay Society in Amravati is fighting against child sexual abuse and trying to raise some awareness surrounding this issue. After some delay due to Corona, the workshops in the schools could finally start. Before the normal school routine commenced, the teachers were offered special sensitisation trainings, not only regarding child sexual abuse, but also about types of harassment faced by girls. The teachers were informed about the legal provisions in place as well as, the emotional, physical and psychological consequences of child sexual abuse. For many teachers, this was a new experience. They are grateful that Bahujan Hitay Society initiated such a space to discuss about this topic, that sadly remains a taboo.
New Partners

In 2020, Karuna Germany was able to secure support from three new organisations for its projects:

The Schöck-Familien-Stiftung as well as the Hand-in-Hand Fund of Rapunzel Naturkost and der Deutschen Umwelthilfe (DUH) provided essential financial aid for the girls’ project against discrimination and violence-free schools in Amravati.

The Erbacher-Stiftung supported income-generating measures for Dalits through vegetable cultivation in Bihar. The project “Vegetables instead of rats” officially started in January 2021.

Project Visits

Due to the pandemic, in the year 2020, only one project visit could take place. The team member could visit the ‘The Voice of Women’ project in Agra, Bhopal, Sehore and Indore during the month of February. Furthermore, she visited the Prabhodini self-defence project in Nagpur and the girls’ home in Amravati, Maharashtra.

At the end of the first funding period, the Maitri Network held a final meeting in Pune. Here, key aspects of the new project phase were discussed and planned along with the representative from Karuna Germany.

Finally, Ms Traud-Dubois travelled to the Yashodhara hostel in Rashin to meet the children of the Pardhi nomads. This visit also marked the end of Karuna Germany and Karuna Trust’s cooperation and support for this project.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation

Karuna has an established process for monitoring and evaluation (M&E) based on semi-annual and annual reports. Monthly review meetings via Zoom, as well as ad hoc phone calls and chats, allow activities and results to be monitored and adjusted if necessary. Semi-annual reports enable progress to be reviewed against agreed Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) as well as Knowledge, Attitude and Practice Surveys (KAPs), while annual reports, mid-term reviews and final evaluations ensure an assessment of progress.

A new and innovative M&E software is being used in the Maitri project. It is a professional monitoring software by energypedia consult GmbH based in Germany which offers an interface for project partners and at the same time enables Karuna Germany to track the progress of the project.

5. Members

Karuna Germany has 28 members. Two of them have joined the association in 2020. About eight active members meet regularly to plan and carry out activities.
6. Public Relations and Communication

PR activities include the maintenance of the website and an active presence on social media (Facebook, Instagram and Twitter). The information flyer was redesigned and printed in 2020. A Christmas card was produced and distributed around the Christmas season.

7. Financial Report

Compared to the previous year, Karuna Germany significantly increased its revenues in 2020. In total, the organisation received grants and donations amounting to 611,631.48 €.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>547,139.99 €</th>
<th>64,491.49 €</th>
<th>611,631.48 €</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Donations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expenses</td>
<td>–593,467.83 €</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Surplus</td>
<td>18,163.65 €</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We were thus able to increase our revenues from 495,549.66 € in 2019 to 611,631.48 € in 2020. Our expenses increased from 467,971.00 € in 2019 to 593,467.83 € in 2020.

This shows that we have been able to build up a good and stable relationship with our institutional donors over the years. For 2021, we have once again been invited by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung – BMZ) to submit up to three applications.

The general financial situation is stable. However, institutional grants continue to be predominant. These have to be balanced with donations, which has proved to be a challenge over the years. Fortunately, our individual and collective donations have risen sharply this year, from 40,144 € in 2019 to 64,491 € in 2020. For 2021, we plan to further intensify our fundraising efforts, especially for individual and long-term donations.

Our annual financial statement 2020 was audited by Dr Ilse Schnur on 11.03.2021.

### Cash based accounting 2020

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administrative Expenses</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office supplies and administration</td>
<td>4,698.63 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Insurances</td>
<td>1,014.00 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other (fees, consultancy costs)</td>
<td>4,207.20 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Depreciation</td>
<td>188.90 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Travel expenses</td>
<td>158.75 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Personnel costs (50%)</td>
<td>16,081.93 €</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>26,349.41 €</strong></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure on Communication and Public Relations</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Communication costs</td>
<td>606.45 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel costs (50%)</td>
<td>16,081.93 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>16,688.38 €</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants for the Projects</td>
<td>Revenues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>„Maitri Network“ (Donations + Grant BMZ)</td>
<td>113,226.18 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>„Voice of Women“ (Donations + Grant BMZ)</td>
<td>130,511.79 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>„Starke Mädchen“, Nepal (Donations + Grant BMZ)</td>
<td>141,091.74 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>„Sichere Geburtshilfe“, Nepal (Grant Else-Kröner-Fresenius-Stiftung)</td>
<td>152,000.00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Solera Girl’s Home, Amravati (Donations + Grants Schöck-Familien-Stiftung and Hand-in-Hand Fund)</td>
<td>17,547.37 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prabodhini Self Defence (Donations)</td>
<td>5,453.00 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>Corona Emergency Aid (Donations)</td>
<td>7,558.81 €</td>
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<tr>
<td>„Vegetables instead of Rats“ (Grant Erbacher-Stiftung)</td>
<td>7,900.00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ITBCI School, Kalimpong (Donations)</td>
<td>370.00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Social Project, Nagpur (Donations)</td>
<td>0.00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>575,658.89 €</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Donations without Project Reference: **35,972.59 €**

Total Revenues: **611,631.48 €**
Total Expenses: **593,467.83 €**

Surplus 2020: **18,163.65 €**

Opening Balance 01.01.2020: **64,243.02 €**
Final Balance 31.12.2020: **82,406.67 €**