ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Karuna Deutschland e.V.

Legal form: Non-profit Organisation

Seat: Essen

Registered: at the Local Court Essen

Date of the last exemption certificate: 08.11.2019

Statutory purpose: The purpose of the association is to improve the living situation, especially of the former untouchables in India and Nepal. The association’s activities focus on women and children, who are often the most disadvantaged members of this group. For details see the webpage / association’s statutes (https://www.karuna-deutschland.org/en/our-statutes-252.html).

Mission statement: Karuna Deutschland e.V. is an association committed to improving the living situation of people who belong to the poorest and most disadvantaged population groups in India and Nepal. Although the stigma of “untouchability” was officially abolished with the declaration of Indian independence, the Dalits in particular – the communities formerly stigmatised as “untouchables” – still suffer from exclusion and aggression. They are still among the poorest of India’s poor, and so they have constricted access to health care, education, housing and decent livelihoods. Dalit women and girls in particular suffer from pervasive violence and discrimination. Even though many of the Dalits have now turned to Buddhism and have found a supportive spiritual home in it after centuries of collective humiliation, their socio-economic situation remains precarious. The association Karuna Deutschland e.V. therefore wants to help these particularly needy people to be able to support themselves.

Partner organisation: Karuna Trust, our British partner organisation was founded in 1980 by western Buddhists. Karuna Trust supports a variety of projects and collects 1.8 million British pounds in donations every year. We cooperate in several projects, including those
supported by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ). For more information on other collaborations see https://www.karunadeutschland.org/en/partner-organizations-351.html.

Activities, measures and projects

Website: Michael Franke has developed the website over the year. The online-Forum GmbH continues to support us and hosts our site for free.

New logo: Based on the logo of Karuna Trust, their designer supported us by developing our new logo. We use it since May.

Networking: In May, we participated in a meeting in Bonn which was held for non-governmental organisations (NGOs) active in India.

Training: In March, we took part in a seminar based on project implementation and funding for BMZ-funded projects. The seminar was organised by Engagement Global in Bonn. In April, also in Bonn, we participated in a presentation on the effects of Brexit on development cooperation.

Participation in EU-related tenders:

1. Concept Note India: On 23.04.2019 we received an invitation to submit a full proposal: “Voice of Women – inclusive access to justice for vulnerable women in rural India”, which was prepared in cooperation with Karuna Trust. It was submitted on 05.08.2019. The project was evaluated with 89 out of 100 points, but we did not receive an award.

2. Concept Note Nepal: On 15.05.2019 we received an invitation to submit a full proposal: “Women Lead – creating a new generation of women activists for gender equality in Nepal”, which was prepared in cooperation with four Nepalese partner organisations. It was submitted on 27.08.2019. The project received a rating of 71.5 out of 100 points; we did not receive a grant.

Two new projects were approved:

1. Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation: “Safe Birth Assistance for Nepal” (see below)
2. BMZ: “Voice of women” (see below)

Project applications addressed to the BMZ for 2020:

1. New application “Maitri Network”, evaluated by the BMZ with A

2. “Income generation for Dalits in Bihar and Odisha”, joint project with new partner Phia Foundation (via Karuna Trust), rated B by BMZ

Christmas activity: The beautifully designed folding card was created as part of a team effort. They were distributed amidst the private network of the Karuna activists and sent to selected supporters by post. In December, 800 cards were enclosed in the boxes of and
widely distributed by the organic delivery service “Flotte Karotte”. Hand-written Christmas cards were sent to all active club members and special supporters.

**Monetary conditions:** Another attempt was made to establish Karuna as a preferential association at the courts for penalty payments: Elisabeth Kress has clarified contacts in this regard. Karuna flyers have been deposited at the Essen Regional Court and the Essen Bar Association. Unfortunately, no money has been received so far, and this issue will be pursued further.

The **book flea market** is still conscientiously and successfully looked after by Angelika Kamerau.

**Chronicle 2019:**

23. 03. The Jai Bhim evening under the motto “Karuna culinary” was a good success.

17. 06. Our patroness, Prof. Ilse Storb, turns 90. Karuna celebrated with her!

April  The new project “Voice of Women” is launched.

23.08. Annual general meeting

27.–29.09. Karuna weekend was organised in Sauerland with Anne Keienburg, Sabine Timeus, Christina Pawelczyk, Elisabeth Kress, Susanne Traud-Dubois, and Rosemarie Kosche. It was a successful mixture of joint practice, work and fun. Topics included:
  - Social media update (Sabine)
  - New accounting system with novel features (Christina)
  - Safeguarding / protection of adolescents and unstable adults (Susanne and Rosemarie)
  - Developments of our projects and at Karuna Trust.

05.10. Jai Bhim evening: skills auction. 17 people were present and we raised 660 €.

16.–17.11. We supervised a stand of Karuna at the “Weltblicke Festival” in Zeche Zollverein. We raised 182 € via postcard sales (Danacards) and as donations. Further donations were put into the sealed donation box; therefore the raised amount could not be assigned to any concrete action.
Projects – new applications and continuations

Project “Maitri Network” (BMZ)

The Maitri Network of 13 organizations has continued to accompany and support many survivors of violence in 2019. The trainings of the partner organisations could be sustained.

Highlights 2019

Dignity March

A “Dignity March” took place in India from 20.12.2018 to 20.02.2019. Hundreds of women and men walked 10,000 km from Mumbai to Delhi to support survivors of sexual violence and to fight against the widespread “victim-shaming”. Our partner organisation, Jan Sahas was involved as a co-organiser. With their march across India, they raised awareness for a dignified life, gender justice and equality.

A short and impressive video of the Dignity March is available on the Internet: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ShqNAnkoBBc.

Violence against women: Action days in November and December 2019

People from the projects supported by Karuna Deutschland participated for 15 days in the International Days of Action against the omnipresent violence against women in India. The campaign activities included demonstrations and street theatre that revolved around issues such as child marriage and sexual harassment at work. These activities were also showcased by the Indian media. This is very important for local communities to make the issues surrounding violence against women more visible in society.

National consultation “Women Speaking from Margins: Activism, Resistance and Agency” in Pune

As a prelude to the Action Days, the Maitri Network organized the national conference “Women Speaking from Margins: Activism, Resistance and Agency” at the University of Pune on 27. and 28.11.2019. The two-day conference concluded with resolutions and demands to end violence against women and girls from marginalized communities (especially Dalits, Adivasis and other disadvantaged women). The conference offered an important platform especially for women who are particularly marginalized in Indian society. Here they were able to have their say and make their voices heard.

Grant 2019: 63,054 €
Beneficiaries 2019: 8,628 women, total above 17,000 people
Duration: April 2016 to March 2020
Project “Voices of Women” (BMZ)

This project was approved by the BMZ in April. It provides access to effective legal services for victims of violence, especially for those who belong to the Dalit, Adivasi and other marginalised communities.

Financial volume: 555,146 €, 75% funded by the BMZ

Our co-financing amounts to 55,514 €.

Karuna Trust has contributed 83,272 €.

Duration: April 2019 to December 2022

Partner: Jan Sahas, Lawyers Initiative Forum

Grant 2019: 105,879 €

Beneficiaries 2019: 28 girls, 42 boys, 1,164 women, 1,147 men, total 2,381 people

The project kicked off to a good start. Women who have been victims of violence are to be given the ability to defend themselves and the opportunity to take legal action. Women’s self-help groups at “grassroots level” as well as local and supra-regional civil society organisations are being trained to provide effective support for women who have experienced abuse and violence. At the same time, state legal aid lawyers are being trained and sensitised to better represent Dalit and Adivasi women in particular.
Project “Strong Girls Nepal” (BMZ)

This project provides adolescent girls (and boys) from Dalit and marginalised families in three districts in the Terai region with access to quality education so that they can successfully complete primary school and move on to secondary education. 900 disadvantaged girls receive special support through girls’ clubs. Improved educational standards and equipment in 15 schools enable all girls to receive a high-quality education and to participate confidently and actively in school life. All 5,000 pupils will benefit from the fact that 215 teachers will receive better training and that there will be separate toilets for girls.

As a result, 600 Dalit families are committed to the education of their daughters and are able to improve their income as well as keep their daughters in school through their own economic activities. To this end, the women organise themselves into 24 savings groups and set up their own small businesses. All local actors are involved and support the right to access good education for all. The Nepalese Ministry of Education integrates the results into the education curriculum so that the results can benefit other girls.

Target group:  Direct:  1,660 people (900 Dalit girls, 600 women, 215 teachers)
Indirect:  12,750 people (other Students, Family members, other actors)
Further beneficiaries of the improved curriculum are future students.

Project partners in Nepal:  Green Tara Nepal (GTN), Feminist Dalit Organisation (FEDO), Regional Education and Environment Development (REED)

Duration:  2018 to 2021
Grant 2019:  114,243 €
Beneficiary 2019:  390 girls, 2 of them disabled, 1,475 women, 315 men, a total of 2,182 persons, indirectly all other pupils have also benefited.
**Project “Safe Delivery Project in Nawalparasi, Nepal” (Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation)**

The project entails construction and support for 8 new and 2 existing maternity wards, courses for pregnant women and mothers, establishment of self-help groups, family planning for young people and cooperation with the health authorities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location:</th>
<th>Nawalparasi, South-Nepal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Project partner:</td>
<td>Green Tara Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding:</td>
<td>450,000 €, approved in January 2019 from Else Kröner-Fresenius Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purpose:</td>
<td>Establish 8 safe delivery centres in Nepal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
<td>2019 till 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant 2019:</td>
<td>152,834 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries 2019:</td>
<td>2,000 girls, 2,000 boys, 4,000 women, total 8,000 people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project “Decent Work for Women in Nagpur”**

The Women Social Project Nagpur (SMF) supports 423 women in 29 self-help groups in eight slums. Here women learn additional skills, taking into account their previous knowledge, so that they can earn an income. They join together to build up a small business together. These can be small shops or tailor shops. SMF also ensures that families can benefit from state benefits. There are a number of social benefits that needy families do not take advantage of, often out of ignorance or because they are not able to apply for them. The project supports women to overcome these problems. There are also learning groups for the children to help them with their homework. And of course all participants commit themselves to send their children to school until they graduate.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Transferred amount 2019:</th>
<th>2,100 € (via Karuna Trust)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries:</td>
<td>117 girls, 410 women, 479 other people</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
<td>2018 to 2022</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Prabhodini project “Self Defence Project for Women and Girls”**

4,519 € – partly generated via donation from Betterplace – could be transferred. 409 girls and women took part in the Wenlido courses financed in this way.

- **Grant 2019:** 4,519 €
- **Beneficiaries 2019:** 409 girls

**Project “Girls’ Hostel in Amravati”**

The Solera Hostel in Amravati is home to 36 girls who come from difficult family situations. Here they receive loving support for their personal and academic development. Since 2014, our partner “Bahujan Hitay Amravati” has been running not only a hostel for boys, but also one for girls. Some are half-orphans; others have already suffered sexual abuse at home. All come from extremely poor backgrounds.

Girls between the ages of 9 and 18 find good conditions for a successful school career here. They live safe and secure lives, benefit from sports activities and learning groups and can develop artistically and musically.

- **Grant 2019:** 12,519 €
- **Beneficiaries 2019:** total 200 people, mostly parents
**Project “Yashodhara Hostel for Nomad Children”**

Karuna Deutschland has been supporting the Yashodhara Hostel since 2013 because a good school education is the basic prerequisite for escaping the vicious circle of poverty. Many learn basic things in the hostel such as hygiene and the importance of regularity. Especially for the girls, life in the hostel is a blessing. Instead of being sent to beg, they get help with their homework. In order to prevent them from getting married at the age of 14, our partner organisation works intensively with the parents. Last year, 28 boys and 27 girls aged between 6 and 15 were able to live and study in the Yashodhara Hostel.

**Highlight: New school building**

The children in the Yashodhara Hostel have their own school. Here the primary school children can now learn without having to walk long hours to the village school. In spring, the small building with two classrooms was built by the Ministry of Education as an offshoot of the village school.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grant 2019:</th>
<th>3,070 €</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries 2019:</td>
<td>62 kids and their partners, total 186 people</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Project “School for Tibetan Refugee Children in Kalimpong”**

Over the years, the school has grown considerably and currently accommodates more than 300 students, 18 teachers and 3 administrative staff members. The educational facility ranges from the first to the eighth grade. Besides Tibetan students, there are now students from Bhutan, Sikkim, Nepal, and various other countries.

The standard curriculum is taught in English, which gives the students good opportunities to find a job later. Besides the Tibetan language, children from other background can choose Nepalese as their second foreign language. Music, literature, and Buddhism are other main subjects of the teaching. The school accommodates about 70 boarding students. Some of them are orphans; others live temporarily in the boarding school because their parents have to take jobs in different parts of the country depending on the season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grants 2019:</th>
<th>3,000 € (via Karuna Trust)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beneficiaries 2019:</td>
<td>232 Students</td>
</tr>
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</table>
**Project visits**

Two project visits were carried out in 2019. In February, the girls’ home in Amravati and individual organizations of Maitri Network were visited.

In November visits were made to the projects “Safe Births in Nawalparasi, Nepal” and “Strong Girls Nepal”. This was followed by visits to the German Embassy in Kathmandu, GIZ and various organizations. The meeting with the EU Delegation enabled us to get a feedback on our EU-funding proposal. In India, Susanne Traud-Dubois was able to visit “Maitri Network” and attend the final consultation in Pune as well as participate in the Maitri meeting with all partner organisations to discuss the new project proposal. Furthermore, meetings with the teams of “Voice of Women” and “Girls’ Home Amravati” took place.

In addition, Keval Shah from Karuna Trust visited the “Voice of Women” project in October.

**Organisation**

**Board of Directors at Karuna Deutschland e.V.**

1. First Chairperson: Susanne Traud-Dubois  
2. Second Chairperson: Dr. Rosemarie Kosche  
   Treasures: Christina Pawelczyk  
   Extended Management Board: Christa Becker, Ciaran Maguire (CEO Karuna Trust)  
   Accounting: Christina Pawelczyk using the “Linear” accounting program

We have become a member of the umbrella organisation called “Deutsches Ehrenamt e.V.” In addition, we have worked on association and board-liability insurance policy which covers the last three years. It also covers legal advice in all association-related matters.

**Employees**

C. H. left Karuna Deutschland before the end of her probationary period (14.01.2019).

In autumn, a job advertisement for an **all-rounder position** was posted online. Pratibha Singh was selected from 12 applicants and hired as of 01.01.2020.

**Members**

Total number: 24, including two new candidates. About eight active members meet regularly, plan and carry out activities.
Financial report

We have been able to massively increase our revenues in 2019. In total we have received 495,549.66 € in grants and donations.

Revenues

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Grants</th>
<th>Donations</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Revenues</td>
<td>455,406.07 €</td>
<td>40,143.59 €</td>
<td>495,549.66 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Expenses

-467,971.00 €

Surplus

27,578.66 €

Cash basis accounting 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Karuna internal</th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Office supplies (incl. fundraising)</td>
<td>1,050.14 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fundraising (salary costs)</td>
<td>2,113.82 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative expenditure (incl. fundraising)</td>
<td>749.31 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others (travel expenses, gifts, miscellaneous)</td>
<td>576.28 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank charges</td>
<td>242.80 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Governance costs</td>
<td>2,021.37 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>6,753.72 €</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Grants / Project-related donations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Revenues</th>
<th>Expenses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maitri Network (BMZ)</td>
<td>62,514.38 €</td>
<td>63,053.50 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Voices of Women (BMZ)</td>
<td>104,563.82 €</td>
<td>105,879.23 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strong Girls Project Nepal (BMZ)</td>
<td>112,429.90 €</td>
<td>114,242.71 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safe Delivery Project in Nepal (EKFS)</td>
<td>178,000.00 €</td>
<td>152,834.02 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amravati Girls Home</td>
<td>1,696.74 €</td>
<td>12,519.00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prabodhini Self Defence</td>
<td>254.46 €</td>
<td>4,519.00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yashodhara Pardhi Hostel</td>
<td>2,876.25 €</td>
<td>3,069.82 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Social Project Nagpur</td>
<td>20.00 €</td>
<td>2,100.00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dhardo ITBCI School Kalimpong</td>
<td>420.00 €</td>
<td>3,000.00 €</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>462,775.55 €</td>
<td>461,217.28 €</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Donations without project reference

32,774.11 €

Total revenues

495,549.66 €

Total expenses

467,971.00 €

Surplus 2019

27,578.66 €

Opening balance 01.01.2019

37,090.93 €

Final balance 31.12.2019

64,669.59 €

27,578.66 €