OUR WORLD

THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES
OF DEUTSCHE WELTHUNGERHILFE E.V.
VALUES AND VISION

Welthungerhilfe was founded in 1962 under the auspices of the Food and Agricultural Organisation FAO. At that time, it was the German section of the Freedom from Hunger Campaign, one of the first global initiatives aimed at eliminating hunger. Today, we are one of the biggest aid agencies in Germany.

We campaign against worldwide hunger and for sustainable food security. This involves promoting site-appropriate farming, guaranteeing access to clean water and a modern, environment-friendly energy supply and improving healthcare and education. We work above all in rural regions.

OUR VISION IS A WORLD IN WHICH ALL PEOPLE CAN EXERCISE THEIR RIGHT TO LEAD A SELF-DETERMINED LIFE IN DIGNITY AND JUSTICE, FREE OF HUNGER AND POVERTY.

ONE WORLD – JUSTICE FOR ALL

Our actions are guided by a belief in the equality of all people, the inviolability of their rights and their right to self-determination. People with whom we work are partners who strive to achieve social changes. We treat them with respect, a sense of solidarity and compassion.

Our activities aim to sustainably improve the lives of generations to come, in a healthy environment and a just society.

We want to become superfluous. We therefore share the goal with many people who are committed to development cooperation that one day development cooperation will no longer be necessary and that people in these countries will be able to adequately help themselves.

LIFE CULTURE – WORKING EFFECTIVELY AND ACTING RESPECTFULLY

We want to be successful. We measure our success according to how much the conditions of people living in poverty and deprivation have improved.

We use modern scientific findings and methods and simultaneously respect the knowledge, experience and traditions of people in the respective countries. Our work is therefore characterised by creativity and constant willingness to learn and innovate.

We treat others with respect and appreciation. We enable our staff to achieve a work-life balance. This is particularly true of members of staff who overcome special challenges and take personal risks, for example, in crisis regions.

We keep our promises. Transparency and reliability are important cornerstones of our work – with regards to partners, the general public, donors and providers of public grants. We know that without our supporters, we would not be able to work successfully. It is to them that we owe our special thanks.
We work in partnership with others. Our activities are geared towards the goals and needs of people in the South and towards the desire for global justice. We encourage our partners to assert their rights. We help them develop their skills and abilities.

We work in a requirement-oriented and situation-appropriate way. We help people in acute need, when regions are affected by hunger or other disasters. When their most immediate requirements are satisfied, we help them reconstruct and develop their region in a sustainable way.

Effective and motivating PR is important for our work. It enables us to make our work transparent and bring together more closely people in Germany and developing countries.

We are politically independent and non-denominational and we cooperate in strategic alliances. We work all over the world with players who have similar goals. This enables us to pool our resources, but also achieve a greater impact with the means that are available to us. We ensure maximum (financial) independence from external dictates for our work. We take advantage of this independence by engaging in a constructive dialogue with politicians and businesses.

Important partners, whose trust we value, are our public donors. We welcome the close programmatic cooperation of governmental and non-governmental organisations whenever they share the same goals.

We raise our voice wherever we can help remedy situations on the basis of our project work and experience, our history and convictions. We see ourselves as the advocates of those whose rights and dignity are compromised.