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RELEX 1217
CULT 91
DEVGEN 140
COASI 144
COEST 542
COAFR 343
MAMA 204
COLAC 113
CIVCOM 243
CFSP/PESC 1390
JAI 1460
ENV 976

INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Working Party of Foreign Relations Counsellors - Horizontal Questions)
Subject: Hungary Helps Agency Brochure - Presentation at the RELEX Horizontal Questions (International Cultural Relations) meeting of 26 September 2024

Delegations will find in the annex a brochure presented by an external stakeholder, Hungary Helps Agency, at the meeting of RELEX Counsellors – Horizontal Questions on 26 September 2024. This document and the views expressed therein are solely those of the third party it originates from. This document cannot be regarded as stating an official position of the Council. It does not reflect the views of the Council or of its members.

About us

The Hungary Helps Program consolidates Hungary's humanitarian and international development efforts, focusing on emergency relief and sustainable development. Our aim is to promote stability and peace to address protracted, ongoing, and forgotten crises and to strengthen religious freedom and other human rights.

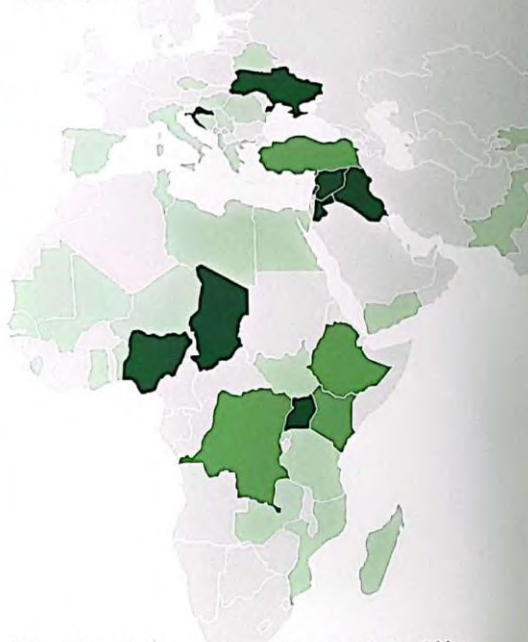


Since 2017, we have enabled 2,000,000 people to stay in or return to their home countries and have contributed to improving their well-being and circumstances.

In 7 years
350+ projects
55+ countries
2 million people involved
€110+ million in total aid

The fundamental principle of our program is to provide rapid, direct, and local support to affected communities in developing countries and crisis zones, primarily in the Middle East, Sub-Saharan Africa, the Western Balkans, and the Eastern Partnership countries.

Hungary Helps projects are tailored to the needs of local communities. We seek international cooperation and involve local partners, including civil society, churches and religious institutions within the crisis zones. Our assistance not only heals the wounds caused by crises, but also addresses the root causes of division, violence and migration.



Our position is clear and consistent: aid should be directed to regions experiencing trouble rather than importing trouble into Europe and our country.

The Hungary Helps Program is coordinated by the State Secretariat for the Aid of Persecuted Christians, and its professional implementation is managed by the Hungary Helps Agency.

Humanitarian and development programs

Recognizing the complexity of humanitarian crises, our work is rooted in the Humanitarian-Development-Peace (HDP) nexus approach, which emphasizes the critical connections between stability, peacebuilding, development cooperation, and humanitarian assistance. By strengthening the social resilience of the most vulnerable communities, we can address the root causes of fragility and conflict. This approach not only empowers these communities to respond effectively to future crises but also, for those who have migrated, facilitates their eventual return to their homeland.



Focus areas

- Healthcare as the foundation of humanitarian aid and development
- Agriculture and food security
- Education and vocational training
- Women's empowerment
- Cultural heritage protection
- Response to religious persecution, violent conflict, and other emergencies
- Conflict prevention, post-war reconstruction, and strengthening peaceful interfaith coexistence

Sahel region

The Sahel region of Africa faces serious challenges, such as desertification, water and food shortages, economic and political instability, as well as armed conflict and jihadist terrorism. These issues have the potential to trigger an ongoing humanitarian crisis and mass migration. Through the Hungary Helps Program, Hungary supports the region, particularly Chad, by implementing a complex humanitarian and development program. This aims to protect the livelihoods of both refugees from abroad and local communities through sustainable solutions in cooperation with the local authorities.



International partnerships and the EU




A key element of our international activities is the cooperation and exchange of expertise with professional organizations in the European Union and beyond. International partnerships are of the highest importance to us, as they allow us to share knowledge and resources on a global scale. We have also achieved significant international accreditations, including the DG ECHO Partnership, and have been awarded Quality Labels, which enable us to participate in the activities of the European Solidarity Corps and the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps. Additionally, we are currently undergoing the Pillar Assessment, further reinforcing our commitment to high standards and enhancing our capacity to engage with EU institutions and partners worldwide.

CREATResili project

On January 1, 2024, we launched our first European Union project, CREATResili. Co-funded by the Creative Europe program and implemented by a Hungarian-Kosovar-Albanian consortium, this project primarily helps abused women in Kosovo through social design tools. CREATResili is an acronym combining the words creativity and resilience, reflecting both the purpose and methods of the project.



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Hungary Helps Program



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