

Perspectives, Priorities and Strategic Goals

1 Perspectives, Priorities and Strategic Goals of Terre des Hommes Germany and India Programme

Status: From the statutes of Terre des Hommes Deutschland e.V. as amended on 19-20 June 2004.

a) Vision

(Preamble)

Terre des Hommes Deutschland e.V. (hereafter called Terre des Hommes Germany) is a children's aid agency concerned for development policy. It works for the creation of a just and peaceful world for all children, those alive today and the generations to come. Its endeavours are based on the fundamental principles of human rights, tolerance and equal rights for all people regardless of their origin, gender or religion. Terre des Hommes works for a world in which survival is guaranteed for all children, no child is exploited any more, all children have educational and development opportunities, economic and social justice and peace prevail and conflicts are solved without recourse to violence. Terre des Hommes Germany defines itself as a citizens' action group and seeks people in the South and in the North ready to work with Terre des Hommes towards the realization of this vision.

b) Mandate

(Aims of the association)

- l) In order to give a future to all children in a just and peaceful world Terre des Hommes Germany pursues the following aims:

To support projects that, in particular,

- Safeguard the children's survival and health,
- Promote education and vocational training,
- Protect children from economic or sexual exploitation,
- Assist vulnerable children and their families.

To draw attention to the causes of hardship and injustice, to advocate for sustainable development on the basis of peace and social concern, and to foster internationalism and tolerance.

c) Mission Statement

(Terms of reference, international federation, action groups)

- Terre des Hommes Germany shall protect girls and boys in their social context, always striving for gender equality, particularly with respect to access to education, resources and social participation and actively respecting their respective cultural circumstances. Projects shall always focus on finding the most effective way to improve the children's situation.
- Terre des Hommes Germany shall protect children in their social environment from mistreatment and shall take all measures necessary to do so.
- Terre des Hommes Germany shall act with children and not just for them. It shall encourage children to take action themselves.
- Terre des Hommes Germany shall work to achieve its aims with partner organisations in the South and in the North.
- Terre des Hommes Germany shall decide with its partner organisations in the South and the North on how the aims of Terre des Hommes can be most effectively implemented in the respective region.
- Terre des Hommes Germany shall further support its partner organisations through education and training programmes, in particular during the process of organizing themselves, and by putting them in contact with each other.
- Terre des Hommes Germany shall involve its partner organisations and its full time staff in important decisions.
- The working groups shall operate at the local and regional level of the association.

The association is a member of the Terre des Hommes International Federation and shall contribute actively to its work.

d) The Strategic Goals for International Programme Activities for the years 2023 to 2028 of Terre des Hommes Germany

Introduction

Terre des Hommes Germany [tdh] derives four working areas from its statutes, which build the thematic framework for its fight for child rights: Education, Health & Food, Intact Environment, and Protection against Violence & Exploitation. In these thematic working areas, tdh implements its international program activities jointly with local

partner organizations and youth networks. In Germany, Terre des homes volunteers and youth support the international program by awareness raising and fundraising.

The strategic goals orient and focus the joint international program activities of tdh Germany and its partner organizations for a period of five years. The goals assign a focus and special resources on certain strategic aspects within our working areas. This way, we continuously develop four future-oriented international program. As the goals have to be achievable within five years, they cannot cover everything we do. Hence, Terre des Hommes will continue to support projects that are not covered by the strategic goals but fall into its general working areas. Of course, also Terre des Hommes' partner organizations will continue their own activities that are not part of the cooperation with Terre des Hommes.

Besides the strategic goals, the Delegates Conference¹ decides on three other instruments of the joint international program of Terre des Hommes and partners: Focal themes [issues to be further explored], joint campaigns [joint global advocacy and awareness raising], and resolutions on important international issues [public declarations].

Strategic Goals and Sub-Goals

We further specify each Strategic Goal by three categories of sub-goals, forming the pillars of the strategy to achieve it. Obviously, overlaps between sub-goals are possible (e.g. a goal for participation also containing lobby elements):

- "CHANGE BY CREATING MODELS AND APPROACHES IN PROJECT WORK": Within this sub-goal, we define what we want to achieve within our project work. We create, identify and promote approaches and models of social change and education that have proven to be effective in our own projects. Vice versa, we learn from others and implement their approaches. The path to achieve all the strategic goals will very much depend on education in a holistic sense.
- "CHANGE THROUGH PARTICIPATION": Social change can only be sustainable if it empowers and participates those affected by problems. Within this sub-goal, we describe what we want to achieve

¹ The Delegates Conference is a decision body formed by representatives of partner organizations, volunteers, International Youth Network, and staff of Terre des Hommes, Germany

regarding participation and empowerment in project and lobby work. By participation, we especially refer to the participations of children and youth within our programs, but also of our volunteers, youth networks, and partner organizations as part of our social movement.

- "CHANGE THROUGH LOBBY AND ADVOCACY": Within this sub-goal, we define what we want to achieve. This includes classical lobby work, but also awareness raising or monitoring the implementation of child rights.

Strategic Goal: Education and Empowerment for Life Perspectives

By 2028, children and youth experiencing exploitation, violence, and discrimination enjoy expanded opportunities for quality and needs-based learning and training that foster personal growth, peaceful conflict resolution and decent working and living conditions, with a view to overcoming barriers to economic, social and strategic participation.

Strategic Goal: Access to Rights for Children in Contexts of Migration

By 2028, children and youth in vulnerable situations due to migration recover rights that have been denied to them through a coherent transnational program of interlinked local support structures. Children and youth in vulnerable situations due to migration have the opportunity to shape the child-centered program according to their rights and needs and to create testimony and voice their demands locally, nationally, and transnationally.

Strategic Goal: Young Environmental Voices

By 2028, children and youth in tdh project countries act as young environmental citizens and organize themselves in civil society networks, inducing community-based solutions to the multiplicity of the environmental crisis and holding stakeholders accountable for ensuring their environmental rights and their protection from environmental hazards.

**Strategic Goal: Gender Justice to Live in a World Free from
Gender-based
Rights Violations & Discrimination**

By 2028, children and youth together with tdh and partner organizations take action against gender-based rights violations and discrimination. They claim their gender rights and feed their local experiences and voices into feminist movements that push to overcome existing structures of oppression, particularly regarding gender-based rights violations, by challenging patriarchal and binary structures in culture and society as a root cause of gender-based rights violations and discrimination, and at local, national, and international level.

Focal Theme: Alternative Development Model

From 2018 to 2023 Terre des Hommes (tdh) will work on the issue

“Realizing child rights through the building of democratic societies”

Through this focal theme, we want to learn about models on citizenship and democracy education for children and youth that are culture- and context-based so that tdh Germany and project partners gain competence in developing project work approaches that integrate this theme within and beyond programme work. The successful implementation of initiatives arising from the implementation of this Focal Theme shall be the partners’ and tdh Germany’s contribution in preserving spaces for rights-based actions and supporting the work of active children, youth and adult citizens in fulfilling child rights.