



Aktion Wasserbüffel e.V.

# Stormy times Annual Report 2021



## Content

<u>4</u>	Foreword
<u>6</u>	Project areas
<u>8</u>	Children in need – Batang Pinangga
<u>9</u>	Covid-19 emergency aid
<u>12</u>	A light goes on
<u>14</u>	Meeting place - House of Reflection
<u>15</u>	Sustainability
<u>19</u>	Helga Memorial Fund
<u>22</u>	Typhoon Emergency Relief
<u>24</u>	In a new guise
<u>25</u>	Our Values – Our Structure
<u>26</u>	Transparency and control
<u>27</u>	Finances
<u>29</u>	Imprint



Living in the garbage in Cebu City

# Review of the Executive Board

*„We make a living by what we get, but we make a life by what we give.“*

This quote from Winston Churchill came to mind when I began to write our review for the past year. Churchill's words are still relevant and show the importance of help. The corona pandemic and weather disasters have also dominated the headlines in 2021. Many people around the world are suffering from the consequences of Covid-19 restrictions and the effects of the forces of nature. Poverty, hunger and injustice have also increased in the Philippines.

Ducking away and remaining in shock has never been an option for Aktion Wasserbüffel. Founded in 1994 by Helga Range to offer people in the Philippines prospects for the future without being trapped in the circle of poverty, abuse and violence. 27 years later, our association continues to work unrelated for 27 years to alleviate hardship and injustice.

In the year under review, our focus was on support for protection against Covid-19, hygiene, food security, infrastructural measures and emergency disaster relief. Help under travel restrictions – how does that even work?

Through our long-standing cooperation with reliable local partners, the regular exchange via digital media and video conferences, we were able to ensure that the existing projects could be maintained and that new measures were implemented in a targeted manner.

Unfortunately, our last visit was some time ago (2019, before the pandemic). All the greater is our anticipation of the project trip in summer 2022.

It was time to adapt our public image a bit to do justice to younger generations, to inform themselves digitally about Aktion Wasserbüffel or to give them the opportunity to donate online.

In December, our new website went live <http://www.aktion-wasserbueffel.de> or [www.aktionwasserbueffel.com](http://www.aktionwasserbueffel.com) (the old page will remain in parallel until the middle of the year), our social media channels on Facebook, LinkedIn and YouTube will be bundled and updated. These milestones, which are important for a small association, are intended to inform all

supporters and interested parties faster and more up-to-date about our project work.

After we have mastered the year 2021 together, we are tackling the challenges ahead with drive and verve.

I wish you all a successful and above all healthy year 2022. Thank you for your support,

*Kathi Range*

Kathi Range



## Greeting from the co-founder



Dear friends and supporters,  
a fresh wind blows through Aktion  
Wasserbüffel.

You will find it especially when you visit our  
new website

[www.aktion-wasserbueffel.de](http://www.aktion-wasserbueffel.de) .

While the ideas of Helga Range, the founder  
of Aktion Wasserbüffel, still form the  
foundation, namely help for self-help,  
human rights, sharing, giving love, now a  
new generation on the board, especially the  
chairwoman Katherina Range, has tackled  
much more contemporary and new ideas  
have been introduced. We have always  
strived for transparency so that you know  
what happens to your donations. Since the  
focus of our supporters came from the closer  
and wider circle of acquaintances, there was  
a lot of information about personal  
knowledge.

Now the circle of supporters has expanded

beyond personal acquaintanceship. That  
should remain the case. In addition, we have  
expanded the project-oriented work with our  
proven partner organizations in the  
Philippines, so that you can even better  
understand what happens in detail with your  
donations through the corresponding  
presentation on the Internet. I am pleased  
that with my connections and knowledge to  
the Philippines as a consultant I can  
continue to support the work of Aktion  
Wasserbüffel and also ask for your constant  
support of this wonderful project.

*Jochen Range*

Dr. Jochen Range





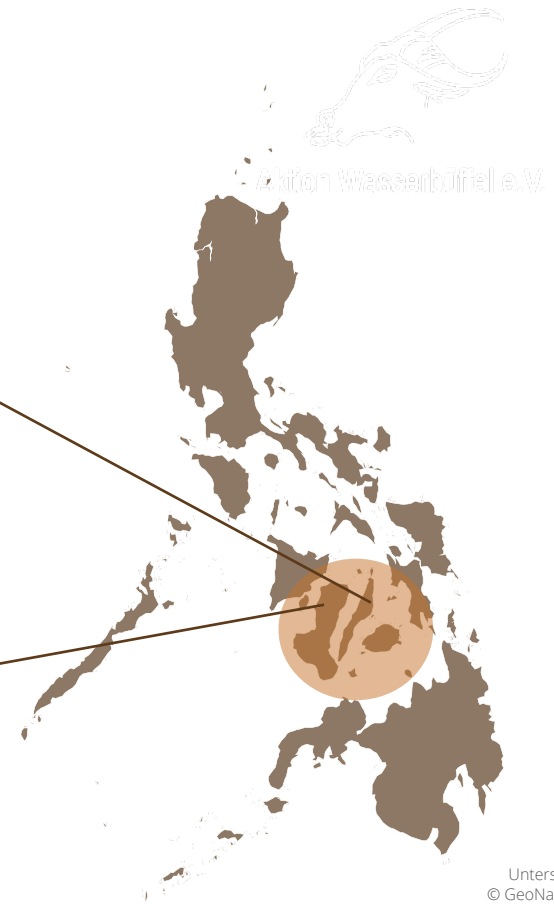
## The Children's Village

Batang Pinangga is located in Carmen, on the island of Cebu and about 50 kilometers northwest of stat Cebu.



## Tinagong Paraiso

is a poor district in the northwest of Bacolod, a city on the western side of the island of Negros.



Unterstützt von Bing  
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OUR BUY IS TO PROTECT OUR CHILDREN



**#NOTFORSALE**

We will end commercial sexual exploitation of children  
Our children are #NotForSale!

Report to the Child's Legal Bureau +63 32 253 3071  
Or dial 1345 NCJ Hotline  
Or run to your nearest PNP Station

UNICEF  
CHILD PROTECTION  
SERVICES

terre des hommes  
CHILD PROTECTION  
SERVICES

GIJLS  
ADVOCACY  
ALLIANCE

Child abuse is a problem in the Philippines

# Children in need - Batang Pinangga

**„We feel most vulnerable in Batang Pinangga”**

The connection to our partner children's village Batang Pinangga has existed for 20 years. Continuity and planning security is the cornerstone of sustainable success. For two years, Batang Pinangga has been struggling with the consequences of the pandemic, as have many other non-profit organizations on the island nation. Every day presents a new challenge. Are the donations for the annual budget sufficient to protect and care for the children and a few (voluntary) employees? Butch Carpintero, the director of the children's village, reported in numerous conversations about the needs and worries: *„We do not know for how long this would continue. We feel most vulnerable in Batang Pinangga, where we perpetually are dependent on donations, local and foreign.“*

data volumes, the lessons could be carried out continuously, thanks to the laptops purchased with your help from the previous year. Also in 2021, we have again borne the costs for the housemothers, who play a fundamentally important role in the care of the children in Batang Pinangga. Due to the loss of jobs among family members of the housemothers during the pandemic, their work was also characterized by personal existential fears for their own livelihood. Through food support for the affected families, we were able to take this burden off the shoulders of those affected. Thus, continuity is also ensured in the care area for the children in the children's village.

## **Continuity in difficult times**

In order to do justice to these circumstances, Aktion Wasserbüffel has pledged to maintain and partially expand its regular support. Last year, we also took care of the maintenance of Batang Pinangga. This included the continuation of the financing of a teacher who, in times of online teaching, continued to support the children in coping with the school requirements. Likewise, through continuous financing of the required



8400 meals and drinking water for 35 people



30 children in care



460 days teacher for online lessons



7300 days of qualified care by housemothers



Costs for additional electricity



# Covid-19 measures

Also in 2021, life worldwide was affected by the corona virus. The Philippines is among the countries in Southeast Asia most affected by the containment measures.

Nationwide, long-lasting lockdowns and tough measures were adopted, which mainly affected the poor and left behind population. Some schools have not been opened to this day, and simple service jobs have been lost. Since the beginning of the pandemic, we have supported our partner children's village Batang Pinangga to establish a safe haven in this pandemic storm. The purchase of protective masks, hygiene articles, disinfection dispensers, training and education on the correct handling and the support of the housemothers were among the important and helpful measures that we were able to carry out remotely.



Disinfection dispenser with thermometer



1000 Mouth-Nose Protection Masks



1000 disposable gloves



Covid-19 help in Batang Pinangga





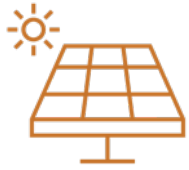
Children in Batang Pinangga



## A light goes on

A few years ago, we financed a small solar plant that offers independence from the uncertain power grid and provides clean, sustainable energy. In the summer, the defective batteries and an inverter had to be replaced. Costs that were not planned in the tight Children's Village budget. Aktion Wasserbüffel was able to help quickly and the system was replaced in autumn. The rapid provision of funds paid off in mid-December, when the Philippines was hit by a super typhoon and there was a power outage for days.

The lights in Batang-Pinangga remained on.



Renewal of solar system



New battery storage system







Solar power in Batang Pinangga



# Meeting place - House of Reflection

It sounds like a phrase, but standing still is a step backwards. In order to have an additional source of income for the post-COVID-19 period, we made it possible to build a meeting place and a seminar house: "House of Reflection". In this difficult time of the overwhelming impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, everyone needs to breathe. There is so much to do to cope with this debilitating state, not only on the economic side, but also on the side of mental health and one's own well-being.

The sturdy wooden building serves as a seminar and meeting room, a place of peace and can also be rented by external interested parties for a fee. Interest is high. There have already been numerous inquiries from other associations and social organizations. We are happy to support projects that promote encounters and are promising for the future and sustainable.



Assumption of the costs for the meeting place





150 Units Seed



50 Pair of garden gloves



50 Garden Tools

## Sustainable - Independent

In order to achieve more independence in the food supply of Batang Pinangga, we have supported the "Farming Project" again this year. The expansion of the cultivation area ensured the supply of fresh fruit and vegetables throughout the year. Here, the children learn ecological cultivation in harmony with nature, starting with biological composing, through the cultivation of crops, their care to harvesting and the use of plants as food and their importance for the ecological balance. A building block for a sinful, future-securing life.







Sustainable gardening in Batang Pinangga





Children in Batang Pinangga





Water buffalo in the field

# Taskforce Carabao Helga Memorial Certificate of Scholars

THIS ACKNOWLEDGES

Name of

HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED FOR

KATHERINA RANGE  
CHAIRPERSON TASK FORCE CARABAO

## HMF - Helga Memorial Fund

In 2021, our three scholarship holders were able to successfully continue their studies. Classes in this area also took place online. The successful path to a new future can be continued.



3 scholarships for young students





Typhoon damage in Bacolod





Children in Bacolod after typhoon

# Typhoon Emergency Relief

*"Can we help the storm victims, they have lost everything?"*

On December 17, Typhoon Rai "Odette" swept across the Philippines with wind speeds of more than 250 kilometers per hour. More than 375 people were killed in the storm. Hundreds of thousands of people were evacuated, thousands of families lost their homes and livelihoods. The typhoon moved directly over the islands of Cebu and Negros and caused severe damage.

Fortunately, our project partners in Bacolod, Medellin and Carmen only suffered property damage, and no people were injured here. Aktion Wasserbüffel immediately provided funds to be able to tackle the most urgent repairs immediately.

Fishing families receive help for self-help.

"Can we help the storm victims, they have lost everything?" asked Dionisio de la Cruz, our project partner in Bacolod and long-time companion. Dionisio told of the fishing families who had not only lost their homes and belongings, but also the small fishing boats that were severely damaged, destroyed or washed away by the storm. Without the boats, the fishermen cannot earn money, buy food and repair their accommodation. True to the motto "Help for self-help", we were able to organize unbureaucratic help on site and give the 50 families new prospects for the future. A

press article on the emergency published shortly before Christmas informed many readers that additional donations could be made available for this "Urgent Action".



Emergency aid: water and food  
for 50 fisher families







Clean-up work in Batang Pinangga

# In a new guise

Our action water buffalo has been online for many with its own website, which was programmed and maintained by Dr. Jochen Range himself. This year, we have decided to modernize the external image of the association and digital presence and to make it more user-friendly. The colors and clear structure reflect our values. They stand for warmth, security and sustainability. In months of work, project friends have tailored the new digital garb. The latest content can also be followed through our social media channels on LinkedIn, Facebook and YouTube. It will take until the end of 2022 for old and new offers to be coordinated. Until then, we would be delighted if you would visit us on one of the channels now.

Around the world, many countries are feeling the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Poorer countries are affected even more than western countries. The social systems are not nearly as well developed and resilient, and state economic aid is not sufficient. Thanks to our donors, we were able to keep our promises of help last year. But organizing local fundraisers and finding new sponsors is becoming increasingly difficult. In order to win donations and sponsors in these difficult times, we believe that digital fundraising and a stronger, more up-to-date presence will be another milestone in putting our association Aktion Wasserbüffel e.V. on a future-proof foundation.



New website

Donations now possible online



2021



1994



QR-Code new website



## Our Values

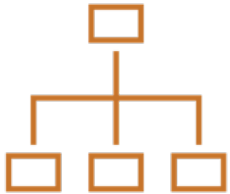


Help for self-help

Our association Aktion Wasserbüffel e.V. is a small private aid organization. We are dedicated to alleviating poverty, disadvantage and social injustice in the Philippines. We are known for our many years of commitment to human dignity. We are committed to a world of hope, tolerance and social justice, where poverty and violence are defeated and all people live in dignity and security and with prospects for the future. Aktion Wasserbüffel e.V. works in the Philippines to save lives, defeat poverty and achieve social justice. We place both children and the abandoned and disadvantaged adults at the center of our work

"Help for self-help". It is our concern that all people have equal rights and opportunities and that poverty can be overcome through joint efforts.

## Our structure



Aktion Wasserbüffel zur Förderung philippinischer Selbsthilfeprojekte e.V. was founded in 1994 in Jülich, Germany, as a non-profit and registered association. Our organs are the General Assembly and the Executive Board. The General Assembly can comment on all matters. It must ensure that the purpose of the association is fulfilled and has the right to request information from the board. The General Assembly discharges the Executive Board after receipt of the

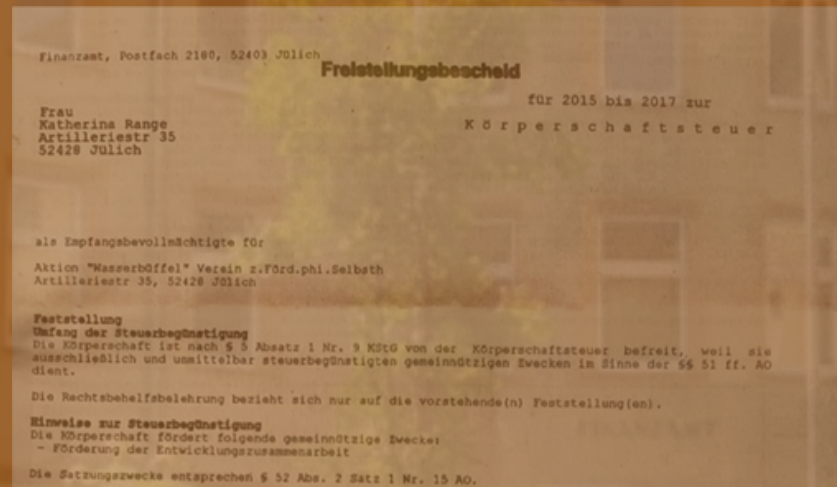
activity and cash report as well as the report of the auditors. The honorary board of Aktion Wasserbüffel e.V. is currently made up of Katherina Range as chairwoman and Gertraud Pofahl as treasurer. Philipp Brunnengräber is an assessor and Dr. Jochen Range and Helga Stier are the auditors of the association.

# Transparency and control

The trust of private donors and our corporate donors is our obligation and incentive to use every donated euro as efficiently and comprehensibly as possible. Credibility is the lifeblood of our association: credibility ensures the continued support of members, friends and interested parties, it is an absolutely basic prerequisite for attracting new supporters and sponsors.

Projects are thoroughly examined. The implementation plan always includes: goals, measures and time and budget plans.

Our members and project supporters are regularly informed about the projects. The association has decided to join the "Initiative Transparent Civil Society" in a timely manner and thus further strengthen trust and credibility. This transparency helps us to make our work even more comprehensible to the public. This includes, among other things, the publication of the association's statutes, names of the decision-makers as well as information on the origin and use of funds.



Regular examination on non-profit status by the tax office



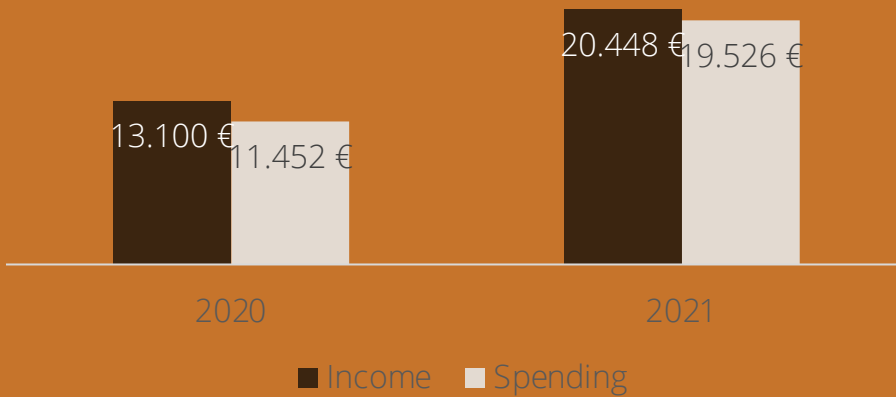
Published Project and annual reports



# Financial statements

\* Profit and loss account. Contributions rounded to full euros, 1.1.2021 to 31.12.2021

## Financial development



The reserve amounts to €27,211 as of 31.12.2021.

\* Preliminary financial report. The club's balance sheet is still officially confirmed by an independent stuer consultant. The financial report will be published online in a timely manner. All members and the board work voluntarily and without expense compensation.



56%  
More donations



100% donations



Living in poverty in Cebu City



# Imprint

## Contact

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## Picture credits

- Aktion Wasserbüffel e.V.  
(S. 4, S. 5,6,7, 11 top right,  
15, 16 top left, downright,  
18, 24,29)
- Steffen Range (S. 3,)
- Butch Carpintero (S.9,10,11  
bottom left and right, S. 12,  
13, 14, 16 bottom left, top  
right, 17, 23)
- Dionisio de la Cruz (S.20,  
21, 22)
- <https://www.finanzverwaltung.nrw.de/de/eckdaten/kontakt-daten-duren> (S. 26)

## PDF

Created with MS PowerPoint

## Editorial office

Jan Range  
Katherina Range

## Design

Jan Range  
Steffen Range

## Help and inform yourself online!

Would you like to know more about us and our projects? No problem! Keep up to date online about the activities of Aktion Wasserbüffel e.V. On our website as well as via our social media channels you will learn everything you need to know. Of course, you can also donate easily online and get in touch with us.



[YouTube](#)



[LinkedIn](#)



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*We would like to say a heartfelt THANK YOU to all our supporters. Without your numerous contributions, our work would not have been possible in 2021. We will continue to count on you in the future!*







Aktion Wasserbüffel e.V.

Donation account  
Sparkasse Düren  
IBAN DE42395501100005854468  
BIC SDUEDE33XXX  
Keyword: Aktion Wasserbüffel

