

Corporate Citizen+

Projects and results 2025



**TERRE DES
HOMMES**

starke Kinder – gerechte Welt

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Taking responsibility for a shared world

As part of its sustainability and climate protection strategy, Dachser supports social and community activities beyond its direct business interests. Particularly in countries of the Global South, the focus is on improving the rights and livelihoods of marginalized population groups, promoting education and entrepreneurship, and mitigating the effects of climate change, which are especially severe in developing and emerging economies.

As a company, Dachser is an integral part of society and, in this spirit, acts as a “Corporate Citizen+,” contributing to stability and development wherever the company operates.

Climate action projects

In its “General comment No. 26” of 2023, the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child calls on the States party to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child to take immediate action in light of the climate crisis. The goal is to ensure that children’s rights are protected through appropriate laws and their rigorous enforcement.

For Dachser and the children’s rights organization Terre des Hommes, however, climate action and climate education have been key issues since the beginning of their partnership in 2005. They also form the basis for a climate action partnership dating back to 2023 between Dachser, Terre des Hommes, and the climate

protection organization myclimate. Terre des Hommes projects have always contributed indirectly to climate action. Through the integration of myclimate, these effects are now being specifically enhanced, made measurable, and firmly integrated into the project work. The partnership shares a common vision of viewing climate action as an integral part of development work.

Expansion of the project portfolio

Several projects have now been launched to support people directly on the ground in order to address the effects of climate change and open up long-term prospects for the future.

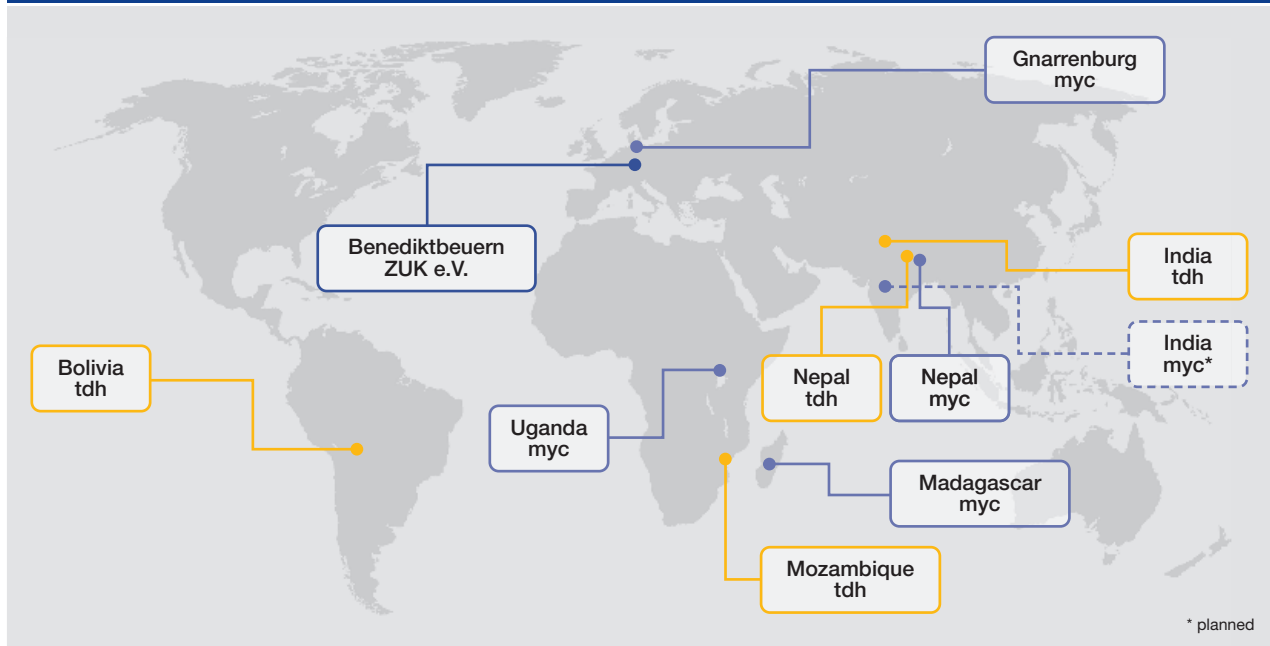
Terre des Hommes runs projects addressing this in Bolivia, Mozambique, and Nepal, for example. In addition, there are climate action projects implemented by myclimate and its project partners, including in Madagascar, India and, since 2026, also in Germany.

In 2025, the focus remained on building a balanced, comprehensive project portfolio. Along with the four existing Terre des Hommes projects that specifically address the consequences of climate change, two additional projects with myclimate and one project with a third partner in Benediktbeuern in southern Germany have been approved. During the approval process for such projects, special care is taken to avoid what is known as “carbon tunnel vision.” No projects should be implemented that focus exclusively on emissions



Dachser is committed
to helping people
in the Global South

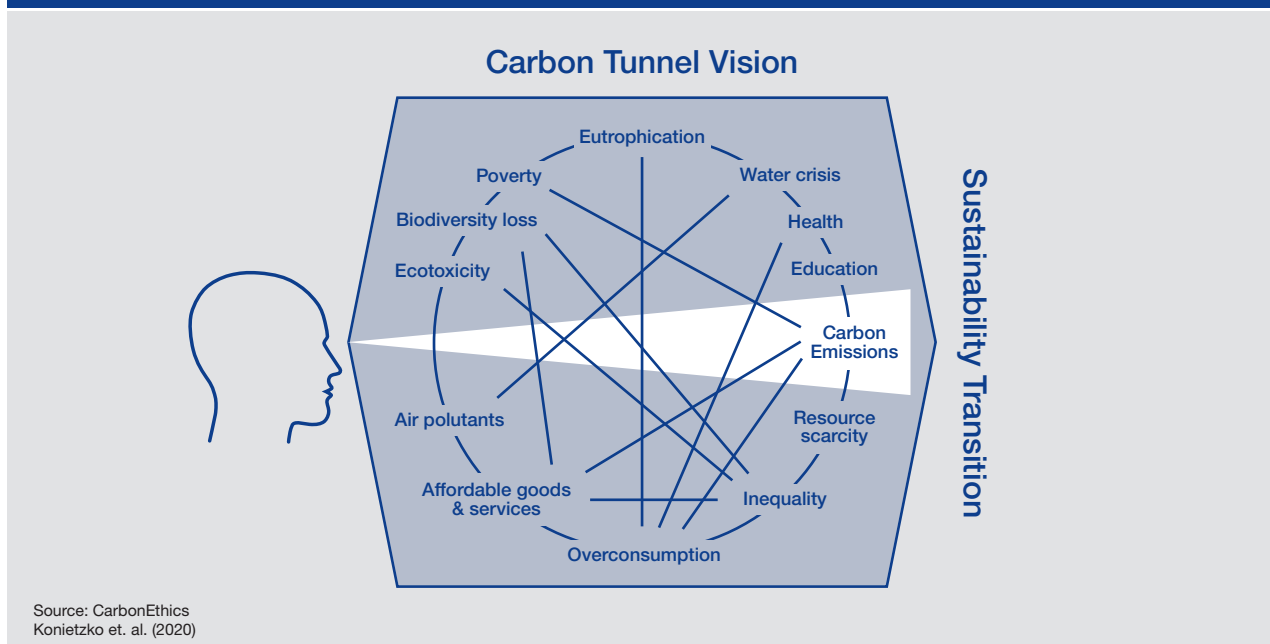
Corporate Citizen+ climate action projects



Global dedication beyond the boundaries of the company

reductions and ignore other positive effects. Because such one-sided approaches are widespread in the voluntary carbon market, Dachser clearly stands out in a positive way with its holistic commitment.

Avoiding carbon tunnel vision



A holistic approach avoids "carbon tunnel vision"

Project visits

In 2025, the Corporate Citizen+ project team once again conducted visits to various project sites. The goal was to evaluate the projects and to strengthen communication with project partners and local communities. The visits to the Terre des Hommes projects in South Africa and Mozambique were particularly valuable, as they allowed for a comprehensive assessment of local conditions and helped identify potential synergies between the projects.

South Asia

India: Climate action project in the state of Uttarakhand

The mountain ecosystem of Uttarakhand in the Himalayas is suffering greatly from climate change: melting glaciers, wildfires, extreme weather, and landslides threaten nature, agriculture, and infrastructure. Deforestation and unsustainable land use contribute to greenhouse gas emissions and environmental pollution. Women and children are particularly hard hit; they have to spend many hours a day gathering firewood or fetching water. The project, which is being implemented in 40 villages across four districts in Uttarakhand, focuses on forest conservation, improved agricultural practices, renewable energy, and access to water. In addition, new income opportunities and local environmental projects are emerging. The goal is to improve quality of life, mitigate the effects of climate change, and strengthen the resilience of communities.

The key results in 2025

- The project provided 68 biogas plants and 4,864 cooking stoves to provide access to clean energy. Firewood use declined significantly, with positive effects on health and workload. Women and children in particular benefited from this. In addition, there was a reduction in CO₂ of approximately 1,000 metric tons.



It often doesn't take much to make everyday life significantly better

- In total, about 80 climate-resilient mini-farms, 33 fruit orchards with over 3,000 saplings, and 43 azolla ponds for water purification were established, along with management measures in four watersheds. These initiatives promote the cultivation of up to twelve crops, ensure food and livestock feed, guarantee a stable water supply, and strengthen climate-resilient production—benefiting some 1,000 families.
- A total of 118 women's, children's, and youth groups were established for a total of 3,116 members. Monthly meetings promote planning, discussion, and problem-solving on social, environmental, and climate-related issues. Women's groups provided information on equality and rights in 40 villages. These groups were reorganized into Climate Resilience Committees (CBCRCs), most of which are led by women. The CBCRCs organized waste disposal, created job opportunities for villagers, and took action to protect crops. About 1,400 children and young people got involved in initiatives focused on environmental protection, biodiversity, and social campaigns.

Case study: From gathering firewood to school



More efficient cooking makes better education possible

Geeta Devi lives in the village of Tilpuri in the Ganges Plain in northern India, along with her husband, her two young daughters, and her elderly mother-in-law. The family has to get by on a very small income. The father's earnings as a day laborer are barely enough to cover food, school tuition, and medicine.

For years, Geeta cooked on a traditional clay stove. Every day, she and her daughters had to walk long distances to fetch firewood from the nearby forest, which often meant missing school. In addition, thick smoke filled their small kitchen, causing burning eyes, coughing, and headaches.

As part of the climate action project carried out by Dachser and Terre des Hommes in India, the partner organization AMAN established a local women's group and provided Geeta with an energy-efficient stove. Although she was hopeful, she was also unsure about how the new device would work.

Her expectations were not disappointed. Within a few weeks, the family's firewood consumption dropped by almost half. Cooking went faster, and—most importantly—the thick smoke disappeared almost completely. The air in Geeta's house felt cleaner, and her children no longer complained of burning eyes or coughing. Since she no longer has to gather firewood every day, her daughters can now go to school every day.

This small change made a big difference in Geeta's daily life. She now has more time for her family and can manage her household without feeling constantly tired. Her home is healthier, and her concerns about smoking-related illnesses have subsided. Geeta is now also actively involved in the women's group. She regularly participates in meetings and campaigns, shares her experiences, and encourages other families to adopt cleaner, climate-friendly cooking practices.

Nepal: Climate action project in Karnali Province

The Kalikot and Jumla regions in Karnali, Nepal, are characterized by poverty and low levels of education. They also face climate-related risks: Clean energy and drinking water are hard to come by; landslides and floods contaminate water sources and cause disease. The combination of climate change, gender inequality, emigration, and limited job opportunities is exacerbating poverty and the food crisis. The ongoing project supports approximately 9,000 households in the two districts by distributing metal stoves to 4,500 households and water filters to 5,500 households. It is being devel-

oped in accordance with the Gold Standard to generate verified emission reductions while also having a positive impact on health and the environment.

In addition, a community-oriented and integrated approach is being pursued to strengthen the resilience of local communities and their livelihoods. Climate-resilient agriculture is being promoted, and women and youth are receiving training and greater employment opportunities. Specialized tools make work easier for women and increase productivity. Youth groups also support climate action and raise awareness in the community.



Community-oriented project work

The key results in 2025

- During the first year of the project, the focus was primarily on planning and coordination, engaging stakeholders, and creating the appropriate conditions for effective project implementation. Surveys were conducted among more than 9,000 households, and several workshops and tests were carried out. The project was also successfully listed on the Gold Standard Assurance Platform.
- A total of 238 training sessions on climate-resilient agriculture were held. Climate-resilient technologies were installed, including eight graywater collection tanks. Support was given to 54 farmers in the form of greenhouses, irrigation systems, organic pesticides, and tools for vegetable cultivation. In addition, 3,600 farmers received vegetable seeds and 270 barrels of organic pesticides. To reduce the women's workload, project staff distributed 18 electric mills, 30 manual threshing machines, 14 wind separators, and 100 corn shellers.

In addition, 320 community-based organizations (CBOs), 34 youth groups, and seven children's clubs were established. A total of 354 training sessions on leadership and group management, as well as 13 training sessions on climate change, were held for organizations and youth groups. The advocacy and awareness-raising activities focused on child marriage, gender-based violence, chhaupadi (menstrual taboo), and sanitation. One success was that parts of Jumla were designated as areas free of child marriage. There were also action days focused on social inclusion, youth engagement, and environmental awareness.

Southern Africa

Mozambique: Climate action project in the Inhambane and Gaza Districts

The project, which has been implemented by the partner organization MAHLAHLE since 2024, strengthens climate resilience and sustainable development in six districts in southern Mozambique. The focus is on clean cooking, access to water, climate-resilient livelihoods, and employment opportunities for young people.

The plan is to distribute 12,000 energy-efficient stoves and install solar-powered water systems for household use, irrigation, and community farming. Climate-friendly farming methods also promote food security.

Another focus is on youth development: Young women and men are trained as microentrepreneurs and are involved in activities such as honey production and the distribution of energy-efficient stoves. Environmental education is strengthened through eco-clubs and youth networks.

The key results in 2025

- A total of 2,631 improved charcoal stoves were distributed across all target districts. Accompanying instructions on use and maintenance promoted acceptance, safe use, and long-term functionality. Initial feedback indicates lower charcoal consumption, lower cooking costs, and improved indoor air quality, which benefits women and children in particular.
- The technical partnership with MozCarbon supported these efforts, including through training on Gold Standard requirements. The stoves distributed so far are expected to reduce CO₂e emissions by approximately 14,450 metric tons over their lifetime.
- Two solar-powered multipurpose water systems have been completed. Each of them provides about 750 to 1,000 people with drinking water and water for hygiene, livestock, and agriculture. Trained municipal water committees are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the systems.

Case study: Less effort and cleaner cooking



Advancing day-to-day life and climate action

For Sara, the energy-efficient stove she received as part of the project with MAHLAHLE makes her daily life much easier. She used to spend a large portion of her income on charcoal. Then she spent several hours a day looking for firewood and building a fire in a sand pit. She also suffered from the acrid smoke of the open fire. Her new, efficient stove, on the other hand, uses only one-third of the wood she used to have to gather, and the smoke is vented away. Sara now has much more time to take care of her grandchildren.

This example illustrates the approach taken by local projects: First and foremost, they improve people's lives—and their contribution to climate action is a welcome side effect.

- Improved access to water has already made it possible to harvest the first crops, which were sold at local markets. At the same time, local communities, in collaboration with eco-clubs, launched environmental initiatives such as tree-planting projects and environmental education programs.
- Structured training on climate-resilient agricultural practices was offered to 1,200 smallholder farmers (822 women and 378 men). Participants also received starter kits, including seeds and basic tools. Demonstra-

tion and learning areas were set up in all six districts, supplemented by areas at the household level.

- A total of 60 young people were trained as advocates for improved stoves and play a central role in engaging with communities, distributing the stoves, training users, and collecting data.
- At the same time, 60 young people were trained as honey producers, with a focus on sustainable beekeeping practices and entrepreneurship. The first group received starter kits, including beehives and protective gear. Beehives were set up in selected communities.
- The project provided 35 elementary school teachers with training in environmental education, climate awareness, and child-centered participation approaches. This led to 12 eco-clubs being founded—six more than originally planned—in which 300 children and adolescents (176 girls and 124 boys) actively participated in hands-on environmental activities, including tree planting, nursery management, waste management, and climate awareness campaigns in schools and surrounding communities.
- In addition, environmental activists in communities across all target districts were mobilized and organized to raise awareness about issues such as deforestation, bushfires, water supply and sanitation, and the sustainable management of natural resources. Youth participation was further strengthened through their involvement in local, national, and regional climate dialogues, including the preparation for and participation in regional climate events.

Uganda: Safe Drinking Water Supply for Communities Through Water-Powered Membrane Filter Water Kiosks

This new project with myclimate provides about 100,000 people in rural areas of eastern Uganda with reliable access to clean drinking water. To this end, 30 gravity-driven membrane filtration kiosks (GDM filtration) and 60 expansion units will be installed, which will reduce waterborne diseases and cut carbon emissions as well, since drinking water will no longer need to be boiled. In addition, local kiosk committees, WASH training sessions, microcredit groups, and training on digital financial tools empower women in particular and promote community-based, sustainable water management. This creates a holistic approach that improves the health, resilience, and self-determination of communities over the long term.



South America

Bolivia: Addressing climate change – Support for Quechua, Guaraní, and Chiquitano families

In Bolivia's rural regions, about 31 percent of households use firewood or charcoal for cooking. This leads to air pollution, health problems, and deforestation. Women and children often spend up to five hours a day gathering firewood or have to spend a large portion of the household budget on it. Women usually do the lion's share of this work. Limited access to clean water in these communities often leads to diseases such as diarrhea, cholera, and stomach infections. A lack of economic prospects

increases dependence on the forest and contributes to persistent poverty and environmental degradation.

The project with the partner organization PRODECO began in 2024 and aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and strengthen climate resilience through an integrated technological, environmental, and educational approach. The use of improved wood-burning stoves is intended to reduce carbon emissions and provide 5,000 Quechua, Guaraní, and Chiquitano families with a healthier cooking environment. Pipeline and storage systems are intended to ensure reliable access to drinking water for 1,550 families. In addition, 460 agroforestry systems and 200 agroecological home gardens will be established to promote food security and diversify sources of income. There is also an environmental education program.

The key results in 2025

- A total of 875 eco-friendly wood stoves (EWS) were installed under the leadership of the PRODECO team, four Guaraní-speaking community promoters, and a trained group of 24 community developers. This led to improvements in stove design, materials, and repairs.
- The water supply actions reached 277 households through 181 house connections, 72 storage tanks, and 24 water connections to kitchens. Seven trained local plumbers carried out the work under the guidance of a water consultant.
- As part of the implementation of agroforestry systems, agreements were reached with the authorities to operate three agroforestry and fruit tree nurseries and to provide materials and technical support, while 100 agroecological home gardens were established in ten communities using standardized kits, seeds, and ongoing technical support.
- As part of the environmental education initiative, two educational forests were established in several phases, 21 teachers were trained, and ten hands-on workshops were held for 199 children and teenagers from six schools.

Germany

Lower Saxony: Wetland conservation and climate education

The Corporate Citizen+ project “Langenhausener Moor Wetland Restoration,” carried out in collaboration with myclimate and ZukunftMoor GmbH, aims to contribute to climate action and sustainable agriculture in Germany. The project site is a moor in Gnarrenburg, Lower Saxony. The goal is to restore moisture to peatland areas and utilize them through an innovative wetland management practice known as paludiculture—in this case, by cultivating sphagnum moss. This not only creates an effective carbon sink and offers farmers an alternative to intensive agriculture, but also increases biodiversity on these lands.

Southern Germany: Climate action and environmental protection through extensive grazing

The Corporate Citizen+ project “Extensive grazing of a lowland bog in Benediktbeuern” brings together the long-standing expertise of the Center for Environment and Culture e.V. (ZUK) and other partners. The goal of the project is to make a tangible contribution to climate action and sustainable agriculture—specifically through year-round grazing of the peatlands by buffalo, horses, and heritage cattle breeds. By feeding on and moving across the land, the animals promote vegetation growth and increase the soil’s ability to absorb water. In addition, this extensive use is leading to an increase in the number of bird and insect species settling in the area, which has a positive impact on biodiversity.

The project supports climate action by restoring moisture and preserving the area over the long term. It also creates a rare habitat in the region as well as an ideal water reservoir. The innovative aspect here is the establishment of sphagnum moss cultivation and extensive grazing as alternative business models for farmers. In addition, employee events on the topics of environmental education, climate action, and biodiversity can be organized, which helps Dachser establish a climate protection culture.

A closer look: Interview with Bernhard Simon

“The EU is squandering key opportunities in Africa”

An abridged version of an interview with Bernhard Simon, published in German publication Handelsblatt on September 16, 2025.

Bernhard Simon believes that entrepreneurs should fight against Europe’s loss of trust and finally seize opportunities in Africa. He believes that getting involved will cost less than expected.

Globalization is his business. And yet Bernhard Simon, Chairman of the Supervisory Board of the logistics group Dachser, views the current geopolitical upheavals and deglobalization trends less as a threat to his company and more as a threat to the West’s global credibility. “The withdrawal of USAID—and, more broadly, the withdrawal of Western industrialized nations from development cooperation—concerns me.” Companies need to do something about this.

Simon urges business leaders to focus not only on social and environmental responsibility but also on their political responsibility. “We as a company might not be able to save the world, but we can still have a big impact,” says Simon. He goes on to dispel many misconceptions, such as how much good governance and development cooperation cost his company.

In an interview with Handelsblatt, Simon explains not only how Europe is effectively leaving Africa in the hands of autocrats and what opportunities family-owned companies are squandering in the process. The logistics expert also describes his company’s efforts to foster a spirit of optimism in Germany. “In doing so,” says Simon, “we sometimes have to take on tasks that used to be handled by schools and society.”

Looking to the future:
Bernhard Simon



Mr. Simon, you’ve been managing your family-owned company for 36 years. Has there ever been as much upheaval as there is now?

The introduction of the euro, other currency fluctuations, and Brexit have all presented us with similar challenges. Resilience has been in our DNA ever since my grandfather founded the company. We also see opportunities right now as our customers diversify their supply chains—for example, in Asia—to reduce their dependence on China.

What concerns you most, particularly with regard to the United States?

The withdrawal of USAID—and, more broadly, the withdrawal of Western industrialized nations from development cooperation—concerns me.

Is everyone on the retreat?

That’s right. We are throwing away trust in the idea that democracy and the social market economy—which are also core elements of the European Union—are the right path for other countries as well. You can see an example of this in Africa, where the EU is squandering key opportunities.

A closer look: Interview with Bernhard Simon

Because the Chinese are investing heavily in infrastructure there?

Not only that, but in addition to the US, Turkey is also an important trading partner, and Russia is becoming increasingly dominant militarily. And while Europeans were hoarding their vaccines during the coronavirus pandemic instead of sending them to African countries, the Chinese delivered their vaccines there. This has eroded a great deal of trust, as many African countries rely on health programs.

Can Europeans regain that trust?

We should definitely do so, and on two levels: First, if European companies want to reach markets outside the EU, they must highlight the benefits of rules and democracy in countries with less rule-based social structures. The EU must open its markets further and treat its African partners as equals. Second, the gap left by the withdrawal of USAID and other country programs must be filled.

Is Germany pulling out, too?

When you talk to officials at Terre des Hommes or other development organizations, they say that all Western government institutions are pulling out. They are no longer doing enough in the developing regions of the world to demonstrate that democracy, freedom of expression, and the social market economy lead to greater prosperity. Autocracies fill the vacuum. Europe has failed in Africa. We Europeans must finally show what we have to offer.

In fact, the budget of Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development is decreasing this year from EUR 12 billion to just over EUR 10 billion. Did this trend start during Donald Trump's second term, or did it actually begin earlier?

Populism has been on the rise ever since the current US president's first term in office. More and more countries, including those in Europe,

are focusing on their own interests. This regularly leads to a withdrawal from development cooperation. In the past, people tried to shape development policy through large-scale government projects.

And today?

Today we know that grassroots projects—that is, the forces that drive civil society at the local level—have a much longer-lasting impact on a country's development. Today, nongovernmental organizations enjoy the highest level of trust in the countries of the Global South, where they make up the bulk of effective development work. Meanwhile, Western countries are losing their standing in the world. Just look at the massive loss of trust in Afghanistan.

Are you doing anything about it? Are you active in Afghanistan as well?

Yes, I personally support civil society organizations there. Of course, it's just a drop in the bucket, but we must foster trust in liberal-democratic structures for the young people who will shape the societies of tomorrow. Business leaders should focus not only on social and environmental responsibility but also on their political responsibility.

And what does that mean for Dachser?

First and foremost, this means upholding all social standards in one's home country and building trust that these standards will also be adhered to in China, India, Vietnam, etc. Only when a company genuinely embodies these values is it strategically ready to engage with the world beyond its own organization. To put it plainly: If I make money beforehand using methods that aren't exactly ideal, and then clean up my image afterward, that has nothing to do with CSR—which is to say, corporate social responsibility.

How do owners of family businesses react when you tell them that?

They're very interested because they are often unfamiliar with the complex interrelationships. We thus gain their support for our cause. Development and climate action projects shouldn't primarily benefit us at Dachser and make us look good in the press; they should benefit the people affected by poverty and climate change.

Can you give us an example?

Dachser is investing in "improved cooking stoves"—these are modern stoves that are highly efficient and prevent the production of smoke that's harmful to health.

Could you elaborate on that?

More than a third of the world's population still cooks over an open fire. This not only harms the climate but also leads to very serious health problems due to smoke, particulate matter, and CO₂. Women and children are particularly affected by this risk.

Do you receive certificates for promoting these types of stoves?

Yes, but in order to identify the real needs of the local people, the partner NGOs on the ground need to listen carefully to what their concerns are. Our certificates aren't much help in that regard. In other cases, solar-powered pumps are needed. There are no certificates for that. Through our climate action projects, we want to help people affected by climate change meet their most basic needs.

But honesty comes at a price.

Let's take a step back: As entrepreneurs, we can only be authentic and build trust through a clear strategy that fits our company.

And what is Dachser's strategy?

Our strategic focus is globalization; it is the driving force behind our business success. And it will continue to exist, despite all the doomsday predictions. However, globalization also has negative effects. We must not only take advantage of the opportunities, but also shoulder our responsibilities. We as a company might not be able to save the world, but we can still have a big impact.

As part of your corporate social and environmental responsibility (CSR) strategy, you have chosen to partner with Terre des Hommes. Why?

My mother had been involved with Terre des Hommes. When I moved to Nuremberg to attend college after completing my apprenticeship, I reached out to the local group there. Then I was asked if I would do the audit for the German organization. And that's how I really gained a very deep insight into and understanding of development partnership.

What did you learn there?

Through Terre des Hommes, I've come to know the world outside of Europe and worked with people who really know the local situation well. The organization is more of a consulting firm and always works with local NGOs. It has now built up such a strong reputation that funding for its ongoing projects from the German Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development has been cut only very slightly. They are critical discussion partners, but we, too, are critical discussion partners.

But what exactly does corporate political responsibility (CPR) mean?

We on the Supervisory Board are currently working with our Executive Board to define the guidelines for CPR, determine what responsibilities this entails for our company, and decide how we intend to implement these guidelines

A closer look: Interview with Bernhard Simon

in our communications on a country-by-country basis. We talk about critical situations, the consequences of climate change, and the benefits of liberal societies. That's the basis for CPR.

What does Dachser's commitment to CSR and CPR cost?

Much less than you think. It's really more about authenticity and honesty. In total, we're talking about an annual budget of up to EUR 7 million for CSR and climate action projects outside our core business operations. And CPR is still in the conceptual phase, but it won't really cost any money in the future either.

What can others learn from you?

It's much more important to manage these issues on the ground with local partners than to simply provide funding. Too much money disrupts structures, leading to bureaucracy and corruption at the local level. In other words, it's not primarily about the money, but rather about good governance—that is, clear goals and processes. And it takes more courage to go to developing countries. We can make a difference there, especially as a family-owned company.

Why do many people hesitate?

Often, people lack the specific knowledge and network needed to connect with local NGOs. Entrepreneurs should also develop a clear strategy and align it with that of their company. And then they should look for an organization that has the right expertise.

So companies shouldn't take any action on their own?

No. When it comes to supporting local civil society, companies in this country can never be as knowledgeable as local organizations.

What do you hope to have accomplished in the area of CPR in five years?

So far, this issue has been closely tied to my role as chairman of the Supervisory Board. The key now is for the Executive Board to define the right guidelines to enable Dachser's employees to convey our values to our customers, partners, and subcontractors. We reach far more than the 200,000 people we work with. This is how we can make an impact.

Mr. Simon, thank you for speaking with us.

Holistic projects with Terre des Hommes

For 20 years now, Dachser has been partnering with the children's rights organization Terre des Hommes to help people help themselves. Various projects in South and Southeast Asia, Southern Africa, and Latin America improve the educational opportunities and living conditions of children and youth—particularly those in socially and economically disadvantaged communities—and help local communities cope with the effects of climate change. A particular focus is the promotion of youth groups that are committed to children's rights, education, climate action, and environmental protection. The projects directly address rural social structures to promote self-determination. In keeping with the credo of “helping people help themselves,” the idea is for young people to take the future of their local communities into their own hands and shape it. With this in mind, the long-term projects empower them in a variety of ways, not least by awakening and encouraging their entrepreneurial spirit.

South Asia

India: Education, livelihoods, health, nutrition, and the fight against gender-based discrimination and violence

The collaboration between Dachser and Terre des Hommes in India began in 2005 with a focus on education and children's rights; their first project was in the state of Uttar Pradesh. Since then, the project work has significantly expanded geographically, thematically, and programmatically. In 2025, projects focused on the areas of education, livelihoods, health, and nutrition. Another focus is on combating gender-specific discrimination and violence.

In recent years, Dachser and Terre des Hommes have been active in Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, and Rajasthan. The projects improved access to and awareness of government health and nutrition programs in each region in order to combat rising malnutrition.

The initiative has also strengthened young people's livelihoods and education and empowered them to advocate for children's rights and the environment. These efforts targeted gender discrimination, violence, and child trafficking as well. Young people brought local challenges to the national agenda in order to have a greater impact. In addition, action plans for environmental sustainability were developed.

The key results in 2025

In 2025, the joint efforts focused on strengthening local initiatives for children's rights and children's health, as well as women's and youth groups. There were programs for skills development and other local initiatives. Terre des Hommes and its partner organizations raised the young people's awareness of gender equality, justice, and project management, enabling them to carry out social projects with limited resources. Ongoing initiatives support young leaders in collaborating with local authorities and civil society in Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Rajasthan.

Health and nutrition

- In Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, 3,910 families were able to rely on their own vegetables every day for nearly eight months. A total of 54 families earned additional income by selling their surplus produce.
- In 2025, eleven more farmers began growing mushrooms as a source of income. A full 499 kilograms of mushrooms were produced over two production periods, with 257 kilograms of that sold at the local market. Regular consumption of homegrown vegetables and mushrooms contributed to improvements in the families' health and dietary diversity.
- In Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, 7,600 families (92 percent of whom are from Dalit communities) were able to improve their access to essential government services. These included nutritional supplements for 87 pregnant women and 183 breastfeeding mothers; employment opportunities; health cards; food rations through the Public Distribution System (PDS); social assistance

benefits; pensions for widows, people with disabilities, and senior citizens; as well as benefits provided under the National Health Mission.

- In addition, 1,800 children aged 6 to 14 in the two states were enrolled in the Saksham Anganwadi Services (ICDS), ensuring their access to regular health checkups, vaccinations, and nutritional support. In addition, 140 children under the age of six were enrolled in the Anganwadi Center's early childhood care and health services.

Education and employment opportunities

- In Delhi, 90 children received academic support and also participated in extracurricular activities.
- Over the course of five years, 302 children and teenagers were encouraged to continue their education. They were helped to enroll in various institutions so they could continue or complete their education.
- Also in Delhi, 670 young people have completed a computer course and become fluent in English over the past five years. Of these, 45 percent found employment in private companies. The rest of the young people decided to continue their education.
- In Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, 1,389 girls and women have completed a tailoring course over five years, and 533 girls and women started their own businesses through sewing and contributed to their families' income. In addition, 77 young people found jobs in Delhi and Bihar, and four started their own businesses after completing training programs.

Fighting against gender-specific prejudices as well as child trafficking and abuse

- A gender-responsive team actively raised awareness of important gender-specific issues in the communities, as well as at the district and state levels. In 2025, six social action projects promoted gender equality. Child protection committees were strengthened to prevent child marriage and child trafficking. Young people expressed concerns about marriage registration at the panchayat level (village self-government), advocated for strengthening child protection committees, and called for education and strict measures against sham or forced marriages.
- The regular participation of youth in village meetings ensured that issues such as gender-based prejudice, child marriage, and child trafficking were given priority, and that measures had already been taken in the project villages.

Child and gender rights, economic and social protection for marginalized groups, and environmental protection

- A total of 88 members from four youth networks have worked with local governments to address issues at the state level. They also addressed issues related to waste management in Delhi, health and nutrition in Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, and child protection and human trafficking in Bihar.
- Twenty-two young leaders from Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Bihar joined forces with like-minded networks such as Greenpeace India, Vishwa Yuvak Kendra (a youth organization), Hulladek, and One Step Greener. Young people are getting involved on a broader scale in economic, social, and environmental issues.



A future worth living—
within reach

Equal opportunities for marginalized groups

In 2025, a project was launched with partners Vacha and Muskaan to support disadvantaged and indigenous communities in Mumbai and Madhya Pradesh. It is aimed at minorities who don't have access to social services due to discrimination, a lack of identification documents, or a lack of education.

- Education, gender equality, and community development were strengthened: 31 youth educators (21 girls, 10 boys) were specifically selected; they mobilized over 865 children and teenagers as well as more than 400 adults in their communities. The youth educators organized meetings, supported government programs, and facilitated discussions on education, gender equality, health, and the environment. They helped 265 children and adolescents secure government assistance, restored PDS benefits for nine families, and assisted 160 children with NIOS registration and exams, including six Muslim girls who were able to return to school.
- To create safe and inclusive learning environments, the partner organizations established and strengthened 20 municipal resource centers. A total of 265 children (221 girls, 44 boys) participated in programs focused on life skills, legal education, and parent engagement. In addition, seven learning centers and three library centers supported 498 children, including 196 who were not of school age.
- Gender equality was promoted through awareness-raising events, campaigns, and the innovative use of Ultimate Frisbee as a tool for inclusion. During the “16 days of activism against gender-based violence,” youth workers reached 1,108 people through street theater and rallies that addressed domestic violence and discrimination.
- Twenty gender training sessions were held, attended by 405 young people, 180 adults, and 840 schoolchildren. More than 400 children and young people, plus 45 adults, took part in the Frisbee activities; the highlight was a two-day tournament with 217 players.

Nepal: Equal access to education for children and youth

A project launched in December 2024 aims to make it easier for children, youth, and parents in 13 sub-districts of the Bajura District to access education, thereby improving their livelihoods. Key objectives include a 95 percent retention rate for students in secondary school, a secondary school graduation rate of 54 percent for girls, and gender-equitable curricula.

To this end, the project is establishing structures, strengthening student, youth, and parent groups, and mobilizing local authorities to promote equitable education. These efforts include, among other things, building up capacity for teachers and school administrators, promoting early childhood development, teaching life skills, providing vocational training, and offering financial support to prevent school dropouts and migration.

A total of 1,058 families—including 1,000 parents and children, 325 young people, and 58 apprentices—benefited directly from the measures. In addition, key stakeholders such as school superintendents, teachers, and staff were involved. The activities at 40 schools directly reached approximately 6,500 beneficiaries and indirectly reached about 23,000 community members. The integrated approach aims to achieve sustainable, gender-specific improvements in learning outcomes, family resilience, and reduced emigration.

The key results in 2025

- A full 40 parent groups identified key barriers to school attendance, such as sociocultural factors like the menstrual taboo (chhaupadi). Economic factors were also discussed, such as the fact that children have to work in the fields and tend livestock.
- The project formed 40 groups of children (with 1,000 children). Various extracurricular activities helped the children become more involved and more aware of their rights.
- Regular meetings and training sessions served to educate 325 young people from 13 youth groups about rights and social responsibility. The School Management Committees (SMCs) at 40 schools were strengthened through training sessions.
- To strengthen school capacity and local engagement, the project provided professional development and learning resources for teachers and staff. A total of 52 schools and ECDCs benefited from this.
- Five child-centered pedagogical training sessions and three subject-specific training sessions were attended by 173 teachers. Twelve ECDCs and 20 schools received educational materials; three schools received materials for computer labs; 40 schools received sports equipment; and 13 inter-school tournaments were held.
- Thirteen municipal resource centers were established; six tutoring programs supported 125 at-risk adolescent girls; and events focused on life skills and career counseling reached 467 young people. Training courses on integrated school administration and curriculum innovations benefited two model schools and their 59 staff members.
- To reduce the risk of children dropping out of school, the project supported the livelihoods of parents in rural areas. Three small canals now irrigate the farmland of 186 families; 50 farmers built greenhouses out of tarps; 78 farmers received training in organic farming; 25 families in need each received three breeding goats and training in goat husbandry. Fifteen teenagers completed a one-month training program in aluminum processing.

Southeast Asia

Thailand: Support for migrant and refugee children from Myanmar

The project, which began in mid-2025, supports 950 children and youth from Myanmar who have been affected by political violence and have fled to Thailand. It offers psychosocial support, protective measures, and training for service providers. One focus is on the participation of children and youth in the Children on the Move (CoM) network, which is led by the participants themselves. Annual analyses of children's rights are produced with the direct involvement of the CoM. In addition, children's and youth leaders receive training on children's rights or participate in workshops to strengthen their role as advocates for children's rights. A "Training of Trainers" program is in place for leadership development. The overarching goals are to provide protection, strengthen resilience, and empower young people to advocate for their rights.

Initial successes

- Assessments using the Depression, Anxiety, and Stress Scale (DASS) were conducted on 658 children and youth. The results showed that 49 percent struggle with mental health issues, with 7 percent suffering from severe

or very severe depression, anxiety, and stress, while 42 percent were affected by anxiety, more than half of whom were girls.

- As a result of these findings, three mobile "Psychological First Aid" (PFA) sessions reached 173 children and adolescents. Follow-up assessments after the PFA showed that 54 percent of the children reported positive changes, including improved emotional regulation, less stress, better sleep, greater concentration, increased self-confidence, better problem-solving skills, and more self-assurance. Children and teenagers also reported receiving stronger psychosocial support from their peers at the learning centers.
- As a result of the workshops on promoting children's rights held in September 2025, 41 youth leaders demonstrated an increased ability to apply their knowledge and skills in promoting children's rights in practice.

Myanmar: Help for traumatized children

Since the military coup in 2021, the Karenni State in eastern Myanmar has been the site of violent attacks on the civilian population, with severe consequences for women, children, people with disabilities, and the elderly. Children suffer from violence, a lack of education, and



Learning to take control of their own lives

psychological stress. Typhoon Yagi in 2024 significantly worsened the situation with regard to food supplies. The project operates in five refugee camps and seven host villages in the border region with Thailand, where approximately 69,400 people live. International organizations don't have access there. The project therefore provides psychosocial support for children directly on-site and offers assistance with hygiene and nutrition.

The key results in 2025

- A total of 400 families received rice, cooking oil, salt, and yellow beans. In addition, 150 of the most vulnerable families in this group—including families with members who have disabilities, pregnant women, and children, as well as female-headed households—were provided with supplemental food assistance.
- The project distributed kits containing clothing and hygiene items such as soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, and towels to 400 families, and 400 girls and young women were provided with hygiene kits.
- Training sessions on personal hygiene, children's rights, and drug education were offered to 300 young people. In these training sessions, participants learned stress-reduction techniques. They also developed coping strategies for dealing with everyday challenges in the refugee camp.

Case study: New hope in the refugee camp



Eliza* lives with her family in the Sobaw-Thae refugee camp in Myanmar, on the border with Thailand. She had to leave her hometown behind, which she misses very much. But war and violence forced them to flee.

Life in the refugee camp is very difficult for them. There's hardly any water, and Eliza often felt sick and listless. "I didn't want to wear makeup or take care of my personal hygiene anymore, and I wasn't interested in other things either," Eliza says, describing that devastating time.

Taking part in a workshop brought about many changes for Eliza. There, she learned how important it is, especially as a young person, to look after her own well-being, and she realized that she had to take responsibility for herself and her future. This gave her hope again. "My lifestyle gradually changed. I started taking better care of myself again and tried to live a good life," Eliza says. She also received feminine hygiene items and menstrual products from the teachers, which were a great help to her. To Eliza, these seemingly ordinary things are of immense value. "I was very grateful to have access to such important and helpful products during the war."

*Name has been changed

Southern Africa

South Africa: Holistic and market-oriented vocational training for economic participation

Since 2020, the project, in partnership with the Catholic Institute of Education (CIE), has been helping disadvantaged youth in Johannesburg enter the workforce. Through the St. Anthony's Education Centre and the Bokamoso Skills and Economic Development Centre, they receive hands-on training in fields such as electrical engineering, plumbing, and skilled trades, gain work experience, and receive mentoring to enhance their employability and independence. Ongoing coaching and capacity building ensure quality and sustainable impact. The project demonstrates that local training programs, combined with life skills, vocational knowledge, and entrepreneurial support, can enable young people without access to formal education or employment to successfully enter the workforce.

The key results in 2025

- Between July and December 2025, 40 young people (18 female, 22 male) completed vocational training at St. Anthony's Education Centre and the Bokamoso Skills and Economic Development Centre. The training program was based on an analysis of the local job market and covered the fields of electrical engineering, plumbing, inventory management, aluminum processing, and masonry. All participants also completed a structured program designed to teach life skills.
- After completing their training, 31 young people participated for the first time in a practice-oriented training program (workplace-based learning) that combined formal internships with structured alternative educational pathways.
- At the same time, 25 young people received training in small business management; 10 young people received startup kits tailored to their chosen professions to help them launch their own businesses. Mentoring and coaching continued beyond the training program to support an early transition to income-generating employment.

- At the institutional level, the project strengthened the centers of excellence through coordination, support with regulatory compliance, peer learning, and leadership development, including a national in-person workshop for center directors.

South Africa: Psychosocial support and prospects for young refugees

Since February 2023, Terre des Hommes and Dachser have been supporting a project for forcibly displaced children and young people run by the local partner Outreach Foundation (OF). The project began in Hillbrow in the center of Johannesburg. Since 2025, refugee children and adolescents in the Nkomazi District near Eswatini and Mozambique have been receiving assistance.

Young people in this region often lack access to a quality education, struggle with economic insecurity, and are at risk of abuse and exploitation. Access to education and employment is particularly difficult for young people without valid documents. Through psychosocial support, vocational training, and the promotion of entrepreneurship, the project offers economic opportunities. The project is being carried out in rural communities and is aimed at approximately 390 unemployed young people.

The key results in 2025

- A total of 70 adolescents (56 girls, 14 boys) received psychosocial support. As part of the community outreach program, 73 participants took part in events that focused on legal awareness and male role models in the community.
- A total of 106 young people completed courses in cosmetology, household appliance repair, welding, tiling, and food preservation. In addition, 95 young people completed a training program in entrepreneurial skills to prepare them for self-employment.
- The project also distributed 17 starter kits and supported the formation of micro-entrepreneur teams.



Preparing young people
for self-employment

Zambia: Trash4Cash: Promoting entrepreneurship among young people

Trash4Cash (T4C) is creating a value chain for waste in Livingstone, Zambia, and providing a source of income for young entrepreneurs and the local population. Anyone who drops off presorted waste earns money and helps keep the city clean at the same time. This also improves hygiene and health. As part of the project, the first waste collection center was established to collect various types of plastic.

The project, which is being implemented in partnership with Environment Africa, entered its third phase in 2025. This initiative builds on previous achievements and focuses on introducing local waste sorting, cleaning, and recycling into pallets and granules through the youth-run enterprise Trash4Cash, which consists of seven members. As part of the project, the young people are being trained to operate and manage the new waste recycling facility.

The key results in 2025

- A waste recycling facility was built in Lusaka to process plastic waste into high-quality pellets and granules. It is equipped with modern machinery that was procured by the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) in cooperation with the Livingstone City Council. The products can be sold at a market price that's higher than the price of the raw materials used to make them. This means additional revenue for the project. The Livingstone City Council provided the land and logistical support, while UNIDO provided technical assistance.
- The facility can process over 50 metric tons of plastic waste, thereby significantly reducing environmental pollution in the region. Local processing reduces costs and creates new jobs, making the project economically and environmentally sustainable.

- With the support of Dachser and Terre des Hommes, an exchange visit between the Trash4Cash team and ZAK, a waste management company in Kempten, Germany, was made possible. One of the results of the exchange was that ZAK donated a 12-kVA three-phase solar power system (a smart hybrid model with 5.5 kWp) as well as a 10-kWh lithium storage system (including photovoltaic modules, inverters, and battery storage) for the new waste-to-energy plant in Livingstone. The solar power system was installed in December 2025 to provide a reliable source of electricity to power the machinery.

South America

Argentina: Advocating for environmental rights and education

The aim of the project, conducted in collaboration with partner organization APADIM, is to turn children, youth, and young adults with and without disabilities in the city and province of Córdoba into “environmental citizens.” The idea is for them to learn to defend their right to live in a healthy, sustainable, dignified, and diverse environment and ensure that this right is recognized. At the same time, they are advocating for the implementation of the Comprehensive Environmental Education Act.

The project includes training sessions on environmental law and ecofeminism, interdisciplinary educational activities, and advocacy efforts. Led by APADIM, the project also aims to strengthen youth leadership and environmental awareness in their communities through workshops, campaigns, and inclusive educational tools.

The key results in 2025

- A photo exhibition in Córdoba showcased artistic works by APADIM students and encouraged reflection and discussion on environmental issues. A total of 35 students and 15 teachers attended the opening ceremony.
- After the exhibition, three teenagers and the project coordinator gave a radio interview, and the coordinator was also interviewed on television. In December, the Environmental Police’s communications department spoke with the team to highlight their experiences with art and environmental protection; the interview was released as a podcast.
- APADIM students participated in six agroecological fairs in Córdoba. They sold seedlings and sustainable products, distributed calendars for 2026, as well as resource kits and a publication on socio-ecological mapping.
- The community garden project with the Juana Manso Special Education School promoted collaboration, environmental protection, and the exchange of knowledge between students and teachers.



- In 2025, 30 students in grades 5 and 6 (12 girls, 18 boys) participated in workshops on recycling, organic gardening, photography, collage, and sculpture. They also learned about healthy eating, cooking, and the prevention of dengue fever.
- The students developed the “Chau Mosquito” dengue prevention campaign, distributed flyers, and handed out a natural insect repellent made from plants they had grown themselves. In addition, throughout the year, the APADIM students performed with their “murga” (a traditional folk music and dance group) and actively engaged with passersby and spectators using the materials they had created, including during the opening ceremony of the “We Are All Nature” photo exhibition.
- As part of the project, a team of 13 youth mentors from APADIM’s educational programs were trained to serve as guides on the agroecological tour during visits to other schools and institutions. In 2025, they accompanied eleven of these visits—from eight schools and three children’s and youth centers.

Brazil: Strengthening education and agroecology in rural areas

In 2021, a project called “Education and agroecology in rural schools in agrarian reform areas” was launched at eleven schools. In the second phase, which started in 2024, these experiences are being built upon and the project expanded to include six additional schools in three regions. The main goal remains to strengthen agroecological education in order to promote environmental rights, the right to land, and the right to education. The project is expected to reach approximately 1,500 students and 150 teachers. It aims to involve children, youth, and families in the national plan “Plant Trees, Produce Healthy Food.”

The key results in 2025

- In 2025, six project schools selected appropriate agroecological approaches based on internal analyses and expert advice. Each school documented its current situation and needs in order to define specific initiatives for 2026 based on that information. The schools



Agroecology
you can touch

received support through regional professional development sessions, online planning meetings, and knowledge-sharing.

- The selection processes included discussion sessions at nine secondary schools, some of which involved the MST National Youth Collective. Topics included continuing education, agroecological livelihoods, and self-organization for environmental activism.
- In November, twelve students took part in the Children's COP in Belém do Pará, which was held in parallel with COP30. They shared experiences, learned how small initiatives can make a difference, developed critical thinking skills, and strengthened their role in climate action.
- Agroecology is already part of the curriculum at three of the six schools, while the remaining schools are building capacity.
- In 2025, one focus of the project was on teacher training. Two regional courses on agroecology and environmental justice included teaching on theoretical aspects plus workshops and field trips to ongoing projects. The program offered opportunities for teachers to exchange ideas and present projects and methods. Another five-day workshop took place in June.
- Self-organization is central to agroecological education. In seven schools with 909 students, “Núcleos de Base” were established—self-organized groups in which students design their learning and communal spaces and plan and evaluate school activities.

Case study: Learning for a sustainable future in rural areas



Daniel da Conceição Costa, 17, attends Roseli Nunes School in the Brazilian state of Maranhão. There, he gained extensive practical experience in sustainable agricultural production as part of a project supported by Dachser and Terre des Hommes.

In class, Daniel worked directly within the agroforestry system, helped care for the animals, and tended the school garden. This hands-on experience helped him understand “how it’s possible to produce food sustainably while respecting nature,” he says. At the same

time, he learned how important the protection of soil, water, and biodiversity is for sustainable agriculture.

His work in the agroforestry system had a particularly profound impact on him. “Here I’ve learned that every plant and every tree has a purpose, and that diversity boosts production,” Daniel explains. The livestock farming integrated into the production process also taught him about responsibility, animal welfare, and an awareness of the balance between the environment and the use of it.

Daniel also gained valuable experience in the vegetable garden. In addition to farming techniques, he learned organizational skills, planning, and how to work as part of a team. All of this has permanently changed his view of country life. Now Daniel would like to continue his education and work in the field of agroecology. His goal is to contribute to the production of healthy food and to the development of his community. His experiences in school, he says, have shown him “that it is possible to build a future in the countryside—with knowledge, dignity, and dedication.”

Peru: Quechua youth advocate for their environmental rights

Between 2022 and 2025, the project was implemented with ABA in Ayacucho, where indigenous communities face significant social and economic challenges. Resources are scarce so young people are leaving the region, which is weakening Quechua culture and local structures. Climate change is affecting agriculture through droughts, frost, and hail, compounded by widespread wildfires. The social unrest in December 2022 resulted in ten deaths in Ayacucho and left behind a deep sense of mistrust toward public institutions.

In light of these complex challenges, the project provided support through measures aimed at strengthening cultural identity, promoting sustainable resources, and supporting youth and community-based enterprises. The goal was to increase self-reliance and resilience in the region.

The key results

- **Rainwater management:** A total of 93 young people (43 women and 50 men) were trained as part of the Rainwater Stewardship Program (SCALL). Of these, 33 were hired as consultants. They identified more than 130 natural watersheds and oversaw the construction and/or improvement of 94 rainwater ponds. Between 2023 and 2025, the program also brought together more than 280 young people and community representatives to share their experiences, promoted the integration of the SCALL methodology into local government, and made it possible to exceed the planned target for pond construction by 74 percent.
- **Protection of water and biodiversity:** A total of 165 young people (65 women and 100 men) received training in communication. As a result, 148 radio programs in Quechua as well as various digital materials were produced. Overall, the project succeeded in having the Peruvian Ministry of Foreign Trade and Tourism designate eight locations as tourist attractions. For example, the project made it possible to develop the Ruqruqa Waterfall for tourism, improved public spaces, and supported a community museum in

Quispillaccta. Consolidation efforts in territorial management helped improve access to public funds and position the region as an attractive travel destination.

- **Training program on Buen Vivir and intercultural policy:** Cultural education, rights, and political advocacy were part of the project aimed at strengthening the indigenous concept for good living, called “sumak kawsay.” A total of 204 young people (79 women and 124 men) participated in workshops on passing down traditional knowledge, and 43 young people were trained to become “yachaqs” (wise people/teachers). The school for political education reached more than 100 young people, children, and community leaders, thereby strengthening their ability to defend their rights and get involved. Four public policies were adopted, and multilevel advocacy groups were supported. The focus was on the responsible management of rainwater and the leadership role of indigenous youth.
- **Between 2022 and 2025, comprehensive training on entrepreneurial skills was conducted in Quispillaccta and the surrounding area.** The “7 de Junio” school offered courses in pastry making, chocolate making, and fruit processing to 34 students, while more than 90 young people received training in agribusiness, tourism, gastronomy, and business management. More than 20 workshops were held for local trade associations. A total of 22 businesses and five restaurants were established—far more than the original goal of ten. In addition, a support network consisting of 16 institutions was established.

Strengthening cultural identity



A closer look: 20 years of development work with Terre des Hommes

“Giving opportunities, creating the future” – A dialogue on development partnership

Ideas for strategically embedding development partnership in the Global South: For 20 years, Dachser and the children's rights organization Terre des Hommes have been working together to promote development and equal opportunities in the Global South. To mark this anniversary, an event titled “Creating opportunities, shaping the future: Ideas for strategic engagement in the countries of the Global South” was held in April 2026 at the new DACHSER Network Campus in Kempten.

Supply chains: Between globalization and responsibility

At the event and via livestream, approximately 600 representatives from the business community, politics, and civil society discussed the role of companies in a globalized world. The speakers—Dr. Gerd Müller, Director General of UNIDO; Dr. Wolfgang Stefinger, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development in the German Bundestag; and Joshua Hofert, Executive Board Member of Terre des Hommes—accepted the invitation from Bernhard Simon, Chairman of the Supervisory Board, and Burkhard Eling, Dachser CEO. Markus Raffler, editor-in-chief of regional daily newspaper Allgäuer Zeitung, hosted the event.

Global supply chains shape our daily lives; they are the foundation of our economic activities. At the same time, they highlight the close link between economic success and social responsibility. And this is also, indeed especially, true in logistics. “Globalization is the driving force, the flywheel of our business,” said Bernhard Simon



Dachser Young Professionals reported on the exchange of ideas in the German-Zambian youth exchange and the Trash4Cash project

Bernhard Simon explains Dachser's role as a Corporate Citizen+



at the start of the event. "It also results in a responsibility for the current and future living conditions of people worldwide."

This discourse is taking place at a time marked by growing uncertainty: declining trust in institutions, social isolation, and the withdrawal of public actors from development collaboration. For Simon, this means new challenges for companies. Dachser sees itself as a "Corporate Citizen+"—a global company that consciously takes responsibility for vulnerable and marginalized people, establishes structures, and promotes equal opportunities.

Dachser's partnership with Terre des Hommes, which has lasted more than 20 years, illustrates what corporate social responsibility can look like in practice. Starting with an initial project following the Indian Ocean tsunami disaster on Christmas Day 2004, a long-term partnership has developed involving projects in more than a dozen countries, which Dachser supports with approximately EUR 3 million annually.

At the heart of this is a shift in perspective: away from short-term aid and toward sustainable development. Simon describes the approach thus: "We don't just build schools—we empower people to take their lives into their own hands."

Insights from practice and politics

Joshua Hofert, Executive Board Member of Terre des Hommes, listed three factors that make for a successful endeavor: strategy instead of PR, partnerships between equals, and long-term reliability. To create a "world of humanity," we sometimes have to swim "against the current." Especially in times of declining donations and growing global crises, this principle is more important than ever.

Dr. Gerd Müller, Director General of UNIDO and former German Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development, provided an overview of the global context. Supply chains are not only economic structures but also social

A closer look: 20 years of development work with Terre des Hommes



systems, and their design must be guided by human dignity and sustainability. At the same time, the dynamic markets of the Global South offer great opportunities—provided that development is approached as a partnership.

Dr. Wolfgang Stefinger, Chairman of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development in the German Bundestag, also emphasized the importance of international cooperation in an increasingly interconnected world. He pointed to the growing role for international collaboration in an increasingly fragmented world, saying that national perspectives are no longer enough to overcome global challenges. “Everything is connected to everything else,” he said—economically, politically, and socially.

A project example from Zambia illustrated what development work can look like in practice. To this end, Christoph Meyer, a young project manager at Dachser, and Lara Kühn from ZAK,

the municipal waste company for Kempten, in Sonthofen presented a flagship project by Dachser and Terre des Hommes: Trash4Cash, a successful startup from the Zambian city of Livingstone, which grew out of a youth exchange program launched in 2019. The idea: to collect and sort recyclable waste and sell it as a recyclable material. With a great deal of dedication and entrepreneurial spirit, these Zambian entrepreneurs have built a thriving business that recently opened its own recycling center and—with support from UNIDO, among others—was able to put its first truck into service.

Shaping the future through collaboration and commitment

In closing, Dachser CFO Thomas Hiemer spoke on behalf of the Executive Board to highlight the connection to Dachser—a logistics provider with deep local roots yet a global presence: “From here, we send out inspiration to the

world, and at the same time, we invite the world to visit us in Kempten.” The company’s people-centered approach and its commitment to being a responsible corporate citizen stem from its identity as a family-owned company and its core values: “Combining a down-to-earth attitude with an open-mindedness toward the world—we here in the Allgäu know how to do that,” Hiemer said. In keeping with this principle, the current expansion of the corporate headquarters—where the event took place—was also deliberately designed to encourage participation and serve as a place for people to meet and exchange ideas.

At the end of the event, it became clear that global development isn’t some abstract goal, but rather the result of concrete action. Companies can—and must—play an active role in this. Markus Raffler, editor-in-chief of Allgäuer Zeitung and host of the event, summed it up by saying: “When economic activity, social engagement, and international cooperation come together, the result is greater than the sum of its parts. This opens up the possibility of actively shaping the future—and creating opportunities that extend far beyond one’s own company.”



The attention of an interested public:
The project work of Dachser and
Terre des Hommes



Creating opportunities
for a young generation
in the Global South

Overview: Ongoing projects in 2025

Local partner organization	Duration	Brief description
Climate action projects by Dachser Terre des Hommes, myclimate, ZUK		
Suvidha, Aman, HESCO – India	2025–2029	The project focuses on implementing sustainable and environmentally friendly solutions in the Indian state of Uttarakhand. It includes the use of clean energy to reduce dependence on wood fuel, the development of irrigation and drinking water systems, azolla cultivation and nitrogen fixation, climate-friendly agriculture, and the development of orchards to improve greening and livelihoods.
SAHAS, Karnali Resilient Initiative Nepal (KRIN)	2025–2029	This project targets 7,000 households in two districts and supports climate-friendly technologies at the household level to reduce CO ₂ emissions while improving the resilience, knowledge, and capacity to respond to climate change. By promoting clean energy technologies and resilient livelihoods, the project aims to bring sustainable social benefits to communities.
PRODECO, Bolivia	2025–2029	Multiple initiatives for climate action and adaptation to climate change are underway in Quechua, Guaraní, and Chiquitano families in Bolivia. The focus is on introducing ecological wood stoves to reduce GHG emissions. In addition, the project aims to ensure access to water via pipelines and tanks, to establish agroforestry systems and agroecological gardens, and to provide environmental education.
MAHLAHLE, Mozambique	2025–2029	In the provinces of Inhambane and Gaza, this project provides 12,000 households with support for the introduction of climate-friendly technologies to improve livelihoods and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. Households and the agricultural sector receive access to solar-powered water systems, while young people are trained in sustainable trades and the operation of more efficient cooking stoves. At the same time, environmental education raises climate awareness among children and youth.
myclimate, Uganda	2025–2032	The project provides about 100,000 people in rural areas of eastern Uganda with reliable access to clean drinking water. To this end, 30 gravity-driven membrane filtration kiosks (GDM filtration) and 60 expansion units will be installed, which will reduce waterborne diseases and cut carbon emissions as well, since drinking water will no longer need to be boiled.

Overview: Ongoing projects in 2025

Local partner organization	Duration	Brief description
Climate action projects by Dachser Terre des Hommes, myclimate, ZUK		
ZukunftMoor, myclimate Langenhausener Moor, Germany	2025–2030 (impact through 2074)	Sustainable and climate-friendly agricultural use of rewetted peatland soils through paludiculture (wetland farming). The project is a model initiative designed to show nearby farms that rewetting and sustainable management are possible. The bog project also bridges the gap between biodiversity conservation and climate action.
Center for Environment and Culture e.V. (ZUK), Benediktbeuern, Germany	2025–2029	Climate action and environmental protection through extensive grazing of the peatlands by buffalo, horses, and heritage cattle breeds. By feeding on and moving across the land, the animals promote vegetation growth and increase the soil's ability to absorb water. In addition, this extensive use is leading to an increase in the number of bird and insect species settling in the area, which has a positive impact on biodiversity.

Local partner organization	Duration	Brief description
Holistic projects with Terre des Hommes South and Southeast Asia		
Participatory Action for Community Empowerment (PACE), India	October 2020–December 2025	Life, food, and health for children and livelihood basics for young people in India The projects focus on providing young people with a platform to identify socioeconomic problems in their neighborhoods and strengthen their skills in the areas of health and nutrition, environmental protection, and understanding gender-based violence. They also aim to improve young people's personal skills and opportunities in the labor market through elearning courses and other vocational training.
Disha Vihar, India		
Bhoomika Vihar, India		
Vacha Muskaan	January 2025–December 2027	The project advocates for marginalized communities and minorities in Mumbai and Madhya Pradesh who are excluded from government social security programs due to a lack of identification documents, social discrimination, lack of education, and cultural practices. Twenty selected youth leaders will undergo intensive training to engage more young people. Young men and women are also made aware of gender-based rights violations and play Ultimate Frisbee® to foster mutual respect.
Human Resources Center (HRC), Nepal	December 2024–May 2028	Improved education and livelihood opportunities in the rural community of Gaumul in Bajura district, Nepal The project aims to promote equality of opportunity and educational equity. It focuses on eliminating sociocultural, economic, migration-related, and infrastructure-related barriers. Local communities and civil society are strengthened, and economic livelihoods are created through education and training. This will eliminate the root causes of migration and child marriage.
Karenni National Women's Organization, Myanmar	January 2025–December 2025	This project provides humanitarian and emergency aid to internally displaced children and adolescents in 12 townships in Karenni State in Myanmar, as well as along the border with Thailand. Families in these areas are repeatedly displaced due to ongoing armed conflicts between the military junta and armed ethnic organizations. Their precarious situation was further exacerbated by Typhoon Yagi, which destroyed rice fields and agricultural crops. The project provides emergency aid to children and adolescents from 800 families and ensures they have access to food, shelter, and psychosocial support.

Overview: Ongoing projects in 2025

Local partner organization	Duration	Brief description
Holistic projects with Terre des Hommes South and Southeast Asia		
Rights Beyond Border (RBB), Thailand	June 2025–May 2027	The project supports 950 children and adolescents from Myanmar who, as migrants or newly arrived refugees, have been affected by the political violence following the military coup in February 2021. Many fled in mid-2023 due to conscription and intensified military offensives, while others were only recently able to escape airstrikes and armed conflicts. The project provides psychosocial support, protective measures, and capacity-building for service providers, while also strengthening the leadership roles of children and youth through the “Children on the Move” (CoM) network.
Windmill Foundation, Thailand	February 2025–January 2028	This project provides children and adolescents with knowledge and life skills to strengthen their resilience, health awareness, and self-protection behaviors. It’s establishing a network of community leaders in seven pilot communities that will play a crucial role in identifying, assessing, and referring youth affected by domestic violence. It integrates nonviolent communication (NVC) into interactions within the community to create a safer, more supportive environment for at-risk youth.

Local partner organization	Duration	Brief description
Holistic projects with Terre des Hommes Latin America		
APADIM – Asociación de Padres y Amigos del Discapacitado Mental, Argentina	June 2025–May 2027	Promoting the right to a clean and healthy environment—with an inclusive perspective. This project aims to empower children, young people, and young adults with and without disabilities to promote the right to a clean and healthy environment and environmentally responsible behaviors at the local level. The children and young people participating in the project live in neighborhoods on the outskirts of the city of Córdoba, characterized by environmental pollution and urban socioeconomic problems.
Instituto Nacional para o Desenvolvimento Social e Cultural do Campo—INSTITUTO CULTIVAR (in cooperation with O Movimento dos Trabalhadores Sem Terra, or MST), Brazil	July 2021–June 2027	Education and environmentally friendly agrarian culture in rural schools in Brazil This project focuses on training in environmentally friendly agriculture and mobilizes children, young people, and young adults for the right to a clean and healthy environment, the right to land, and the right to education. The project will be implemented in the five ecologically diverse regions of the country. The project will reach approximately 1,000 students and 100 teachers, who will share the best practices developed through the project.
	June 2024–June 2025	Emergency aid following the floods in southern Brazil: Support for the renovation or reconstruction of buildings; provision of relief supplies and emergency stockpiles, such as cleaning supplies, hygiene products, and medical services; and meals served in the MST's solidarity kitchens using donated food.
Aba Asociación Bartolomé Aripaylla, Peru	June 2022–June 2025	Young Quechua from 20 communities in Ayacucho, Peru, are empowered to defend their territories and environmental rights and build their own life prospects. The project aims primarily to strengthen the individual and collective skills of young indigenous women in the areas of water harvesting, agricultural techniques, and entrepreneurship. The projects, in conjunction with local advocacy work, are intended to benefit both participants themselves and their communities.

Overview: Ongoing projects in 2025

Local partner organization	Duration	Brief description
Holistic projects with Terre des Hommes Southern Africa		
Environment Africa, Livingstone, Zambia	August 2025– July 2027	Trash4Cash Phase III – Adding value: Management and operation of the materials recovery facility (UNIDO) to improve waste processing and value creation as part of the Youth Entrepreneurship Project for Plastic Waste in Livingstone This phase of the project builds on an earlier project and focuses on the implementation of local waste sorting, cleaning, and processing into pallets and granules by the youth-run enterprise, which consists of seven members (3 women, 4 men). In collaboration with the Livingstone City Council and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), the project will build a materials recovery facility on a plot of land provided by the city council. The facility will have a processing infrastructure and equipment supported by a solar power system donated by ZAK, a waste management company based in Kempton, to ensure reliable operation.
Outreach Foundation, Johannesburg, South Africa	February 2023– January 2025	Education and training for young migrants in the Hillbrow district of Johannesburg Many of the refugees in Johannesburg have no official status and no access to education and training. The project offers educational opportunities, professional prospects, and psychosocial assistance. Special attention is paid to young mothers and their children.
Outreach Foundation, Mpumalanga, South Africa	January 2025– December 2027	Psychosocial well-being and sustainable livelihoods for children and youth in Mpumalanga The project helps young people in semi-urban and rural areas of the Nkomazi District in Mpumalanga Province, South Africa, gain access to economic opportunities. It offers practical training programs, mentoring, and psychosocial support to enhance employability and resilience. By involving the community and building a youth network, the initiative promotes sustainable livelihoods and youth-led development.
Catholic Institute of Education (CIE), Johannesburg, South Africa	January 2025– December 2027	Vocational preparation for young people in townships The project helps reduce unemployment among unskilled and unemployed young people. Job-preparation courses are held at the two training centers, St. Anthony's and Bokamoso. Particular emphasis is placed on improving opportunities for young women to access market skills training and participate economically in markets, whether formal or informal.



