Introduction

The Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) is a global humanitarian organization with a mission to work with people in poverty and distress to create just and positive change. ADRA Österreich/Austria belongs to the worldwide ADRA network, comprised of 125 supporting and implementing country offices.

ADRA Austria was registered in 1992 and currently employs 3 staff, a team with first hand experience also in the management of ADRA offices in Asia, Central Asia and North Africa.

ADRA Austria has successfully implemented a variety of projects and programs in cooperation with our partners in the field, mainly in the key portfolio sectors of basic education, economic development, renewable energy/climate change adaptation and disaster relief and rehabilitation.

ADRA is dedicated to working with the poorest of the poor and to protecting the vulnerable all over the world.

ADRA Austria works through and at the same time technically supports its local partners on the ground. Projects are developed in a participatory way, involving the communities from the beginning in design, implementation and monitoring of the activities. ADRA works especially with women, children, disabled, socially marginalized groups all over the world including Austria itself.

One of ADRA’s key strengths as a network is the mobilization of local communities and resources. As a church based organization, ADRA can draw back onto a network of millions of volunteers all over the world, in order to reach those that are hard to reach while implementing economic and social development projects to achieve MDG’s, such as remote areas, minority groups.
Basic Education

- functional adult literacy
- informal and nonformal education

ADRA Austria values and promotes education as a foundation and a means to attaining full potential for one's life and service to others.

Key approaches

Functional Adult Literacy using the REFLECT Methodology:
The participatory Regenerated Freirean Literacy through Empowering Community Techniques (REFLECT) approach combines the application of practice to theory, relating directly to local needs such as improved livelihoods or health.

- informal and nonformal education
- build up vocational training centre for orphanage
- rehabilitating schools and providing renewable energy sources for lighting
- providing schools with water and sanitation facilities
- as a cultural exchange and development education, Austrian volunteers have assisted in school renovation in a number of countries.

ROLDP (Result Oriented Leadership Development Program):
this training program in good governance provides community members and leaders on all levels with hands on knowledge and practice to define their priorities and develop their own, feasible projects for the development of their community. It fosters transparency and democracy as well as links communities to local authorities to leverage local funding for their needs.

Economic Development

- Income Generation Activities
- Saving and Lending Programs
- Vocational Training

ADRA Austria is supporting projects, that help people to start projects on their own in order to be able to generate income. People know how to keep savings, orient people based on social values how to help and support each other to move forward and be part of the development of their communities.

Especially vulnerable people, like minorities, female headed households, people living with HIV are mobilized and receive vocational skills through which they can generate an income for their household.

ADRA Austria also supports social institutions like schools or orphanages by establishing social businesses. These side businesses generate income to make the institutions sustainable and independent from donations.

Key approaches

ADRA Austria invests into income generating projects for communities as well as social institutions like schools and orphanages.
- vocational training
- building of market linkages and market pockets
- evaluation of farmers and traders price margins through ICT tool to reach best income for farmers
- marketing, entrepreneurship, networking, saving credit mobilization, all aspects in addition to raising awareness of environmental and gender issues


**Renewable energies**

- diverse renewable energy technologies
- to support climate change adaptation

Deforestation has grave ecological consequences for generations to come. A lack of energy hampers development of whole communities. ADRA therefore invests in the promotion and training in renewable energy solutions for rural as well as urban populations.

ADRA reduced stress on the environment by offering recycling solutions, biofertilizer, less smoke in kitchens, by raising environmental awareness (waste reduction, effective use of energy) and to keep ground water and water sources clean.

**Key expertise:**
- downgrading of european technologies to be built in development contexts
- biogas plants for household to industrial level
- biogas plant designs for cold climate regions
- feasibility study on biomass - urban waste to energy
- waterpower for highland hospital
- solar heat exchanger for warm water in cold climate
- passive solar heating for e.g. greenhouses
- biobriquettes and efficient cooking stoves
- solar desalination

**Disaster Response and Rehabilitation**

- in-kind distributions
- water & sanitation, food, shelter, NFIs
- early recovery & rehabilitation

In the wake of emergencies such as famines, floods, or earthquakes there are often thousands of people needing basic necessities. ADRA works to get them back on their feet again by not only responding quickly, but following up with long-term support.

ADRA is an international Network with offices in more than 125 countries worldwide. Therefore, in case of emergency situations, ADRA Austria can rely in most countries on a team of local ADRA staff that knows the country and is well established and connected.

Together we evaluate the most urgent needs and coordinate our response with the United Nations and other aid agencies. Often, we implement relief projects together as an ADRA Network to use our resources in a more efficient way.

For disasters within Austria and neighbouring countries, our key expertise is in:
- drying houses after floods
- psychosocial support
- house renovation
- access to fresh water
**Volunteers - socially involved in Austria**

Thanks to the support of our donors but especially our volunteers, ADRA is also supporting people in need in Austria. More and more often, we receive information about people in need, that simply do not know what to do. Together with our volunteers we can provide counselling and where needed also financial support. The needs here in Austria are not reduced to finances. People are suffering from broken relationships or fight against sicknesses. They are overwhelmed by life in a society that runs at an increasing speed.

ADRA Austria therefore offers in certain cases individual social support.
Our volunteers manage soupkitchen and breakfast for homeless people, clothing banks. Other volunteers care for migrant families and assist them to integrate into the society, help school children with their homework or assist with searching a job for teenagers.

Development education is a growing part of ADRA Austria’s work. We not only want to educate our donors on the issues that most of our beneficiaries face, but also teach children to become aware of the needs of children in other countries. This is done for example through our annual christmas parcel projects „Children helping children”.

ADRA Austria is connected to around 60 volunteer groups that are socially active but also fundraise for ADRA. Coaching them to start and implement social activities in their neighbourhoods is important for us. Volunteers could also be activated to assist flood victims to clean and renovate their houses.

**Fundraising**

Raising donations and public funds is an integral part of our role as a supporting office within the ADRA Network. This involves fundraising for long-term projects and programs as well as fundraising appeals for sudden disasters.

ADRA therefore collects information, produces printed material as well as feeds online media and social media with activities on our projects and keeps its donors informed on what their donations have realized in the field.
**Program buildup/Management**

Wherever possible, ADRA Austria uses this approach to build up and grow its program as well as to learn from and include best practice and lessons learned into new operations. During program build up, it is important for us to mobilize communities based on social and moral values instead of solely focusing on material issues to solve structural problems.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>“Household level”</th>
<th>“Village”</th>
<th>“County”</th>
<th>“Province”</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>~ 1st year</td>
<td>~ 2nd year</td>
<td>~ 3rd year</td>
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Our partners

Our partners are the regional ADRA offices in Europe, Australia, Africa, Asia, North- and South America as well as our ADRA partner offices in currently 125 countries. ADRA collaborates with Communities, public institutions, NGOs in Austria as well as in developing countries. ADRA Austria is part of the Austrian NGO Platform „Globale Verantwortung“.

As ADRA Austria, we have received co-funding for projects in the last years by the following public partners:

- European Union
- Austrian Development Agency (ADA)
- Stadt Wien
- Land Oberösterreich
- Land Steiermark
- Land Salzburg
Identity Statement
The Adventist Development and Relief Agency is a global humanitarian organization of the Seventh-day Adventist Church that demonstrates God’s love and compassion.

Mission Statement
ADRA works with people in poverty and distress to create just and positive change through empowering partnerships and responsible action

Vision Statement
ADRA is a professional, learning and efficient network that embodies integrity and transparency. ADRA reaches across boundaries empowering and speaking out for the at-risk and forgotten to achieve measurable, documented and durable changes in lives and society.