



# Annual Report 2021

# 1. In Brief

## About Make Change Possible e.V.

Founded: 2010 in Heidelberg

Address: Kirchheimer Weg 16/1, 69124 Heidelberg

Registry ID: VR 333495 Amtsgericht (Local Court) Mannheim

Tax ID: 32489/48384

Responsible tax office: Finanzamt Heidelberg

Status: Non-profit, last exemption notice issued 28 May 2021, valid until 27 May 2026

Organs: Board (Vorstand), Extended Board (Beirat)

Number of members: 25

Membership fee: 1 EUR, annually

## 1. Board and Members in 2021

### Board

Katharina "Katha" Voß, Chairperson  
Katharina "Kathi" Yacoub, Vice-Chairperson  
Larissa Degner, Secretary  
Andreas Voß, Treasurer

### Extended Board

Christiane Casper  
Jacqueline Steinkamp

### Members

Roberto Bertolini

Christiane Casper

Larissa Zoe Degner

Mary Franke

Michael Franke

Monika Handwerker

Rebecca Hillyer

Jessica Hilts

Birte Hoekstra

Jurgen Hoekstra

Jasper Hoekstra

Silke Kriete

Stefan Lauszat

Ian Macdonald

Joseph Mbamba

Helen Parsons

Allyn Raw

Sabine Richter

Felicitas Schulke

Jaqueline Steinkamp

Christine Stockmann

Joylene Vette-Guillaume

Andreas Voß

Katharina Voß

Katharina Yacoub

## 2. Activities of the Board

### Board Meetings

The Board and Extended Board met every other week via Google Meet.

### Annual General Meeting

The AGM was held on April 17, 2021, in Altrip but members had the opportunity to participate via Google Meet, in accordance with legislation allowing association members to participate in the

General Meeting without being present at the meeting location and to exercise member rights by means of electronic communication, even without authorization in the Articles of Association.

## **Outreach and Marketing**

We sent out updates about our projects and programmes in Mayana through the newsletter every one to two month. Our social media accounts were largely inactive, which provides a big opportunity going forward.

## **3. Programmes and Projects in Mayana**

### **Collaboration with Mayana Meho Foundation**

#### **Active members**

Joseph Mbamba, Project Manager, Guesthouse Caretaker  
Martha Mbamba, Project Leader Chicken House, Sit & Knit  
Lenhilde Hamutenya, Meho Kindergarten teacher  
Rosalia Sipete, Meho Kindergarten teacher

#### **Communication**

After having to change our communication channels in 2020 due to the pandemic, communication with the MMF team via WhatsApp became well established in 2021. We remained in ongoing contact via a group chat including the active MMF members and the MCP board. This allowed everyone to be in the loop at all times and lightened the workload for the project manager and the chairperson, respectively, to forward information to their teams in other ways. We also had time reserved every Friday to chat on the phone, which we made use of when needed. MCP provided the funds for airtime for two MMF devices. We also purchased one smartphone for the kindergarten team to use as their personal phones were failing.

We also continued to receive Monthly Updates on the projects via jotform, a platform that allows reports to be filled in from mobile phones and eliminates the need for each team member to borrow a laptop from the project manager. MCP replies were sent to the WhatsApp group chat and any clarifications were carried out there. Monthly updates were submitted 81% of the time, and some missed updates can be accounted for with school holidays.

#### **Monitoring**

MMF submitted photos of its financial documents (including spreadsheets and receipts) to MCP on a monthly basis and we reviewed them for accuracy and completeness. MMF still has limited income from its programmes and increasing independently generated income remains a priority .

In 2021, we introduced a new process for planning, executing, and monitoring projects and programmes as well as easier budgeting. We internally developed a list of projects and programmes we would be willing to fund, then developed that list with the MMF team over several meetings, which included writing descriptions, defining responsibilities, and setting a budget for each project/programme. The MMF team then applied to receive funds for each programme/project throughout the year using a form.

See also:

[☰ 2021 Offers](#)

[✚ 2021 Offers Budget](#)

This process was quite successful and worked well. Out of 25 offered programmes/projects, 20 were successfully requested and funded. The five projects that were not requested, were not feasible due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic (e.g. spinach academy, sex ed, menstrual hygiene workshops) or because previously trained project leaders were unavailable (noodle making, noodle soup).

## **Project/Programme Area: Education**

### **Mayana Meho Kindergarten**

In 2021, 47 children (aged 4 to 7) were enrolled in the Mayana Meho Kindergarten and they were taught in two groups by teachers Lenhilde Hamutenya and Rosalia Sipete.

The support of the kindergarten remained MCP's key priority in 2021. MMF is responsible for upkeep of the building, and teaching materials. To cover these costs, parents pay a small contribution of NAD 35 per month per child which also goes toward the teacher's pay. Non-paying parents remains a big issue for the kindergarten, despite stricter measures requiring payment at registration and with exmatriculation of the child as a final consequence after repeatedly unexplained missed payments being introduced in 2020.

MCP's contribution is by and large by financing the feeding scheme. We also provided funds to repair the cracked foundation in one classroom and damaged roofs in both classrooms, which had been caused by heavy rain falls and flooding in February.



*The kindergarten building after the finished repairs*

### **Educational Funding Support**

MCP funded Lenhilde Hamutenya's completion of her Diploma in Junior Primary Education at the Institute for Open Learning, which included retaking three exams.

### **Project/Programme Area: Nutrition**

#### **Chicken House**

The chicken house is running and keeps supplying the kindergarten children with eggs. We had to repair the doors due to water damage and repainted the chicken boxes to prevent damage due to humidity. Luckily, none of the maize planted to supplement the chicken feed was destroyed in the locust plague. The issue as to how to store eggs during the hotter months remains to be solved.



*The chickens in the chicken house in May 2021.*



### Feeding Scheme

In 2021 the kindergarten kids received one bread roll a day and about one egg a week. They also received vegetable soup or chicken soup, although unfortunately the soup project was delivered quite intermittently and mostly in the second half of the year. In the winter months, the children received onion tea in the mornings so they can start the day with a hot beverage that can also help prevent colds.

To make the tracking of the childrens' progress easier we set up a form for sending over upper arm measurements that could easily be filled out from any phone. The teachers took upper arm measurements of each child regularly and we closely observed the changes. All children who we found to be experiencing malnutrition or to be at risk for it, received a serving of peanut butter every day. About 33% to 43% of children tended to

be at risk for malnutrition at any given time, with instances rising as the year went on and with the first and only case of acute malnutrition occurring in October 2021. We attribute this increase largely to how much food the children receive at home. With the 2021 harvest being so minimal as a result of the extreme rainfalls and locust plague in the first quarter, food storages were getting depleted as the year went one. One mistake we made was taking children off the peanut butter programme too soon after improving and hitting their target measurements. In 2022, we will provide peanut butter to all children regardless of their risk level.

We also provided soap and sanitizer to the kindergarten in order to curb the spread of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases.

### Hydroponics/Garden

The hydroponics project introduced in 2020 was not continued, but some materials were reused in a small garden trial growing cabbage, onion, and tomatoes.



## Project/Programme Area: Health

### Emergency Medical Fund

This programme provides active MMF members and their dependents with funds in cases of health emergencies in order to provide them access to proper care. This year, we provided funds for the care of a team member's child after an accident resulting in hospitalization.

## Project/Programme Area: Business Development

### Donkey Cart

This programme remains somewhat inconsistent as the need for transportation is heavily dependent on the season and whether people need to transport things to and from their fields. One of the donkeys was injured with a knife or machete by an unknown person from the community but he luckily survived and made a full recovery. There was also a new baby donkey born.



*The new addition to the donkey cart team with his mother in December 2021.*

### Sit & Knit

The Sit & Knit team produced jumpers, hats, scarves and socks for each kindergarten kid, which MCP purchased. They also made efforts toward independence and requested donations of yarn from 3 stores in Rundu. Unfortunately, they were unwilling or unable to help. The Sit & Knit team decided that each member would contribute NAD 100 toward buying yarn.





*The kindergarten kids enjoying chicken soup in their new hats, scarves, jumpers, and socks knitted by the Sit & Knit team, June 2021.*

## **Other projects/programmes**

### **Guesthouse**

We renewed the agreement with Joseph Mbamba to be the official caretaker responsible for upkeep and repairs at the guesthouse, including also the ablution block, septic tank, water tap. We had to repair the roof after it started leaking during heavy rain falls. We postponed interior painting until the next time a team will be able to visit Mayana. We also fixed the scullery shade netting which had been damaged.



*The guesthouse in November 2021.*

### **Disaster relief**

This programme, previously known as drought relief, supports active MMF team members with essential foods when food security is at risk due to drought or other disasters (e.g. pests). With 2021 harvest yields being between 0 and 25%, this programme was continued and with unpredictable extreme weather conditions and plagues likely to happen more and more, will likely remain needed for the foreseeable future.



*Joseph and Lenhilde with the food bought with the disaster relief funds, May 2021.*

## **Key difficulties for programmes/projects in 2021**



### **Consequences of climate change**

Mayana was hit exceptionally hard in 2021 by extreme weather and plagues attributable to the ever-intensifying climate catastrophe. In February, they faced exceptionally intense rainfall that caused a lot of flooding and damage to buildings. In March, a locust plague destroyed the millet harvest almost entirely.

*Photo: A destroyed mahangu (millet) field after the locust plague in March, 2021.*

### **COVID-19**

COVID-19 continued to affect the world, including Mayana. Cases peaked in June and July and sadly there were several deaths in the Mayana community. The kindergarten had to close early for the midterm break in June and the feeding

scheme was provided during the holidays, outside and with strict prevention measures in place. The Kindergarten opened again in August, once cases had gone down. Access to vaccines was not available in Mayana until November 2021.



*The mobile vaccination team in Mayana in November 2021.*

### Community conflict

While there was much less community conflict compared to the previous year, there were some instances affecting the programmes/projects. In August, one of our donkeys for the donkey cart programme, Elisintho, was injured with a knife or machete, which he luckily survived. Around the same time the kindergarten fence was damaged on purpose by unknown Mayana community members. The MMF team suspects that this is due to jealousy, although there is no way to be sure what the motivation is.

## 4. Partnerships

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, visits and joint activities with our partner schools, Heidelberg International School and Kopernikus-Gymnasium Blankenfelde-Mahlow and our partner organization Kleine Engel were not possible. However we stayed in touch and our partners supported us through several donations and fundraisers, making up almost a third of our overall income.

## 5. Trips

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic no trips took place in 2021.

## 6. Finances

### Overview

Assets at beginning of the year: EUR 25,497.28

Income: EUR 13,236.80

Expenses: EUR 16,280.66

Assets at year's end: EUR 22,453,42 (loss of EUR 3,043.86)

### Reserves

By resolution of the Annual General Meeting 2020, the reserves were ordered as follows:

- 2061,56 € Free reserve
- 6956,42 € Educational Funding Support Teachers
- 1000,00 € Maintenance Kindergarten
- 1500,00 € Maintenance Guesthouse
- 3707,32 € Emergency Support
- 500,00 € Edu-Trip
- 4100,00 € Feeding Scheme
- 460,00 € Healthcare

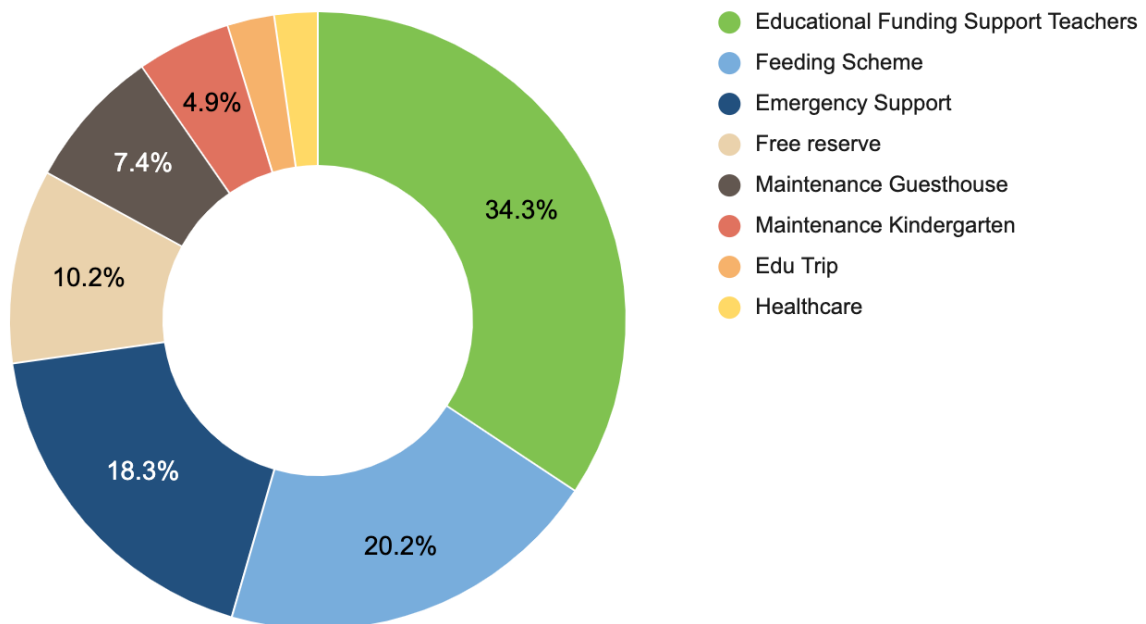


Chart: Reserves broken down into percentages of the total reserve.

## Income

In 2020, the association has recorded a total of **EUR 13,236.80** in **income**. This amount is composed entirely of donations, broken down as follows:

758,73 €	Online shopping
195,28 €	Amazon Smile
29,25 €	Betterplace
534,20 €	Bildungsspender
1.000,00 €	Partner organizations
1.000,00 €	Kleine Engel
8.095,07 €	Individuals
3.383,00 €	Partner Schools
2.680,00 €	Kopernikus-Gymnasium
703,00 €	HIS

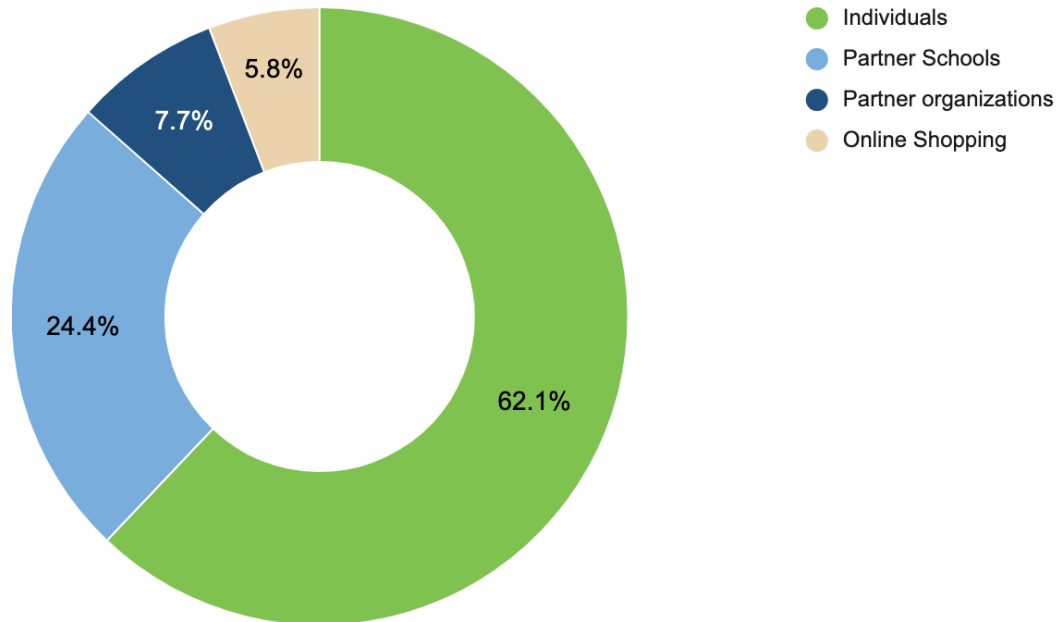


Chart: Income broken down into percentages by source.

## Expenses

This was offset by expenses totalling **EUR 16,280.66**, broken down as follows:

15.462,50 €	Programmes & Projects
8814,47	Kindergarten/Community Center
6764,41 €	Operation
2050,06 €	Building and Materials
720,39 €	Guesthouse

1802,78 €	Chicken House
275,96 €	Meho Foundation
674,18 €	Sit & Knit
354,52 €	Orchard
364,64 €	Hydroculture
51,27 €	Water
2404,29 €	Support of team members

810,17 € Administration

11,52 €	general
276,59 €	Internet
486,50 €	Banking fees
35,56 €	Postage

7,99€ Erroneous booking (canceled in 2022)

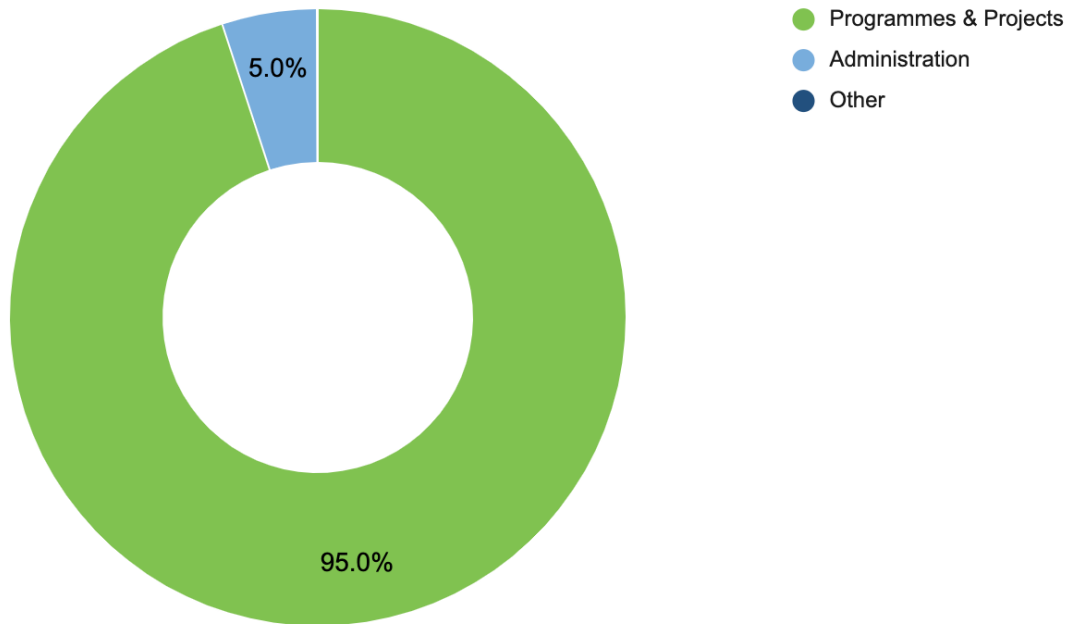


Chart: Expense categories broken down into percentages of total expenses.

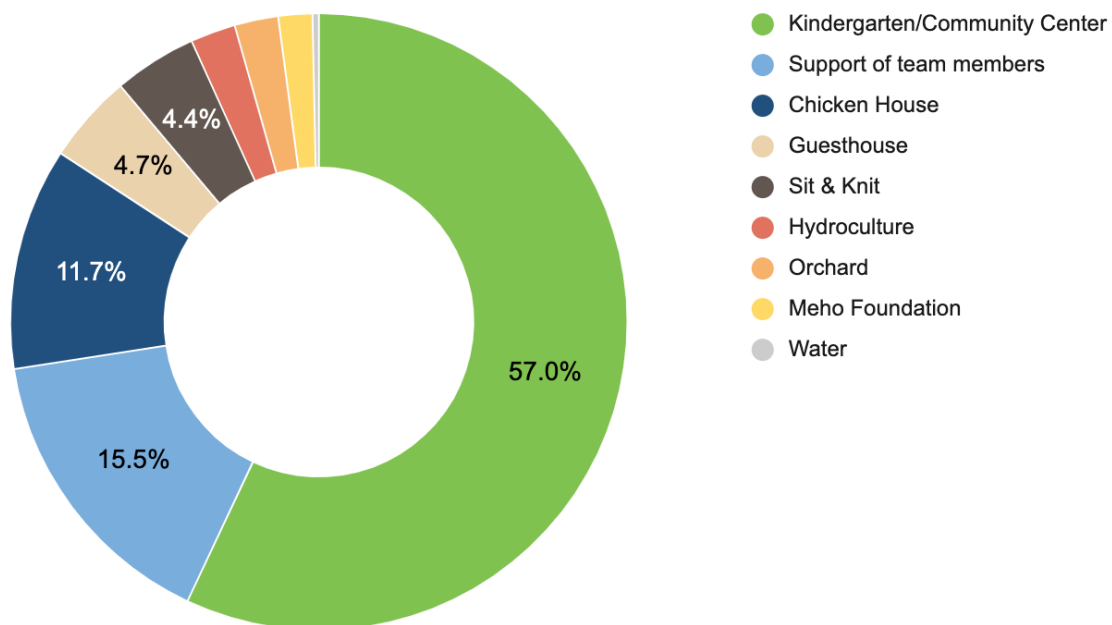


Chart: Project-based expenses broken down into percentages of total project expenses

## Difference

The **difference** between income and expenses, like the difference in assets, results in a loss of **EUR 3,043.86**.

## 7. Contact

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