#### **Donation Account:**

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### **Annual Report 2025**



Summer 2025

Dear friends of "Pradip - Partner One World",

For almost thirty years, I have been regularly visiting Kolkata and can therefore report on the sustainability of our projects. This year, I travelled in March with Claudia Schlie from Alicante.

Since the 1990s, we, together with our two Indian partner organisations, have been caring for those who otherwise have little chance of a life in dignity. Much has changed for the better since then. Unfortunately, the level of misery on the streets, in slums, and in red-light districts is still enormous. I am often asked whether our help is still necessary in light of India's prospering economy. It is definitely needed! Of course, there is a small proportion of very well-educated and wealthy people in India, but the poverty of the vast majority remains. These people are particularly suffering from high inflation.

During project visits, I always meet former children from the centers who have now made their way, whether as teachers, taxi drivers, or accountants. Many have passed their secondary school and higher secondary examination. Many are in employment. These successes make me proud of the excellent work of our partner organisation in India. They also make me proud of what our donors can achieve with their money.

At this point, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your help, loyalty, and trust. Particularly in this project year, our financial resources were so tight that it

was uncertain whether we could continue all projects. After the urgent appeal at Christmas, an incredible number of you made tremendous efforts. Many donated far beyond their "comfort zone." Thank you very much for that!

In April, a new project year began; our work starts anew, on-site in India through our partner organisations "Women's Interlink Foundation" and "Familia", and in Europe through you and us with various fundraising and information campaigns. We are very grateful for the uncomplicated collaboration with the Lutheran Church in Simbach and that we have remained a volunteer initiative over all these years, able to privately finance all administrative costs.

In this annual report, you will find, as always, a brief general description of the projects so that new donors can be informed. Additionally, there are current updates. Thank you for your loyalty and trust!

## Projects for 2024 - 2025<sup>1</sup>

projects	content	costs in Euro	partner
Orphanage Familia	Storage systems for solar systems	1.200	Familia India
Centre for the children of prostitutes (Sonagachi)	50 children and vocational training for 6 young adults	13.163	Women's Interlink Foundation (WIF)
Home for children of prostitutes, victims of trafficking (Nijoloy)	Care costs and vocational training for 75 Girls, salaries of staff	31.880	WIF
Centre for street children (Kumartully)	65 children	11.201	WIF
Centre for the children of corps burners (Kalighat - Sasan)	60 children	11.040	WIF
Police project for street- and slumchildren (Nabadisha)	Support for 17 very needy young people for their school fee	627	WIF
Orphanage Childcare Home	Rehabilitation and care costs for the home for 7 women	8011	WIF
Project for people with special needs	1 adult (Pradip), including care costs for the home	1216	WIF, Cheshire Homes
Preliminary total costs <sup>2</sup>		84.100	

2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> At the moment we calculate with an exchange rate of 1€ = 96 INR. The prices in Euro are just a reference value, because the exchange rate is changing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> inclusive salary for the coordinator and the honorarium for the accountant

# Partner Organisation "Familia": Partner since 1996

"Familia India" has been a friend of "Pradip - Partner One World" since 1996. The organisation has a very special concept that is unique in West Bengal. In four houses, around ten orphaned children live with a couple who act as their parents. This arrangement ensures that all children have a family and maintain close contact with their "siblings" and "parents", even into adulthood. The home is supported by a small farm with cows, pigs, goats, a vegetable garden, rice fields, and a poultry and fish farm. Additionally, there is a senior home, a nursery, a school, a training centre, and a health centre. "Familia" also supports vulnerable children in the surrounding villages and conducts awareness campaigns.(https://www.familiaindia.org/)





Homework

The ambulance also serves the nearby villages.





The solar panels we financed last year are installed on the roofs of all five houses and the cowshed.



mustard seeds for drying



poultry



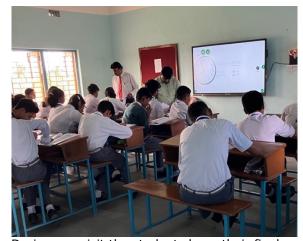
harvesting potatoes



rice fields

## **Familia School**

About 17 years ago, KC Thomas, the now 85-year-old head of "Familia India," had the idea of founding an English-speaking school. On the one hand, he wanted to finance the running costs of the home in the long term to achieve independence from foreign donations. On the other hand, he wanted to give children and young people in rural areas the chance of a good English-language education. The school is permanently registered with the central school authority (ICSE), and students can sit their Higher Secondary Examination there. (https://www.familiaschoolkpa.org/)



During our visit the students have their final exams.



motivation for the little ones

#### **Interview with Pradip Mondal**



Pradip Mondal with a resident of the senior home

Pradip Mondal from "Familia Home" studied business administration. Twenty-four years ago, he met Dolly Thomas at a summer camp. Dolly was one of the first adopted children of KC and Kabita at Familia Home. The couple married and decided to start a family with foster children in Familia. Since KC has stepped back from active management, Pradip now manages both the home and the school. Dolly works as a music teacher at Familia School. They have two biological children and eight foster children.

## What background do the children in Familia have?

We have a very diverse group of children coming to us. Some have suffered from domestic violence to murder in the family, some parents have committed suicide, others have remarried and left the children because the new husband did not accept them. We also have cases where both parents have died, or one parent has died, and the other cannot raise the child.

## What are the biggest challenges for Familia at the moment?

Familia has some financial problems, as we have previously relied heavily on foreign aid. Now we are strengthening our self-sufficiency through our agriculture and the school. The problem in agriculture is that income is not stable as we depend on the monsoon. Sometimes it is also difficult to meet all the children's needs. We have children who have witnessed a crime or experienced domestic violence. When they realise that there are no relatives who want them, they can sometimes become aggressive. Thus, we would benefit greatly from having a trained therapist to help them.

#### Are there fewer donations from abroad recently?

The issue is rather that the value of money has drastically decreased due to high inflation. With the same amount of money as a few years ago, we are now facing shortages.

# What would you say to donors who think that India is such a wealthy country that donations are no longer needed?

In India, wealth and money are very unevenly distributed. The rich are getting richer every day, but on the other hand, many people do not get three meals a day. The income of poor people is not enough to feed the whole family. Therefore, child labour is still a problem, as children are cheap.

## What is your greatest wish for Familia?

I wish that more vulnerable children could benefit from our help. Rather, I wish that there were fewer needy children, as families should have close-knit and not neglect them.

Costs for the Storage Systems of the Solar Systems:

1,200 €

# Partnerorganisation "Women's Interlink Foundation" (WIF): Partner since 1999!



Aloka Mitra (at the right) is the head of the organisation "Women's Interlink Foundation". All work she is doing is unpaid.

"Pradip - Partner One World" has been collaborating with the Indian NGO "Women's Interlink Foundation" since 1999.

(https://womensinterlinkfoundation.org/index.html)

## Sonagachi (Centre for Children of Prostitutes)

financed by us since 2000

One of our key targets is the prevention of human trafficking and forced prostitution. In Sonagachi, the largest red-light district in Kolkata, women are typically victims of traffickers. They can be booked here for less than an euro. The rooms where the mothers live with their children also serve as places of prostitution. Usually, they are small cabins for which a large portion of their earnings is paid as rent. On festive days, younger women have to serve about 15 clients.

In order to prevent their children from also becoming victims of the sex trade in our project area, they are cared for by our partner organisation during the mothers' working hours. We are pleased that these children can learn in a protected environment and that since the beginning of the project activity in 2000, none of them has fallen into prostitution.

The girls and boys are taught at the centre, receive help with their homework, medical care, food support, clothing, and the opportunity to play in a protected space after class. Occasionally, excursions are also made. Once a month, there is a meeting with the mothers where they are informed about HIV and other dangers, such as dengue fever or malaria. They are told how important regular school attendance is, how their children's learning progress is, and how to improve personal hygiene.

The greatest concern of the mothers is the future of their children. In recent years, however, the protection of the children has also been significantly increased by the state, so that the threat has somewhat subsided. "Through continuous education of the mothers, school dropout-rates are decreasing, and awareness of health and hygiene has improved significantly," says social worker Nishi Kanta Nayak. Unfortunately, older prostitutes rarely have the opportunity to find paid work in another field. Some work as cleaners, but most languish in the alleys of Sonagachi when they are "past their prime". Such "grannies," as they are affectionately called by the social workers, are expected to find a place in the new old people's home on the grounds of Nijoloy in the future (see below).

However, there are indeed positive developments in the area. With the help of the city administration, much has been done for waste disposal and water supply. New streetlights provide more safety.



Fifteen-year-old Sanjit (name changed) together with our coordinator Tanima Roy Chowdhury. Sanjit is a great help in the project by patiently supporting the little ones with their homework.

annual costs for 50 children and 6 participants of the vocational training course:

approximately 13.163 €

# Home for the Children of Prostitutes / Victims of Human Trafficking / Victims of Exploitative Child Labour (Nijoloy) co-financed by us since 2004

Girls and young women live in the home. Some of them have been rescued from child prostitution or other forms of sexual exploitation or child labour. Some have never attended school but were locked in a brothel for years. They are now being rehabilitated in Nijoloy. The other part of the girls could be saved from this fate by being transferred to this home in time. Because the girls who are at risk of disappearing into the sex trade are brought here to be removed from the immediate influence of their mothers' pimps. Others have fled from their families after experiencing sexual violence. The adolescents and young adults who long-term reside in the home receive vocational training or study. Some make scarves, others become cooks or bakers, while others train to become nurses. Meanwhile, efforts are made to reintegrate the girls and women into their villages with relatives or find foster families if possible. The social workers try to maintain contact with their protégés as much as possible.

On part of the plot, a nursing home is being built that is close to completion. The idea is similar to that of "Familia," where children and seniors can bring each other joy. Additionally, the young women should have the opportunity to work as caregivers. Some of the new residents, who can afford it, are to pay their accommodation costs themselves and thus contribute to financing the absolutely destitute "grannies," for example, from the red-light district.



traditional dance



block printing



demonstration of the fire alarm system, which we financed



paintings of the younger ones

The state supports the home, but not nearly enough to cover the costs. This is why 'Pradip - Partner One World', along with other sponsors, finances the remaining amount. This also includes, for example, vocational training programmes and staff salaries.

Annual costs for 75 girls and women:

Approximately 31,880 €

# **A day in Nijoloy** (Excerpt from the report by WIF):

The girls and women aged 4 to 50+ start their day with morning prayer, sports, and meditation. Later, they sit together with the housemothers to learn. Then, the school-age girls go upstairs to get ready for school. After breakfast together, the school-age girls go to school, while the others engage in various activities such as cooking, spice making, sewing, printing scarves, practising handwriting, reading books, and sometimes playing.

At around 1:30 pm, the girls and women have lunch and then return to their classes and courses. At 4 pm, they play in the garden or go cycling, for example. In the evening after dinner, they sit together with their educators to study. At 9 pm, they have their evening meal and go to their dormitories under the supervision of the house mothers. A well-planned nutrition plan is developed in consultation with nutritionists and doctors for the overall development of the girls. Those who are physically weakened or require special nutrition due to illness receive special food. Sick or traumatised children are supported in this loving environment through continuous coaching and soon feel more comfortable after their arrival. We try to awaken the talents of each child by offering all kinds of cultural activities. For example, they learn dancing, painting, or music as they would in a normal family.

#### Kumartully (Centre for streetchildren) fincanced by us since 1999

The children of this centre are relentlessly exposed to the influences of the megacity. They live on the pavements in the Kumartully district and hide under plastic sheets at night. Their possessions are stored on the pavement. Some families have been on the streets for generations, others have recently come from the countryside, and some are trying their luck back at their birthplace. However, many have no chance of making a living there, which is why the city attracts them with its supposed or actual, mostly informal, job offers. Most work as rickshaw pullers, rag pickers, folding paper bags, as helpers in small tea shops, or as daily labourers in construction.

The children are taught at the centre, do their homework, receive food rations, clothing, and medical care. A doctor visits the project once a week. A dance teacher ensures that they can forget their inhospitable surroundings at least occasionally. Regular outings, such as to the zoo or museums, are also organised.



The children receive new school bags. During their time at the centre, they wear school uniforms to emphasise the value of education.



The social worker Shipra Paul (between Claudia Schlie and Anja Fischer) and the teacher Anima Pal lovingly attend to the children's problems and maintain contact with former students over the years.





This builds self-confidence: presenting oneself in public through dance.



living conditions on the street







Annual costs for 65 children:

approximately 11.201 €

# **Example for an annual budget:**

30 school children (group 2)	per year	
	in euro (rounded up)	
Salary costs		
Social worker	1.193	
2 part time teachers	1.032	
Helper	267	
Accountant	498	
Supplies for the school		
School material	264	
School uniforms und school bags	338	
Food	682	
Health		
Salary for the doctor	279	
Medicine	61	
Hygiene materials for the children	81	
Clothing	122	
Leisure (outings, sports, dance training)	88	
Administrative costs in India (rent, telephone, travel costs	485	
etc.)	5200	
Total	5390	

#### Explanation of the budget:

The financial year is from April 1 to March 31. For each project, we proportionally pay the salary costs for a social worker, as they are not only active in one project. The administrative costs of the partner organisation are also allocated proportionally. One principle in selecting teachers is that they should come from the same neighbourhood as the children so that they can better understand their needs. The teachers have completed higher education and then undergone a training programme to teach children in the most important subjects.

# **Kalighat - Sasan (centre for the children of corps burners)** financed by us since 2000

The families of corpse-burners belong to the lowest social class in India. They live in small self-built shacks or tents on the banks of a canal of the Ganges. The hygienic conditions are appalling, but there are also very positive developments in this centre. The status of corpse burners has improved because their work is now partly paid for by the state. Many have also received permanent housing. However, new families have moved into the illegal slum, whose children we now also care for. The influx from rural areas of India or from Bangladesh never stops.

Almost all children in our centre go to school. Initially, no one wanted to have anything to do with them. There were even schools that refused admission because cremation workers had such a bad reputation. Fortunately, this stigma has gradually diminished over the years.

With us, the children receive tutoring and medical care. They regularly receive durable food rations for home. Support with homework is also important, as many of the parents can hardly read and write. As in many other projects, a dance teacher teaches them once a week in traditional Bengali dances. Every month, there is a meeting for the mothers where they are informed about their children's learning progress. Additionally, they are given hygiene and health tips. The number of those who marry at an early age has significantly decreased due to the influence of our centre.

One of the most important goals of the project is to keep the children away from criminal influences and to protect them from exploitation, as the area is anything but safe. Since many parents cannot take good care of the children, the centre provides important support.



favorite day of the week, when dance teacher Shymal Gosh comes



Shymal watches the performance of his protégés.



proud girls after the performance





Living conditions for the children



Former pupil Smehar (20) with our project coordinator Tanima (left). Smehar has been coming to the Sasan Centre regularly since year 1 of primary school. She is now studying business administration in her final year and would like to work in the financial sector afterwards.



annual costs for 60 children:

ca. 11.040 €

# Collaboration between Police and Street or Slum Children (Nabadisha) cofinanced by us since 2006

The Nabadisha centres are organised like the other projects, e.g. Kumartully. However, the special feature is that the rooms where teaching takes place and children do their homework are provided by the local police. This has significantly improved the relationship between street children and the police. Since a few years ago, the project work has been financed from other sources. We only support a few older youths who are particularly in need with school fees and school materials.

I have been reporting about Gulshan from Tangra-Slum since 2013.



Gulshan 2013: Since she was four years old, she has been working alongside school by cutting rubber stoppers. For 1,000 pieces, she earns the equivalent of  $0.35 \in$ .



Gulshan 2024: She has passed her higher secondary examination and is now taking a data registration course, hoping to soon have a permanent job.



Gulshan 2025: She and her sister have had a permanent job in data registration at a company for six months and earn their first fair salary. Since their mother has health problems and their father earns as a tailor some days and not on others, it is very important that the two girls can now support the family. They no longer need our help. However, they know that they can always turn to our social workers or teachers if they have problems.

Annual costs for the support of 17 young adults

approximately 627 €

# Funding for 7 Women in the Child Care Home financed by us since 2000

In the orphanage "Child Care Home," we finance the costs for seven women with special needs. They receive no state funding and are difficult or impossible to place

in the job market. Therefore, they simply remain living in the girls' home. Depending on their abilities, they help in the home, print fabrics, or make paper bags, for example. Shefali, however, has been placed in the Nijoloy home and now works as a helper in the kitchen. She is incredibly proud of that.



I have known Shefali for 26 years and am so pleased that she now has a meaningful job that fulfils her.



Helen, who was found on the street as a small blind and deaf girl, continues to be lovingly cared for by the others.



The women on an outing with the housemothers.

## The counselor of the home, Pallabi Kolley, talks about her daily work:



When the girls come to us, they must have their first counseling session within twenty-four hours, then every two to three days, to give them a sense of security. Many then already talk about their darkest secrets, such as sexual abuse in the family. In such cases, we then immediately conduct medical examinations. Here, for example, lives a girl from Bangladesh, whose mother is a prostitute. The girl was lured to India at the age of 14 under false promises and was to be sold into the red-light district. Fortunately, she was rescued by the police and then came to us in the Child Care Home. Initially, she constantly self-harmed, but with much love and care, that improved. She is supposed to be deported to Bangladesh, but since her mother keeps changing her phone number, no reliable contact has yet been established. Because she has no legal documents, the girl cannot be enrolled in regular school in India, which is why she receives non-formal education with us.

In some cases, however, it is successful to reintegrate children. For example, two sisters (7/9) ran away after their mother committed suicide to escape their violent father. After a while with us, we learned about their caring grandparents, with whom they can now live. We still maintain regular contact with the children.

Annual costs for the rehabilitation of 7 women

approximately 8011 €

### **Project for people with special needs (Pradip)** financed by us since 1996

This project was actually completed many years ago, as almost all of the former children are now independent and earn their own living. However, our namesake "Pradip" will continue to be supported. He lives in a home near Kolkata.



Pradip together with Mithu. I met both in the same home in 1996. Mithu is now a state teacher at a secondary school and teaches street children voluntarily in her free time.

Annual costs:

approximately 1.216 €

### In memoriam Inge Klawora:



My former primary school teacher Inge Klawora has supported "Pradip" from the very beginning and even travelled to Kolkata once herself. For example, she financed Mithu's studies (see above). Last year, Inge passed away. Part of her inheritance went to "Pradip." We remember her with great gratitude.

#### **Organisational matters**

- "Pradip Partner One World" works in close cooperation with the Lutheran Church community in Simbach. All donations are processed through the Evangelical Parish Office in Simbach (see above).
- If you would like a donation receipt, please provide your full address when making the transfer. For questions, please contact Anja Fischer or Andrea Müller (pfarramt.simbach@elkb.de). Tel: 0049/8571/2366.
- Kumar Ray (independent auditor) checks the finances on-site in India.
- The work in Germany is carried out entirely on a voluntary basis. Flights to India and accommodation there, printing costs, and postage, etc., are paid privately. Every cent goes to the projects.

- If you would like to receive the annual report digitally in the future, please send us an email.
- Website: On our website (www.pradip.de), you will also find old annual reports, interviews, press reviews, and many additional information and pictures.
- Other ways to get involved: Do you want to get involved voluntarily and modernise our website and possibly also manage it? Then please get in touch.



# A big thank you!

I would like to thank all donors for your tremendous support. Without your help, the work of our partner organisations would not be possible. Many thanks to all who have been helping us for years. Among them are many private individuals, but also schools, kindergartens, senior groups, foundations, etc., who collect money with much commitment and effort, for example, through fundraising runs. Thank you for your great trust! Please continue to help us.

### Wishing you all the best and warm regards from your

Anja Fischer with the whole Pradip team

