



## Sri Lanka



The civil war that has ravaged Sri Lanka for over 20 years has flared up again in the past year. In addition to that, the country was hit very hard by the 2004 tsunami.

In Sri Lanka, Amparai, a region in the south east of the country, that is characterised by multiethnicity and multi-religiosity, has particularly suffered under the civil war and the tsunami.

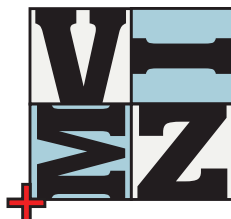
The "Centre for Psychosocial Care" (CPC) in Amparai is dedicated to the psychosocial work with the large number of people who live there and who have been mentally traumatised. All ethnic groups of Sri Lanka are represented in the CPC: Sinhalese, Tamil, Muslims; so are all the religions in Sri Lanka: hinduism, buddhism, christianity and islam. Furthermore, 50 percent of the psychosocial counsellors are women, not exactly a common situation in rural areas. These young counsellors exemplify through their own lives, that peaceful coexistence and working concertedly and successfully is possible.

In the beginning of the year 2008, 20 Students of the CPC finished a 3-year course at the Klagenfurt University called "Psychosocial Counselling for Traumatized Persons", that was supported personell-wise by VIMZ e.V.. The daily conselling work that the CPC does was integrated in that course.

What has been accomplished: the CPC is a well-functioning psychosocial counselling organisation for traumatised people in a region with an enormous demand for such a help.

### Future tasks:

The CPC needs support to continue its existence. The CPC's range of medical help needs to be supplemented and extended.



VIMZ

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# Tanzania



The VIMZ e.V. has been supporting medical projects in Tanzania since 1992. During the first couple of years, our work was focussed on the northern parts of Tanzania, the Monduli and Arusha Region, which is mostly inhabited by the Massai. Here, we have financially supported 2 district hospitals and their affiliated health centres with their setup of a health care system.

With our donations, we modernised wards, surgeries and staff housing or built new ones. VIMZ e.V. funds paid for the generation of a water supply, that was set up for one the district hospitals by the local population. The support were carried out in close consultation with our local partners, representatives of the public health authorities and the on-site hospitals. This helped improving the health care considerably, especially in the rural areas.

Due to the twinning arrangement between Hamburg and Dar Es Salaam, that is planned for 2010, supporting and advising Dar Es Salaam in medical matters has been the focus of our work since 2007.

In 2007, the cooperation in medical matters of VIMZ e.V. and the city of Dar Es Salaam was agreed upon in the "Memorandum of cooperation". VIMZ e.V. supports and advises Dar Es Salaam with their fostering health care.

The partnership concentrates on the Ilala district in the city centre and the Amana hospital there. There, in consultation with the doctors and authorities, VIMZ e.V. uses the raised donations to

buy much needed equipment for the hospital and subsidise its extension.

Moreover, in 2008, VIMZ e.V. started to organise a staff exchange between the Amana hospital and hospitals in the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg, which includes doctors and nursing staff. For this, VIMZ e.V. is subsidised by the Free and Hanseatic City of Hamburg and "Arbeit und Leben" (work and life) in Hamburg. Hitherto made visits have proved a great success. VIMZ e.V. would like to continue this exchange program on a regular basis.

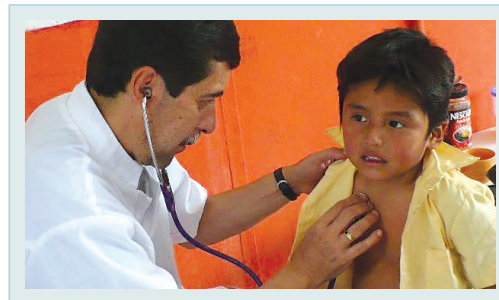
Furthermore, VIMZ e.V. supports the shipping of medical and other relief supplies in cooperation with ASB Hamburg (Worker's Samaritan Federation), the fire brigade and other organisations.

school education. Tropical illnesses like malaria, stomach bugs and diarrhoea are a constant threat to the population's health. To ensure medical care without any government aid, the VIMZ e.V. supports the Ecuadorian association "Fundación para la Asistencia Médica al Ecuador" (FAME), which is also accepted as a nonprofit association and runs the Clínica San Agustín, with donations. These donations pay for doctors, medical auxiliary personnel, medication and equipment, like an ECG and an ultrasound scanner, for example.

VIMZ e.V. has been involved in this clinic since 1992. During their annual stay, members of VIMZ e.V. work at the Clínica San Agustín and see to the appropriate use of the donations.

It is of greatest importance to us to keep this project and its health programs to improve the care of Pedro Vicente Maldonado's population.

# Ecuador



In Pedro Vicente Maldonado, a village in the western lowlands of Ecuador, Dr. Vicente Hidalgo has been working at the Clínica San Agustín since 1982.

Over 100,000 people, who live in the catchment area of the clinic, make their living with farming. Their per capita income isn't even a subsistence income. Malnutrition, an inadequate housing situation and insufficient sanitary standards are the rule. The birth rate is very high, and so is the child mortality rate. Illiteracy is prevalent. Education in health matters is rare, because of the poor

## We have accomplished many things:

- ✓ Equipping the Clínica San Agustín
- ✓ Laboratory
- ✓ Delivery ward
- ✓ Dental care
- ✓ Further training programs for the personnel
- ✓ Pregnancy provision
- ✓ Provision programs for children and teenagers
- ✓ Provision programs in schools

## And many things have yet to be done:

- Vaccination campaigns
- Establishing health posts in the remote places of the area