**Education & Income**

Having access to education and vocational training is a human right. With our programmes, we aim to improve access to education and the learning biography of poor and marginalised people by promoting inclusive early childhood and basic education. Furthermore, we implement inclusive and non-formal vocational education and training in combination with inputs on employability and entrepreneurship as an investment in income generation.

**Kosovo: Early childhood education becomes normality**

Regular schools are supported with locally-produced early childhood learning materials. At the same time, practical training is provided for teachers to ensure that quality early childhood education can be delivered. What started after the war as a pilot project with severely traumatised children is now institutionalised within the Ministry of Education and is supporting all children, especially those in rural areas.

**Gaza: Education in emergency**

Children who have been traumatised are suffering from learning difficulties. Caritas has developed a child-centred emergency education approach that links pedagogical with psychosocial components and aims to establish safe and motivation-based educational services in Gaza. This approach to emergency education contributes to improved preparedness, resilience and learning capacities of children affected by stress, shocks and trauma.

**Brazil: Perspectives for ‘street-connected’ children and young people**

Life skills-based education addresses health and social issues which are not traditionally included in the academic curriculum. Caritas supports integrated approaches that strengthen autonomy and foster the social re-integration of children and young people from the street. This includes leisure activities, psychological and legal assistance. Vocational training prepares young people for employability.
Areas of intervention in formal and non-formal education

**Early Childhood Education (ECE): a need for children and their families**
With its ECE activities Caritas Switzerland supports marginalised, traumatised, physically disabled or stress-affected children in gaining new self-confidence, which reawakens their motivational drive and helps them to catch up to an age-appropriate stage of development.

**Basic education: the right to learn**
The aim in basic education is to promote inclusion and provide lasting learning opportunities for marginalised children and young people. This includes issues that are not traditionally part of the curriculum, like health, human and child rights, gender equality, peace, as well as building the young people’s capacity to advocate for their rights. A further focus is on education in emergencies, where Caritas Switzerland developed its own approach and learning methods. Education in humanitarian assistance includes the reconstruction of schools and support to their management.

**Vocational Education: open a window of opportunities**
In its vocational education and training (VET) programmes, Caritas Switzerland focuses on non-formal vocational training, enhancing the employability of youths and adults, as well as on promoting entrepreneurship.

For further information: www.caritas.ch/education
Our commitment

Caritas Switzerland is committed to a world without poverty that is guided by solidarity, justice and peace. We provide professional, effective and efficient help to people in need irrespective of their political or religious beliefs, gender or ethnicity. The aim of all programmes is to reduce poverty, strengthen people’s resilience, ensure that their rights are respected and expand their capabilities to realise goals they have reasons to value. We are an independent Swiss aid organisation and a member of Caritas Internationalis, a network comprising more than 160 national Caritas organisations.

Expertise and Networks

Our expert offers consultancies, networks with other experts and shares the Caritas perspectives at conferences and workshops.

Caritas is a member of the ‘Schweizer Netzwerk für Bildung und internationale Zusammenarbeit’ (RECI).

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