



INTERNATIONAL
AID ORGANIZATION

ANNUAL REPORT 2016

HELPING AND EMPOWERING PEOPLE
TO SUSTAINABLY SHAPE AND DETERMINE
THEIR LIVES IN DIGNITY AND INDEPENDENCE

PREFACE

GIVING WITH BLESSINGS IN RETURN

A basic principle that still proves true after 25 years of international work. We are still experiencing the truth of this principle. Since starting the work in Albania, we have gathered experience in multiple projects and are now passing it on to others: educational opportunities in various projects of school and university education, social and medical aid and project empowerment. Why do we do that? Loving God and our neighbors always was the motor of this work. It's an unconditional love that cannot be earned and results in values that form the foundation of our work.

From the very beginning our concern was to support people, to strengthen their development, to help them face future challenges and enable them to initiate positive development and change in their societies. Albania has been blessed abundantly by our supporters and is now in the position to bless others in return. A center for education and multiplication is being developed where young people from Albania, Greece, Germany, Cuba, Mexico, Uganda, Tanzania, South Sudan and other countries receive a good education. They are like seeds on fertile ground that bear fruit and multiply. From the beginning, a network of supporters and mentors stood behind this development – many of them internationally renowned in their fields of expertise.



Arnold Geiger
Managing Director

A longtime friend and supporter with a successful career in a medium-sized German company gets to the heart of it: "Growth is the most natural thing in the world"! We are grateful to all our friends, supporters and donors for every single contribution towards this kind of growth. Together we will continue to give.

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“HELPING AND EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO SUSTAINABLY SHAPE AND DETERMINE THEIR LIVES IN DIGNITY AND INDEPENDENCE”

With this mission in mind many friends and supporters laid the foundation for an Albanian aid organization in 1991. Within 25 years their initiative has developed into a multi-branched organization, bringing aid to people based on four building blocks: social and medical improvement, education, implementation of core values and the provision of livelihoods and growth through project empowerment.

The core projects in Albania had to weather many storms – initial difficulties in a post-communist country, armed conflicts in 1997 and a huge refugee crisis during the war in Kosovo. Today more than a hundred co-workers in three local centers are working in social services, kindergartens and schools and a university.

In 2011 time had come to multiply this wealth of experience and to expand, granting assistance and aid to people also on other continents. Nehemiah Gateway gGmbH with its headquarters in Nuremberg/Germany was founded in 2011 and initiated first support and aid projects in South East Europe, Africa and Latin America.

In 2016 we celebrated 25th anniversary! Honored guests and many friends followed our invitation to Nuremberg, Berlin and Pogradec/Albania. The Albanian President personally expressed his appreciation of the achievements for the benefit of the Albanian people and awarded Nehemiah Gateway Albania as



well as its founder Arnold Geiger with the Mother-Teresa-Medal, one of the highest decorations of the country.



Four independently registered organizations have evolved from the initial Nehemia Foundation Albania, each holding important functions in the overall work. They are legally independent and Nehemiah Gateway's headquarters in Nuremberg coordinates and synchronizes their operational activities and monitors budgets.

OPERATIVE MANAGEMENT

Nehemiah Gateway gGmbH (N.G.)
non-profit limited company

Nehemiah Gateway gGmbH is the operational headquarter for all the members of N.G. Group. From headquarters in Nuremberg all the activities in the different countries are coordinated, as well as fundraising and public relations management. Premises for seminars and staff training can also be used by other organizations and partners.

A branch office in the German capital Berlin presents projects and coordinates the work with the diplomatic missions of our project countries. This location also offers meeting rooms and office space to partners and other charities.

Managing Director: Arnold Geiger
Sole shareholder is Nehemiah Gateway Services gGmbH

FACILITATORS

Nehemiah Gateway USA Inc. (N.G. USA)

Nehemiah Gateway USA is a not-for-profit organization according to section 501(c) (3) of the federal IRS tax code. N.G. USA is running the project management for the work in Latin America and coordinates our contacts with professors and lecturers in the USA. The office is also point of contact for supporters and donors in the Americas. It networks with project partners, coordinates volunteer efforts and travel logistics, and provides accountability for tax-exempt gifts.

President: Douglas Mann
Vice President: Dr. iur. Elis Tarelli, LL.M.
Secretary and Treasurer: Stephen Kauffmann
Members: Arnold Geiger, Arlinda Merdani, M.A.

Nehemiah Gateway Services gGmbH (N.G. Services)

non-profit limited company

Nehemiah Gateway Services gGmbH manages all its own assets. The returns thereof cover 100% of all administrative and overhead costs, thus enabling us to allocate all private donations directly to the designated projects without any deductions.

Managing Director: Arnold Geiger
Partners: Gerd Seitz, Helmut Hauser, Arnold Geiger

CENTER FOR EDUCATION AND MULTIPLICATION

Nehemiah Gateway Albania Foundation (N.G. Albania)

Nehemiah Gateway Albania describes the origin of our work. It's strategy and mission are based on experience in different aspects of work as well as the successful cooperation with other organizations. It will be a role model for additional projects in other countries and locations.

Executive Director: Herolinda Shkullaku
Supervisory Board: Arnold Geiger (Chairman), Helmut Hauser, Dr. iur. Elis Tarelli LL.M., Eliverta Muco, M.A., Arlinda Merdani, M.A.

Nehemiah Gateway University (N.G. University)

N.G. University is a unique institution of higher education with state-of-the-art programs, dynamic teaching methods, and a student-oriented philosophy of education. The courses of the practice-integrated study courses are accredited in Albania, Germany and in the USA. The university is operated by N.G. Albania.

Head of N.G. University: Prof. Dr. Goran Rafajlovski
Deputy Head of University for Academic and Institutional Development: Dr. Roy Atwood (starting January 2017)
Managing Director: Herolinda Shkullaku
Supervisory Board: Arnold Geiger (Chairman), Helmut Hauser, Dr. iur. Elis Tarelli, LL.M., Eliverta Muco, M.A., Arlinda Merdani, M.A.

ADVISORY BOARD

Chairman:
Kai Uellendahl, CFO of Lucerne Festival, CH

Dr. Dr. hc Ulli Arnold, University Professor
Bernd Borchardt, Ambassador
Jürgen Feldmeier, R.A. Legal Consultant
Roman Fertinger, Vice Police Commissioner
Barbara Freifrau von Schnurbein, M.A.
Dr. Andreas Metzger, Orthopedist
Anke Neuzerling, M.A., Journalist
Johannes Selle, Member of German Parliament
Prof. Dr. Harald Seubert, Philosopher and Lecturer
Prof. Dr. Manfred Spreng, Neurophysiologist

VOLUNTEERS AND CO-WORKERS

With the help of a multitude of volunteers, a total of 138 co-workers keep the Nehemiah Gateway Group up and running, among them 21 part-time staff and 8 Bachelor students taking part in a "Work and Study" program in various branches.

PARTNERS

Nehemiah Gateway coordinates activities with other NGOs and assists partner organizations in their work. Together, we can achieve even more.

MISSION

**HELPING AND EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO SUSTAINABLY
SHAPE AND DETERMINE THEIR LIVES IN DIGNITY AND INDEPENDENCE**

VALUES

Forgiveness • Respect
Integrity • Honesty
Compassion • Inspiration

Values are a basic element of Nehemiah Gateway's strategy. Every activity shall be oriented towards the implementation of values, providing meaning and sustainability to the projects.

GOALS



Sustainability

We especially want to provide socially deprived people with the chance to build up their own sustainable existence. They can then create, or at least support, a stable local community in their respective societies based upon reliable norms and values.

Helping others to help themselves

By consequently establishing and supporting projects "helping others to help themselves" in the specific countries, we want to contribute to creating environments worth living in, and giving the people dependable structures, also within in their own country.

STRATEGIC CONCEPT – FOUR BUILDING BLOCKS FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE



Social and Medical Improvement

Physical & psychological aid as well as social support is needed in order to enable people to take care of themselves.

Education

Education is the source of a sustainable self-sufficiency, and therefore, also an important foundation for human dignity.

Project Empowerment

By means of professional coaching, we want to enable people from our project countries to fulfill ideas in the field of project empowerment so that they are then able to support medical and social projects themselves within the meaning of "helping people to help themselves".

Core Value Implementation

Sustainable help for self-help can only then function when communication, and acceptance of fundamental values are ensured at the same time.

GLOBAL FOCUS – A GROWING NETWORK OF SUPPORT



Southeast Europe

Nehemiah Gateway has its roots in the small Balkan country of Albania. Neighboring countries, such as crisis-ridden Greece, also receive support.

Africa

Young people from African countries are being equipped to work sustainably and professionally for the long-term in their home countries. Additionally, N.G. supports project of partners.

Latin America

In Latin American countries we focus on future managers and executives for relief organizations and initiatives.

2016 AT A GLANCE –
NEHEMIAH GATEWAY GROUP IN FIGURES





Four pillars form the overall work of the Nehemiah Gateway Group:

- 1 – Social and Medical Improvement
- 2 – Education
- 3 – Core Value Implementation
- 4 – Project Empowerment

The experiences in Albania serve as a best-practice model for smaller projects in other countries and continents. Here, partner organizations are supported to develop their activities towards an integral approach by enhancing all four pillars. The first international graduates of the Nehemiah Gateway University have already returned to their home countries and currently start building their own start-ups. They also want to be multipliers of integral aid and focus on the four pillars for their work.



**“I WANT TO HELP PEOPLE,
JUST AS PEOPLE HELPED ME!”**

Eglantina Likollari is only 28 years old but she proudly states: “I’m a part of Nehemiah Gateway for more than 20 years now, and for 5 years I have been an employee!”

Eglantina – or Eglá, as everybody calls her – was born in 1988 in Maline, a remote village in the mountains near Pogradec, Albania. The little girl was weak and ailing, the slightest exercise made her gasp for breath, her lips turning blue. The doctors diagnosed a serious heart defect. An operation not possible in Albania.

Nehemiah Gateway co-workers found the girl in 1995 during an outreach to the village. As fast as possible an operation in Switzerland was organized with the support of the aid organisation Terre des Hommes. The surgery was just in time – Eglá returned home a healthy child.

After finishing school, she decided to start her Bachelor studies in nursing: “I just wanted to help people who are in need, just as there were people helping me when I needed them. I chose a profession that will bring me back to the rooms and hallways of hospitals, places that I knew so well from my childhood. A feeling that brings back memories!” Today, Eglá is working as a nurse at Nehemiah Gateway’s medical service. In 2016 she even took over temporary leadership of the whole social service in Buçimas.

When Eglá is called to a medical emergency today, she can empathize: “To struggle for air, to make a heart beat – these things I know from own experience. To be close to the patient in such situations is a wonderful feeling.”



SOCIAL AND MEDICAL IMPROVEMENT

SOCIAL SERVICES

In emerging countries, poverty and insufficient care are a major problem, especially for people with disabilities and sick elderly people without family. That's why social service branches of Nehemiah Gateway help those in need – in many cases on-site in their homes. Whether supplies of food, clothing and firewood, cleaning and renovating, medical care, physiotherapy, developmental therapy for children, support with administrative procedures or covering transport and prescription costs ... the list is long – and necessary for many people to survive. The focus is on people, regardless of age, ethnicity or religious affiliation.

- Mobile visiting services in Pogradec and Buçimas
- Long-term assistance for 95 people in need
- In addition: short-term support for people in emergency situations
- Students of Amaro Tan and the Nehemiah School are involved in aid activities
- Summer camps for children with disabilities
- Raising awareness and training affected persons and relatives
- Hygiene programs (e.g. shower rooms in Buçimas and Pogradec)

MEDICAL SERVICES

Many of Nehemiah Gateway's clients need more than humanitarian aid. Only too often are serious health problems the reason for their misery. It is particularly necessary to provide assistance to children with mental and/or physical disabilities who often don't receive adequate treatment by the public health system. This is why home visits often include therapies by trained medical staff. Patients can also be treated in therapy rooms and small outpatients' areas in Buçimas and at Amaro Tan. 85 patients suffering from mental and physical disabilities find regular help here. The chiropractor Eberhard Brachtel from the German city of Hof looks after many patients voluntarily and is a mentor and consultant for the social and medical staff. He is supported by many doctors and specialists in Germany and other countries.

- Physiotherapy and massages
- Play and developmental therapy for children with disabilities
- Consultation with German doctors in the case of complicated diagnoses
- Wound care
- Distribution of medical aid such as wheelchairs, crutches, hygiene and bandaging material
- Dental examinations at Amaro Tan

FEEDING PROGRAMS

For many people, getting their daily bread is by no means a matter of course. Nehemiah Gateway ensures that many needy, sick and disabled people do not have to go hungry, and can enjoy one hot meal on weekdays and are also cared for on weekends and holidays. In the soup kitchens in Gjirokaster and at Amaro Tan, 55 people are catered for daily, 18 of them are supplied with meals at home. The visitors of the soup kitchens appreciate not only the food, but also enjoy the community at birthday parties, excursions and festivities. Especially for elderly people who live alone, it is important to break out of isolation. Disabled children and young adults feel integrated and accepted, which is still the exception in Albanian society. This also applies to children from the Roma community. In the soup kitchens, they can warm themselves up in winter and have a hot shower at

any time – a luxury that many poor people in Albania cannot afford.

145 pupils and kindergarten children at the Amaro Tan Project are given a healthy breakfast and a warm lunch every day. They come from the communities of the Roma or Balkan- Egyptians, some from particularly poor Albanian families.

Further 55 people from age 2 to 80 regularly participate in the feeding programs, among them

- 15 children from poor Roma families
- 16 participants with mental and physical disabilities
- 24 people living in extreme poverty, mostly elderly persons



KALAMATA, GREECE

Partner: Monastery Metamorphosis and the local charity GAIA

In Germany, the Mani-Friends from Colmberg provide active support.

Together Against the Crisis

Many Greeks were hit hard by the current economic crisis, being forced to suddenly live at subsistence level. Severe storm damage and floods in the region worsened the situation in 2016. We support refugees and impoverished families in the Mani region with food, clothing and everyday necessities. The monks of the monastery Metamorphosis and volunteers of the local charity GAIA ensure that the help arrives where it is most urgently needed. They also receive appropriate equipment for their tireless work.

2016

- Three transports with approx. 45 m³ of aid
- Containers and equipment for disaster relief
- Preparation for building a warehouse and supporting the construction of a church



TIRANA, ALBANIA

Partners: Emergency Response Albania (ERA) and Swiss Foundation for Innovation (SFI)

Rescue Service in Albania

Our long-term partner-organization SFI concentrates on the improvement of standards of medical care in Albania. SFI runs a health center and works actively in the field of medical training. Within the framework of the ERA initiative, a 24-hour rescue service sets new standards in the emerging country of Albania.

2016

- Financial support for ERA
- Assistance for medical training (SFI)

MBEYA, TANZANIA

Partner: Tanzania Orphans Mission (TOM)

Secondary Education for Orphans

In an orphans' village in the mountainous region of Mbeya, 77 orphans and children with special needs have found a home. They live in family groups where they also can attend primary school. N.G. supports 15 older children and enables them to attend Vanessa Secondary School, a project that has profited from a support and reorganization program by Nehemiah Gateway (see page 28)

2016

- Scholarships for 15 orphans

FIRST STEPS TOWARDS A SELF-DETERMINED LIFE

She is only 16 years old, but she has already made history. Kasandra Troka comes from a Roma family in Pogradec, Albania. Her mother left, so she was raised by her grandmother. Still, she's feeling lucky – the grandparents and her father cared lovingly for her – and allowed her to do what was regarded as unachievable and even impossible for other Roma girls: education until high school!

While her female schoolmates had to leave school at the age of twelve, she was the first Roma girl to graduate from Amaro Tan, a Nehemiah Gateway project. "The teachers at Amaro Tan have become a part of the family for me, they have always supported me and gave me hope. So I could go ahead, not allowing myself to be pulled down by the past. Only with their support my biggest dream could come true – I am now attending Nehemia High School! I am very grateful for all the donors who made that possible!"

She is one of the very few girls in the Roma community who has come such a long way. Now she has even bigger plans – she wants to break the vicious cycle of ignorance and poverty once and for all. "I dream of achieving something in my life. My greatest wish is to become a lawyer." She works hard to become financially independent in the future, to support her family and finally leave the times of bitter poverty behind. No longer should baskets-braiding and begging be the only ways to survive!



NEHEMIA SCHOOL – FROM KINDERGARTEN TO HIGH SCHOOL

Education is the first step towards a self-determined life. Therefore, Nehemiah Gateway has been investing in training opportunities for children since 2008 and supports pupils up to the graduation of High School / A-levels with selected training courses. The parents contribute a moderate amount of school fees for a wide range of additional services, from school meals to transportation, high-quality infrastructure and supplementary courses and training. Children from poorer families receive support through donation-based sponsorships.

NEHEMIA KINDERGARTEN

69 children attend the kindergarten in Buçimas. The qualified staff is committed to recognizing and promoting their talents right from the start and are in regular contact with the parents who receive monthly reports on the progress of their little ones. Twice a week, there is a playful English lesson in which the students of Nehemia Secondary School participate actively as teachers.

NEHEMIA ELEMENTARY, SECONDARY AND HIGH SCHOOL

361 pupils benefit from a variety of supplementary courses in addition to the state curriculum, taught by qualified teachers. The regular success in the national ranking speaks for itself: In 2016 Nehemia High School took the sixth place

among all state and private high schools in Albania. Time and again, students shine with their performances in national competitions. For example, by achieving the 7th place in the national PISA test, or the first and second place in the national mathematics competition (including Kosovo) in 2016.

In addition to the state curriculum, students can benefit from a lot of additional classes:

- Foreign languages: English (from 1st grade) and German (from 3rd grade)
- Individual tutoring and talent promotion
- Additional offers in art and painting, music, sports, drama, chess, chemistry, intensive language courses and more
- Social commitment: collecting and distributing relief goods for families in need, carrying out awareness campaigns against violence
- Road safety training at Nehemiah Gateway's traffic practice circuit

Ten teachers of the staff have already successfully completed the master's program "Leadership and Assessment in Education", six are currently studying at Nehemiah Gateway University.

27 pupils graduated in 2016 (A-Levels). Three joined the Nehemiah Gateway University and 23 continue to study at universities in Albania and abroad.

AMARO TAN – A FUTURE FOR LESS FORTUNATE CHILDREN

We strive to support children living on the fringe of society, and to provide them with a perspective for their future. Amaro Tan School not only offers education from kindergarten to secondary school for 145 children, most of them from Roma families. It also provides protection from trafficking and abuse, medical and social assistance as well as daily food programs to meet the children's basic needs.

For over ten years, Amaro Tan School has been entirely dependent upon the generous gifts of donors and has been supported by many volunteers.

AMARO TAN KINDERGARTEN

29 children visit the kindergarten at Amaro Tan. This is an important phase in the lives of children who receive little support in their families and often show deficits in social behavior and in the usual rules of living together. Also, nutrition and hygiene are important aspects in these early years of their lives.

AMARO TAN SCHOOL

At Amaro Tan, 116 children attend the classes 1 to 9 and can gain their middle school diploma. In addition to normal classes, there are many other courses and programs to choose from, including certified courses in sewing, German and IT as well as English courses,

cooking, mechanics, guitar courses, traffic safety training and more. In a workshop for woodwork the students produce beautiful toys, decorations and teaching material for the kindergarten.

In many of the families, it is unusual for children to continue school after the ninth grade or even aim at going to university. This is especially true for girls. The teachers are doing a lot of persuasive work, so that 2016 three girls and three boys could complete secondary school with a diploma. Two of the girls have switched to the Nehemia Gymnasium and three graduates attend a vocational school in Pogradec.

Close contact with the parents and the family is particularly important. Once a week the teachers make home visits and in special parents' meetings, important social and spiritual issues are discussed. The families get help with administrative procedures and, if necessary, also material assistance. In addition to the classes, the children receive regular medical and dental check-ups and can participate in a hygiene program. The daily school lunch is, of course, also part of the support.

Plans

The Amaro Tan Program will be further developed in order to make it easily applicable for public and private schools in many countries.

FROM LANGUAGE STUDENTS TO QUALIFIED PROFESSIONALS

The lack of opportunities for many school graduates in Albania gave the idea for a unique program: together with Beck International Recruitment (www.beck-international-recruitment.de), a training project was launched in Albania with the aim of offering young people a future perspective and to place them in regular vocational training places in Germany.

The necessary basic qualifications are taught and trained during a preparatory course at Nehemiah Gateway Albania. The course comprises a language certificate B2 (minimum requirement), intercultural learning, as well as a workshop on competences and applications.

The entire recruiting and matching process is monitored, coordinated and supported by Beck International Recruitment. They are also available to apprentices and employers throughout the entire training period.

In 2016, 18 participants completed the B2 language course. Eleven of them have started training in geriatric nursing at the "Volkssolidarität" Chemnitz. Two trained nurses began their work at a hospital in Berlin in January 2017. Two more 13-month courses with a total of 37 participants started in 2016. A follow-up course is scheduled for September 2017.

ROAD SAFETY TRAINING FOR CHILDREN

Many people lose their lives in traffic accidents in Albania every year, the country ranks 8 of 46 in the statistics of road casualties in Europe. The most vulnerable, like pedestrians, cyclists and children, are most endangered. Children and young people must train their awareness of dangers, learn safety rules and practise appropriate behavior in road traffic – the best way to achieve long-term changes.

Nehemiah Gateway Albania built an exemplary traffic practice circuit on the Buçimas campus. There is an intersection, road signs and a round-about in mini-format where children can playfully practice how to watch out in traffic while riding bicycles or pedal cars. The time-tested concept comes from the traffic school in the administrative district of Weilheim-Schongau as well as the police of Weilheim/Germany.

Not only Nehemiah Gateway's own pupils and students receive intensive training, but also classes from public schools in the district and remote mountain villages. Nehemiah Gateway has trained staff who coordinate and lead the courses.

In 2016, 60 courses were held where 643 fourth-graders from 12 public and private schools took part in the training.

STRUGGLING FOR RESPECT AND INDEPENDENCE

Sandra Akoli, aged 25, comes from the Northern-Ugandan town of Lira. Since 2015 she has been studying "Economy and Businesses" at the Nehemiah Gateway University in Albania.

For her, as a girl, being a child was not easy. Women in Uganda have a much lower social status than men. Every day they face discrimination, financial dependency, poor education, poverty and abuse. Sandra remembers her childhood: "I was treated differently and not respected in the same way as my brothers. They also had priority when it came to education. It was very hard for me".

But a gradual change is felt, especially in educated families. At 15, Sandra got the chance to live with a pastor's family and obtain a school diploma. Her higher education has significantly improved Sandra's social status: "When I returned to my family, I realized that the behavior towards me had changed. People are treating me differently – as soon as you have achieved something, they begin to respect you."

Sandra is very concerned about the issue of women's rights, which is why she wants to work with and for women in the future: "I am planning to found a company that employs and supports women. Perhaps a small print shop that produces paper and books. In addition, I would like to set up an aid organization for the empowerment of women."

With great hopes and good training Sandra belongs to a new generation of Ugandan women who can create a real change for women and girls in their society.



HIGHER EDUCATION

NEHEMIAH GATEWAY UNIVERSITY

Higher education is the logical continuation of Nehemiah Gateway's education concept of life-long learning from kindergarten to high school and far beyond. The goal is to enable young people from many countries to become successful professionals in their chosen fields, and positive influences in their communities.

As a private institution of higher education N.G. University is committed to providing the highest quality education in its first two study programs: B.A. "Economy and Businesses" and M.Sc. "Leadership and Assessment in Education".

The practice-integrated dual study course B.A. "Economy and Businesses" opens up many opportunities for students. They complete a unique program that, on a 50/50 basis, combines theory and practical experience at one of our national or international partner firms and organizations. During practical terms they can apply their knowledge and establish networks for their professional future in their home countries. NGOs from various countries send their future managers to our university in Albania, setting the course for the future growth and success of

their work. Graduates can receive further support through Nehemiah Gateway's Project Empowerment (see page 29).

The Master course "Leadership and Assessment in Education" is a great possibility for teachers who want to do more than teach, but become leaders and professionals in their field and bring positive change to the lives of their students and their society.

Professors and guest lecturers from the USA, Germany, Switzerland, UK, Albania and many other countries add international flair and diversity to the university.

- Year of foundation: 2008
- Located in Pogradec/Albania
- Accredited in three countries: Albania, USA, Germany
- Language of instruction is English
- 68 B.A. students
- 11 MSc students
- Students from Albania, Tanzania, Germany, Mexico, South Sudan, Uganda and Cuba (from 2017)
- Dormitory for 12 students

N.G. University is an institution of higher education licensed and authorized by the Albanian government to offer university study programs.



ACCREDITATION

Albania

The Bachelor program "Economy and Businesses" is accredited by the Albanian Public Accreditation Agency (APAAL), whereas full institutional accreditation is in process and expected to finish within 2017.

www.apaal.edu.al

Germany

In November 2012, our B.A. "Economy & Businesses" study program was accredited by the German Foundation for International Business Administration Accreditation (FIBAA), and reaccredited on February 26th 2016 for seven more years. The M.Sc. program "Leadership and Assessment in Education" was accredited in November 2015. FIBAA is a member of the European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education (ENQA).

www.fibaa.org

N.G. University is registered in the German database for recognition and assessment of foreign education certificates "anabin".

www.anabin.kmk.org

USA

Nehemiah Gateway University is a member of the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS), having been awarded Accredited Status as a Category III institution by the TRACS Accreditation Commission on April 19, 2016. This status is effective for a period of five years.

TRACS is recognized by the United States Department of Education (USDOE), the International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (INQAAHE) as well as the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (www.chea.org).

www.tracs.org

Nehemiah Gateway University is also a member of the Council for Higher Education Accreditation

www.chea.org

CORE VALUE IMPLEMENTATION

“READY!”– A MOTTO FOR LIFE



Ues (Wes) Kanina attends 8th grade at Nehemiah School in Buçimas/Albania – and for eight years he has been a boy scout with “Royal Rangers Albania”.

As a Royal Ranger Ues is learning a lot about nature and living outdoors – with fun and plenty of action. By means of teamwork and creativity he receives ideal support for his personal development on the basis of Christian values – always focused on The Golden Rule: “In everything, do to others what you would have them do to you.” That’s what the motto is for: “ready!” Ues is excited: „To be a Royal Ranger is truly an adventure. So many different activities are part of the program, especially lots of camps – even in foreign countries!”

Ues will remember summer 2016 for a long time. He got the chance to take part in the Royal Rangers Euro-Camp in Poland, together with 7,000 Royal Rangers from all over Europe. He remembers: “What an unforgettable experience! I was part of a group of 40 Rangers from Albania and Kosovo travelling to Poland. Even the trip was an adventure, as I never before had the chance to drive right across Europe. Upon arrival we started to build everything by ourselves – tents, tables, open fires ... although we were terribly tired, it was still great fun! I especially liked the warmth and kindness among everyone.” His conclusion: “This camp was a fantastic time for me. I found many new friends from all over Europe! A good opportunity to practice my English and German. But much more important was our exchange of experiences and the possibility to learn about ways of living in many different cultures. I can’t wait to be part of the next camp!”

CORE VALUE IMPLEMENTATION

Core values are a basic element of Nehemiah Gateway’s activities. Therefore, in almost every project we offer supplementary programs to further the implementation of values. Especially the young profit from a variety of programs, but also parents or clients of our social and medical services have the opportunity to take part in various activities and meetings focusing on values.

ROYAL RANGERS – SCOUTS

The Royal Rangers program is meant to support children and young people in their personal, integral development. Activities aim at their mental, spiritual, physical and social support, and joint experiences result in friendships for life. An age-based training program is perfect to prepare young people to become committed, trustworthy members of their team, their community and their society. Fun and action are important for young people and programs are made to appeal to their different fields of interest like outdoor activities, sports and music.

Nehemiah Gateway Albania coordinates the national Royal Rangers activities with two outposts and 120 regular participants.

SUMMER CAMPS

Not only Boy Scouts love to camp – summer camps are the year’s highlight for many children and young people, where they train the implementation of values in a variety of activities and in a playful way, always accompanied by experienced co-workers. 280 children took part in day-camps in Buçimas in 2016, as well as 40 children with disabilities. Royal Rangers held four training camps and took part in the Euro-Camp in Poland with 27 young people. Additionally, different youth groups had meetings and went on smaller excursions throughout the year.

Three organizations made use of the spacious Nehemiah Gateway compound for their own summer camps with altogether 254 people.

AND MORE ...

Students and pupils of Amaro Tan and Nehemiah schools love to take part in daily devotions. Their parents and families are invited to regular meetings on relevant questions concerning their situation and living circumstances. Co-workers and students can use the facilities at Nehemiah Gateway for their meetings.

A special highlight was the performance of the Nehemiah musical in 2016 – a colorful trip back to biblical times to the adventures of Nehemiah, the person after whom Nehemiah Gateway was named. Co-workers wrote the one-hour long play, including Albanian script, songs, scenes and choreography. The ensemble: students of Nehemia School in Buçimas.

NEHEMIAH GATEWAY FORUM

The Nehemiah Gateway Forum is designed to be a platform of the Nehemiah Gateway Group for information exchange and discussions on relevant and important topics of today's life.

It is a place to learn, to share and to develop. It is an open platform where contributions are not assessed or censored and do not necessarily reflect the views, opinions or positions of Nehemiah Gateway.

The goal is to emphasize the importance of values in every level of social life and to present practical ways of implementation.

In Albania, altogether seven meetings took place in 2016, among them an event with the renowned Albanian writer Ismail Kadare and lectures and discussions with people in positions of responsibility from Albania and Germany on the following topics:

- The Transition of Albania – A Journey Without End – Economic Forum
- Diplomacy in the Course of Euro-Atlantic Developments
- Rule of Law and Fundamental Rights – the German and Albanian Approach Within the European Framework
- Urban and Territory Planning
- School and it's Challenges in the 21st Century

Several meetings took place in Berlin, among them an open forum with the Albanian President, the Ambassador of the Republic of South Sudan and students of Nehemiah Gateway University.



BACK IN UGANDA

Geoffrey Nsamba was part of the first group of international students at Nehemiah Gateway University in Albania. In January 2016 he graduated as a Bachelor in Economy and Businesses and returned to his country – very well equipped with academic and practical knowledge.

He comes from a rural area in Central Uganda. As a child he received support by the aid organisation African Children Mission (ACM). Now he wants to give back some of this support. He committed to work for two years in their social projects. His excellent education gives him the chance to work professionally and to give positive impulses.

However, Geoffrey has further plans. He's dreaming of his own business, not only to make a living for himself and his family, but also to create workplaces in the course of time, supporting families in need.

Nehemiah Gateway granted a start-up loan that helped him to register his own business, to purchase a plot of land and to build three simple buildings. Only 45 minutes from the capital Kampala he opened his own chicken farm! From 2017 the first batch of poultry will be raised. His mother takes care of the chicken as long as he is busy with his organization ACM. Geoffrey is looking forward to the first income, having even bigger goals than to pay back his start-up loan in time: he is dreaming of enlarging his business and to start with pig-farming soon.



PROJECT EMPOWERMENT

PROJECT EMPOWERMENT AT NEHEMIAH GATEWAY

Project Empowerment aims to give individuals, and also organizations, the chance to secure their livelihoods and to become economically independent – an effective way to combat migration.

Over the years, 14 small businesses and organizations have been set up in Albania. This model will be optimized and expanded by granting support for graduates of Nehemiah Gateway University.

VANESSA SECONDARY SCHOOL (TEHILA FOUNDATION), MBEYA, TANZANIA

From 2013 to 2016 Nehemiah Gateway supported Tehila Foundation's Vanessa Secondary School in Mbeya, helping to secure its survival. About 300 students attend the school, among them many orphans who need special support.

By means of a support and reorganization program the school was given the opportunity to eliminate debts and to generate income. This was achieved, e.g., by the repayment of loans, support for the farming project, minor construction projects and the provision of further financial assistance with the goal to increase revenue. An electronic bookkeeping system with reporting function has been installed. The school's leadership and staff also profited from consultation and coaching.

WORK & STUDY AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Through N.G. scholarships young people from vulnerable groups in different countries, continents and cultures receive support. Thus, mutual acceptance and economic independence through business start-ups are encouraged, inhibiting reasons for flight and fostering peace.

In the framework of their work-integrated dual studies, national and international students are working at Nehemiah Gateway or at partner firms or organizations during their practical terms. They acquire skills in management and administration. International students return to their countries at least once a year and have the chance to work at their sending institution or company, thus laying the foundation for their future career. Participants at the Work & Study Program are students with a perspective for N.G. They have the potential to become future leaders for Nehemiah Gateway, especially also for international N.G. projects.

RE-INTEGRATION

In 2016 a huge wave of refugees rolled over Germany, among them many people from Albania. Without prospect to gain residence rights, they have to return.

Nehemiah Gateway became a point of contact for many repatriates and their supporters. They received assistance like translation, advice, dealing with authorities and even finding accommodation and jobs. Amaro Tan Project in Pogradec welcomed 11 families and put 17 children to school.

BACHELOR GRADUATES 2016 – NEXT STEPS

In January 2016 eight Bachelor students graduated successfully and have taken the first steps in their professional life. Five graduates returned to their countries in Africa and are now receiving support by Nehemiah Gateway's Project Empowerment. They receive help with their first steps into independence, including assistance with realistic business planning, coaching and mentoring as well as small loans for start-up initiatives.

Joshua Luyonza (Uganda):

"Currently I'm working with the organization Cornerstone as a Personal Assistant to the Director, also I'm in a strong partnership with Spear Motors and I am the contact person for Nehemiah Gateway in Uganda."

Denis Topalli (Albania):

"I'm working in our own family business here in Pogradec, Albania."

Geoffrey Nsamba (Uganda):

"I'm working with African Children Mission and started my own poultry project."

Ornela Corbaxhi (Albania):

"My degree opened doors for a job as Online/Digital Marketing Manager at Mix Real Estate in Dubai/UAE."

Musana Ahamada (Uganda):

"Presently I'm working as a senior accountant and administrator for an NGO and I'm about to open my own small business, an internet cafe."

Eduart Gjona (Albania/Greece):

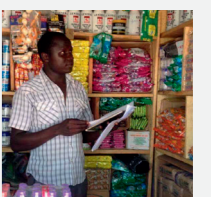
"I have to do military service in Greece, therefore my professional plans are on hold for the moment."

Lokolo Martin (South Sudan):

"Due to armed conflicts I was forced to leave my country and I'm trying to settle the family across the border in Uganda. I have recently developed and started a small business here in Uganda: Kenyi & Sons Transport Services."

Doka Cosmas (South Sudan):

"I am in Uganda after fleeing my home country, but not yet fully settled. In spite of many problems I managed to open a small business, "Arise Gateway", in one of the refugee camps, selling manufactured food items. However, it's not my full-time job and I am currently searching for job opportunities."



GUEST HOUSE IN ALBANIA

Our numerous projects in Albania attract many guests who need accommodation, among them guest lecturers and many volunteers. In a modern guest house, on the Buçimas campus, 12 guest rooms and apartments leave nothing to be desired in terms of comfort. School and event buildings are multi-functionally equipped, youth groups and other organizations love to use them for their summer camps. We counted 1.740 overnights in 2016.

Another building in the mountain village of Peshkepi is at the disposal of those who like to enjoy a rustic surrounding and breath-taking nature without compromise to personal comfort. In 2016 altogether 375 overnight stays were registered.

Hospitality projects and camps are also education initiatives, and complement the internship requirements for study programs offered by N.G. University.

Additionally, there are apartments/dormitories for up to 16 students.



FACILITIES FOR SEMINARS IN GERMANY

Attractive facilities for seminars and meetings are at the disposal of NGOs and partners at Nehemiah Gateway's premises in Nuremberg and Berlin.

In Nuremberg "N.G. Forum" was set up in 2016. It can be used as a seminar centre and has room for groups of up to 85 people. A kitchen and dining room are also available.

The office in Berlin, located in the heart of the German capital, is a popular place for events. A big room is suitable for meetings with up to 60 people, office space can be used by organizations on request. 15 events took place in 2016 with altogether 650 visitors.



At Nehemiah Gateway all signs point to growth. Our strategy for the years to come is to develop our work in Albania into an integral education and training facility which will serve as a model for new initiatives at different locations. From the very beginning, these initially small projects will include, as a nucleus, all four building blocks of Nehemiah Gateway's strategy: Social and Medical Improvement, Education, Core Value Implementation and Project Empowerment.

The name for these new initiatives: "my N.G."

An extensive handbook will help founders of new "my N.G.s" to implement proven concepts from Albania in their own project. In order to ensure continuous growth, creativity and ideas as well as financial means are needed.

During the initial phase, existing N.G. projects and local centers in Albania will be developed into fully-fledged "my N.G.s", and new "my N.G.s" are planned in neighboring South-East-European countries. We believe that the concept will also work well in Africa. We are contemplating developing a recently started refugee project in Uganda (2017) into a "my N.G." initiative with the help of students and graduates of Nehemiah Gateway University.

Not everyone who is excited about the ideas behind Nehemiah Gateway's strategy must also become a part of Nehemiah Gateway Group. N.G. loves to put insights from its rich pool of experience at the disposal of partners and encourages them to think and work with an integral approach in the spirit of Nehemiah Gateway's basic concept.

The support of experts, mentors and helpers from different areas of life is vital for these plans, and we plan to expand and strengthen the big network of friends and supporters behind Nehemiah Gateway.

FINANCES AT NEHEMIAH GATEWAY

A new member of Nehemiah Gateway Group secured a degree of financial independence in 2009. The Nehemiah Gateway Services gGmbH (non-profit private limited company) is investing income from its own asset management into the overall work of the Nehemiah Gateway Group. In combination with income from other statutory activities, like tuition fees, where affordable for the families, we are able to cover all of our administrative costs and to support many more scholarships and aid projects. Therefore, we can ensure that 100% of every private donation will be used for the designated project, without any deduction for administrative expenses.

LEGAL STATUS: GEMEINNÜTZIGE GMBH (gGMBH)

“gemeinnützige GmbH” means a non-profit private limited company, organized according to the applicable German law. It has a non-profit status, because the profits it generates are invested solely for the achievement of the company’s non-profit goals. The non-profit limited company is exempt from corporate and business tax.

Due to Nehemiah Gateway’s non-profit status, every donation is tax-deductible in Germany, Albania and the USA; contribution receipts are mailed automatically at the beginning of each calendar year if the donor’s address is known.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

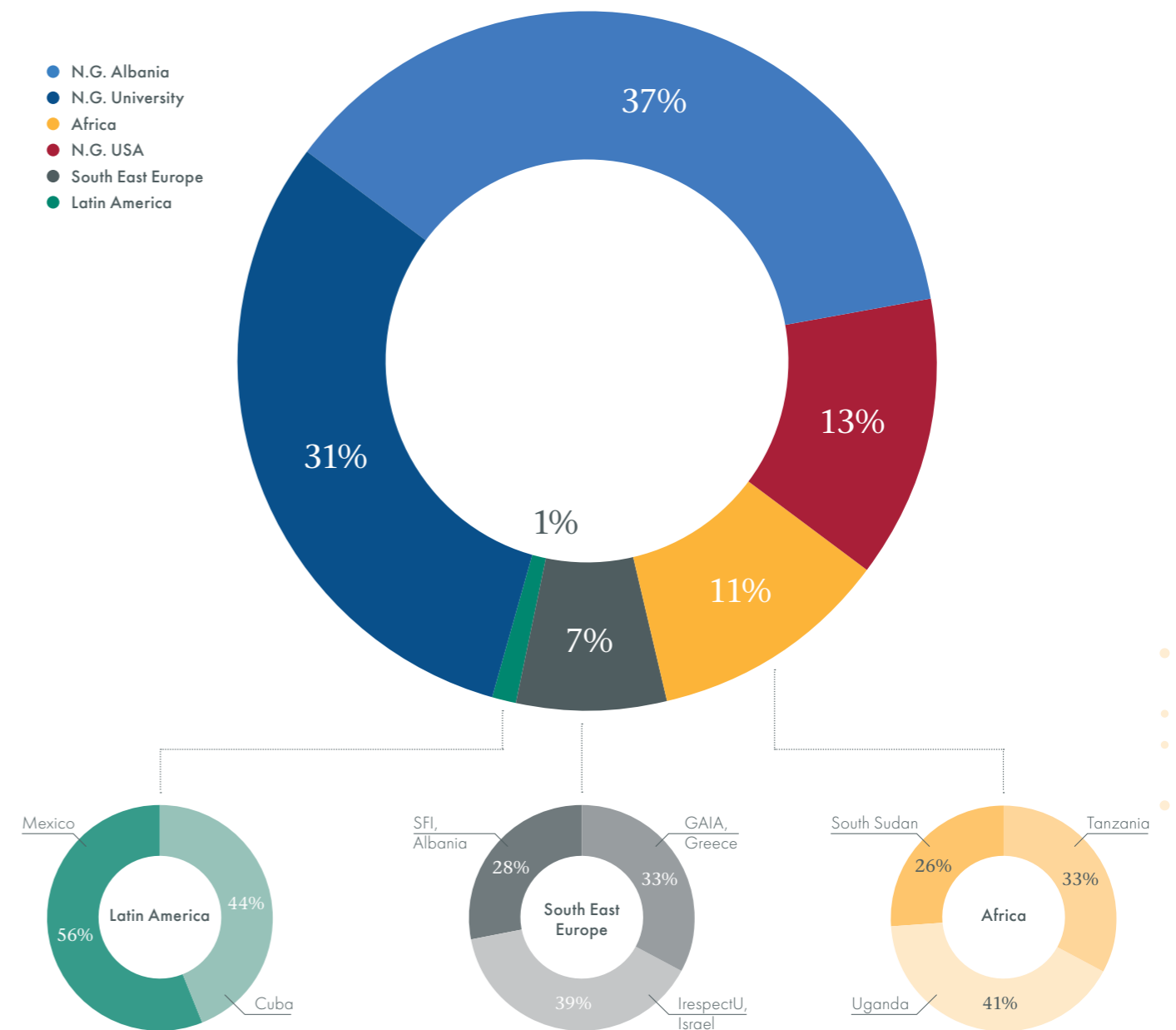
Nehemiah Gateway gGmbH in Nuremberg functions as the operational headquarters for all the members of Nehemiah Gateway Group. Its financial statements for the year 2016 are presented on the following pages.

We want to increase efficiency and optimize administration within Nehemiah Gateway Group, therefore N.G. gGmbH (headquarters) completes essential administrative tasks for N.G. Services, N.G. Albania, N.G. University and N.G. USA.

Nehemiah Gateway gGmbH’s annual financial statements are published online in the German Federal Gazette “Bundesanzeiger” (www.bundesanzeiger.de).



SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS 2016



**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITIONS
AS OF 31TH DECEMBER 2016**

ASSETS		LIABILITIES AND SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	
A. FIXED ASSETS		A. SHAREHOLDERS EQUITY	
I. Intangible assets		I. Contributed Capital	30.000,00 €
Concessions, Trademarks and Similar Rights and Assets	1.253,00 €	II. Net income carried forward	270.200,75 €
II. Tangible assets		III. Change in Net Assets	49.332,76 €
Property, Plant and Equipment	189.893,00 €		
III. Financial assets		B. RESERVES AND ACCRUED LIABILITIES	
1. Interest (or Shares) in Affiliated Organizations	0,00 €	Other reserves	26.328,00 €
2. Long-Term Associate Loans Receivable	43.911,38 €		
		C. LIABILITIES	
B. CURRENT ASSETS		1. Liabilities due to banks	8,74 €
I. Accounts receivable and other assets		2. Trade accounts payable	17.805,76 €
1. Accounts Receivable	205,79 €	3. Liabilities due to affiliated companies	32.647,00 €
2. Other Current Assets	37.597,06 €	4. Other Liabilities	8.049,24 €
II. Cash and Cash Equivalents	117.536,64 €		
C. PREPAID EXPENSE	43.975,38 €		
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	434.372,25 €	TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	434.372,25 €

**STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES FOR
THE YEAR ENDING ON 31.12.2016**

INCOME	
Donation	170.304,88 €
Donations from Affiliated Organizations	2.420.000,00 €
In-Kind Donations	17.134,14 €
Other income	6.887,93 €
Total Income	2.614.326,95 €
EXPENSES	
Wages and salaries incl. health and social insurance	838.751,07 €
– for program Operating Expenses	538.792,69 €
– for Services to Affiliated Organizations	42.502,21 €
Depreciation	50.226,93 €
Operating expenses	1.676.016,19 €
– for Program Operating Expenses	1.165.858,00 €
Interest	0,00 €
Total Expenses	2.564.994,19 €
Income before tax	49.332,76 €
NET INCOME	49.332,76 €



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All photos in this brochure are authentic and
show our own projects. Pictures on pages 3 and 30
by courtesy of Jutta Benzenberg

Nehemiah Gateway gGmbH
IBAN: DE66 7605 0101 0011 0409 38
BIC/SWIFT: SSKNDE77

Due to Nehemiah Gateway's non-profit status,
financial contributions are tax-deductible in
Germany, Albania and the USA and will be used
100% for the designated projects without any
deduction for administrative expenses.

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