

# **Activity Report 2023**



## **TwoWings Private Foundation**

Hafferlstraße 7, 4020 Linz, Austria

Company Register Number: 195448z

Data Processing Register Number (DVR): 1063731

Register Court: Regional Court of Linz

#### 1. Principles and Guiding Principles of TwoWings

The release of human potential is the foundation of every form of sustainable development. The philosophy of TwoWings is to shape the future through education. This philosophy inspires all projects supported by TwoWings throughout the world. Our goal is to empower the people involved in these projects to lead self-determined lives.

The projects supported by TwoWings place great emphasis on sustainable transfer of knowledge, intended to motivate people to use the resources available to them to improve their living conditions.

We are convinced that education is the key to sustainable development.

#### **Guiding Principles of TwoWings**

"Humanity is like a bird with two wings: one wing is formed by women, the other by men. Only when both wings are equally developed can the bird fly."

"Regard man as a mine rich in gems of inestimable value. Only education can cause it to reveal its treasures and enable mankind to benefit from them."





#### **Equal Partnerships**

In development cooperation, the population of the Southern Hemisphere is not regarded as passive recipients or beggars. Cooperation with local partners is characterized by effective consultation and mutual respect.



## **Avoiding Preconceived Solutions**

Development should not be a process of imitation of the so-called "developed" countries. A project thrives when goals are defined jointly, and their achievement is ensured through flexible concepts. Project participants are supported in finding and applying their own creative solutions to current challenges.

## **Releasing Potential**

The selected projects do not focus on deficits that need to be overcome but, on the potentials, and resources that can be fostered and developed.



## **Sustainability**

The key criterion in project selection is the sustainability of each project and its impact on those involved and on the affected communities. Development processes with a long-term perspective are promoted, benefiting the community as a whole.

#### **Openness as a Motto**

TwoWings is non-partisan and non-denominational. The supported projects are open to people of all ethnic backgrounds and religions, without any restriction in this regard.

## **Working Method**

TwoWings relies on volunteers. Cost-intensive bureaucracy is avoided as far as possible in all areas of activity. Many competent and committed volunteers make it possible to handle donations efficiently and effectively. To ensure proper documentation of our work, TwoWings is audited by a.m. Wirtschaftstreuhand GmbH.





## 2. Areas of Responsibility and Tasks

Internally, the organization consists of three bodies: the Foundation Board, the Advisory Board, and the Foundation Auditor.

#### **Advisory Board**

- The Advisory Board determines the distribution of agendas within the Foundation Board, issues the Rules of Procedure, and decides any amendments to these Rules.
- The Foundation's auditor is appointed by the court for a period of one year upon the recommendation of the Advisory Board. The proposal for appointment is made annually during a meeting of the Advisory Board.
- The North–South Advisory Board of TwoWings consists of a total of eight members and is divided into two sections: four representatives from the Northern Hemisphere and four representatives from the Southern Hemisphere. This structure ensures that funding decisions are not made without the participation of partners in the South, since decisions are reached by consensus within the entire Board. In this way, the fundamental idea of a balanced cooperation between "North" and "South" is respected. It also ensures that local needs are met through well-designed projects.





#### **Foundation Board**

- The Foundation Board manages the foundation's assets, represents the foundation in and out of court, and ensures the fulfillment of the foundation's purpose.
- · The foundation is jointly represented by two members of the Foundation Board.
- The Board is required to carry out its duties in an economically responsible manner and with the diligence of a prudent businessperson.
- The Foundation Board prepares the annual financial statements for the preceding financial year.

#### **Foundation Auditor**

- The Foundation Auditor examines the annual financial statements, including bookkeeping and the management report of the foundation.
- The auditor reports annually to the Foundation Board, the Advisory Board, and the Founder on the results of the audit.
- Responsible for Funding Activities: Dipl. Kff. Dr. Sarvenas Enayati. The principal task of this officer is to ensure the integrity of all fundraising measures in accordance with § 7 of the Rules of Procedure. This guarantees that all promotional activities are fair and follow an ethically acceptable approach to resource mobilization.
- Data Protection Officer: Ms. Manuela Dorn. Her primary duties are to ensure compliance with data-protection regulations, to monitor adherence to them, and to act in an advisory capacity.







### 3. Review of the Year 2023

#### 1. Project "Transforming Environment" – FUNDAEC, Colombia

With the financial support of several foundations and organizations, including the TwoWings Foundation, the project Transforming Environment achieved its goal by December 2023 of planting 14,810 trees. These trees were planted and cared for by participants, tutors, coordinators of the PSA (Preparation for Social Action) Program, as well as by their families, community leaders, educational institutions, and local organizations across eight departments of Colombia.

The PSA Program, developed by FUNDAEC, is a non-formal education program for development. FUNDAEC understands "education for development" as a process that enables young people to generate and apply knowledge as protagonists of progress within their communities.

The program equips young people with the necessary capabilities to become promoters of community well-being.

For FUNDAEC, a promoter of the common good is an identity that the program seeks to cultivate—one that can strengthen cooperation among people regardless of profession or social role.



### **Objectives of the Project**

- 1. **Promote reforestation** and improve ecological well-being in the region through the planting of trees, with an emphasis on restoring native species.
- 2. Enhance food security in rural communities by encouraging the planting of fruit trees as part of local nutrition.
- **3.** Facilitate the PSA Program in the implementation of collective projects that go beyond individual initiatives and represent a more organized and comprehensive approach to community development.
- **4. Encourage systematic and collective community action** through multi-generational participation and cooperation among diverse groups and organizations.
- **5. Establish community nurseries** for the cultivation of trees for local use, providing both a resource base and potential small business models for community members.

The project, carried out in 85 communities across 8 departments of Colombia, involved 100 PSA groups with 2,186 individuals—most of them women—responsible for the care of the trees. Fifty-eight organizations also participated, including community action boards, educational institutions, and governmental bodies.



## **Support by TwoWings in Northern Cali**

A region on which FUNDAEC focused on the support received from TwoWings was the area north of Cali, representing the central portion of the Department of Valle del Cauca. Through this cooperation, FUNDAEC established relationships with community leaders, educational institutions, and local administrations to work jointly on service projects, including Transforming the Environment.

In 2023, the project conducted training workshops for approximately 40 participants to raise awareness about environmental protection, tree planting, conservation of native species, and biodiversity. Throughout the year, fifteen tree-planting activities were organized in eight communities near Tuluá and Río Frío, during which 367 trees were planted and later maintained by 66 individuals and members of the Community Action Boards.





#### 2. Project "Environmental Health" - Inshindo Foundation, Zambia

The Inshindo Foundation in Zambia promotes the Community Schools Program and the Community Agriculture Program to build capacity and foster community improvement. The Environmental Health project, launched in 2023, made significant progress in improving environmental health in Kabwe and Mwinilunga.

Participants engaged in a comprehensive curriculum containing detailed modules on environmental issues and ecosystems, fostering a deep understanding of ecological responsibility.

Initiatives carried out by the participants included the removal of waste sites, awareness-raising on ecosystem preservation, and extensive tree-planting campaigns.

The project began with 94 participants, who successfully planted 1,226 trees. Its objective is to expand the project's scope and impact by promoting developmental growth, educational enrichment, knowledge generation, and collaboration—thus broadening its reach and strengthening community engagement.







### **Achievements 2023: Planting the Seeds of Change**

In 2023, the collective efforts of the teams at FUNDAEC, Inshindo, and TwoWings—together with the support of donors—planted and nurtured many "seeds of change."

These endeavors have led to substantial ecological and educational progress:

- Transforming the Environment: TwoWings contributed to the success of this project, which
  exceeded its annual goal by planting 14,810 trees—species essential for ecosystem restoration as well as fruit trees strengthening community food security. The establishment of
  three community nurseries represents a major step toward sustainable community development.
- Environmental Health: With 94 participants, 1,226 trees—including both fruit and native non-fruit species—were planted in Kabwe and Mwinilunga. The project embodies a holistic approach combining education, practical action, knowledge-building, and community cooperation.

These initiatives, supported by TwoWings, have not only improved ecological balance but also strengthened the capacity of local communities to shape their own futures in the fields of environment and education.



#### 4. Activities in Austria

TwoWings was also active in Austria through educational initiatives that simultaneously helped raise funds for the projects described above.

#### **Art for Education**

In March 2023, the charity art auction "Art for Education" was held jointly with the Dorotheum. Young people from two art schools were encouraged to submit artworks.

The auction provided a platform for selling these works, created around themes such as equality, reforestation against climate change, one planet – one humanity, and the development of human potential through education.

The event aimed to raise awareness of principles contributing to a peaceful and healthy future. During the online auction held by the Dorotheum on 25 March 2023, the impressive creations of the competition winners were auctioned alongside works by established artists.

The proceeds were donated to projects supported by TwoWings in Zambia and Colombia.

The auction also demonstrated the collective commitment of all supporters to promote a better future through education.

Our sincere thanks go to the organizers and to all artists who made their works available.

#### **Financial Literacy Workshops for Women**

In cooperation with **Partner Bank,** well-attended workshops were held in Linz and Vienna to strengthen women's financial literacy.

TwoWings identified financial education as one of the necessary support measures to combat old-age poverty, which affects women in Austria disproportionately.

The proceeds from these events were donated to the projects in Zambia and Colombia supported by TwoWings.



#### **TwoWings Nomination for the Minerva Award 2023**

The **Minerva Award** honors companies and individuals committed to the empowerment of women in the economy.

TwoWings has been dedicated to social transformation for nearly three decades and contributes to one of the most sustainable forms of investment—promoting women and girls. In recognition of this long-term commitment, TwoWings was nominated for the **Minerva Award 2023** in the category *Social Entrepreneurship and Sustainability*.





#### 5. Outlook for 2024 - 2026

TwoWings will continue its successful cooperation with FUNDAEC in Colombia and Inshindo in Zambia over the next three years.

#### Colombia - FUNDAEC

Over a three-year period, TwoWings will support the project Promotion of Enterprises and Climate Protection Measures.

The main objectives include:

- 1. Contributing food security by providing communities with access to fruit trees.
- 2. Promoting soil regeneration through the establishment of local composting facilities.
- 3. Improving the economic profitability of small enterprises, thereby reinforcing the previous two goals at the local level.

Furthermore, in the first year FUNDAEC will strengthen its existing tree nursery at its educational center in Perico Negro, Cauca, so that it can serve as a central sorting and distribution facility for all branch nurseries.





#### Zambia - Inshindo

In 2023, Inshindo decided to begin with a single focus measure: training on environmental health and the planting of native and fruit trees in the regions of Kabwe, Kanongesha, and Mwinilunga.

During 2024–2026, these activities will be consolidated and expanded to the regions of Zambezi Source, Kanongesha, Ikelenge, Chisamba North, and Choma–Batoka.

Since the planting, care, and management of native and fruit trees constitute a new field of action for Inshindo, which has only recently begun to gain experience in this area, close cooperation is planned with forestry offices, municipal administrations, and community institutions.



More detailed information about all projects is available at: www.twowings.com

