

Activity Report

2024



TwoWings Private Foundation

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Company Register Number: 195448z

Data Protection Register (DVR): 1063731

Commercial Court: Regional Court of Linz

Fundamentals and Guiding Principles of TwoWings

Releasing human potential is the foundation of all sustainable development. The philosophy of TwoWings is to shape the future through education. This philosophy inspires all the projects that TwoWings supports worldwide. Our aim is to empower people in these projects to lead self-determined lives.

The projects supported by TwoWings place particular emphasis on sustainable knowledge transfer. They aim to motivate people to use the resources available to them to improve their own situations.

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

Guiding Principles of TwoWings

“The world of humanity has two wings: one is women, the other is 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 therefrom.”



Equal Partnerships

In development cooperation, the populations of the southern hemisphere are not regarded as passive recipients or beneficiaries of charity. Rather, cooperation with local partners is characterized by effective consultation and mutual respect.



Avoidance of Preconceived Solutions

Development should not be a process of imitating the so-called “developed” countries. A project thrives when goals are defined jointly and achieved through flexible approaches. Participants are supported in identifying and applying their own creative solutions to current challenges.

Releasing Potential

The selected projects focus not on deficits that must be overcome but on the potentials and resources that can be cultivated and developed.

Sustainability

The central criterion in project selection is the sustainability of the initiative and its impact on the participants and the affected communities.

TwoWings promotes development processes with long-term perspectives that benefit the community as a whole.

Openness as a Guiding Principle

TwoWings is non-partisan and non-denominational. The projects it supports are open to people of all ethnicities and religions, without any form of restriction.

Working Method

TwoWings relies on volunteers. Cost-intensive bureaucracy is avoided as far as possible in all areas of work.

Many voluntary and highly qualified staff members ensure effective management of donations. To guarantee transparent documentation of our work, TwoWings is audited by a.m. Wirtschaftstreuhand GmbH.



Areas of Responsibility and Duties

Internally, the organization comprises three governing 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 rules of procedure, and decides amendments thereto.
- The foundation auditor is appointed by the court upon the recommendation of the Advisory Board for a period of one year. The proposal for appointment is made annually at a meeting of the Advisory Board.
- The North–South Advisory Board of TwoWings consists of eight members and is divided into two sections: four representatives from the northern hemisphere and four from the southern hemisphere. This structure ensures that funding applications are not decided in disregard of the interests of the South, as all decisions are made by consensus of the full Advisory Board. In this way, the fundamental principle of balanced cooperation between “North” and “South” is upheld. Furthermore, it guarantees that local needs are met through well-conceived projects.



Foundation Board

- The Foundation Board manages the foundation's assets, represents the foundation in and out of court, and ensures the fulfillment of its purpose.
- The foundation is jointly represented by two members of the Foundation Board.
- The Board must perform its duties prudently and in accordance with sound business principles.
- The Foundation Board prepares the annual financial statements for the preceding fiscal year.

Foundation Auditor

- The Foundation Auditor examines the annual financial statements, including the accounting records and management report.
- The Auditor reports annually to the Foundation Board, the Advisory Board, and the Founder on the results of the audit.
- Dr. Sarvenas Enayati has been appointed as the person responsible for funding activities. The main responsibility of this role is to ensure the integrity of promotional activities in accordance with § 7 of the Rules of Procedure. This guarantees that all communications and fundraising are conducted fairly and with an ethically sound approach.
- Mag. Stefanie Gierlinger has been appointed as Data Protection Officer. Her principal responsibility is to monitor and ensure compliance with data protection legislation and to act in an advisory capacity.



Building the Future Through Education

Preparation for Social Action Program

The partner organization Fundación para la Aplicación y Enseñanza de la Ciencia (FUNDAEC) in Colombia has developed a unique educational model: the Preparation for Social Action (PSA) program. It is aimed at young people and combines academic learning with practical skills and social engagement.

The curriculum consists of approximately 25 units covering language, mathematics, natural sciences, and community life. This includes the course Environmental Health, in which young people learn how ecosystems function, why forests and soils must be protected, and the role of reforestation, composting, and sustainable agriculture. Each learning unit culminates in tangible action—from establishing small nurseries to planting orchards.

TwoWings supports PSA because it is more than a training program: it empowers young people to take responsibility for their environment and their communities. The projects currently supported by TwoWings in Colombia (tree nurseries and composting) and Zambia (tree planting) are based on this approach. In these projects, teenagers and young adults put into practice what they have learned in the PSA environmental course.

Thus, the result is not merely short-term activities but sustainable transformation: families enhance food security, soils regenerate, communities cooperate, and young people experience that they can shape the future themselves.

With every donation to TwoWings, you therefore support not only an individual project but a holistic educational system that enables young people worldwide to strengthen their communities sustainably.





Review of 2024

Project “Tree Nurseries and Composting” – North Cauca, Colombia

The region of North Cauca in Colombia has long been shaped by agriculture.

Family farms traditionally cultivated a wide variety of fruits, medicinal plants, timber, and vegetables.

In recent decades, however, the expansion of sugarcane monocultures has depleted the soil, reduced biodiversity, and displaced traditional knowledge.

As a result, many smallholder families lost both the basis for healthy nutrition and the opportunity for stable income.

To address these challenges, FUNDAEC, with the support of TwoWings, launched the “Tree Nurseries and Composting” project.

Its objective is to restore agricultural diversity, improve soil fertility, promote climate protection, and enable people once again to earn a self-determined income from sustainable agriculture.

Project Objectives

The project follows a holistic approach with five core objectives:

1. Provision of seedlings of native fruits, trees, and plants.
2. Restoration of agricultural diversity and improvement of soil quality.
3. Contribution to climate protection through reforestation and sustainable agriculture.
4. Strengthening food sovereignty and security for local families.
5. Promotion of income generation through the establishment of small, community-based enterprises.



Achievements in the First Year (2024/25)

The project is currently in the first year of a three-year initiative—and important foundations have already been laid down.

1. Education and Training

- 35 participants from 12 communities completed a three-month course.
- 31 successfully graduated, acquiring knowledge in three areas:
 - Technical skills: cultivation and care of seedlings, compost production, sustainable farming methods.
 - Economic skills: principles of bookkeeping, cost-benefit analysis, interaction with suppliers and customers.
 - Personal development: entrepreneurship, teamwork, responsibility, and commitment to the common good.

This training is crucial because it imparts not only technical expertise but also confidence and the ability to implement ideas sustainably.

2. Selection of Entrepreneurs

After the training, the most committed participants were selected to establish their own business units:

- 15 met the criteria (expertise, reliability, dedication).
- 12 expressed their willingness to jointly found nurseries and composting enterprises.
- 2 existing nurseries received advisory support to expand their operations and transition to more sustainable structures.

3. Infrastructure Development

- The existing FUNDAEC training center was modernized and now serves as a model nursery.
- Six new local business units were established—four in rural communities (Perico Negro, Mingo, Alegrías, Agua Azul) and two in urban areas (Puerto Tejada, Villarrica).
- All units received ongoing support, site visits, and tailored development plans.





Impact on Local Communities

The initial results are encouraging:

- Farmers are regaining traditional knowledge—such as the importance of native species.
- Soils are being regenerated through local organic composting, reducing reliance on costly chemical fertilizers.
- Families secure their nutrition by cultivating diverse crops that provide healthy food.
- Communities generate income through the sale of seedlings and compost.
- Women and men participate equally and contribute jointly to local development.

Importantly, the project has a **multiplier effect**: trained participants share their knowledge with neighbors, increasing participation, and expanding the project's impact throughout the region.

Outlook for the Coming Years

Over the next two years (2025–2027), the established structures will be further expanded:

- Additional nurseries and composting units will be created and managed by the communities themselves.
- The diversity of native plant species will be intentionally increased to ensure both ecological and economic stability.
- The training programs will continue and deepen, enabling more families to participate.
- The measurable impact on climate protection and food sovereignty will be further enhanced.

Key Figures at a Glance

- 35 participants in training
- 31 successful graduates
- 12 entrepreneurs establishing business units
- 6 new nurseries/composting units launched
- 2 existing enterprises sustainably strengthened

Why Your Support Makes the Difference

This project demonstrates how donations can bring about lasting change:

- You support not only individual families but entire communities.
- Every planted tree and every composting unit is a tangible contribution to the environment.
- The combination of education, entrepreneurship, and sustainability ensures that the impact endures far beyond the project's duration.

Thanks to the financial support of donors like you, FUNDAEC was able in its first year to lay the groundwork upon which much more will grow in the years to come—in the truest sense of the word.

Tree Planting Project in Zambia 2024

The Tree Planting Project of the Environmental Health Programme of the Inshindo Foundation in Zambia promotes healthy ecosystems, improved living conditions, and sustainable development across several regions of the country. Its aim is to raise awareness of the importance of trees, build local capacity, and achieve tangible ecological and economic improvements within communities.

In 2024, remarkable progress was achieved: 4,797 trees were planted, exceeding the original target of 4,080 by 18%.

The project is growing not only in the number of trees planted but also in its geographic reach and community engagement.

Project Approach

The project is based on four pillars:

1. Education – Raising awareness and imparting knowledge.
2. Development – Establishing nurseries, orchards, agroforestry, and household tree planting.
3. Collaboration – With government bodies, schools, churches, farmers, and traditional authorities.
4. Knowledge Sharing – Documenting, reflecting, and disseminating experiences.

This approach combines ecological goals (climate protection, biodiversity) with social and economic outcomes (food security, income generation, community strengthening).





Key Achievements in 2024

1. Education and Awareness

- **Team Training:** Introduction of a digital platform (“Nyitundu”) to document and monitor all planted trees; the team was trained in data entry and tracking.
- **Technical Training:** Courses on ecosystems, tree grafting/budding, and seed quality. Participants learned, for example, how to graft citrus and mango varieties to obtain higher yields.
- **Community Training:** In Kabwe, Mwinilunga, and Chisamba, several hundred people participated. Using simple tools such as village mapping and study materials, they developed an understanding of the relationships between forests, climate, and quality of life.
- **Strong Response:** Many village chiefs provided land for orchards, and numerous families volunteered for planting activities.



2. Development of Infrastructure

- **Nurseries:** Two institutional nurseries (Kabwe and Mwinilunga) were established, producing 2,447 seedlings—around 71% of planned capacity. In addition, community nurseries were set up in four villages. Production included moringa, citrus, papaya, guava, and the soil-enhancing tree in Msangu.
- **Orchards:** In 2024, 17 new orchards were created—in addition to three from the previous year—located at schools, churches, villages, and family farms. A total of 1,367 fruit trees were planted, including oranges, tangerines, guavas, lemons, and papayas. There are now 20 community and family orchards.
- **Agroforestry:** 63 farmers integrated 713 Msangu trees into their fields. These fix nitrogen, improve soil fertility, and increase long-term yields of maize and other staple crops.
- **Household Trees:** 287 families planted 2,734 trees in their own yards—an accessible but effective method to involve households with limited land.

3. Cooperation and Partnerships

The project collaborates closely with:

- The Forestry Department (technical advice, seed supply)
- Commercial nurseries (e.g., Amadeus Farm, Chiwala Farm)
- Traditional authorities (village chiefs providing land)
- Schools, churches, and families

This cooperation ensures that trees are not only planted but also maintained and utilized sustainably.

4. Key Figures at a Glance

- 4,797 trees planted (target: 4,080)
- 2,447 seedlings produced in-house
- 17 new orchards (20 total)
- 713 agroforestry trees integrated into fields
- 2,734 household trees among 287 families
- 287 active participants (2023: 126)



Challenges in 2024

Despite significant success, several challenges provided valuable insights:

1. Water Scarcity – Due to drought in 2023/24, approximately 40% of the previous year's trees perished. Regular irrigation remains a major challenge.
2. Pests and Fire – Caterpillars, termites, and uncontrolled bushfires threatened several orchards. Losses were contained through manual effort, chemical control, and firebreaks.
3. Theft – In some communities, seedlings were stolen. The solution: offenders were encouraged to join the project, turning a problem into an opportunity for inclusion.
4. Land Scarcity – In urban areas such as Kabwe, it is difficult to secure sufficient land for large orchards. Considerations include using urban green spaces (e.g., playgrounds) for planting.
5. Transport and Accessibility – Remote areas such as Kanongesha and Muswishi remain difficult to reach, complicating ongoing support.



Lessons Learned and Positive Developments

- Early Planting: Earlier distribution of trees in 2024 led to significantly better results than in 2023.
- Preparation Is Key: Planting holes must be prepared well in advance; poor preparation leads to weak growth.
- Encouraging Ownership: Trees thrive best where families are highly involved; such households will be prioritized for future distributions.
- Values of Education: Beyond technical skills, the project fosters social values such as patience, cooperation, and responsibility.

Impact on Communities and the Environment

This project demonstrates how practical climate action directly improves people's daily lives:

- Families will harvest fresh fruit from their own gardens.
- Schoolchildren learn the value of trees and participate actively.
- Farmers secure future harvests through improved soil quality.
- Villages become greener, healthier, and more resilient to drought.



Outlook

For 2025 and the years ahead, the Tree Planting Project has set clear goals:

- Expansion of nurseries to increase self-production of seedlings.
- Establishment of additional orchards in communities, schools, and churches.
- Wider dissemination of agroforestry methods.
- Greater involvement of youth and women in planning and implementation.
- Strengthened cooperation with government agencies and local leadership.

Why Your Support Makes the Difference

Thanks to your support, the Tree Planting Project not only met but exceeded its 2024 targets. Each planted tree represents:

- **More food and income for families**
- **Healthier soils and ecosystems**
- **Greater resilience to climate change**
- **Stronger communities taking shared responsibility**

Your contribution has a dual impact: it protects the environment and strengthens the livelihoods of people in Zambia—today and for future generations.



Activities in Austria

In 2024, another financial literacy workshop for women was held in cooperation with Partner Bank and Life Radio.

The aim is to promote practical education in Austria as well, particularly for women.

All costs were covered entirely by Partner Bank.

One participant shared the following reflection:

“Taking responsibility for one’s own finances is the cornerstone of financial independence.

The earlier a woman takes care of her own finances, the better.

Financial security makes life easier.

Although we live in a modern society in Austria, women are still often disadvantaged in financial matters.

High part-time employment rates, lower earnings, parental leave, and insufficient social protection remain the main reasons why so many women are affected by old-age poverty.

My conclusion from the evening was: wealth building, financial planning, and retirement security—even small amounts make a big difference in the long term. All questions from the audience were answered.”



Learn more about our partner organizations at www.fundaec.org and www.inshindo.org . You can find more information about TwoWings at www.twowings.com. We would like to once again express our heartfelt thanks for your generous support and donations.