



# **For the betterment of the world**

"The world of humanity has two wings - the male and the female. While if these two wings are not equally strong, the bird will not fly."

"Regard man as a mine rich in gems of inestimable value. Education can, alone, cause it to reveal its treasures, and enable mankind to benefit therefrom."

# TwoWings Foundation - a network with many competencies

The TwoWings Foundation is a non-profit organization based in Austria that works for empowerment and sustainable solutions in materially disadvantaged communities around the world. TwoWings was founded in 1996 for development programs based on the Austrian Association Act with the guiding principle of "Releasing Human Potential" through education. At TwoWings, we believe in the importance of partnership and collaboration with local communities and NGOs to collectively promote effective development tailored to their specific needs and resources. Our approach is characterized by effective consultation and mutual respect, avoiding preconceived solutions and instead finding flexible concepts and solutions that can adapt to the changing needs of the community.

TwoWings has a North-South Advisory Board, which is made up of four members each from the Northern Hemisphere and four members from the Southern Hemisphere. This body decides on the allocation of funds for development projects in order to ensure that the interests of both the representatives of the North and the South are taken into account. TwoWings strives to promote partnership and balanced coexistence between North and South.

TwoWings also ensures that the projects are selected according to local needs, are well designed and are supported by the population. The Board of Trustees, which includes university professors, experts and honorary members, is committed to the TwoWings idea and works to make the world a better place.



# TwoWings Values

## Unleashing potential

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

## Sustainability

When selecting a project, the focus is on the sustainability of the project and its impact on those involved and the affected population group. Development processes and not just temporary solutions are initiated.

## Openness and inclusivity

TwoWings is non-partisan and non-denominational. The funded projects are open to people of all races, ethnicities and religions, without restrictions.

## Efficiency

TwoWings attaches great importance to volunteer work and avoids cost-increasing bureaucracy in all areas of activity. Many volunteers and competent employees enable an effective handling of the donations. In order to document this, TwoWings is audited by SOT Süd-Ost Treuhand GmbH, an auditing and tax consulting firm.

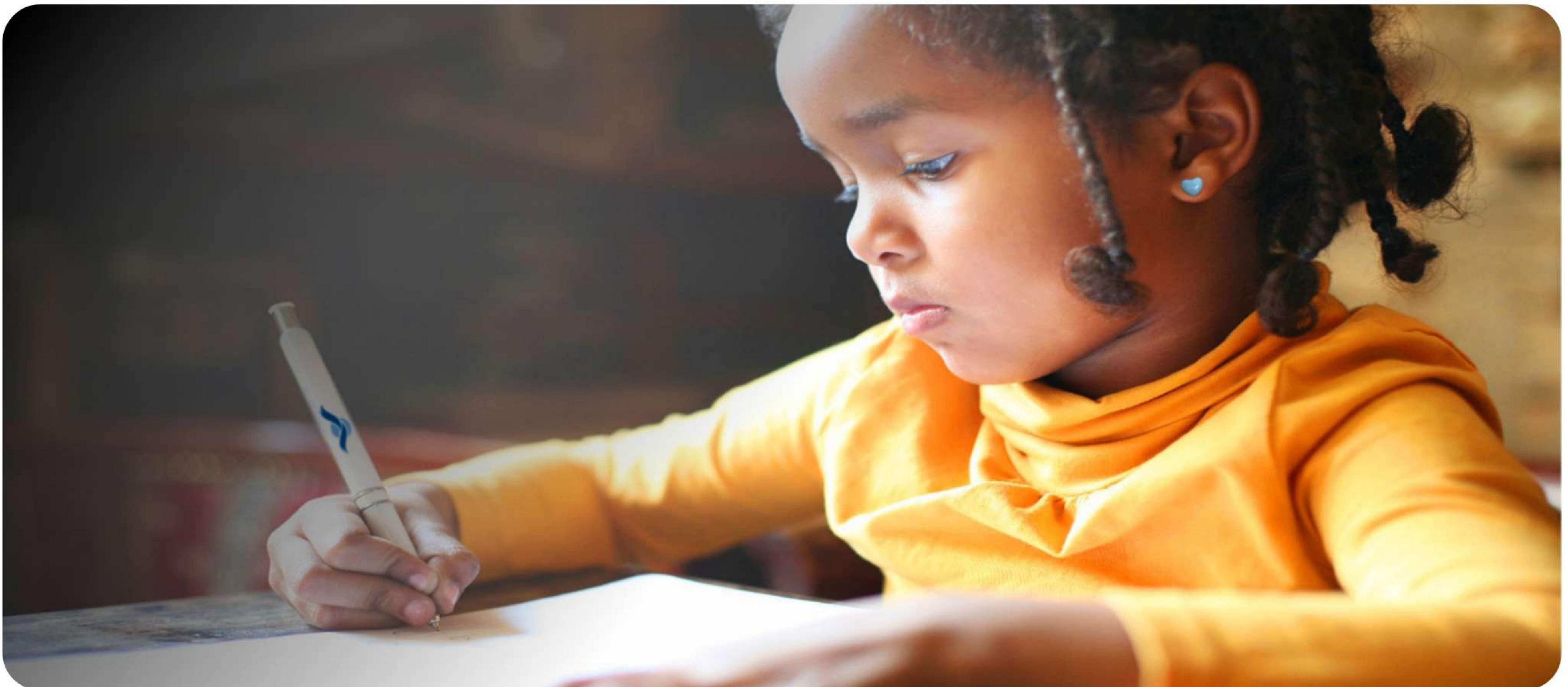
## The secret of our success

TwoWings believes that education is the key to unlocking the potential of individuals and communities. As a non-profit organization committed to sustainable development, TwoWings focuses on providing access to quality education as a means to empower people to improve their lives. By investing in education, TwoWings aims to break the cycle of poverty and create lasting positive change. The support provided by TwoWings serves as a catalyst for people who are actively involved in changing and improving their own situation. By fostering a love of learning and equipping people with the necessary knowledge and skills, TwoWings aims to create a better future for everyone.



## TwoWings enables a future through education

The TwoWings Network's mission is to support self-sufficient communities in various countries around the world, including Zambia, India, Mongolia, Papua New Guinea, North Sumatra, Colombia, and Bolivia. Since its inception in 1996, TwoWings has focused on creating sustainable solutions that enable communities to continue living even after the program ends. Instead of fostering dependencies, TwoWings offers a partnership that allows individuals and communities to take charge of their development. By providing resources, training and support, TwoWings empowers people to improve their living conditions on their own. The projects supported by TwoWings are characterized by their emphasis on education, entrepreneurship and sustainable practices, ensuring that communities have the means and knowledge to build a self-sufficient and prosperous future. Further information can be found on the TwoWings website under [www.twowings.com](http://www.twowings.com).



In Zambia, TwoWings supports projects that deal with the fight against poverty and HIV. They set up development schools, empower local teachers, and provide tailored educational opportunities to break the cycle of early school leaving and low school enrolment rates.

In India, TwoWings empowers disadvantaged women through the Barli Development Institute for Rural Women. They provide education and training and promote renewable energy solutions.

These are just a few examples of the programs supported by TwoWings. By focusing on education, entrepreneurship and sustainable practices, TwoWings strives to create lasting positive change around the world.

# Unleashing human potential, education that inspires

Education should unleash and inspire the potential of the human being.  
It should awaken our deepest motivation for knowledge and learning.  
It should be holistic and touch the heart and mind of man.  
It should be encouraging.  
It should highlight our talents and potential, not our weaknesses.  
It should inspire us and empower us to work to make the world a better place.



# Current programs supported by the TwoWings Foundation

## **FUNDAEC, Colombia: Education and agroforestry for a better life**

Training program supports the rural population of Colombia with targeted teaching units. Colombia is characterized by a high rate of crime and violence as well as extreme poverty, rural exodus and lack of access to education. The development of appropriate training programs encountered great difficulties. In 1974, professors and students at the University of Del Valle in Cali, Colombia, started a field experiment and tested a new way of imparting knowledge with a group of about 20 young people. This initiative led to the creation of the NGO FUNDAEC.

TwoWings supports FUNDAEC in improving access to education in rural areas by developing teaching materials and training teachers to provide quality education to children in remote rural communities. As part of their community development program, they support communities in developing sustainable solutions to social and economic challenges. The focus is on promoting self-sufficiency and empowering communities to take their development into their own hands.

## **Empowering communities through sustainable development**

FUNDAEC is an organization that combines traditional knowledge with modern science to conduct research, educate people and promote projects in various fields. It works with farmers and families to develop sustainable agricultural systems. FUNDAEC's decentralized education system aims to empower individuals and improve community life. The curriculum is divided into three levels, and the network counts around 40,000 students who build local projects. FUNDAEC has three branches, including a school system, a university, and agricultural production facilities. It was praised as one of the "best educational projects" and was a worldwide project of EXPO 2000. TwoWings is non-partisan and non-denominational. The funded projects are open to people of all races, ethnicities and religions, without restrictions.

### **Preparation for Social Action: Vanuatu, Südpazifik.**

Preparation for Social Action (PSA) is a training program of the NGO "Foundation for the Betterment of Society" (FBS) for young people in remote regions of Vanuatu. Young people and participants are trained and accompanied to become promoters of the common good. The TwoWings Foundation supports this project to help communities in Vanuatu build resilient, sustainable and self-sufficient villages while preserving their cultural heritage and natural resources. The project focuses on promoting education, sustainable agriculture and clean energy initiatives in rural areas of Vanuatu.

### **APRODEPIT: Chad, Africa**

According to a United Nations report, the Republic of Chad ranks eleventh among the least developed countries in the world. On average, the population has to live on less than USD 3 per day, and 73% of the population has no access to clean drinking water. The adult literacy rate is 53% for men and only 36% for women. However, there is hope for the project.

APRODEPIT, the Association for the Promotion and Development of Pisciculture, was a recognized non-governmental organization based in Sarh, a city on the Chari River in the south of the country. Its main goal was to improve living conditions through education.

### **Erfan Connaissance: Congo, Africa**

Preparation for Social Action (PSA) is a training program of the NGO "Foundation for the Betterment of Society" (FBS) for young people in remote regions of Vanuatu. Young people and participants are trained and accompanied to become promoters of the common good. The TwoWings Foundation supports this project to help communities in Vanuatu build resilient, sustainable and self-sufficient villages while preserving their cultural heritage and natural resources. The project focuses on promoting education, sustainable agriculture and clean energy initiatives in rural areas of Vanuatu.



## Rays of Light: Development in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands

Education for the progress and well-being of the community

Rays of Light is a program that provides support to underprivileged girls and young women in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands. The aim of the program is to promote education and empower young women to take on a leadership role in their communities. Activities and services of the Rays of Light program include educational support, leadership training, life skills training, and community engagement events. The Preparation for Social Action (PSA) program is an academically rigorous and morally empowering curriculum developed by FUNDAEC, a Colombian development organization, to address the challenges faced by young people who do not have access to other forms of secondary education in rural areas in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands.

The programme is open to both those who are already pursuing higher education in another context and those who do not have access to another form of secondary education if their main motive for participation is the desire to become an effective agent of change. The programme has been successfully implemented not only in Papua New Guinea and the Solomon Islands, but also in Zambia, Kenya, Uganda and Cameroon.





# Financial education seminar for women

## TwoWings Foundation and Partner Bank cooperate for a successful workshop

In September 2022, the TwoWings Foundation, in collaboration with Partner Bank, hosted a financial education workshop for women in Vienna. The aim of the workshop was to provide women with financial knowledge and skills to empower them to make informed decisions for their financial well-being. The workshop covered a range of topics such as investing for women, preparing for life situations, safe investments and high-risk investments.

We are proud that more than 20 women took part in the workshop at Partner Bank's premises in Vienna's city centre. The initiative to provide financial education for women in Austria was a great success, as the workshops took place in Linz and Himberg. As part of our commitment to women's empowerment, all participation fees were donated to the TwoWings Foundation.



## TwoWings Prize

### An award for humanity and commitment

Sir Peter Ustinov, now deceased TwoWings honorary member, put it in a nutshell at the presentation of the TwoWings Award 2002: "Development cooperation is not a drop in the ocean, but always a drop in the ocean."

Despite the often arduous task of conducting development cooperation and trying to improve conditions in distant countries, there are always people who take up this challenge. The Board of Trustees of TwoWings presents the TwoWings Award to individuals who have distinguished themselves through their commitment to development cooperation.

One of the goals of the award ceremony is to make the public aware of the projects and efforts of the award winners. This is the only way we can show what the individual can do. Most of the cost of the event is covered by sponsors. As a token of appreciation for their humanitarian and philanthropic commitment, the award winners receive an artistically designed bronze figure by the sculptor Martin Müller.

"The TwoWings Prize inspires my work in Africa".

Jane Goodall

TwoWings Award Winner 2005 & Peace Ambassador

## Minerva Prize 2023 - Second place

The Minerva Award recognizes companies and individuals who are committed to empowering women in business. TwoWings has been advocating for social change for almost three decades, contributing to one of the most sustainable investments by empowering women and girls. In recognition of this, TwoWings was nominated for the Minerva Award 2023 in the category Social Entrepreneurship & Sustainability.

## Review

Former TwoWings ambassador and advisory board member Manuela Dorn, successful Managing Director of VION-vision one investment, said:

"... TwoWings' decades of experience are the basis for successful development cooperation. I hope that equality between men and women will become a matter of course worldwide."

## Donation and support

The TwoWings Foundation is committed to helping people reach their full potential through education. Your donations can help us improve the lives of the people we serve and continue our work for equality and sustainability. We welcome any kind of donation, whether it is a one-time donation or a regular donation, no amount is too small. Your contributions benefit our various programs and initiatives, including education and training, health care, agroforestry, and mentoring.

In addition to individual donations, we also welcome support in the form of partnerships with companies interested in social responsibility, donations in kind of materials and relief supplies, and that you draw the attention of friends, relatives and colleagues to our organization and its tasks. Your support and contributions help us in our ongoing efforts to create a more just world. Thank you for considering the TwoWings Foundation as the organization of your choice.

[Donate here!](#)



# Education in the field of development policy in Austria

TwoWings has gained important experience in development cooperation over many years through its projects all over the world. In Austria, there are many people, especially in the academic field, who are interested in global poverty reduction and sustainable development and would like to get involved in this field.

Since 2005, TwoWings has been offering numerous workshops and seminars every year, especially for students. In these workshops, concrete development projects are discussed and principles and attitudes for sustainable development cooperation are discussed.

## Education for generations

People can only pass on their knowledge to their children and grandchildren if they can read and write and receive an education that meets their needs. That's why TwoWings carefully reviews all projects before supporting them. It is equally important to encourage people not only to use their newly acquired skills for themselves, but also to bring them to the village communities to ensure their advancement. Our experience has shown that the education of a young person in developing countries can be guaranteed with an effective investment of 30 euros per month.



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# Contact Us

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