




GREEN ETHIOPIA

«We work here for a better future for our children»

Members of the Dara women association working on terracing the new afforestation area, April 2021.
Words and picture by Ms. Ruhama, president of the women association.



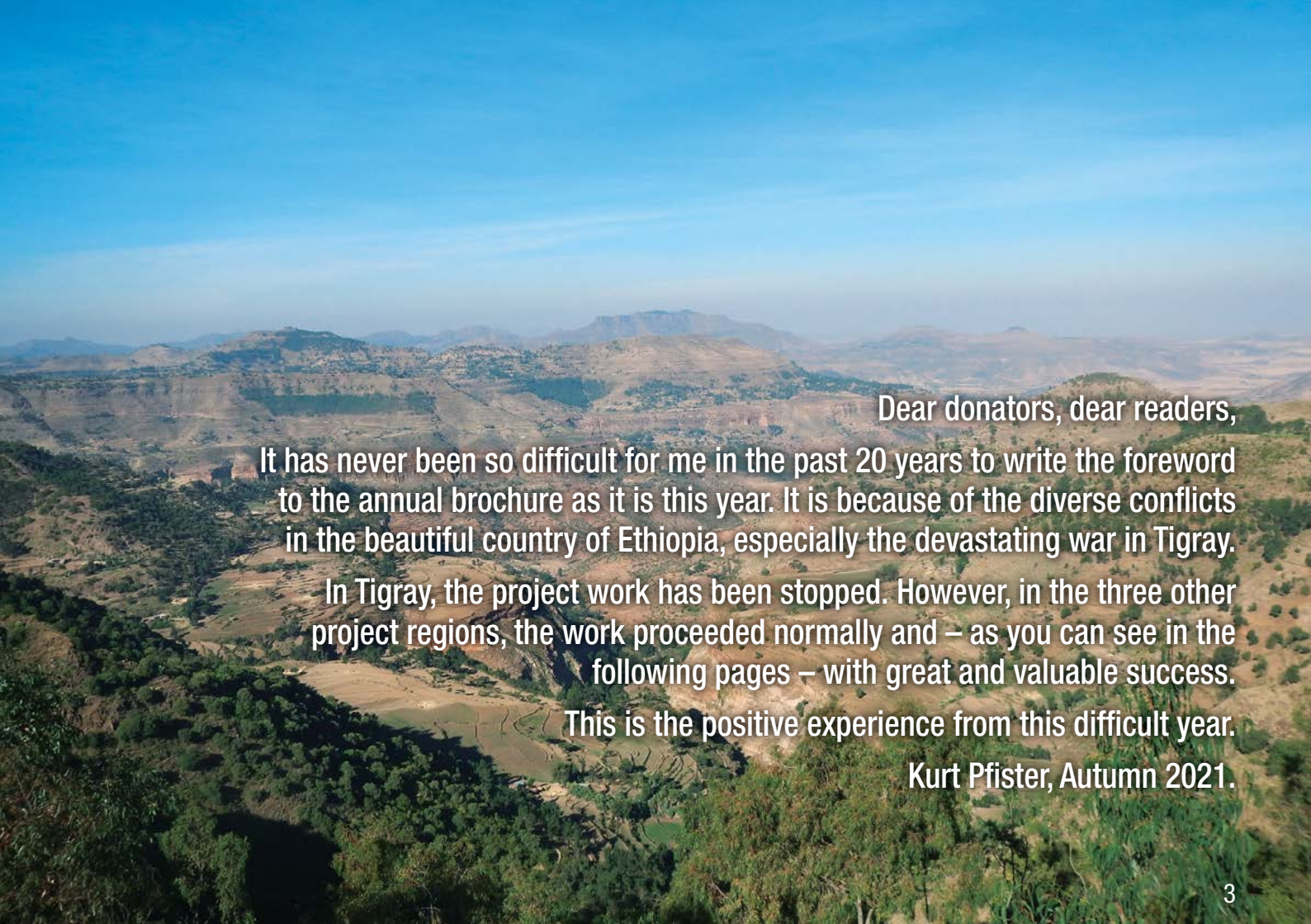
I took this picture of the famous Adwa Mountain in the early morning of January 29, 2020, as I was driving from the Adwa project area (near Axum) to the Gulamakeda project area (near Adigrat) at sunrise.

Then it was peaceful - safe - wonderful.

From November 2020 until the middle of this year, this region was a highly disputed area in the Tigray conflict, where serious crimes against humanity were committed.

A peaceful end is yet not in sight, it will take time for the wounds of war to heal.

We feel close to the people to whom we feel really attached to after 20 years of successful afforestation. We are utterly sad and we want to help however and wherever we can!



Dear donators, dear readers,
It has never been so difficult for me in the past 20 years to write the foreword to the annual brochure as it is this year. It is because of the diverse conflicts in the beautiful country of Ethiopia, especially the devastating war in Tigray.

In Tigray, the project work has been stopped. However, in the three other project regions, the work proceeded normally and – as you can see in the following pages – with great and valuable success.

This is the positive experience from this difficult year.

Kurt Pfister, Autumn 2021.

Planting and growing forests is and remains the core of our work – for the benefit of nature and people



The farmers celebrate the World Environment Day on June 5, 2021, in the forest of the «Derita» project at Libokemkem, Amhara region.

This picture was sent by the project leader, Mr. Getachew.

«...the new generation, ready to take over...!»



Plantation day, July 2021. Debre Zeyt, Oromia region.

Picture with text by Mr. Ketema.

Women nursery at Dodota, Arsi highland



32 women are members of this women association. In 2021, these women have produced and planted a total of 520 000 forest tree seedlings.

Tree nurseries are the first step for afforestation



In a tree nursery like this— one of the six tree nurseries of the «Weliso Youth Development Association» – around 3 500 people, mainly women, produce strong tree seedlings for our projects and plant them together with the village communities.

Picture by Mr. Lemma, director of WYDA, sent in July 2021.



Preparation work

While seedlings are growing in the tree nurseries, the sides of the mountains and hills are prepared for the tree plantation in the coming rainy season.

Terraces are built and water ditches and planting hole are dug to ensure optimal growing and surviving conditions for the seedlings.

Farmers working at the Takern mountain, Libokemkem, Amhara region.

Picture by Mr. Getachew, February 2021.



Landless young people are trained to prepare the afforestation area with water ditches, terraces and planting holes for the plantation.

Hetos, Arsi highland, Oromia region.

Picture by Mr. Ebrahim, February 2021.

Women of the Dara association planting



Dara, Sidamo.

Picture by Ms. Ruhama, July 2021.

Afforestation group planting



Liban-Zuqala, July 2021.

Picture by Mr. Yidne.

Women empowerment

We provide assistance to women in need, for example with vegetables seeds. The vegetable is primarily used to feed the family, any excess production is sold on the market, so that they can earn some money.

Picture: Women on the market in Huruta, Oromia region.





Visit of a model garden
of a farmer at Liban – great joy
over papaya fruits!

Picture by Ms. Alem.

Result of forests: water

A photograph showing a stream of brown water flowing through a deep, eroded gully on a hillside. The gully is filled with large, light-brown rocks. The surrounding area is covered in sparse green vegetation and dry grass. In the background, a valley with more hills and fields is visible under a clear sky.

Precious water is running out in a stream from the Shilo reforestation area down the mountain to the vegetable fields.

Libokemkem, Amhara.

Picture by Mr. Getachew.

Water project



Thanks to the forests, the ground water level rises and wells can be built. In 2021, we have financed two wells in Weliso, and four wells in Dara.

The beneficiaries are little towns and villages whose inhabitants have participated in the afforestation work.

Picture by Mr. Lemma, April 2021.

Donkeys for women



200 women and their families have benefited from our donkey project.

A donkey costs around CHF 150, depending on the region.

And as always, women are trained on how to treat these valuable and helpful animals.

Foto: von Mr. Lemma.

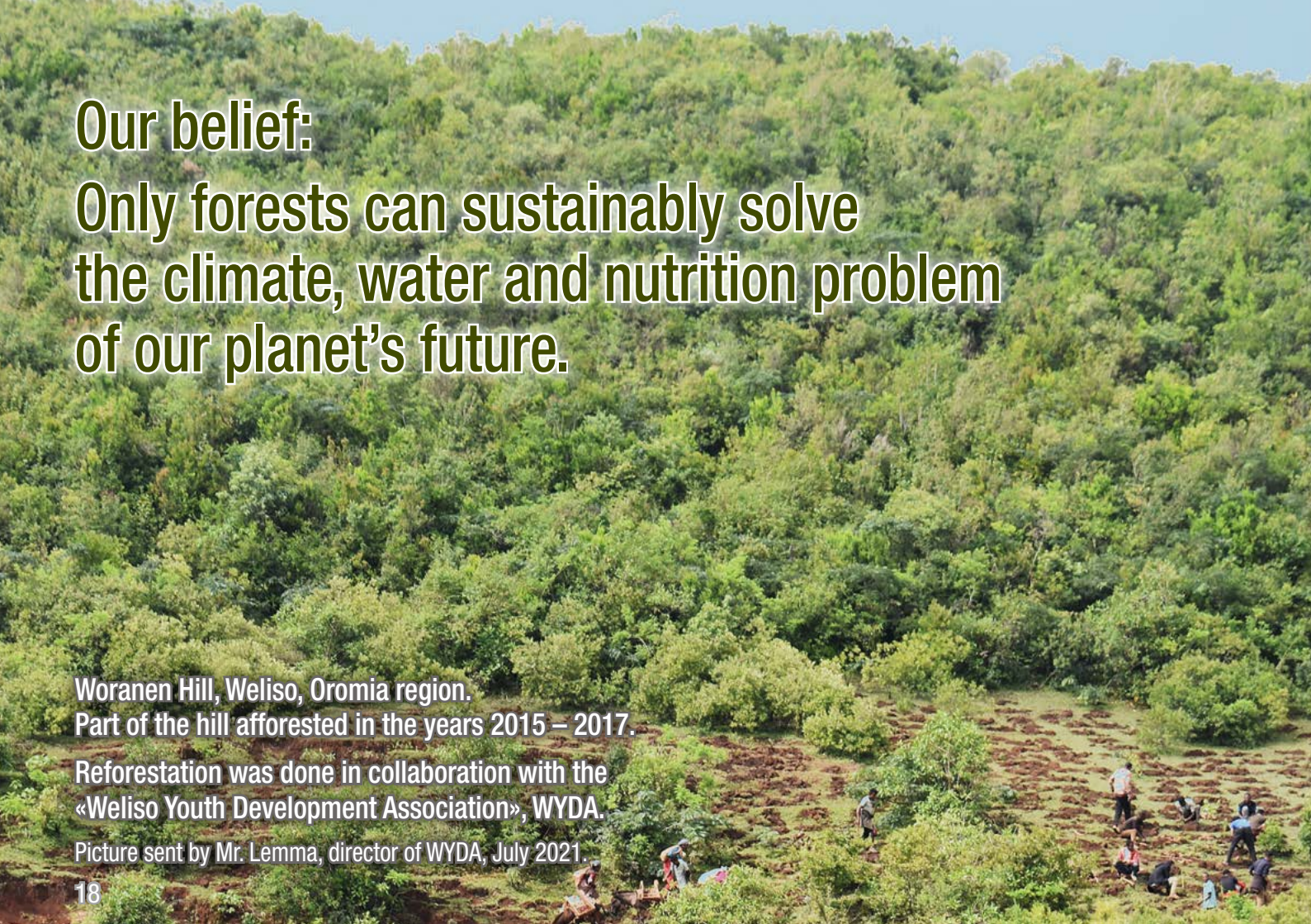


School project

Idea: children are taught in theory and practice about the great importance of an undisturbed nature and recognize its value for the future and for humanity.

Thanks to a foundation that significantly supports our school projects since many years, we extended our school projects to five more schools, each educating between 800 and 1 100 children.

Pictures by Ms. Alem, February 2021.



Our belief:
**Only forests can sustainably solve
the climate, water and nutrition problem
of our planet's future.**

Woranan Hill, Weliso, Oromia region.
Part of the hill afforested in the years 2015 – 2017.

**Reforestation was done in collaboration with the
«Weliso Youth Development Association», WYDA.**

Picture sent by Mr. Lemma, director of WYDA, July 2021

...about us



ZEWQ quality label
Ensures a good management of the foundation.

As a foundation with great responsibility towards our donators and with high corporate governance standards, the ZEWQ quality label is very precious to us. During the re-certification in 2021, ZEWQ opposed the family ties in the foundation (the parents Irene and Kurt Pfister being members of the board, the son Simon being general manager, and the son Adrian being expert). The respective new ZEWQ requirements resulted in the demission of Irene Pfister as board member as per 30 June 2021, and the election of Simon Pfister as new board member as per the 1st of July 2021. Irene will continue to be active as a volunteer member in administrative and fund-raising work.



Dear Irene,

As co-founder and member of the board, you have supported our foundation for 20 years with heart and soul with a remarkably valuable and great contribution. You have been a calming presence in the board, a competent and dear partner, and you have done a great work for our foundation all these years since the very start.

Our partners in Ethiopia have taken you into their hearts as a person and a representative of our work. You have helped poor people, you gave them courage, you comforted the sorrowful and those in despair, you corrected mistakes and reminded the overconfident to be gentle.

Your services cannot be honoured enough. It is with great regret that we let you go.

We thank you from the bottom of our hearts.

Kurt

Foundation Green Ethiopia

Charitable Foundation for Environment and Development in Ethiopia



...And one more answer!

Regarding the ongoing situation of insecurity and injustices in Ethiopia, the donators ask themselves legitimately if the foundation should continue to be active in such a country.

Should we support a government that doesn't deserve our goodwill? During the year we have received this question over and over again. Our answer is:

Yes, people, nature, and the environment need our support in the future. Now more than ever!

We are therefore thankful for your donations, especially in these difficult times.

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