

# Annual report 2023



## Trees for the climate

Planting day for the villagers of Bilbilo village, Dukem, Oromia, Ethiopia



# Green Ethiopia also well on track for 2023. . .

## Forests for the climate - for water - for people!

**With over 10 million trees planted and surviving, we once again provided an invaluable service to the environment and the people in the project regions in the reporting year.**

The end of the war in Tigray made it possible to establish contact with our partners there and conclude new contracts for the coming years.

Unfortunately, the politico-military situation in the Amhara and Oromia regions has deteriorated, meaning that we have sometimes been unable to access our afforestation areas. If this is the case occasionally, we can accept it, but in the long term we demand unhindered, free access to all our projects.



## Thanks to all

Once again this year, we would like to sincerely thank the people who make it possible for us to realise our projects. These are our donors on the one hand, and the many thousands of people who realise the projects in Ethiopia on the other.



## We need this togetherness and mutual support!

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## Thanks to our tree nursery workers

The hard-working women in the tree nurseries deserve our great gratitude and admiration.

### They nurture and take special care

of the seedlings. Each seedling is well cared for, watered tirelessly and, if the sunlight makes it necessary, the plants are protected with straw mats. It also fills us with satisfaction and gratitude that we can help around 3,000 women to earn an income through the work in tree nurseries in our projects.



## Thanks to the farmers in the mountains!

To give the young plants, the best possible chance of survival, the afforestation areas must be prepared. They must be terraced; large ditches and the planting holes must be dug. Once the rainy season begins, the seedlings must be planted and the area then protected by guards.

All this is done by tens of thousands of farmers in the afforestation hills. These are the people who will soon benefit from the forests. That is why, unlike the women in the tree nurseries, they are not fully paid and must do some of their work on a voluntary basis. Without these farmers, there would be no forests! We are very, very grateful to them.



## A big thank you for your great support

It is the tremendous support of people in Switzerland and also increasingly from Europe that enables us to realise our projects. In a highly competitive donations market, we are supported by many loyal donors. In addition to institutional donors, it is private individuals who support us, sometimes with large contributions. I would like to express my sincere thanks for this valuable, indeed endearing support and assistance. I am grateful for the money donated and for the trust placed in our foundation.

Another heartfelt thank you goes to our Foundation Board members. They make a valuable contribution to the success of our foundation with their dedicated, sympathetic, and critical involvement and their generous financial support. They also work for the foundation on a voluntary basis, without any compensation.



Foundation Green Ethiopia

Kurt Pfister, January 2024

The reward of a good deed lies in the fact  
that one has accomplished it.

Lucius Annaeus Seneca



## The year 2023 at a glance: 10.3 million trees planted!

### Tigray

The destroyed warehouse of "our" Soloda fruit tree nursery is an example of the destruction caused by the war over the past two years.

The upside is that we were able to travel there again and meet some previous and some new people in charge. We were able to conclude contracts for the continuation of our afforestation work in 2024.

Photo: Adwa fruit tree nursery, destruction



### Oromia

In the Oromia region, we planted a total of

**4.3 million forest trees and  
348,000 fruit trees and 182,000 coffee trees**

Both, the seedling production and the planting were largely carried out by women's groups and landless youth groups

Photo: Dirre Weliso tree nursery, seedlings being loaded



### Amhara

South of the famous Semien Mountains (the highest mountain range in Ethiopia) and in the water catchment areas leading to Lake Tana (which drains into the Blue Nile), we have planted and produced

**3.4 million forest trees and  
16,000 fruit trees.**

Photo: Planting day in Sekela, instruction of the farmers by experts



### Sidamo

The approximately 260 members of the Dara women's cooperative in the Sidamo region have planted and produced

**1.7 million forest trees and  
16,000 fruit trees and 50,000 coffee trees.**

Photo: Dara women's group planting the Adame hillside



*The above figures for the number of trees are rounded, for exact figures see page 6*

## Afforestation

### Aims of afforestation

The main objective is to combat erosion by reforesting hills and mountain slopes with predominantly indigenous tree species. Another goal is to improve the nutritional and living conditions of the rural population. As compensation for the afforestation work, we offer the farmers help with the production of vegetables and the cultivation of fruit trees.

**We cannot emphasise the great benefits of forests enough and repeat this year:**

- **Protection of cultivated land** against further erosion and protection of fields at the foot of mountain slopes and hills from destruction by run-off during the rainy season. In forests, a valuable humus layer forms after a short time, which is constantly improved by undergrowth, foliage and grass.
- **Storing and filtering the water** that falls during the rainy season. Months after the rainy season, clean water comes to the surface in springs, streams and ponds at the foot of mountains. The water is used by the people for themselves and for irrigating the fields. Animals also need this water. In addition, the groundwater level rises so that wells can be built.
- **Favouring the microclimate.** Trees and forests cool. They **absorb CO<sub>2</sub>** and make a significant contribution to improving the climate after just a few years.
- **Enriching biodiversity** through thriving flora and fauna. Every year, we are told which wild animals are re-colonising and how plants that were thought to have been forgotten are growing and flowering again.
- **Benefits of agroforestry.** Mixed forests provide bees with a great supply of nectar, allowing farmers to keep bees on the edge of forests. Farmers also plant coffee in many of "our" forests, organic wild coffee, which is in great demand. Grasses also grow in the forests, which the farmers can use to feed their animals (cut & carry) or as roofing material for their huts.  
**Timber for construction, furniture and firewood.** After 10 years, the farmers are allowed to "harvest" their first trees, initially for construction and firewood, and later for furniture wood.

**This diverse use of trees is very important for sustainability. The population recognises the importance of forests and protects them.**



**Magnificent forest in Adwa - survived the war unscathed**



## Overview of the 2023 afforestations

Afforestation areas	Forest trees	Fruit trees	Coffee trees	Total trees
<b>Tigray-Region</b>				
Adwa Woreda, many hills in outlying communities	Seedling production for afforestation in 2024 was resumed in September. Planting will not resume until July 2024.			0
Laileymaichow Woreda				0
Gulamakeda Woreda				0
Axum, Church projects				0
<b>Total Tigray-Region</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Oromia-Region</b>				
Adaa Woreda, 5 hills around Debre Zeyt	584'530	8'690		593'220
Akaki Woreda, Dukem, whole mountain range	475'345	25'111		500'456
Weliso Woreda, various hills around Weliso	682'547	46'000	128'760	857'307
Gimbichu Woreda, various hills	251'015	9'127		260'142
Liban-Zuqala Woreda, various hills	815'450	157'000	28'000	1'000'450
Arsi Dodota Woreda, 3 hills	419'052	23'525	3'212	445'789
Arsi Ziway Dugda Woreda, 3 hills	548'972	36'500	22'686	608'158
Arsi Hetosa Woreda, 4 hills	379'398	39'890		419'288
Arsi Tiyo Woreda	192'418	2'112		194'530
Ambo University, Center for indigenous Trees	50'600	0		50'600
<b>Total Oromia-Region</b>	<b>4'399'327</b>	<b>347'955</b>	<b>182'658</b>	<b>4'929'940</b>
<b>Amhara-Region</b>				
Libokemkem Woreda, for Fondation Yves Ro.	595'060	2'540		597'600
Libokemkem Woreda, for Ecosia GmbH	1'146'901	3'695		1'150'551
Libokemkem Woreda, for Green Valley	1'670'111	10'009		1'680'120
<b>Total Amhara-Region</b>	<b>3'412'072</b>	<b>16'199</b>		<b>3'428'271</b>
<b>Sidamo-Region</b>				
Dara Woreda, 3 hills				
Loka Abaya Woreda, 2 hills	1'729'547	230'627	50'000	2'010'174
Shebedino Woreda, 1 hill				
<b>Total Sidamo-Region</b>	<b>1'729'547</b>	<b>230'627</b>	<b>50'000</b>	<b>2'010'174</b>
<b>Total all four regions</b>	<b>9'540'946</b>	<b>594'781</b>	<b>232'568</b>	<b>10'368'385</b>

### Remarks:

- A total of 1,917 hectares of forest were afforested.
- The planting density is 4,977 plants per hectare, fluctuating between around 10,000 seedlings in very heavily eroded areas and the standard average of 2,500 plants per hectare.
- It should be noted that some of the seedlings were planted as agroforestry measures in fields or around farmers' houses. These seedlings planted in this way are included in the above statistics, but there are no figures in hectares, as this is not a case of afforestation.



## Our proven approach to afforestation

### Step 1: Discussion and definition of responsibilities



Our employee in Ethiopia, Mr. Misgan, forest engineer, discusses the future afforestation areas with members of the Dara Women's Cooperative and representatives of the agricultural office.

Photo: Simon Pfister, during a project visit to Sidamo in July 2023

### Step 2: Seedling production



The tree seedlings are nurtured and cared for in tree nurseries for four to six months, until they are transported to the mountains and planted before the rainy season.

Photo: Seedling care (removing weeds) in a Weliso Youth Development Association tree nursery



Grafting of fruit tree seedlings in the Dukem Nursery.



### Step 3: Preparing the afforestation on the mountain



Terraces, water ditches and planting holes must be dug in preparation on the mountain, so that the seedlings have optimal conditions to grow.

Photo: Farmers in Takern, Libokemkem, Amhara, during preparatory work in the afforestation area

### Step 4: Transporting the seedlings



Transporting the seedlings to the afforestation areas

From the tree nurseries, the plants are first transported by vehicle, then by donkey and The last part of the journey up the mountain is carried on the shoulders/heads of the farmers.

Photo: last stage of transport: seedlings are carried to the planting site in Takern, Libokemkem

### Step 5: Planting



Planting day: 2 to 3 weeks after the start of the rainy season (July), when the planting holes are well soaked and the soil is saturated with water.

Photo: Entire village communities plant tree seedlings, such as here in Dukem, July 2023



## Examples of positive, marvellous changes to the landscapes



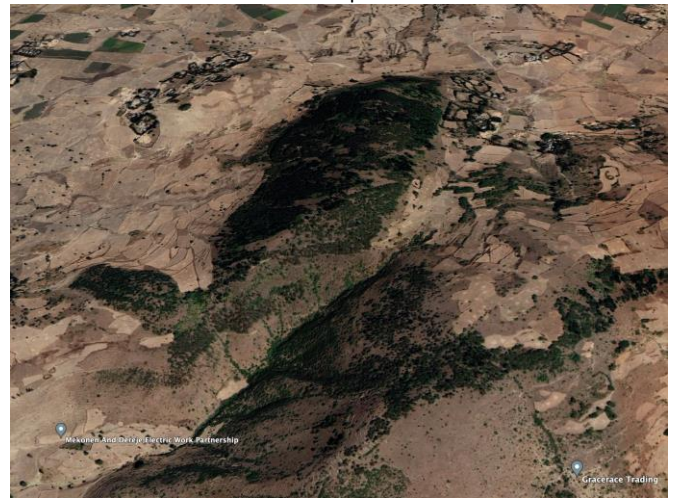
Deya hill 2019  
Unvegetated, prepared for afforestation with ditches



Deya Hill 2023  
Covered with grass and young trees,  
marvellous development of nature



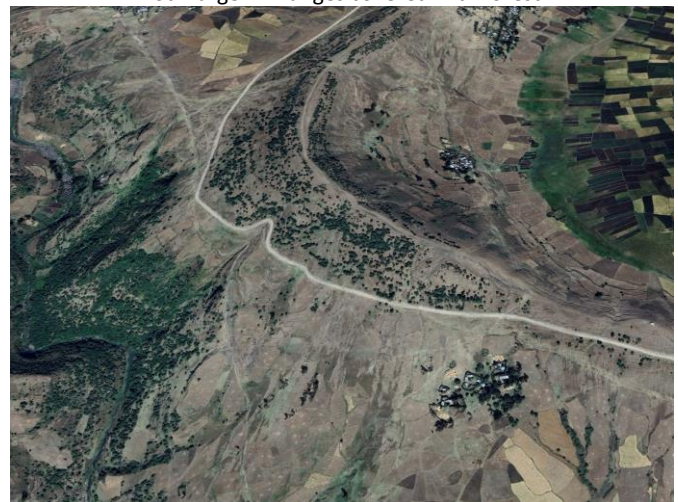
Dukem, Boreto Straight 2003  
Totally barren, eroded hills, no trees



Dukem, Boreto Gerado 2023  
Both large hill ranges covered with forest



Gimbichu, Girmi Hill 2013  
Ridge and slope on the left without a tree



Gimbichu, Girmi Hill 2023  
Ridge and slope on the left forested

Green Ethiopia is not only changing the climate, nature and the environment, but also people's lives for the better.



## Sustainability of afforestation

**The most important guarantor of sustainability is the multiple benefits of afforestation and forests.** If the farmers have a benefit, they take responsibility for the forests. And because they are directly involved in the project, they not only take care, they also want to continue "their work" and continuously expand it, for example by keeping bees or growing vegetables. Another important point is that the beneficiaries must make their own contribution to the projects. We are guided by the saying "What costs nothing is worth nothing" and demand that the farmers participate in the project work.

## Protecting forests and the challenges of afforestation

After afforestation, it is very important to protect the forests with guards. Our experience shows that the greatest danger is the intrusion of livestock into the forests. In young forests in particular, the plants can be damaged (trampled on, eaten away). To prevent this, we agree protective measures (bylaws) with the farmers or pay for guards.

## Fruit trees and coffee

In addition to forest trees, we consciously promote the cultivation of fruit trees. The population is very interested. And that's a good thing, because fruit is very important for the health of the population. They are also an additional source of income for many women. The species produced and planted are papaya, mango, avocado, orange, lime and guava.



At Mezabre Nursery in Gulamakeda, Tigray, we have been producing fruit tree seedlings for many years. A farmer has planted a nearby meadow with mango trees. The photo above - sent to us by the project manager Mr Bahlbi - shows the 2023 harvest. The farmer has laid out the harvested mangoes on a sheet and is now waiting for them to be transported to the towns of Adigrat and Mekele, where city dwellers are in urgent need of these nutritious fruits after two years of war and many hardships.



## Water

**There was a major drought in the south and south-east of Ethiopia in 2023. Our Sidamo project area borders this region and was also partially affected.** The need for water harvesting measures was correspondingly great. With the installation of 60 hand water pumps (photo below right) and the construction of 8 spring water catchments (photo below left), we provided significant support to the women of the Dara Women's Cooperative (260 members). A Swiss foundation has made it possible to finance these important measures. We are very grateful.



### Unbearable encounters

While travelling through the "Rift Valley" (Great Rift Valley) in the Oromia region, we met this woman drawing water.

... and that in our civilised world!

#### Source photo right:

A few kilometres later, at the foot of a hill we had reforested, I discovered this spring of clean water filtered through the mountain.

#### Therefore:

**We are planting trees and develop forests so that the spring water can be collected in wells and higher groundwater levels make it possible to install wells. And so people have access to clean water - even during the dry season!**





## Promotion of small farmers and women's empowerment

### Goals

**Supporting women, improving the nutritional and living situation of poor farming families, relieving women of heavy carrying labour by donating donkeys.**

Originally, this project was a support project for poor small farmers. However, we are focussing more and more on youth and women's groups. There are many landless young people in our afforestation areas for whom we want to provide meaningful employment. And there are also many women who are solely responsible (so-called Women Households). They are war or AIDS widows, women from polygamous marriages, single mothers or simply often women who have been abandoned by their husbands because they moved to the cities in the hope of finding work there. We give these women the help they need to get started and support them in growing their own crops. The women can generate income by selling the produce they grow themselves.

**The right to food is a human right!**

Our afforestation are only possible thanks to the valuable work of people in our project areas.

We help these people to improve their food base and thus also their living conditions.



25 kg. Wheat seeds per farming family in Gulamakeda



Distribution of fruit tree seedlings to Dara women



Sale of young chickens for eggs and meat



Distribution of beehives for honey production





Home gardens planted with vegetables and fruit trees. Ms Martha, president of a local women's cooperative, proudly shows off her home garden.



Vegetable field with fruit trees in the Amhara highlands near Libokemkem. The fruit trees were planted 5 years ago and since then vegetables have been planted two to three times a year.

## Special goals Donkey project - 160 donkeys

As a women empowerment project with a primarily humanitarian character, we have the donkey project. Women who are solely responsible are given a donkey. This relieves women and their children, mainly girls, of heavy carrying labour, sometimes over long distances. The beneficiaries are selected by the village community in cooperation with the agricultural office and receive training and instructions, how to keep and care for the donkeys. When we meet such women, we hear time and again that donkeys are a blessing for them.



In Dukem, the donkeys are ready for distribution. The women can choose their favourite animal.

The donkeys are only handed over after the women have been instructed about their handling duties.



As a final act, the women are each given 2 canisters of water, after which they are allowed to go home.



## Sustainable benefits

Women's empowerment projects such as the donkey project are very sustainable for various reasons. Because the women who benefit from this support are able to feed their families better and earn some money at the same time, they are extremely interested in continuing it. And what could be more sustainable than women being able to give their children an education! Be it by paying school fees, uniforms and school materials, or because children can go to school instead of having to carry water and other loads on their backs on long marches. It should be noted that our contributions to this women's development project are not free: In return, the women help with the afforestation work.

## Critical assessment

We and the beneficiaries are very satisfied with the project. So far, we have only had good experiences. The only thing is that the price of donkeys has risen somewhat, possibly because donkeys are being bought up by China for human consumption and transported away. A worrying, sad development!



Giving a donkey to a woman in Ethiopia often means giving her children access to school, because - especially girls - no longer have to waste a lot of time carrying water or other things.

Kurt Pfister

## Schools

### Goals

Teachers at schools impart knowledge and experience to their pupils about the great value of an intact natural environment. The children and young people are taught theory and for their practical lessons we enable them to cultivate orchards for which the pupils not only have to take responsibility (care) but are also allowed to harvest the fruit.

### Measures and results

In addition to funding meals at the Dara School, we also focussed on other schools in Weliso, where teaching takes place not only in the classrooms but also in the school garden. In three other schools, we reached over 2000 pupils again.



In Dara, we finance the catering for the children in this kindergarten. It is a kindergarten for the women who work in the local tree nursery and therefore do not have to leave the children alone in the village and can work without worry.



School grounds in Libokemkem, which we plan to green next year - together with the pupils.





Amhara, Libokemkem

Lessons in a dilapidated classroom. Being renovated with our support.

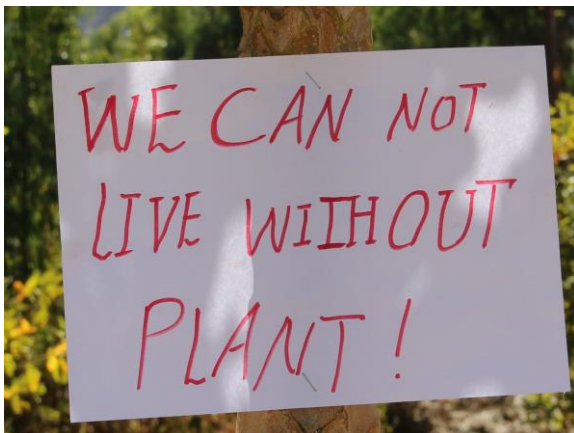


Oromia, Weliso

Barbed wire for fencing the school grounds. In addition to the barbed wire fence, a "life fence" is planted with hedge plants.

## Sustainability

What could be more sustainable than providing young people with an education and convincing the next generation of the usefulness and importance of forest and fruit trees, water extraction, nutrition and nature, and letting them share in the prosperity!



After just a few months of biology and geology lessons, the pupils realise how vital an intact natural environment is.

Kurt Pfister

## Fundraising

The results of the donations fulfil us with great gratitude. In the reporting year, we once again received valuable support from major institutional donors as well as private individuals. The level of donations received is on a par with the previous year and is very pleasing.

When the heart guides our actions,  
our work does bear rich fruit.

Kurt Pfister





**We owe the great, sustainable success of our projects to the large number of donors. Thank you very much for your support and guidance and for your loyalty.**

The main pillars are the partnerships with the following main sponsors:



**Partnership since 2009 with the Fondation Yves Rocher, Paris**

Currently annual afforestation of 3 million trees.

The Fondation Yves Rocher is a foundation of the French cosmetics company Yves Rocher, whose products we can only highly recommend here.



**Partnership with www.ecosia.org**

In 2023, Ecosia supported us again with the afforestation of 4.8 million trees

Use Ecosia as your search engine and help plant trees.



**"Man of the forest" and his wife**

Special thanks to the couple, who finance the afforestation of around 1 million trees per year with great financial commitment.

The afforestation is complemented by aid to farmers to improve their living conditions.



New donation ideas and payments enable us to expand the afforestation programme to new areas and regions.

We are increasingly being recognised in the event of deaths. When a prominent Winterthur resident passed away, for example, we received a new record of over CHF 15,000 in donations in memory of a deceased person.

The grief of the bereaved - valuable support for us.

We offer afforestation to companies that want to commit to the net zero target.

**CO<sub>2</sub> offsetting to combat climate change**

180 forest trees planted and grown for 10 years bind one ton of CO<sub>2</sub>.

**Yes, and of course we are happy about every legacy.**

## Foundation and bodies

### Management of the Foundation / Board of Trustees

In addition to statutory business, the Foundation Board makes strategic, organisational and personnel decisions. It decides which funds are used for which projects. This is done based on project applications, which are discussed by the Project Committee prior to the meeting. The Board of Trustees makes its decisions after hearing the recommendations of the Project Committee. Business was dealt with at five meetings, one of which was a video conference.



**Board of Trustees, composition term of office 2024-2027, valid from 01.01.2024**

Kurt Pfister, President

2023 was an election year for the 2024-2027 term of office.

The intention to rejuvenate the Board of Trustees and expand it with additional expertise was successful with the election of Isabel Jaisli and Dr Alexander Hasler. I would like to thank both of them for identifying with our Foundation and for their willingness to contribute.

Hansruedi Zehnder has stepped down after 4 terms of office / 16 years. We would like to recognise and thank him once again for his valuable and dedicated work.

All other current members were re-elected for a further term of office.

I would also like to thank them very much for their valuable contribution.



Pr. Beat Beutler



Susanne Bühler



Dr. Maxence Carrel



Nicole Fritschi



Dr. Alexander Hasler-Dierauer, Vice President



Isabel Jaisli

James Rymer Hug  
Compliance OfficerDr. Simon Pfister  
Executive board member

The previous non-statutory function of "Expert" has been cancelled. The previous experts are also available to provide their expertise without this designation and work for the Foundation on a voluntary basis. This applies to Dr Hans-Rudolf Stucki, Adrian Pfister and Irene Pfister. I would like to thank them for their constant willingness to help.

**Team Addis Ababa office**Alem Tsegaye  
Head of officeMekdes  
Accounting  
FinanceMisgan  
Project expert**Activities of the Addis Ababa office**

The Addis Ababa office, as the registered branch of our foundation in Ethiopia, is responsible for all contacts and reporting to the Ethiopian government offices and authorities. This also includes the preparation of annual accounts for submission to the official auditing company. The Addis Ababa office is responsible for processing payments to the project partners, periodically visits the project areas and reports on the results of the audits.



### Voluntary activities of the governing bodies in Switzerland

The members of the Board of Trustees and the Managing Director work on an honorary basis without compensation.

### Activities of the Management Board Switzerland

Dr Simon Pfister is responsible for the operational management of the foundation. In addition to administrative and accounting tasks, the management includes project responsibility and fundraising.

The annual report and annual accounts are produced in German, English and French, while PR material is produced in German and partly in English and French.

Supporting the main sponsors is becoming increasingly complex. In addition to the annual and quarterly reports, some of them expect regular information on the progress of the project, including GEO data.

Project responsibility includes regular project visits to Ethiopia. In 2023, three such project trips were organised for the first time since 2020. However, access was not possible everywhere due to unrest in the Oromia region.

Since January 2023, a part-time commercial employee, Ms Karin Stiefel, has been working in the area of donations and payments to relieve the management team. In December, we also hired another woman, Ms. Anabel Wörner, for general administration, projects and major donors. She will start work in February 2024.

The Managing Director is responsible for managing the staff at the Addis Ababa office.

### Activities of the project committee

The Project Committee usually meets prior to the Foundation Board meeting and deals with the project applications. It submits proposals to the Board of Trustees regarding the assessment of project applications.

### Activities of the Compliance Officer

The Compliance Officer monitors business activities for compliance with all legal provisions and Zewo regulations as well as compliance with the Foundation's regulations.

**Revision:** PwC Winterthur

**Foundation supervision:** Federal Department of Home Affairs (FDHA), Foundation Supervision, Bern

**Supervision in Ethiopia:** Charity and Society Agency, Addis Abeba  
Ministry of Forestry, Environment and Climate Change MoFECC



After 16 years of active participation on the Board of Trustees, Hansruedi Zehnder attends a meeting for the last time. Due to the Chairman's illness, he presides over his last meeting as Vice Chairman.



## Financial statement

The detailed, audited annual financial statements will be published on the website after the audit, from around May 2024, and can also be obtained from the head office (info@greenethiopia.org or 052 233 15 31).

<b>Balance sheet as per 31.12.</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
		CHF	CHF
<b>ASSETS</b>			
Cash, bank and postal account		1'119'599.72	1'296'333.98
Transitory assets		659.40	0.00
Withholding tax assets		0.00	0.00
<b>Current assets</b>			
<b>Total assets</b>		<b>1'120'259.12</b>	<b>1'296'333.98</b>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>			
<b>Outside capital</b>			
Accruals and deferrals, project commitments, short-term liabilities		228'822.42	147'694.49
Restricted earmarking funds			0.00
Fund capital		212'677.79	504'000.00
<b>Total outside capital</b>		<b>441'500.21</b>	<b>651'694.49</b>
<b>Organisation capital</b>			
Share capital		200'000.00	200'000.00
Free capital generated		444'639.49	485'118.01
Annual result		34'119.42	-40'478.52
<b>Total organisation capital</b>		<b>678'758.91</b>	<b>644'639.49</b>
<b>Total liabilities</b>		<b>1'120'259.12</b>	<b>1'296'333.98</b>
<b>Operating account from January to December</b>		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
<b>OPERATING INCOME</b>			
Donations, contributions	1)	1'500'361.84	1'525'972.39
<b>Total operating income</b>		<b>1'500'361.84</b>	<b>1'525'972.39</b>
<b>OPERATING EXPENSES</b>			
Project "Tree nurseries and afforestations Tigray"	2)	211'460.39	0.00
Project "Tree nurseries and afforestations Oromia"	3)	590'954.12	639'606.21
Project "Tree nurseries and afforestations Amhara"	4)	542'984.67	507'168.81
Project "Tree nurseries and afforestations Sidamo"	5)	123'051.87	131'792.20
Project «Water collection, pumps, dams etc.»	6)	80'404.32	58'201.15
Project «Schools»	7)	38'950.03	41'012.90
Project "Women empowerment, small farmers, donkeys for women"	8)	77'726.91	112'451.71
Others, new projects, not-directly attributable project costs,		9'368.45	24'745.50
Fundraising costs	9)	23'743.49	11'434.40
Administrative costs Ethiopia	10)	8'174.98	8'006.45
Administrative costs Switzerland	11)	31'590.50	21'747.85
Audit and supervision		2'026.17	4'171.50
<b>Total operating expenses</b>		<b>1'740'435.90</b>	<b>1'560'338.68</b>
<b>Operating result</b>	12)	<b>-240'074.06</b>	<b>-34'366.29</b>
Financial result		-17'128.73	-6'112.23
Fund change	12)	291'322.21	0.00
<b>Annual result</b>	13)	<b>34'119'42</b>	<b>-40'78.52</b>

Comments on the annual financial statement on the following page.



## Comments on the annual financial statement

The result for the year is slightly up compared to the previous year. However, the operating result shows a loss of CHF 240'074.06. This is because the expenses of 1,740,435.90 CHF were much higher than the income of 1,500,361.84 CHF.

It is now clear how important it was to set up two funds in 2021 to cover the additional post-war funding needs in view of the end of the war. It was only thanks to this measure that we were able to respond quickly to the new situation in the year under review, providing targeted support to farmers who had lost everything and adequately funding the afforestation projects in Tigray.

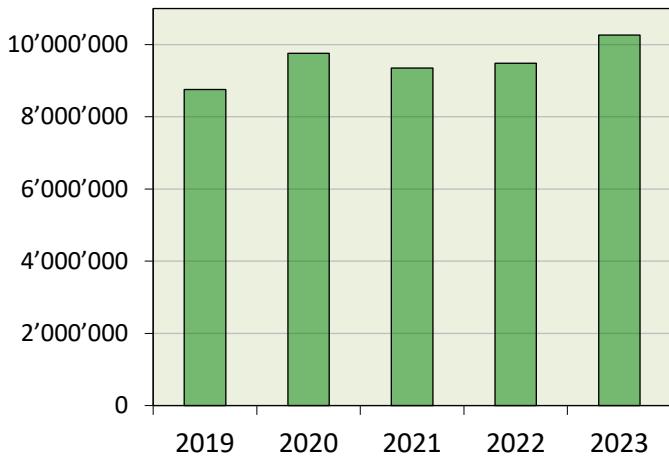
- 1) Income from contributions and donations: The income, which was once again very pleasing, was again at the previous year's level. Ecosia GmbH, Berlin, the Fondation Yves Rocher, Paris, and a couple from Switzerland, who made an absolutely extraordinary contribution of CHF 200,000.00, once again made a significant contribution. In addition, we received contributions from foundations, companies, churches and a large number of private individuals, some of whom made very generous donations.
- 2) Afforestation and tree nurseries Tigray: After the end of the war, we were able to conclude new contracts through negotiations and seedling production has already started in the second half of the year.
- 3) Afforestation and tree nurseries Oromia: Expenditure is in line with the multi-year average, previous projects have been further developed.
- 4) Amhara tree nurseries and afforestation: In the Amhara region, we have also continued afforestation in the existing areas, and some contracts have been renewed.
- 5) Sidamo tree nurseries and afforestation: expenditure is in line with the multi-year average.
- 6) Water extraction: We primarily financed hand water pumps in the Amhara and Sidamo regions, some wells to extract spring and groundwater and a small dam in Tigray.
- 7) Schools: In all three project regions, we have co-financed the teaching of natural history to schools in our afforestation areas with educational material for theoretical and practical lessons.
- 8) Support for small farmers, women, donkeys for women: We continued the proven and very important humanitarian donkey project. One focus was the delivery of "Agriculture Input" such as seeds, wheat seeds, fruit tree seedlings and chicks for egg and meat production. We were very grateful for these services from the "Agriculture Input" fund, which was set up two years ago.
- 9) Fundraising expenses: These are higher than in the previous year due to the first-time personnel costs for a part-time employee.
- 10) Administrative costs Ethiopia: Expenses are in line with previous years.
- 11) Administrative costs Switzerland: Costs are higher than in the previous year because an office space (previously used for private rooms in the President of the Foundation's house) was rented and partially furnished in the autumn. See information on page 22.
- 12) Operating result and funds: As a result of the increased expenses due to the resumption of afforestation in Tigray, there was a negative operating result. The funds set up in 2021 were partially utilised. The "Tigray afforestation" fund was fully utilised, while the "Agriculture Input" fund has not yet been fully utilised.
- 13) We adhere to our principle of investing donations and contributions in the projects and not saving them.



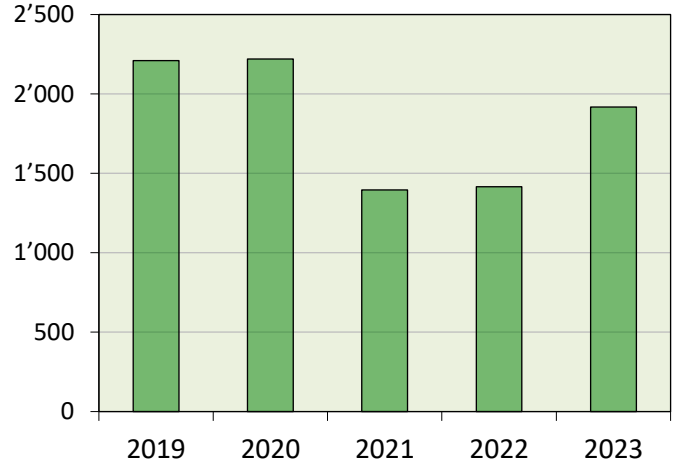
## Statistical data

### Afforestation

Produced seedlings (Forest trees in years) <sup>1)</sup>

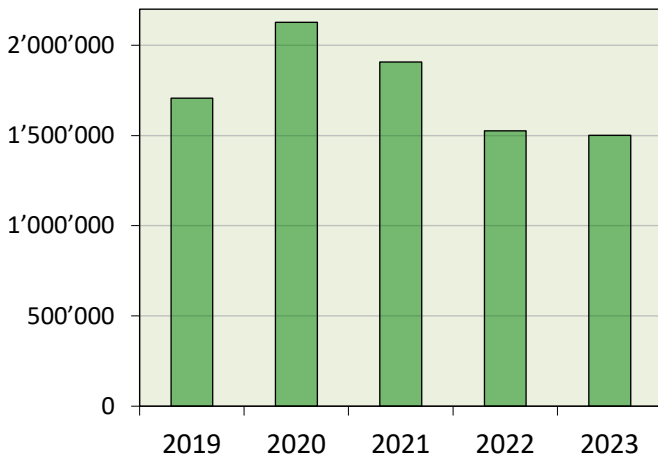


Afforested hectares (by year) <sup>2)</sup>

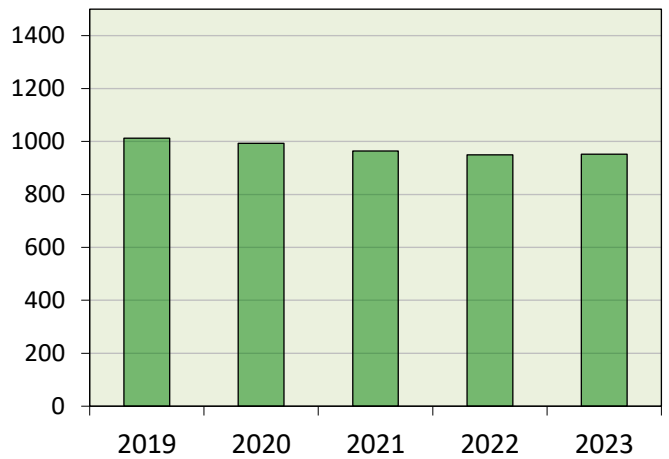


### Development of contributions and donations

Total donations received (by year, in CHF)

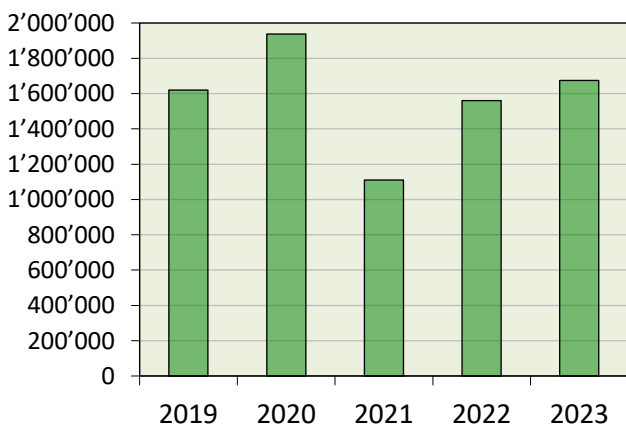


Number of donations (by year)

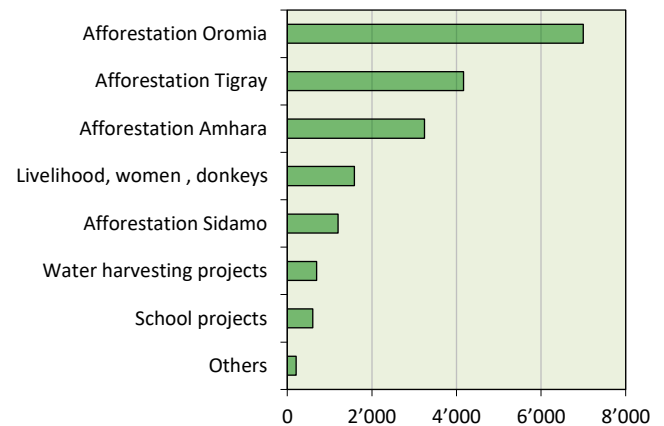


### Accumulated project expenses

Total all projects (by year, in CHF)



Total since 2000 (by project, in TCHF)



1) In addition to the forest trees, fruit tree and coffee seedlings were also produced. These are included in these statistics

2) This statistic only counts the area of afforestation. Seedlings planted by farmers or in fields for agroforestry do not add up to hectares, so the area does not correlate with the total number of seedlings planted. Since 2021, the proportion of fruit and coffee trees and trees planted as hedges (agroforestry) has been significantly higher.



## Outlook 2024

To continue our projects, we have signed agreements for 2024 for the production and planting of over

### 12 million tree seedlings

Have been concluded. These are currently available for the four regions:

- Tigray
- Oromia
- Amhara
- Sidamo



One challenge will be the certification of our afforestation, which is increasingly being requested by fundraising partners, especially for CO<sub>2</sub> offsetting.

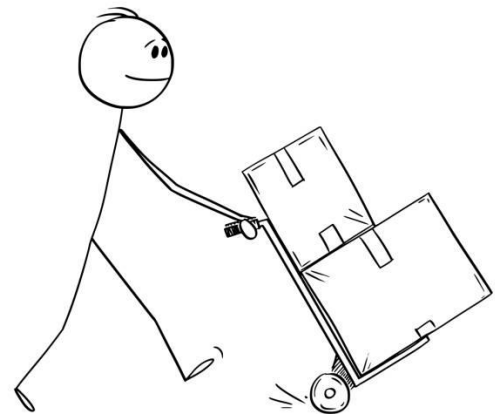
The partners in the afforestation areas are still highly motivated, and preparations have already begun in the tree nurseries in October/November 2023. See photo above: Filling the plant pots with humus.

### Innovation in the administration

Since the foundation was established in 2000, its headquarters and administration have been in the private home of the founding Pfister family in Winterthur. Together with the voluntary work carried out by all members of the founding family over the years, the foundation had unusually low administrative costs.

The Pfister family has now decided to move the office to an externally rented office in the course of 2024, and a specialist has also been employed on a 60% contract who will be responsible for our administration, project support and major donors from February 2024.

This change will lead to an increase in administrative costs in the coming years.



Foundation Green Ethiopia

January 2024

Bank accounts for donations:

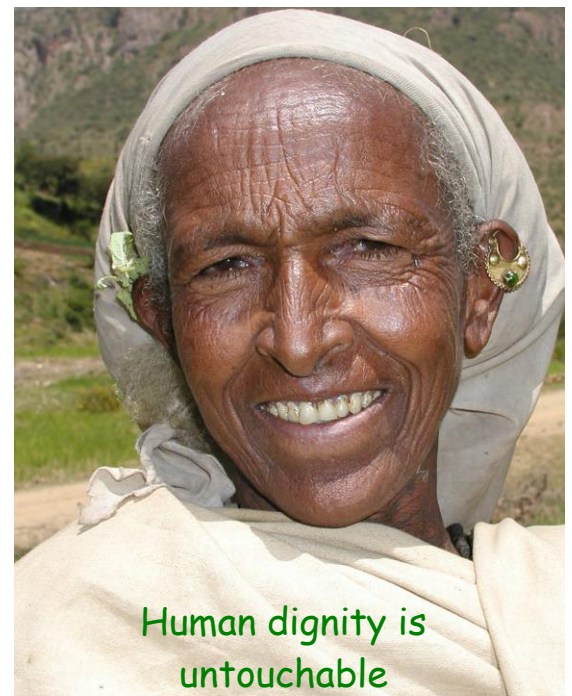
- Migros Bank, IBAN CH22 0840 1016 8031 8430 6
- Postkonto, IBAN CH61 0900 0000 9073 7866 1



Your donation  
in good hands.

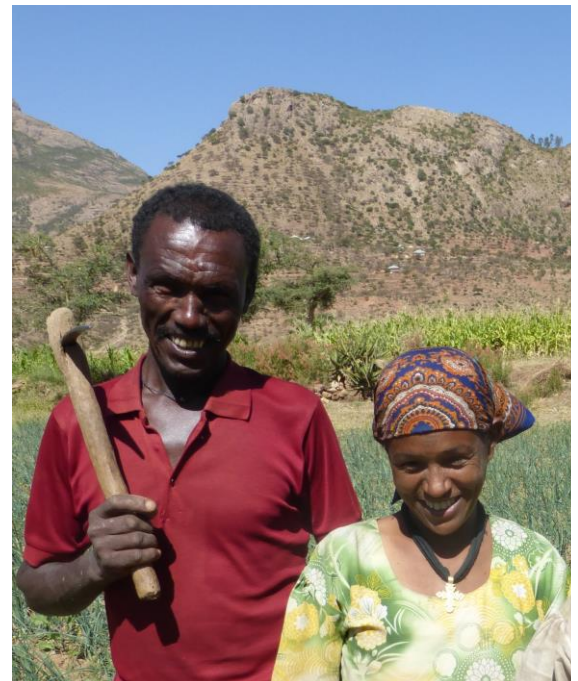
## Principles of cooperation with partners

1. We demand unconditional acceptance of our "**Code of Conduct**", which includes child labour, corruption and bribery as well as contract compliance. This code is part of every contract and is also monitored. Trust is good, control is better.
2. We see our support as "**help for self-development**". We offer unique services and thus enable farmers to take control of their own destiny in the future.
3. We respect the **traditional knowledge and traditions of the local people** and only intervene where new technologies make sense, are sustainable and are accepted by the people.



## Principles for success and sustainability

1. Support is only given to organisations that are prepared to make a significant contribution to the project themselves. As people cannot do this financially, they do voluntary work. Those who contribute to the project are taking care of it. What costs nothing - is worth nothing!
2. The benefits are very important. As soon as the farmers realise what great benefits the forests offer, they take care of them. Benefits in the form of water, timber and firewood, honey from bees, coffee cultivation, increased groundwater levels, agro-forestry.



Our foundation regenerates nature,  
sustainably improves the climate and also the nutrition  
and living conditions of people.



### Overview project sites 2024

