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The best way to predict the future is to create it.

Abraham Lincoln

Let's move forward, dear Susila Dharma - Soziale Dienste e.V.!

Elsa van Amern, Vice Chairwoman

We can look back on a successful past and continue to have a remarkable impact with our worldwide projects in the present – although we are such a small organisation. Successful stage artists say: "only with fame comes serious stage fright". Can we maintain our performance? Times are getting tougher for organisations that rely on voluntary work. General concerns about the future aggravate a worried look ahead.

With trembling knees we are not convincing, not full of ideas... so rethink, because "worrying doesn't count"!

Bapak, the founder of Subud, says: "Human beings must be able to broaden their outlook on life, so that they can make or choose a way that will lead them to happiness." ¹

We would like to broaden our perspective so that we can find a way to a bright future for us, that is Susila Dharma Germany. How can we make this happen?

Together, free, cheerful, creative - that's how we took the pleasant atmosphere during our annual general meeting (AGM) in Wolfsburg in May to glance far into the future.

Let's assume that Susila Dharma - Soziale Dienste e.V. (SD) continues to develop ideally over the next five years. That means we are in the year 2028. How do we recognise that we have achieved a lot and have arrived in a bright future?

Internally - in our SD team - we recognise this by our enthusiasm for our projects. We are a colourful bunch of people, open to diversity and hence open to people of all ages, genders, nationalities, sexual preferences and religious orientations. We are all SD. Some of us are below 60 and all of us identify with the aims of Susila Dharma - Soziale Dienste e.V.

¹ Sumohadiwidjojo, M. S. 1952, Susila Budhi Dharma, p. 37

Dear readers,

After five years, we thought it was time to present all our active SD projects to you once again. On these twelve pages, you can read about the many ways in which Susila Dharma - Soziale Dienste e.V. (SD) provides support in Germany and around the world. And there is even more to discover: At the end of most project presentations you will find a QR code. This will take you to short videos and films that will bring you even closer to the goals, motivation and successes of our partner organisations. We would like to take you into the future right at the beginning of this *Outlook*. We take a look five years ahead and take up suggestions from the members as to how SD can be organised by then. Join us on a journey around the world and help us shape the future.

Your Viktor Böhm
1st Chairman

We have a generous attitude and are confident that new members and new funds will continue to arrive. We are people who recognise and take up potential projects, and we also scrutinise projects in a way that is both benevolent and critical. We have confidence in our abilities, and everyone can learn with us at any time and in any way. To this end, we manage projects in pairs, in tandems:

experienced SD members together with new team members. We are active and full of imagination when it comes to fundraising. For example, we organise a platform to exchange ideas at our face-to-face meetings and offer money boxes/ SD collection boxes at our birthdays.

The digitalisation of our association is complete. We have shared platforms for the SD team and with our project partner organisations, our data is stored securely and we do small projects remotely. This means we are reducing costs through our digital options and strengthening the project management.

Our development is also visible from the outside. We have formed mini-teams that have revived our social media presence. We are now visible on social media and present us well and lively in our diversity. External communication is key for us and includes fundraising strategies. We are active in fundraising and educational portals (e.g. Bildungsspende) and have attractive merchandise items.

We do good things and talk and write about it. This is how we share our enthusiasm for projects with the outside world. We are constantly in touch in a national chat group, in dialogue with interested parties and supporters. We are also internally connected with SDIA via an intranet. This makes many actions more transparent and we are in closer contact and dialogue with network partners.

We are now accompanying more projects in Germany. We support both small projects as well as large projects with the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). We provide learning opportunities for people who want to develop project management expertise in development cooperation. We have extended our cooperation with Good Vision and enable project partners to expand their capacities.

How do you like it? Do you fancy this future for us, for Susila Dharma - Soziale Dienste e.V.? Please give us feedback, write us additional ideas. We look forward to further suggestions.

We also asked ourselves and you: "What should we pick up from the past because it is good for our future?"

A suggestion from the plenum at the general meeting was that we should meet twice a year in person and regularly collect donations, also together with our members. In addition, the SD team can grow in order to have more shoulders to carry the activities together. The participation in the team can also be broken down into small work packages for the individual members so that the voluntary work can be carried out alongside work.

I particularly liked the fact that we asked ourselves the same questions at the Board meeting in March 2023 and came up with very similar answers. Read for yourself:



What do we want for and from SD? Suggestions from our members at the 2023 AGM

Projects in Africa

Improving medical care in the DR Congo

Expansion of health centres and capacity building in rural and urban areas

Where? Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo), Kinshasa and Central Congo provinces

Who? Susila Dharma Congo and SD, with the support of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)

Project manager: Dianteza Salomon, SD Congo

What? The Democratic Republic of the Congo is one of the poorest countries in the world.

Basic health care is provided primarily by churches, non-governmental organisations and through international development cooperation.

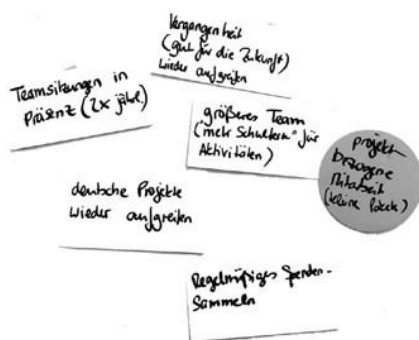
The current project is in line with the Congolese National Health Development Plan and is being implemented in cooperation with the health authorities of the respective provinces. It aims to expand health services in four health centres. With SD and further international support these health centres have been built in the past few years by our partner organisation SD Congo in Nkandu, Cederi Madimba, Kingantoko and Lemba Imbu.



On September 28, 2017, the first child, named Viktor-CSCOM, was born in the then new clinic in Kwilu Ngongo. Today he is six years old and in good health - we want to make this possible for many more children in the DR Congo.

© Hilma Simon

We receive resources (team members/funding) that we use for or pass on to the local project organisers. SD supports the cycle of resources. Lively projects are connected to SD and embedded in the flow of resources. Giving and receiving are in balance and in a cycle. We have found many donors. Our projects are personally supported by one or two people – developed by people for people – and SD provides the framework. We have long-term and short-term projects. We carry out projects together with other stakeholders who complement our expertise. We have projects at home and abroad as well as projects that connect Germany and other countries.



What do our members think should be revived from the past?

SD supports mutual learning and creates synergies. SD is in exchange with other SD Nationals, Subud Wings and other non-governmental organisations (e.g. through our Membership of

VENRO, the umbrella organization of development and humanitarian non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Germany).

We are visible in the media on our topics of education, health and the environment.

We treat each other in an authentic and respectful way. We support each other in our development. We trust each other and cultivate a constructive feedback culture. We accept differences.

We are in dialogue with young people who want to shape projects. SD is the community that listens and offers support, both professionally and personally, so that things can flourish. Young people feel that they and their needs are in good hands at SD.

We can keep ourselves well informed at any time and in any place: our documents are stored digitally, organised transparently and easy to find.

A picture says more than words, which is why we on the Board dared to paint pictures of the good future.

We are very pleased that we have developed this joint perspective for the future and would like to realise it with you step by step. At our internal meeting in Hamburg, we will continue to tackle this task as the SD team. And we look forward to your participation. We are open to suggestions. You are welcome to shape the future of Susila Dharma - Soziale Dienste e.V. together with us. As you have read above: everyone is welcome.



The similarities between our pictures were: Bright light and rays that promote growth on solid ground. Confidence and strength, integration of differences, abundance and diversity are recognisable. © Elsa and Hilaria

The focus is on basic health care for the population and prenatal care. There is an urgent lack of pediatrics at three locations. By expanding and better equipping the health centres, at least 50 treatments per day should be possible by the end of the project and even significantly more in the long term. The new pediatrics in Nkandu and Cederi Madimba have already started operations. At the health centre in Kingantoko, the focus is on improving the water supply through a deep borewell. Medical staff are also undergoing further training at all four locations and the equipment in the clinics is being improved.

SD Congo and its local team have already achieved a great accomplishment since 2016: at least 50,000 inhabitants of the city of Kwilu Ngongo and the surrounding area benefit directly from a hospital centre created with the support of the BMZ, with the figure rising to 350,000 people. Originally planned as a mother and child clinic, the health centre was expanded to include pediatrics, surgery, a laboratory, a mortuary and much more by December 2022 and is now considered a reference hospital.

Funding: 90 per cent of the funding for this project comes from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) - a reliable partner of SD for over 30 years. However, with total costs amounting to 534,000 euros, the remaining 10 per cent is also an enormous sum to cover as our own contribution. We are very grateful that we have many reliable supporters at our side, both in Germany and internationally, who are breaking new ground with us. We look forward to your support and are happy to discuss any issues with you.



SD contact persons: Dr. Viktor Böhm, Lawrence Fryer, Dr Hilma Simon

Donation purpose: DR Congo



Completion of the second anamed seminar in 2023 in the second MEDNAT training series © SD Congo



Impressions of the clinic in Kwilu Ngongo August 2022
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hRKNQkGbf04>

Medicinal plants in the DR Congo

Training and cultivation according to anamed standards

Where? Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo), Kinshasa and Central Congo provinces

Who? Susila Dharma Congo, Project manager: Victorine Mpambu

What? Since 2019, we have been supporting training in the cultivation and processing of medicinal plants in line with the concept of anamed (Action for Natural Medicine in the Tropics). Medicinal plants offer an alternative, cost-effective treatment option for some diseases from which the Congolese population in rural areas suffers.

Right from the start, there was great interest in taking part in the internationally standardised training offered by anamed. It comprises three one-week full-day courses in theory and practice and a one-week evaluation of the results after one year of practical experience. This is followed by a certificate that is recognised by the health authorities for quality assurance purposes. We were able to recruit Augustin Konda, an experienced, local trainer from anamed, to conduct the seminars and carry out the final certification.

In 2022, the evaluation of the first three-part MEDNAT course was carried out by Mr Konda. 16 course members subsequently received their certificate for the training. This group of graduates then founded a small association and is highly committed. On a site in Luila near Kinshasa, 20 different medicinal plants are now being cultivated, including *Artemisia annua*, which is used as a prophylaxis for malaria and Covid-19. In the context of our support, the group has committed to offering some of the products at the health centres supported by SD and at the clinic in Kwilu Ngongo.

Funding: A second training programme is in progress. A drying facility is currently being set up so that the plants can be dried properly and tea, ointments and pomades can then be produced. The project with all its components, such as the anamed seminar, the drying facility, the process of fencing off land in Kwilu Ngongo for the cultivation of medicinal plants and renting a storage room, is currently being supported by the North German Foundation for Environment and Development (NUE) and private donations. The third anamed seminar is planned for next year and we would be delighted to receive any support.



SD contact person: Dr. Hilma Simon

Donation purpose: anamed DR Congo

Women's co-operative ASFEMAC

Production and distribution of agricultural products, work with medicinal plants

Where? Central Africa, Cameroon, outskirts of Douala

Who? ASFEMAC Project manager: Dorothee Lissom

What? The ASFEMAC women's group has been in existence since 2003 and consists of around 50 women aged between 18 and 60 who grow and sell agricultural products together on the outskirts of Douala. The main focus is on growing and processing manioc into starch. The women earn around 6,000 euros a year from this. Since 2015, several women in the group have qualified at the anamed centre (Action for Natural Medicine in the Tropics) to work with medicinal plants and grow them, partly around their own homes and partly together in a 500 m² field. Important medicinal plants include artemisia (effective against malaria), moringa (against malnutrition), aloe vera and cassia alata. They process the plants into teas, ointments etc. and sell the products on the local markets.

Since 2019, the women have been passing on their knowledge to interested parties in medicinal plant seminars, so that the importance of medicinal plants is increasingly being spread. More and more people are learning to recognise, plant and harvest medicinal plants and to make and use remedies from them themselves. This knowledge and the experience of being able to help themselves and others and experience self-efficacy is inspiring and gives people hope and confidence.



Carnelle Lissom leads a medicinal plant seminar in a jungle village 2023

© Waltraut Biester

Funding: We were able to finance the costs of the training seminars for the ASFEMAC women, the organisation of three medicinal plant seminars in three jungle villages and the participation of one of the ASFEMAC woman in an advanced anamed medicinal plant seminar in the DR Congo with the support of the North German Foundation for Environment and Development (NUE) and private donations.

An anamed medicinal plant seminar in Douala is being planned for 2024, for which funding is still outstanding – we look forward to your support.



SD contact person:
Waltraut Biester

Donation purpose: ASFEMAC



Film on medicinal plant seminars in Cameroon
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EAqTxy9Y1U>

Gic Sagric / AGROTECH

Health promotion, training and ecological awareness raising by Gic Sagric

Where? Central Africa, Cameroon, outskirts of Douala, Massoumbou area

Who? Gic Sagric, Project Manager: Prof. Dr Leopold Lehman

What? Gic Sagric was founded in 2003 with the aim of promoting health, training, agropastoral and ecological awareness. Gic Sagric is a co-operative of farmers and further dedicated people.

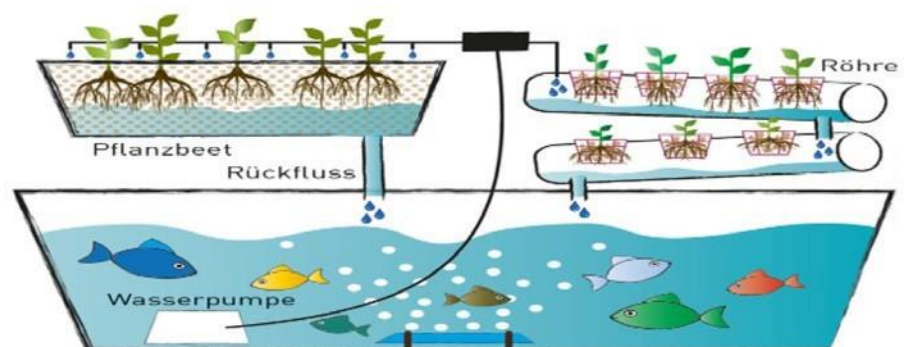
In 2019, Prof Dr Leopold Lehman founded the AGROTECH Institute together with Gic Sagric. The Massoumbou site is located on the outskirts of Douala, a city of 4 million people, and is constantly being built and developed.

The main aim of AGROTECH is to open up new prospects for young farmers in order to counteract the rural-urban migration. The training programmes are:

- Agropastoral activity (subsistence-oriented, traditional forms of farming that combine crop cultivation and livestock farming on natural pastures)
- Production of compost
- Botanical garden (academic and for ecotourism: nursery for medicinal and ornamental plants)
- Bamboo plantation and palm oil production
- Campaigns to raise awareness in the wider population about socio-cultural problems
- Aquaculture, aquaponics

With the botanical garden, Gic Sagric wants to bring students and pupils as well as the residents of the city of Douala and tourists closer to the special features of nature in Cameroon. In the long term, an environmental centre is to be built adjacent to the garden as an information centre and as accommodation for students on study visits lasting several days.

Aquaponics also makes it possible to raise both fish and vegetables on a relatively small area with low water consumption in a closed-loop system. This method will also soon be taught to students and prospective farmers at the Massoumbou site.



Aquaponics is the symbiosis of fish farming and vegetable cultivation in a recirculating system. © philippinenprojekt.de

Eye examinations and free allocation of spectacles

Gic Sagric, together with the Cameroonian organisation Vopaca, also enabled more than 800 people to receive eye examinations from a qualified team on three campaign days in Douala in 2023. More than 350 people received spectacles. SD received the spectacle frames and lenses for this project at a cheap price from the association EinDollarBrille e.V. (GoodVision). The aim is to bring affordable and very durable spectacles to people who would not be able to afford eye examinations and visual aids under normal circumstances.



More than 350 people have already received a pair of OneDollarGlasses
© Waltraut Biester

Funding: One of Professor Lehman's students, Rodriguez Magwell, has completed an online study programme on hydrobiology and aquaponics at the South African University of Stellenbosch, funded by the Adolph Woermann Memorial Foundation. He will shortly be undertaking a research trip to a well-running aquaponics farm in Ghana and will then set up an **aquaponics test facility on the Massoumbou** site. The costs for this are 5,000 euros.

So far, a small building for study purposes has been constructed with funding from the North German Foundation for Environment and Development (NUE) and private donations.

There are also plans to plant a large number of native tree species and to make the **botanical garden** accessible by creating paths.

There are also plans to organise **further eye examination campaigns** in rural areas of Cameroon. In addition, we would like to support the qualification of a team via Good Vision in the long term. This team learns how to make spectacle frames themselves and visits population groups that are unable to see an ophthalmologist.



SD contact person:
Waltraut Biester

Donation purpose: Gic Sagric/Mariwal



Clear vision for 1 dollar
Film about the Cameroon spectacles project
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YnhyEDvnf0>

Projects in Asia

ANISHA - From darkness to light

Organic farming in South India

Where? Chamarajanagar district, Karnataka state, 200 km south of Bangalore

Who? ANISHA Foundation, Project manager: Valliammal Krishnaswamy

What? Since 2006, the Anisha team has been working with small farmers and landless people to promote both traditional and innovative sustainable methods of vegetable gardening and agriculture. Anisha's mission: Every rural household should be able to live off their land and harvest enough healthy food to feed their family all year round.

Funding from the BMZ (2008-2014) made it possible to set up the **Anisha Rural Centre (RC)** with a seed bank for local varieties and agricultural trial areas, among other things. A training centre and guest rooms provide space for workshops and overnight stays. Anisha supports the return to organic farming methods and helps families to produce healthy food.

In addition, it supports farmers to generate and save money and to improve soil fertility.



Seed bank of the Anisha Rural Centre
© Aminah Herrman

Results so far: 2,400 farmers have been trained in organic farming. 200 hectares of land have been converted to organic farming. 350 landless families cultivate kitchen gardens in 20 villages and produce fresh vegetables, spices and food for nine months of the year - with a visible impact on their health and physical resilience. There is a credit and savings co-operative managed by self-help groups that promotes small entrepreneurial initiatives. The Anisha Rural Centre's seed bank stores over 342 varieties of local seeds (including pulses, different millet varieties and vegetable seeds). These seeds are distributed to farmers and gardeners who have learnt how to propagate and store the seeds.

Since 2013, Anisha has also been working with pupils from grade 7 onwards. As part of a school programme called the **Kitchen Garden Project (KGP)**, the pupils learn how to create vegetable gardens. In addition to planting, harvesting and cooking, they learn how to work with, preserve and propagate local seeds. Permaculture methods can be used to save a lot of water and to achieve good results without heavy physical labour.



Project manager Valli with students in the Kitchen Garden Project © Anisha

Funding: Since the BMZ funding came to an end in 2014, Anisha has been dependent on private donations, as the climatic conditions have deteriorated and the operation of the Rural Centre has not yet been able to cover its costs. SD Germany therefore supports Anisha proportionately with the running costs, which amount to approx. 10,000 euros per year.

SD was successful in obtaining funding for the Kitchen Garden Project from the Schöck Family Foundation for the 2023/24 and 2024/25 school years. The Schöck Family Foundation is providing 12,300 euros for each school year, which, together with international donations, will fund the project over the next two school years. We need 3,000 euros per year to cover our own contribution to this project.



At the BCU school, SD particularly supports the scholarship programme for students from low-income families © BCU

SD contact person: Henny Willecke
Donation purpose: Anisha RC
 Anisha KGP



Film about Anisha Farming by Myra Margolin
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6heay89GZ6A>

Bina Cita Utama School (BCU)

Education for a sense of community and independent learning

Where? Indonesia, Central Kalimantan, Rungan Sari

Who? Bina Cita Utama (BCU), Rector: Elisvina, Academic Director: Indriyati Herutami, School Manager: Setiawati Soesetyo

What? The BCU school provides access to collaborative education and community development for children from a wide range of backgrounds. Bina Cita Utama means "building noble ideals". The school's vision is to educate children so that they become self-confident and, as adults, can make positive contributions to the development of their community and the world.

The school was founded in 2003 as a parent initiative with ten students. In July 2005, it was the first school to be recognized as National Plus School in

Central Kalimantan and was officially registered, with 23 schoolchildren at the time. After 20 years, the school now has 145 pupils, 2 volunteers and 25 employees. In Palangkaraya, a pre-school class was also opened in 2023 in the Menteng district as part of the BCU school with 15 children.

National Plus Schools have an Indonesian and a Western curriculum and integrate learning content from Indonesia, Australia, the USA and Singapore. English is taught in all grades. Achieving the learning goals also includes the realisation that learning is a lifelong process. The programme is completed at the end of grade 12. Since 2005, students have already been accepted to Indonesian, Australian, European and American universities.

In addition to the regular curriculum, the children learn in the permaculture school garden with an aquaponics system, they look after chickens and play in a tree house on the grounds. A school kitchen provides lunch, and buses transport the girls and boys to and from Palangkaraya. Every Monday morning there is an assembly of all staff and pupils. Music and dancing, mostly Dayak dances, are an important part of the programme. A large sports field, a pool, a library and a computer room with internet are also available.

Funding: The school is financed by school fees and donations. Various international government programmes also support it through volunteer programmes. SD uses incoming donations in particular to support the scholarship programme for talented students from low-income families.



SD contact person:
 Dr Viktor Böhm

Donation purpose: BCU



Film about the BCU school
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hUvpy_UBVN8

Borneo Football International Academy

More than football – learning from each other on and off the pitch

Where? Indonesia, Central Kalimantan, Rungan Sari, 36 km north of Palangkaraya

Who? Borneo Football International Foundation (BFIF), Project manager: Muhammad Bachrun Bustillo.

What? The aim of this project is to improve the lives of underprivileged children. In this project, football serves as a tool for social change and helps the children with their physical, mental and social development. The important realisation from football that it takes a joint effort to achieve something is transferred to other areas of life.

The academy started in 2015 with just 14 children. Word quickly spread that it was fun to take part, and today the academy already has 465 football players in five training centres. There are four all-girls teams.



More than just football - the children learn teamwork and respectful cooperation © BFIA

But the Borneo Football International Academy offers "more than football". It also offers English lessons and IT trainings. The philosophy is that everyone can learn and benefit from each other due to their different backgrounds. In 2023, the project reached 2,460 children with educational workshops, basic English courses and school football activities. Borneo Football also supported around 320 children from local schools with jerseys, equipment and coaching assistance



Kalimantan hall for indoor sports, culture and leisure events © BFIF

so that they could take part in various tournaments under the name of their school.

The campus The community campus of the Borneo Football International Academy is constantly developing. In addition to the three football pitches, there is a multi-purpose house and a building for the groundsman. Additional dormitory accommodation and the Kalimantan Hall have just been built which will be used for indoor sports, cultural and leisure events, workshops on education and health and the training of coaches.

Funding: The "Stiftung RTL - Wir helfen Kindern e.V." (RTL Foundation - We Help Children) has financed the training equipment in 2022/2023 to further expand BFIF's programmes for children in schools. The project was realised through football training in the mornings in the schools and also provided football tutorials via social media. The project relied on a team of experts from the fields of football and education and supports a total of 1,500 children and young people for a year. Of the total costs amounting to 12,620 euros the "Stiftung RTL - Wir helfen Kindern e.V." covered over 4,987 euros. SD would like to continue to support this valuable work with children and young people. The more donations that are collected, the more schools can be involved in the project.



SD contact person:
Dr Hilaria Dette

Donation purpose:
Borneo Football



Football for social change
Film on Borneo Football
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YxfhSsyUnM>

YUM-Agroforestry

Agroforestry solutions for community resilience

Where? Indonesia, Central Kalimantan, Palangkaraya, Bukit Batu

Who? Yayasan Usaha Mulia (YUM), with the support of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Project managers: Daniela Bustillo, Vanessa Reksodipoetro

What? Susila Dharma has been cooperating with YUM since 1989. Since then, we have jointly implemented many BMZ projects in the areas of sustainable agriculture, food security, health and education. A new project is now starting at the end of 2023, also with funding from the BMZ.

For over five years, YUM has been researching agroforestry methods on its own initiative, which work particularly well on the sandy, acidic soils of the region. The aim now is to introduce these practices to the village communities and demonstrate to small farmers how to switch from conventional agriculture to agroforestry. The project aims to train female community leaders and small-scale farmers in agroforestry techniques. The aim is to raise public awareness of agroforestry as a sustainable land use solution that can also be used to adapt to climate change.

The implementation of the concept is based on three pillars:

1. Skills development of 25 female community leaders conducting an awareness raising campaign for 2000 small-holder farmers.
2. Training and support of 10 farmers (men and women) to establish 2000 m² agroforestry pilot plots for demonstration.
3. Creation of an agroforestry manual with optimized methods for the Bukit Batu region and a guide for the conversion from conventional agriculture to agroforestry.

YUM has been part of the local community for more than ten years and has developed a close relationship with its members through various projects.



Trainers for the AgroForestry project on the YUM research site
© Viktor Böhm

The positive results of this work have created mutual respect, trust and a sense of reliability between the community members and the team members of the non-governmental organisation. YUM will continue to support the communities after the end of the BMZ project in order to implement and expand agroforestry methods.

Funding: The agroforestry project has a term of twelve months with a total volume of 129,535 euros. The BMZ funding amounts to 75 per cent. YUM and SD therefore have to raise their own contribution of 32,384 euros. All support is welcome.



SD contact person:
Stefan Mühlbauer

Donation purpose: YUM-Agroforestry



Film on the agroforestry research project by YUM
<https://youtu.be/wzmY1fn7bE0>

Projects in Europe

MATURANAHAUS

Learning as a spontaneous activity - with enthusiasm and creativity

Where? Germany, Emmendingen

Who? MATURANAHAUS Emmendingen e.V., managing board: Nadja Robina Limanski, Benjamin Aaron Herre

What? Inspired by Rebeca and Mauricio Wild and other reform pedagogical approaches, Nadja Robina Limanski and Benjamin Aaron Herre began to set up a free school in 2004. The name is derived from the Chilean biologist Humberto Maturana, who spent his long life as a scientist researching the self-regulation processes of living beings and whose theories underpin the pedagogy at MATURANAHAUS.

Kindergarten group *Wild Rose*

The Maturanahaus is currently undergoing change, but the location in the old Emmendingen Ramie Villa as a centre for children's development and inner growth is to be preserved and further developed. The kindergarten - always a centrepiece of education of the

Maturanahaus is expanding its childcare hours and age range so that a few two-year-olds will soon be joining the group and a total of 18 to 20 children will be looked after by three team members. The work is led by Nadja Robina Limanski and her colleague Dorota Simbeck. They can draw on 19 years of experience with non-directive developmental pedagogy, which is essentially based on the work of Rebeca and Mauricio Wild and Montessori pedagogy. The children experience the basic attitude of the adults: You are right, welcome and loved just as you are! On the basis of secure attachment and clear boundaries, each child embarks on their very own journey of exploration, which allows them to be in contact and yet independent at the same time and to structure themselves internally.



Creating places of learning without heteronomy and constraints that enable children to maintain their joy of learning and vitality © Maturanahaus

Lunch Island - relaxed rooms in the afternoon

Another project due to be launched in January 2024 is the Lunch Island. Managed by Benjamin Aaron Herre, the project offers a relaxed afternoon situation for school children in the rooms of the former school. Cooking and eating lunch together, homework supervision and a colourful range of musical and creative activities ensure that children starting from their first year of school feel relaxed and safe in the afternoon in small group constellations and at the same time take away something nourishing for body, soul and spirit. For the Maturanahaus management, this form is a new field of activity and, at the same time, the experience and attitudes from the many years of experience in the free school programme are also incorporated here.

In addition, the association plans to open up the building by renting out rooms for external services such as family counselling, music education or seminar groups.

Funding: A room was added to the kindergarten for the expansion of the *Wild Rose* group. The necessary personnel and organisational changes as well as important new purchases are supported by Susila Dharma with a development grant, for which further donations are welcome.



SD contact persons:
Mariam Tikale, Lawrence Fryer

Donation purpose: Maturanahaus

Projects in Latin America

Filhos do Céu Children's Village

Children of heaven –
growing up in love

Where? Brazil, State of Bahia, Arraial d'Ajuda

Who? Children's Village Filhos do Céu (Children of Heaven), General Coordinator: Ana Lúcia Carvalho

What? The project takes children in Brazil off the streets. It shows them how important education and dreams are and gives them a new perspective. A group of women from the Catholic Church could no longer stand by and watch the growing violence and neglect of the children in Arraial. They organised a building and opened the "Children of heaven" education project for disadvantaged children and families in 2009.

They soon had children's voices, music and capoeira jumps emanating from the brittle rooms. Although everything is organised on a voluntary basis – alongside family and work – the

project has been a great success. In the meantime, more than 100 children regularly attend the courses.

"The teachers at the schools come up to us and ask: What has happened to the children?" says Madalena. "You can really see the change in them, they are beaming, nicer to each other and stick together better. They've also realised that it's important to go to school regularly."

"Children of heaven" is aimed at children and young people from the street and from difficult family situations between the ages of 6 and 20. An important goal is to ensure that the children attend school regularly and thus improve their future prospects. Above all, however, the project aims to change people's minds. The children should feel that they are valuable and be given opportunities to develop their identity and self-consciousness. The development of perspectives, dreams, but also mutual consideration and respect are important learning objectives. Prevention and cooperation with families prevent children from ending up on the street, dropping out of school or losing themselves in drugs and crime.

A small library provides access to books that are otherwise unaffordable for the families. A dentist and two pediatricians take care of the children's health.



At the project "Children of Heaven" there is a warm meal for everyone

© Filhos do Céu



Creating places of learning without heteronomy Support with homework at the children's village Filhos do Céu © Filhos do Céu

Volunteers offer courses such as capoeira, arts and crafts, football, guitar, drumming, keyboard, embroidery and sewing courses or help with homework. Many of the skills from the courses can later be used as a source of income in the tourist resort. Important topics such as future prospects, drugs, family, sexuality and violence are discussed with the children and values are redefined.

All children also receive a hot meal every day. In order to monitor and improve the situation of the children in their families, the project cooperates with the Pastoral da Criança organisation, which carries out regular family visits. The most important ingredients in the project are love and attention. They allow the children to blossom and enable them to overcome problems in school and family.

Funding: Children of heaven is largely financed by donations from Brazil and was also supported for a long time by the Kindermissionswerk, the German Holy Childhood Association, and the "Sternsinger" campaign. The support from Germany is an important pillar that enabled the youth education project to purchase and renovate its own premises and ensured its survival in difficult times. After the corona crisis and as a result of rising inflation, help is all the more necessary. SD uses donations to finance the courses for children and young people as well as the important bookkeeping that a well-organised project needs.



SD contact person:
Stefanie Langkamp

Donation purpose: Brazil



Film about the children's village "Children of Heaven"
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pQfsMqLCho>

Ecu Schools

Learning together for a happy childhood

Where? Ecuador, Tumbaco (suburb of the capital Quito), Otavalo (province of Imbabura), Saraguro (province of Loja)

What? SD has been supporting various educational projects in Ecuador for many years. These include kindergartens, pre-schools and primary schools, some of which are integrated with secondary schools. These are private initiatives that work according to a specific pedagogy that is not offered at state institutions. We currently support these three projects as needed:

Fundación Todo un Mundo (Quito)

The Todo un Mundo (TUM) Foundation is an alternative education project in Tumbaco, a valley near Quito, the capital of Ecuador. Founder Dara Cisneros Castro is a sociologist, systemic family therapist and conflict

mediator (member of Mediators beyond Borders).

The TUM Foundation's "Ludoteka" is a playful educational centre for children aged three to twelve years, in which their social, emotional, motoric and cognitive development is supported.

In the Ludoteka environment, children interact freely with various didactic materials, most of which are Montessori-inspired. There are a variety of indoor and outdoor areas with a so-called prepared environment for free play: outdoor, gardening, crafts, carpentry, experiments, cooking, music, table games and puzzles, role play (dressing, shop, doll's house), among others.



All three educational projects work with Montessori learning materials © TUM

Fundación Maria Montessori (Otavalo)

Founded in 1994, the kindergarten and the resulting school "Juan Enrique Pestalozzi" are the only inclusive educational institutions in Otavalo. Their aim is to realise a sustainable form of learning and thus offer a socially equitable programme for ALL boys and girls - with or without disabilities - and their families.



The educational centre in Otavalo is a place of learning for ALL children © Monica Vaca

In contrast to state-run institutions, this takes place in small class sizes with learning materials that for example originate from the Montessori pedagogy. The pedagogically and/or psychologically trained teachers support the children on an individual basis. This is often described as very warm-hearted by visitors to the school. Once a day hot meals are served. The boys and girls choose their own activities, e.g. body expression, painting, singing and handicrafts. In addition to lessons, the project manager, Dr Monica Vaca, offers counselling and therapy: both for children with learning difficulties and for parents who are experiencing social problems.

Fundación Yachay Kawsay (Saraguro)

The Yachay Kawsay Foundation is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation that offers a non-directive, non-school-based self-learning programme. It is taught and learnt in Kichwa and English. Yachay Kawsay is a community of the Kichwa-Saraguro people in the south of Ecuador in the province of Loja. The foundation was established in 2019 to fulfil the goal of the member families to create and live a regenerative community based on Andean principles and values.



Teaching materials in particular are always needed © Fundación Yachay Kawsay

For a long time, there was an officially recognised school by and for the Saraguros: "Inca Samana". It was also built up with the support of SD. However, the authorities nationalised it without notice in 2014. In order not to lose everything, the founders José Vacacela and María Gabriela Albuja Izurieta looked for ways out. They wrote down their pedagogical experiences in a book and then founded the Yachay Kawsay Foundation with other affected people. The aim of the foundation is to revitalise their free form of schooling. Ten children between the ages of three and twelve are currently attending. There are many helping hands in Mingas when construction is underway. But there is little money for teaching materials and excursions into the surrounding area.

Funding: The projects are partly financed by fees, which the parents of the children pay. However, not so many people in Ecuador can afford this type of education for their children. SD would like to support the Ecua school projects in making educational work accessible to low-income families.

SD contact persons:

Susila Dharma Team

Donation purpose: Ecua schools



Final photo for the presentation of the 2021 certificates with robe and hat
© Hijas de la Paz

Hijas de la Paz – Daughters of peace

Improving the social and economic integration of young women at risk

Where? Colombia, Quindio and Valle del Cauca, in Amanecer near Armenia

Who? Guerrand Hermes Foundation for Peace (GHFP), Colombia

What? Fifty years of conflict in Colombia have turned more than eight million inhabitants into internally displaced persons. Despite the peace agreement, many people live in precarious conditions. A lack of prospects and poverty push young people in particular into a spiral of violence, drugs and crime. The project carried out in 2021/2022 with funding from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) enabled 32 young women from the provinces of Quindio and Valle del Cauca to significantly improve their living conditions.

During a four-month intensive phase, they received psychosocial support, personal development and career counselling at a training centre,

as well as training courses to facilitate access to the labour market.

This was followed by a ten-month implementation phase in the home communities. There, the young women were accompanied and supported by social workers. The preparation provided by the project gave them access to free state training programmes. All 32 women developed entrepreneurial initiatives. Six of them are currently preparing to set up their own business.

In the best case scenario, they will now become role models for other young people and

grow into a role as multipliers. The participants' realisation that that in order to make their dreams come true, they need to complete or continue their education is perhaps one of the most important successes of the project.

This significant change in self-esteem and the improved perception of their own abilities and competences became clear during the project monitoring and evaluation.

Funding: The former project had a volume of 107,000 euros

and was 90 per cent funded by the BMZ. We would like to offer this training and support to further women and are endeavouring a similar project, hopefully again with the support of the BMZ. With donations for Colombia we hence continue to support training programmes for young women.



SD contact persons: Dr. Viktor Böhm, Lawrence Fryer

Donation purpose: Colombia

Film about the Hijas de la Paz project (2021/2022)



<https://youtu.be/AcZYEPgKy0>



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Susila Dharma is committed to fair and sustainable development through

- Cooperation with and financial support for social and educational projects at home and abroad,
- Educational and public relations work to raise and strengthen awareness of global connections and sustainable development,
- Networking with other organisations in order to influence the political framework.

Editorial/image editing: Kerstin Raab

Layout: Eva Kohl

Responsible for the content:

Dr Hans-Dieter Böhm, Dr Hilaria Dette

Printed by: Lehmann, Hamburg

Donation accounts

Susila Dharma - Social Services e.V.

Bank for Social Economy:

IBAN: DE65 2512 0510 0007 4640 00
BIC: BFSWDE33HAN

Postbank Hamburg:

IBAN: DE89 2001 0020 0048 4472 06
BIC: PBNKDEFFXXX

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