

Bridging Engagement and Commitment

The Foundation for the Future supports people in their actions for an ethical, ecological and social world – engaging all stakeholders in the process. It shall build bridges among people around the world – bridges which promote exchange, understanding and support.

The question to begin with: Which resources are available?

Our project partners are people engaged in the social sector, who are familiar with problems particular to their area. Together with others they are committed to implement their projects. Before commencing a project, it is being established which resources are available and what can possibly be done. Rather than satisfying primary needs. The process of determining the existing resources gives way to creative thinking and involves those who profit from the projects.

Cooperating with seventy one project partners

Currently the Foundation for the Future cooperates with seventy one partners in twenty countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America. The focus being sustainable agriculture, education of girls and women, holistic healthcare, renewable energy and the provision of transparent micro-credits. All these elements are interrelated parts of a project, which are mainly administered by women.

Organic agriculture

75% or 1.2 Billion of the poor live in rural areas. They are small scale farmers owning less than two hectares of land. Over 50% of the world's population does not have access to clean water or regular nutrition. The total production of agricultural products has declined over the past twenty five years. Industrialization and monoculture have been weakening the agriculture and environment; to lessen the impact, the Foundation for the Future supports organic agriculture. One of the aims being to secure self-sufficiency of small-scale farmers based on their resources.

Education: Schools and continuing education are vital

The central element of all projects is education. Studies, such as the World-Agriculture-Report 2009, compiled by over four hundred scientists, demonstrate that it is important how knowledge is being interpreted by the recipients. To ensure the success of a project it is important that the teachings are based on the life of people concerned. Education has to address thinking, feeling and acting. In fact (for instance), most of the training for farmers is being done on the fields. The schools cooperating with the Foundation for the Future are promoting the use of alternative teaching methods focusing on supporting each individual child in the setting of its cultural background.

School meals

Most of our educational project partners are elementary schools. Not only do they provide the children with the regular curriculum but also teach them traditional crafts such as tailoring, pottery, knitting, crocheting, carpeting and the making of mats and baskets. These skills are vital for children growing up in rural areas. However, learning on an empty stomach is not viable. Thus, students are introduced to organic farming to grow the vegetables and fruits needed to prepare school meals. We administer sponsorships to children in Brazil, Nepal, South Africa, Kenya and Uganda, among others.

Holistic health care

The Foundation for the Future is promoting the provision of a preventive, holistic basic health care system. People are being taught in basic hygiene, introduced to the farming and use of medicinal herbs, and educated in the sources of different health issues. Campaigns about Aids, wholesome nutrition or the use of traditional medicine such as the Siddha-Medicin in South India are part of the programs.

Micro credits and small sized businesses

The support of small sized businesses is a vital element of fighting poverty. This involves the processing of raw materials and the marketing of food products. Other elements are overcoming seasonal fluctuations through the use of technology such as the drying of fruits and the production of essential oils, training in packaging and marketing of products and education in traditional crafts. The sustainable provision of micro credits and the supply of knowledge about the implementation of business ideas are vital in the process to boost the small business sector. The ultimate objective being to create local and/or regional self supporting economic networks. In this process micro credits only represent a small part of the rather sustainable aid of education and training.

Renewable energy

Our natural resources are diminishing. A simple sentence with a lot of consequences. This is evident especially in the countries of our project partners: the deforestation of international companies, the gathering of firewood in deserted land, the mining of raw materials (minerals), gold, silver and diamonds while violating traditional laws and destroying the nature, the missing of the monsoon or devastating floods. Respecting the limits of growth also means people have to use renewable energy in harmony with the local settings.

Building communities

The different elements of all projects are organized in a timely fashion. Thirty years of development aid have shown that change can only lead to success when it is implemented over long periods of time, when change has become part of every day life and the community has achieved economic independence. This is why it is important to accompany people in the process of becoming sovereign and not to refer to projected time limits. It is our aspiration to allow people to create a habitat for themselves that is independent, ecologic, economic, social and cultural conform with their life despite the fact of globalization.

Transparency here and there

Transparency and cooperation are the basic elements of our work. Regular meetings and visits, reports, transparent decision making processes and guarantees are representing the foundation for a reliable partnership with our project partners. Donations are transferred without any deductions. We receive specified funds to cover the costs of administration. This transparency and our low administrative budget of 4.5 % are being awarded by the "Deutsche Spendensiegel". Our project partners are being audited by independent agencies to ensure the funds are being invested according to their purpose.

Cooperation at home

If the proposed projects comply with the established criteria the Foundation for the Future Development Cooperation also cooperates with volunteer organizations at home to support its project partners and provides those with administrative services.