

## Annual report 2022

In our annual report, we would like to present the progress of our work, as well as the challenges and problems of the past year in a transparent manner and go into more detail about our association's work. The annual report is divided into the activity report and the financial report. The activity report explains the progress in the respective departments Operations, Technology and Marketing & Fundraising. The financial report shows separately the financial development of the association.

### Activity Report

#### Operations

The outbreak of the Ukraine war in February 2022 came as a surprise and had a major impact on global food and fertilizer prices. For the people of Kenya, this meant major problems in procuring fertilizer and, as a result, sharply falling crop yields, which led to a sharp rise in food prices. At the same time, important grain exports from Ukraine were cancelled. For these reasons, we supported our partner in Mombasa in the purchase of fertilizer to guarantee the operation of our Spirulina farm and offer nutritious Spirulina, at least in the short term. Unfortunately, fertilizer prices remained at a high level during the course of the year and economic operation of the plant was no longer possible in the end. We are currently actively looking for fertilizer alternatives and expect the price level to approach the previous year's level again next year, so that we can resume spirulina production as soon as possible.

In addition, we financed two water tanks including delivery at the request of the Girls for Girls Africa Mental Health Foundation. This non-governmental organization (NGO) supports survivors of sexual and gender-based violence with educational services, psychological support and legal assistance in Kenya. The donated water tanks are used in the new giant pumpkin farm and support the community's food supply.

Finally, we were able to win Viride as a new partner in the last quarter of the year. Viride is a German start-up and grows nutrient-rich and CO<sub>2</sub>-binding algae in the Sahara in southern Morocco. Viride's sustainable and resource-saving approach is particularly important: sun, salt water and open spaces are sufficiently available on the Moroccan coast. The collaboration will mainly be based on the use of our Spirulina sensors and will make harvesting more efficient in the future, as well as giving us the chance to adapt our sensors to new harvesting conditions and test them on different organisms.

## **Technology**

As the first prototypes of our sensors are now reliably delivering data, we are currently working on improving data processing and reducing the cost of future models. On the one hand, in the hardware area, we successfully switched the production of the housing mount, the housing and the floats to 3D printing. On the other hand, in the software area, we restructured our database on AWS, worked on the robustness of our software, and developed a dashboard for data display to increase user-friendliness. In addition, we developed and deployed a new circuit board that has improved battery charging management.

## **Marketing & Fundraising**

After the launch of our podcast "Thriving Green" in June last year, our podcast now goes on hiatus for the time being with Episode 11 "DAS WAR'S - mit Staffel 1" (released in May 2022). We are very proud of what we have accomplished and learned in the past year in this area. The podcast picks up the idea of Thriving Green and gives insights into our association work and the problems in our project. All episodes are, of course, still available to listen to on popular music streaming/podcast platforms. It has not yet been decided whether the podcast will appear again in 2023. Finally, we would like to thank Anja and Flo in particular for their great work, who had both the idea and the drive to make the podcast happen.

Of course, we still advertise for our good cause, most recently successfully at our mulled wine stand on 10.11.2022 and the subsequent recruiting event on 22.11.2022 on the OTH campus in Regensburg. We also want to motivate the next generation of young bright minds for our vision and the upcoming tasks and integrate them into our team. This year we were able to inspire two new members who are already taking on a lot of responsibility: Niki supports us in the operations area, especially in partner communication and project coordination, Selina devotedly promotes our work on Instagram, Facebook & Co.

In social media, we are also working on a new strategy with a focus on regular updates and cross-platform content. The goal is to increase reach and engagement with followers.

## Other

As a tradition, this year we have again organized a weekend in a mountain hut, which serves to strengthen the team spirit and to discuss important points of the association. This time we went to Austria in October and went on short hikes in unsettled weather. However, since it was very rainy, we used most of the time to revise the association strategy and adapt it to the new challenges. This revision is also accompanied by a change in the statutes, which we worked out together this weekend.

## Financial report (reporting date 31.12.2022)

This year, the cash balance decreases slightly from about 27,000€ to a little more than 25,000€. The focus is on the ongoing difficult situation after the Covid-19 pandemic in Kenya, which made planning for operational missions abroad difficult, especially at the beginning of the year. As the association is financially well positioned and additional funding was not absolutely necessary due to the investment backlog for this year, the total income decreased to 958.36€. The income is mainly based on membership fees. The funding target of the previous year was therefore not achieved.

Expenses are also slightly down compared to last year, the biggest expenses in the operational and technical area, are the donations for the fertilizer and the water tanks, as well as components for the sensors.

### Overall result<sup>1</sup>

Cash balance (2021)	27,013.50€
Inflows	3,450.24€
Outflows	- 4,933.93€
Cash balance (2022)	25,529.81€

### Income

Membership fees	777.00€
Organizational donation	71.26€
Private donations	110.10€
Total income	958.36€

<sup>1</sup> Note: The overall result is based on a cash flow consideration, therefore cash inflows and outflows cannot be equated with income and expenses. However, the difference between inflows and outflows and income and expenses is the same in both cases.

**Expenses**

Administration	- 972.42€
Marketing & Fundraising	- 843.74€
Operations	- 941.45€
Technology	- 798.66€
Credit card	1,114.22€
Total expenses	- 2,442.05€