



“HELPING TO CONNECT!” – WATER, ENERGY, EDUCATION AND CLIMATE PROTECTION

Dear friends of the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation,

2021 was again a year that was dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Accordingly, supporting projects in the area of WASH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene) remained the focus of the Foundation. However, projects not directly related to the prevention of COVID-19 were not left out of the picture. For example, the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation initiated and supported several clean-up campaigns after the flood disaster in Rhineland-Palatinate and North Rhine-Westphalia in July 2021. Likewise, a garbage collection campaign as part of the World Cleanup Day that will take place annually from now on sent a clear message against environmental pollution.

We are pleased that since October 2021 climate protection has been added to our statutes as a further purpose of the Foundation. Although all of our projects have contributed directly or indirectly to climate protection in recent years, the inclusion of climate protection in our statutes sends another clear signal against climate change.

Climate protection becomes a Foundation purpose

In our Activity Report, we would like to show you what we at TOOLS FOR LIFE have done together with our partner organizations to improve the lives of people in disadvantaged regions of the world and give them prospects for the future. Our vision is for all people to have access to clean water, basic sanitation and sustainable energy. In addition, it is important to us to provide people with access to education in order to give them further opportunities to shape their own future. This vision is also reflected in the Foundation's new purpose, climate protection. Everyone is affected by climate change, but people in poorer regions often have fewer opportunities to adapt to the effects. The Foundation purpose climate protection usually goes hand in hand with the other Foundation purposes of the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation, in the promotion of solar plants or the small hydropower plant on Ijdwi, Congo, for example.

With the Burning Hearts, TOOLS FOR LIFE supports people without access to electric light. The solar lamps developed by TOOLS FOR LIFE, which are about the size of a hand and have an integrated power bank, have already been distributed in four countries in Africa. The solar lamps are offered for sale in Germany and Austria. 100 percent of the proceeds goes toward the projects of the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation.

In total, projects worldwide were supported again this year with a cumulative funding amount of EUR 93,360 from donations and other income. This has made a lasting improvement to the lives of many people. This would not have been possible without the help of you, our supporters! We and the whole team of the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation thank you for your commitment.



Dr. Helmut Rothenberger
Foundation Founder



Dr. Sandra Rothenberger
Managing Director

Our successes in 2021

We

- helped 80,045 people in 8 countries (including Germany) with
- 13 projects,
- provided people with access to health care,
- access to fresh water,
- educated on children's and women's rights,
- enabled children to go to school and
- provided people with sustainable energy.

Who we are

The TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation was established by the Rothenberger family in 2008. The projects are realized together with a partner network that has been built up over years and continue to be accompanied after their completion. The projects supported are designed to bring a sustainable improvement in living conditions and permanence. The motto "Helping people to help themselves" guides the Foundation's work.

"In addition to water scarcity, energy and education issues, the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation recognizes that climate change is very real indeed. It is happening right now and is the most urgent threat to our entire species. We need to work together on this and stop procrastinating. This is why we need to put this issue on our agenda!" said Foundation founder Dr. Helmut Rothenberger in explaining the inclusion of climate protection in the Foundation's purpose.

Management

Dr. Sandra Rothenberger

Honorary Board

Dr. Helmut Rothenberger

Silvia Rothenberger

Dr. Sandra Rothenberger

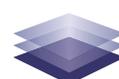
Dr. Sabine Rothenberger

Team

Marion Mitchell

Felix Gottschlich

Alexandru Zettl



“Helping to Connect!” – our four focal points

The United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda in 2015. The Agenda contains 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) for social, economic and environmentally sustainable development. The 17 goals are universal, meaning they apply to all member states of the United Nations. They range from eradicating global hunger to strengthening sustainable consumption and production to climate action. All stakeholders are called upon to contribute to achieving the goals. It is also important for the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation to make a contribution.



Through our project work, we pursue sustainability line 4 (Quality Education), 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation), 7 (Renewable Energy) and 13 (Climate Protection).

Below you will find a selection of the projects supported by TOOLS FOR LIFE as well as further examples of our Foundation’s work. Detailed information on the individual projects and the Foundation’s work can be found at: www.toolsforlife.de

WASH (Water, Sanitation, Hygiene)



2 billion people lack safe drinking water, 3.6 billion safe sanitation, and 2.3 billion basic hygiene. One in three people worldwide still has no way to wash their hands with soap and water, making them particularly vulnerable to COVID-19. The world is still a long way from achieving United Nations Goal 6, however, the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation is attempting to make a targeted contribution to improvement through the following projects.

In Namaouté, Togo, a pump well was built to provide clean drinking water to the village’s approximately 2,100 inhabitants, as well as to combat water shortages in the village in the long term and reduce the related spread of diarrheal diseases and other nasty illnesses. Namaouté consists of two parts of the village that are about 5 km apart. The only clean water source for all villagers is located at the other end of one part of the village. Thus, the inhabitants have to walk up to 5 km to fetch water. Otherwise, in the dry season, women and children walk the long distance several times a day to get water. In the rainy season, on the other hand, they drink polluted rainwater or water from draw wells. These draw wells dry out quickly, however, as soon as the rainy season is over. Thanks to the new well, the inhabitants no longer have to walk the long distances. The project was implemented in close cooperation with our project partner “Ossara e.V.”

An existing well in Bayangam, Cameroon, has been regenerated and optimized. This well is located at a technical high school and will supply around 1,000 students with sufficient water in the future. The system was cleaned with a special cleaning agent, the pump was replaced, a new control system for the pump was installed and new pipes were laid. All of these steps were carried out together with the students of the technical high school to ensure knowledge transfer and sustainability. The project was implemented in cooperation with our project partner “Technik ohne Grenzen e.V.”



Energy



Despite significant progress to improve access to electricity over the past 10 years, the world is still unable to provide affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all. Clean and sustainable energy should be at the heart of responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and efforts to combat climate change. Over 759 million people lack access to electricity, 75 percent of whom live in Africa. Our energy projects are helping to meet the United Nations 7th Sustainable Development Goal of providing more people with a sustainable source of electricity.

In the rainforest in Talamanca, Costa Rica, access to clean, safe and independent solar energy was provided for 213 indigenous extended families in 10 remote mountain villages by our partner organization LOVE FOR LIFE. Some villagers were trained as solar technicians to ensure a stable power grid. Due to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the project had been delayed and the last three villages could not be equipped with solar systems until 2021. TOOLS FOR LIFE supported this with an additional EUR 5,000.



In the Vicariate of Inirida, a remote Amazon region in Colombia, TOOLS FOR LIFE supported the construction of a “Power Tower” to supply a school with environmentally friendly solar power. The project was carried out by our partner organization “Adveniat. e.V.,” which would love to be able to build more solar power plants to help about 1,500 children aged 5–18 years. Our project could not be completed until June 2021 due to restrictions in shipping.



© Adveniat e.V.



Education

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on schooling is a “generational disaster.” The school closures caused by the pandemic have had a devastating impact on children’s learning and well-being. Hundreds of millions of children and adolescents around the world are behind in learning, with long-term consequences. One year after the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, two-thirds of students worldwide are still affected by full or partial school closures. For those children who are unable to learn from a distance, there is an increased risk in many countries of never being able to return to school, as well as being forced into child marriage or child labor. In light of this development, TOOLS FOR LIFE is working to give more people access to education through the following projects:

In the region of Mtae, Tanzania, 20 villagers were trained to be water engineers in a three-day training course so that they can independently take care of the maintenance of the water facilities there in the future. The project was financed by the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation and planned and implemented in cooperation with the “Mtae Water Users Association” and our partner organization “weltweit e.V.”

Battling violence against children is a national goal in Tanzania, but realizing children’s rights remains a big problem. Physical, psychological and sexual violence against children has a high prevalence, both in schools and at home. In the project that our partner organization PROBONO is working on, teachers, students, school administrators and parents are educated and trained on the topic of children’s rights and protecting children. In addition, child protection concepts are developed and child rights clubs are founded at schools in order to protect children more effectively. The goal is also to establish a functioning support system for victims of violence and abuse.



© PROBONO e.V.

Our partner organization VIVA CON AGUA has designed a game in which users can learn more about the topics of WASH and their sustainability and be educated. The game increases the level of knowledge of the target groups and at the same time it serves as team building. It is intended for industry experts, but also for non-experts in the field. It was designed for Germany, Austria, Switzerland, South Africa and Uganda.

Project trip to Senegal

In October 2021, Felix Gottschlich, Project Manager at the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation, was able to participate in a project trip for the first time. Together with members of the partner organization “Wasser für Senegal e.V.” he traveled to the Thies region in Senegal for 10 days to visit completed projects and to obtain answers to open questions in the village of Mbafaye regarding a project whose construction is scheduled to begin in 2022.

The highlights of the trip included the visits to the projects in Pallo and Ngollar. Construction of a deep well with a solar pump and a water tower was started in Pallo in 2016. Since completion of the project in 2017, the village of Pallo and 7 surrounding villages have been supplied with clean water all year round. In addition to inspecting the facility, our project manager also visited some of the surrounding villages to talk with residents and learn how their lives have improved as a result of the deep well and water tower.

In Ngollar, the construction of an administration building, a well with a water tower and the renovation of the elementary school started at the end of 2020. Felix was warmly welcomed by the children and guided across the school grounds by the principal. After his visit, a garden irrigation system with drip irrigation was built around the well. The students and the village of Ngollar can use the fields to grow food outside the rainy season. One month later, the founder of the foundation, Dr. Helmut Rothenberger, and the Managing Director of the foundation, Dr. Sandra Rothenberger, were able to officially inaugurate the school grounds.



By visiting Mbafe, Felix was able to convince himself of the necessity of a new school for the children of the surrounding villages. At the moment, the students have to learn in dilapidated huts, which are also used as market halls. For the new school, the district administrator not only pledged her support, but also made five hectares of land available. The village elders, parents and students also announced their support and were full of joy that a new school would soon be built. The former principal, who had initiated the project, and the current principal are absolutely convinced of their students and are happy that they will soon have a better learning environment. Because they also know that education is the key to a better future.



© Wasser für Senegal e.V.



© Wasser für Senegal e.V.

Winner of the HERO Award 2021 – KinderEngel RheinMain e.V.



The HERO Award, the award for our heroes, honors people and organizations that stand up for people and against grievances in everyday life. These are suggested by employees of the ROTHENBERGER Group. The decision on who receives the HERO Award is made by the Foundation's Board of Directors.

The winner of the HERO Award 2021 is the association "KinderEngel RheinMain e.V." This was founded in April 2020 and is committed to supporting children and young people with serious or life-shortening illnesses and their families in order to make their daily lives a little easier.

Our HERO will receive the proceeds from our fundraising campaign "Donations instead of gifts" as prize money. The association will present the project as part of our "HERO Day" in June 2022.

Burning Hearts – A Heart for Children Campaign



The sale of our Burning Hearts has received a lot of positive feedback and all proceeds through the end of April 2021 were donated to "BILD hilft e.V. – Ein Herz für Kinder." Here, we managed to raise the proud sum of EUR 8,500!

Any further proceeds from the Burning Hearts will now flow 100 percent into our projects. Further information about the Burning Hearts can be found on our homepage: www.toolsforlife-foundation.com



“Key Social Indicators” (KSI)

The TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation managed to collect monetary donations amounting to EUR 204,496.71 in 2021. Other income, generated from the sale of Burning Hearts, for example, amounted to EUR 13,063.45. Donations in kind amounted to EUR 74,631.29. The amount results from the culminated emergency aid provided after the floods in Rhineland-Palatinate and North Rhine-Westphalia in July 2021.

Source of funds in 2021

Monetary donations	EUR	175,835.12
Other income	EUR	13,063.45
Reserves from 2020	EUR	39,727.00
Total available funds	EUR	228,625.57

Use of funds in 2021

Sustainability Goal 6 (WASH)	EUR	14,358.00
Sustainability Goal 4 (Education)	EUR	43,500.00
Sustainability Goal 7 (Sustainable Energy)	EUR	10,000.00
HERO award ceremony	EUR	12,070.00
Corona emergency aid	EUR	5,432.00
Flood emergency aid	EUR	8,000.00
Donations in kind worth	EUR	74,631.29
Administrative expenses	EUR	0.00 <small>(we guarantee this!)</small>
Total funds spent	EUR	167,991.29

Reliability and Transparency

The TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation undergoes an annual review by the Sanftenberg & Kaul tax consultant firm. The audit of our annual results has not led to any concerns. The annual results comply with the legal regulations as set by the non-profit tax code. Donations to the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation are tax deductible.

The TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation has been a signatory of the Civil Society Initiative for Transparency since December 2019, thereby expressing its commitment to transparency towards its donors and supporters.

The TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation has been a member of the Association of German Foundations since June 2021. As a member, the TOOLS FOR LIFE Foundation is committed to the principles of good foundation practice. The principles are intended to serve as a source of orientation for foundation bodies. In particular, they are intended to raise awareness of all parties involved for the avoidance of conflicts of interest, for appropriate transparency in the realization of purposes, and for the efficiency of the use of funds.



Mitglied im



We thank our partners!



Imprint

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