

ONE ACTION

EMPOWERMENT FOR SUSTAINABLE SOLUTIONS

ANNUAL REPORT

2013





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EDITORIAL

Dear readers, with OneAction's second year already coming to an end, we are glad to announce that our association is blossoming, and that the road ahead is filled with great perspectives. During the eventful year of 2013, OneAction has considerably matured in several aspects, as follows.

First and foremost, our projects have made significant progress both in Asia and South America, where our efforts are now bearing fruit. In Ecuador, amongst other activities, we have launched innovative initiatives to support an educational and environmental institute with over 600 students in reducing their costs and generating their own funds. This self-financing project will allow them to cover their employee costs and to continue bringing about positive change in their community. Because this partnership perfectly embodies our values, we plan on inspiring ourselves from this model as we develop more projects and grow as an association. From a financial perspective, we have received significantly more contributions, are funding more ambitious projects and are multiplying our activities, while making sure to proceed step by step without rushing, to maintain the following clear objective: to help initiatives that positively change their socio-economic and environmental context, to ensure their sustainability, and disseminate them. From a structural point of view, OneAction has also grown: we have hired a new full-time employee, sent several volunteers abroad, and set up an Advisory Board with experienced individuals.

In order to continue on this successful path, we wish to set ourselves new ambitious objectives for 2014. We also hope to continue increasing our budget and to ensure our sustainability by laying the groundwork for our first social business. OneAction lives, acts and thrives!

Jan Isler, Director





ONEACTION AT A GLANCE

OneAction was born in December 2011 as an independent, apolitical and non-profit association based in Geneva, Switzerland.

Our mission is to empower individuals and communities to become more autonomous and to adopt sustainable solutions. To do so, we support and develop projects with a strong social and environmental impact, while introducing self-financing mechanisms that guarantee their sustainability.

In particular, we work with renewable energies, sustainable agriculture, social entrepreneurship and holistic education, encouraging learning by experience. In our projects outside of Switzerland, we collaborate with local trustworthy partners. To this date, we are active in Switzerland, South America and South Asia, in countries where we dispose of in-depth social, political and environmental knowledge as well as a solid network.

OUR PROJECTS

With funds allocated in 2013 and the project category

SOUTH AMERICA



INEPE students



INEPE greenhouses



Holistic education, Quito, Ecuador

CHF 85,269 - New Tools for New Perspectives

On the heights of Quito, OneAction is collaborating with the INEPE, the Institute of Research, Education and Public Promotion of Ecuador. The INEPE hosts 600 students 0 to 18 years old, most of them strongly affected by poverty. The Institute's internationally recognized education model revolves around a holistic approach to education, which focuses on the valuing and empowerment of students, rather than merely theoretical knowledge. Through a wide array of activities, ranging from arts to sustainable agriculture and reforestation, the Institute wishes to stimulate their students' creativity and to encourage them to become conscious of their being, of their role, and of the choices available to them. As the INEPE was confronted with financial difficulties, OneAction decided to join their team in 2012 with the objective of creating self-financing projects aimed at covering a major part of their operating costs. In seeking to bring about sustainable solutions for the Institute, OneAction began developing the school's organic garden in 2013. Specifically, we organized and financed the construction of an agricultural shack and

built a new greenhouse in the garden. Moreover, we helped stabilize teachers' salaries and started the complete renovation of the school's refectory. In addition, thanks to our *Smart Actions by Kids for Kids* project, we launched an awareness-raising activity and a letter exchange programme between 140 students from the INEPE, and students from the International School in Geneva. In 2014, OneAction plans to continue increasing the INEPE's food production in order to reduce the percentage of food purchases from stores, and to generate profits by selling extra produce on the local market. Our objective to generate new revenues is not only limited to the organic garden: we will also support the development of the Institute's teacher-training programme in partnership with the National Polytechnic School of Quito, in hopes to generate funds for the school.

Ecotourism in the Amazon, Pastaza, Ecuador

CHF 5,486 - Keep it Green

OneAction is still working to empower communities in the Ecuadorian Amazon to become more autonomous by offering them sustainable alternatives. In partnership with Vitalideas, an Ecuadorian organization, the actions of which are focused on the conservation of natural resources, OneAction supports the community of Cajabamba II, threatened by increasing deforestation linked to the logging industry, by developing their

Construction of the community center during OneAction's visit



ecotourism and reforestation activities. In 2013, we began the construction of a community centre, which will serve both as an ecotourist welcome centre and a restaurant, which will offer local organic dishes. Furthermore, this new space will be used to hold community meetings and training courses, in order to encourage the creation of income-generating activities and environmental initiatives. After engineers conducted an initial land study, multiple families became involved in the construction process, which will end in 2014.

Reforestation in Northern Ecuador



Reforestation Northern Ecuador

CHF 3,230 - Keep it Green

Since 2012, OneAction supports reforestation activities in Northern Ecuador, at the heart of one of the ten most biodiverse ecosystems in the world. In order to counter the devastating effects of deforestation and unsustainable agriculture in the region, such as desertification and extreme nutrient loss in soils, OneAction is collaborating with CanopyCo, an Ecuadorian organization, to reforest abandoned farmlands. Throughout

2013, thanks to various campaigns, we offered any interested individual or organism, the possibility to plant trees. By committing to these efforts, they contributed to protecting biodiversity, replenishing aquifers and creating jobs for the locals who directly participate in the project. OneAction is now exploring ways to help this project become financially autonomous. In particular, we have started contacting potential commercial partners that could participate in the project while sensitizing consumers to the importance of reforestation.



ASIA

Bodh Gaya, Bihar, India

CHF 22,319 - New Tools for New Perspectives

In order to improve access to education and to broaden the perspectives of children from lower castes in Bihar, one of the poorest, most populated and most conservative States in India, OneAction has been collaborating with the Gyan Niketan Charitable Trust, which offers free education to almost 300 students in its school in Durgapur.

To guarantee the children's wellbeing, OneAction has been striving to optimize the school's infrastructure and management since 2012. Specifically, we have begun the second year of our *One Meal a Day* project, where we are committed to providing one nutritious and balanced meal to the 300 school students, in order to fight against malnutrition. Along with the meals, the students are sensitized to basic hygiene practices and waste management. Nothing is left to waste, since the water of the cooked rice and any last leftovers are used to feed the cattle. Other initiatives led by OneAction include the development of the garden around the school with the students' participation, and the planning of various awareness-



raising workshops on social and environmental issues, with the help of volunteers. To ensure the project's financial sustainability, OneAction plans to reduce the school's operational costs, for instance by installing solar cookers to replace gas cookers. Furthermore, we are building partnerships with restaurants that have been offering the possibility to their clients to help provide meals to the school children.

Solar training in Buknari, Bihar, India

New Tools for New Perspectives

OneAction wishes to provide solar energy as a catalyst to improving the living conditions of the community of Buknari, an extremely remote poverty-ridden village in northern India without electricity nor proper health nor educational infrastructure.

Having met with the community members several times, OneAction is exploring the idea of setting up a livelihood centre to promote self-sufficiency and active community participation. The centre would function as an educational platform, as well as a space to discuss public issues and to raise awareness. Through trainings within the centre, we wish to encourage the development of solar energy in the village, in order to provide clean, safe, cheap and stronger lighting and electricity, and to reduce the risk of violence after dark. Over the long term, this project would become self-sufficient, and could contribute to accelerating the use of renewable energy and other sustainable technologies in the region. During the

conception phase, we created partnerships with local NGOs, and undertook research on solar energy training, potential income-generating activities adapted to local conditions and various methods of bioconstruction. We will continue to develop the project in 2014.

ONEACTION PLATFORM

Smart Actions by Kids for Kids Peru

Empowerment

In 2013, OneAction inaugurated its platform for personal initiatives with a project in Peru. We helped Mariana Montes Andrade, an educational specialist, export our model outside of Europe for the first time, and set up her own project: *Smart Actions by Kids for Kids Peru*. More specifically, Mariana organized an intercultural exchange between a private school and a Shipibo migrant school in Lima to encourage dialogue, student participation and solidarity. Her project consisted of various activities, including an auction with photographs taken by students. The funds raised thanks to these initiatives will go to the creation of a library for the migrant school.



Smart Actions by Kids for Kids in Lima





Ho Gui hamlet inhabitants

Ho Gui, Ca Mau, Vietnam

CHF 7,289 CHF - Empowerment

After studying a well researched project proposal from a philanthropy specialist, OneAction decided to partner with the City of Geneva and the Swiss Red Cross to complete a series of projects led by the latter during several years in a fishermen hamlet in the Mekong Delta. The project's goal was to connect two parts of the hamlet by building a 400 m cemented path. This initiative improved a section of the previously dirt trail that became impassable during the rainy season, strongly affecting the population's socio-economic situation.

SWITZERLAND

Smart Actions by Kids for Kids

Empowerment

In 2013, OneAction continued to develop its *Smart Actions by Kids for Kids* project in several schools, by running various awareness and fund-raising activities on social and environmental issues. In March, Cartigny's primary school renewed its solidarity with our *One Meal a Day* project by organizing a sponsored spelling bee. Two months later, the primary

school of Aire-la-Ville joined the initiative to discover and support the same project. Moreover, we launched a partnership with the International School of Geneva, combining interactive presentations and fund-raising activities, as well as the letter exchange programme mentioned previously. Abroad, the British School in the Netherlands organized three awareness and fund-raising activities for OneAction.

Crowdfunding

In order to cover the remaining 20% of our 2013 budget for our *One Meal a Day* project in Bodh Gaya, India, we launched our first crowdfunding initiative and managed to raise over USD 3,000.

Events

In 2013, OneAction participated in several events, which led to creating valuable ties with potential partners. Specifically, OneAction met with Bunker Roy, founder of the Barefoot College, as well as Matthieu Ricard, a French Buddhist monk and founder of the Karuna Schechen NGO. Since then, we have been looking into ways of collaborating with these two actors on various projects in India. Furthermore, OneAction has also participated in a number of events run by associations, such as ActNOW!, a forum organized by Euforia at the University of Lausanne, with the objective of encouraging youth to become actors of change.

Music festival in Geneva



Meeting chief Raoni



Meeting Bunker Roy



FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET (CHF)	2013	2012
ASSETS		
Current assets	2,969	21,072
<i>Current account</i>	1,041	20,185
<i>Prepaid expenses</i>	1,928	887
TOTAL	2,969	21,072
LIABILITIES		
Short-term liabilities	3,364	115
<i>Other creditors</i>	2,827	31
<i>Deferred income</i>	300	0
<i>Accrued liabilities</i>	237	84
Equity	(395)	20,957
<i>Retained earnings</i>	20,957	0
<i>Profit</i>	(21,352)	20,957
TOTAL	2,969	21,072
OPERATING STATEMENT (CHF)	2013	2012
REVENUE		
Earmarked revenues	151,271	25,116
<i>New Tools for New Perspectives projects</i>	126,428	25,116
<i>Keep it Green projects</i>	8,843	0
<i>Empowerment projects</i>	16,000	0
Non-earmarked revenues	81,975	76,638
<i>Membership fees</i>	1,970	1,980
<i>Donations</i>	34,570	59,927
<i>Self-financing projects</i>	45,435	14,731
TOTAL	233,246	101,754

EXPENSES

Expenses related to projects (66%)	(167,730)	(44,901)
<i>New Tools for New Perspectives projects</i>	(107,757)	(21,780)
<i>Keep it Green projects</i>	(8,716)	(6,414)
<i>Empowerment projects</i>	(7,289)	0
<i>Fund-raising projects</i>	(18,468)	(16,707)
<i>Wages related to field work</i>	(25,500)	0
Expenses related to the headquarters (34%)	(86,867)	(35,896)
<i>Wages</i>	(78,914)	(32,051)
<i>Operating costs</i>	(7,822)	(3,686)
<i>Financial costs</i>	(131)	(158)
TOTAL	(254,597)	(80,797)
PROFIT	(21,352)	20,957

OUR PARTNERS

OneAction wishes to thank all of its partners who have offered their support throughout the year. These include, the Oak Foundation, Covallence Foundation, the City of Geneva, the Commune of Confignon, the XWare, Prodemolition and 2Gik companies, as well as other organizations that wish to remain anonymous. We have also been supported by a large number of individuals. Among them, we would especially like to thank Dr. Peter Forstmoser, a distinguished jurist and entrepreneur who has been one of the key players in OneAction's growth. We also extend our warmest thanks to our reliable partners in the field, namely Gyan Niketan Charitable Trust and Samarpan Foundation in India; the INEPE, CanopyCo and Vitalideas in Ecuador; and the Red Cross in Vietnam. Finally, we would like to express our sincere gratitude to the students and teachers from the Cartigny and Aire-la-Ville primary schools, the British School of The Hague and the International School of Geneva for their contribution to our *Smart Actions by Kids for Kids* project.

ONE ACTION

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BECOME A MEMBER

If you wish to become a member of OneAction, please address a letter to the Association's headquarters or send us an email in which you express your desire to join us. Make sure to include your postal address.

PARTICIPATE

You can help OneAction in Switzerland or abroad as a volunteer or by submitting your own project. More information is available on our website: <http://oneaction.ch/participate/>

