

MISSION

REPORT

2012



CONSERVATION OF
NATURAL RESOURCES
AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



MISSION
REPORT

Conservation of natural resources and sustainable development



OUR VISION

*A future in which ecology,
economy and equity
come together to reconcile
the needs of humans
and the environment*



OUR MISSION

To contribute to preserving ecosystems and supporting development through professionalism, innovation and participation



Letter from the President

While Milan is getting ready for the Expo, the term “biodiversity” is becoming part of everyday speech. However, for most people, biodiversity remains an abstract concept, hardly related to daily life. Yet ecosystems, pillars of biodiversity, are the essential foundation of our material life, with all its needs of food, water, air and energy. Moreover, ecosystems are beneficial for our spiritual life: through the contact with nature we can rediscover the state of peace subtracted by the “waste-economy”. The scientific community has informed us about a constant reduction of biodiversity in Europe as well as in the countries of the South of the world. For Istituto Oikos, the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystems is the fundamental principle on which the mission and its operational capability are based. Therefore, in 2012, we dedicated a substantial portion of our work promoting the outreach on biodiversity and the risks it is facing, as well as to encourage administrators and individuals to make sustainable decisions and to promote conservation field actions.

We collected data on biodiversity in protected areas of the Lombardy Region in Italy, in the coastal area of Rakhine and the Lampi Marine Park in Myanmar, in the Quirimbas Park in Mozambique and in the natural system of Mount Meru in Tanzania. We worked with local administrations to strategically insert the conservation of natural systems within regional planning, to promote the realization of natural corridors that interconnect protected areas and in Italy, to strengthen the Natura 2000 network. We also supported rural communities of the South of the world in increasing and improving the management of their goods, especially in the coastal areas, where natural resources represent 80% of family income. In Myanmar, where in the last decades the government exercised a strong control on the use of the natural resources often at the expense of local people interests, thanks to the recent political changes we succeeded in finalizing the registration of 4 community forests, guaranteeing the local community the right to use these territories over the next 30 years. In Tanzania we established and support Water Use Associations and Water Committees with the aim of strengthening the competency of local communities in formally acquiring the rights to water use and in managing them adequately and efficiently.

However, our commitment and our vision went even farther. Through practical experiences that focus on local communities, their rights and economic interests, we promoted the awareness that nature is the main resource we can use to face the hardest challenges: climate change, poverty and food insecurity. In Myanmar and in Tanzania, we built fruit and vegetable gardens in schools, which allowed us to promote the principles of a sustainable agriculture that preserves the fertility of the soil, and we demonstrated the impact of a healthy diet on individual well-being. In Myanmar we supported women in the construction of nurseries that produced and sold plants of economic interest, such as the *Aquilaria*, as well as species necessary for reforestation operations in the forest based communities. In Mozambique and in Tanzania we supplied local groups and cooperatives with the necessary tools to provide services to visitors. Everything with one intention: to prove how well-preserved natural habitats, as well as agricultural ecosystems and wetlands, can lead to immediate and concrete benefits, and at the same time, how they can have a direct and tangible impact on the quality and quantity of food and water available. We want to show how the forests and wetlands of Mount Meru purify and preserve water for everyone in the same manner as the mangrove forests and the barrier reefs of the coastal areas of Myanmar and Mozambique guarantee a considerable fish stock and drastically reduce the extreme climatic events that strike local communities and cultivated fields.

Until today nature has done all this for us for free. If well nourished, well preserved and protected, it will continue to do so. There may still be the possibility of envisioning a sustainable world. Maybe, if there were a global consensus, we could reclaim the landscape, safeguard forests and climate, manage water resources, produce enough renewable energy and adequately feed the nine billion people that will soon crowd our planet. According to the World Watch Institute there are no technical nor physical obstacles. All we need to do is want it. However, the global indifference towards what economists call “externality” of the production of wealth, meaning the use of natural resources, has given way to an environmental debt that is growing on the shoulders of all of us. The time to pay this debt with the earth will arrive soon, and contrary to what happens in the economic and financial world, it will be impossible not to honor it.

The President and General Manager

Rossella Rossi



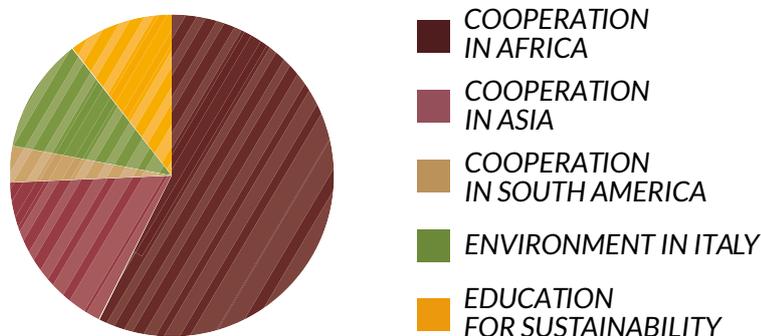
About us

Istituto Oikos is a non-profit, non-religious and independent organization. It was founded in Milan in 1996. We work in Europe and in developing countries to safeguard biodiversity. We promote a responsible management of natural resources and the widespread adoption of more-sustainable lifestyles as tools for social and economic development and for fighting poverty.

Macro-areas of intervention: international cooperation for development, education for sustainability, environmental conservation Italy.

Implemented projects (1996 - 2012): 209 projects throughout Italy, Europe and 11 countries across Asia, Africa and South America.

Between 1996 and 2012 more than three quarters of our resources have been invested in international cooperation projects. More than half of our funds have been dedicated to development projects in Africa.



Operational Structure



Headquarters: Milan, Italy

Local Offices: Arusha (Tanzania) and Yangon (Myanmar)

Staff: 100 staff members in 2012.

In Italy: 4 employees, 1 intern, 11 project contractors, 10 occasional contractors and 6 consultants. In Myanmar: 3 expatriate employees, 13 local employees. In Tanzania: 9 expatriate employees and 41 local employees. In Mozambique: 1 expatriate employee. In Brazil: 1 expatriate employee.

Recognition: Recognized association (Varese Prefecture); Onlus by the law 760/97; declared suitable for International Cooperation by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Law 49 in 1987).

Membership: Association of the Italian NGOs; CoLomba (Association of NGOs from the Lombardy region); EnergyLab; European Commission Campaign "Sustainable Energy for Europe"; Italian Coalition for the Fight Against Poverty; World Conservation Union (IUCN)

Our history



Founded by a group of naturalists and biologists, Istituto Oikos since the beginning specialized in the environment, working on conservation and management of the Alpine flora and fauna, and establishing a solid collaboration with public institutions and Italian universities.

From 1997, the association operates in the north of Tanzania, in Africa, with the aim of contributing to the definition of a sustainable development strategy in areas of particular environmental interest, in collaboration with local institutions and populations.

The ongoing dialogue with the people benefiting from the projects and the experience in eastern Africa have brought Istituto Oikos to develop a systematic and interdisciplinary approach, based on the idea that in rural areas socio-economic development and the fight against poverty are possible starting from a sustainable and participatory management of natural resources.

Istituto Oikos has thus broadened its horizons, moving from the safeguard of the environment on to the promotion of integrated development programs which include: analysis and participated planning of natural resources, awareness raising and educational programs, projects intended to strengthen economic independence of disadvantaged communities and to empower women and forms of collaboration and partnerships among organizations of the North and South of the world.

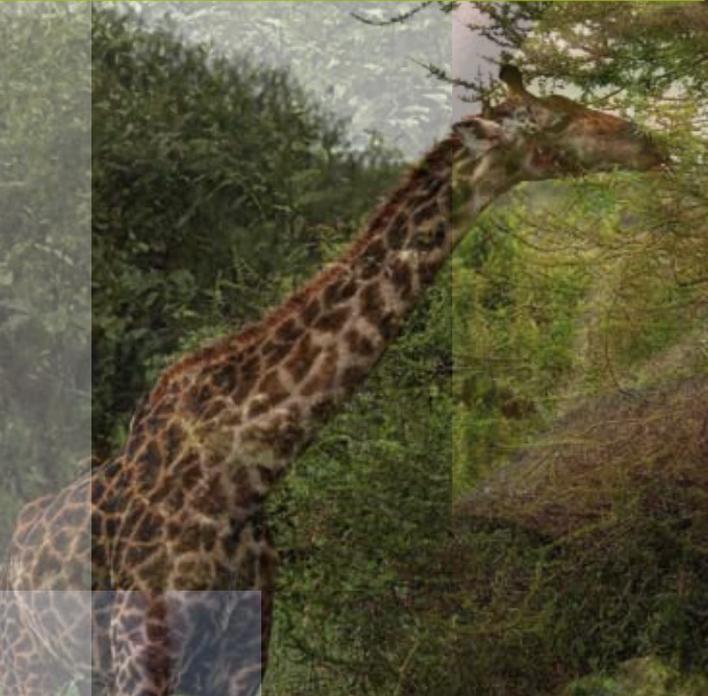
Natural
resources

Climate
and energy

Education for
sustainability

Food
security

Local
economy and
environment



How we work

We believe that a careful and sustainable management of the “natural capital” is the basis for any development process.

In the rural areas of the South of the world, poverty and inappropriate and unsustainable management of natural resources are directly related.

In the North of the world, the lack of attention towards the health of the environment is putting at risk the future of next generations and of our planet.

Regional plans, wildlife monitoring, responsible tourism programs, aqueducts and photovoltaic plants: all our interventions share one common objective: **to make city dwellers, rural communities and public institutions more aware of the key importance of environmental protection.**

We operate through integrated long-term programs. We base our actions on a deep understanding of local environmental and social contexts, on solid and enduring partnerships and on the possibility of monitoring project success and sustainability in the long term.

Our work can be divided in three stages:

1. **The fact-finding stage**, during which we acquire the basic elements needed to develop our interventions with the local communities;
2. **The operational stage**, involving a number of investments and concrete actions;
3. **The analysis stage**, during which we critically analyze the results and start the promulgation of good practices.

We mainly work in **fragile natural environments which are exposed to climate change and to a growing, poorly controlled, anthropic pressure** and which, at the same time, are extremely valuable from an ecological point of view, due to their rich biodiversity and to the services that the ecosystems offer in terms of climate stabilization, water drainage and supply of raw materials.

In such contexts, thanks to **the collaboration with the local population**, and the cooperation with local, national and international institutions and organizations, we develop projects based on **innovation** and experimentation as well as on **concrete, sustainable actions, scientific rigor** and the principles of **equity, solidarity and intercultural respect**.

Conservation of biodiversity and sustainable development in Italy and around the world: the 5 key sectors.

| NATURAL RESOURCES | CLIMATE AND ENERGY | EDUCATING FOR SUSTAINABILITY | FOOD SECURITY | LOCAL ECONOMY AND ENVIRONMENT |
|---|---|--|--|---|
| Knowing, planning and acting to protect the environment and biodiversity. | Protecting the climate and encouraging the transition towards renewable energies. | Promoting sustainable behavior among the citizens in the North and South of the world. | Improving land management to encourage food production and safeguard the population. | Promoting economic initiatives in the environmental sector. |



**INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION
EDUCATION FOR
SUSTAINABILITY
ENVIRONMENTAL
CONSERVATION
IN ITALY**

Our performance

In 2012 we worked on 27 different projects, 13 of which were international cooperation projects (6 in Tanzania, 6 in Myanmar, 1 in Mozambique); 6 projects were addressed to the safeguard of the environment in Italy, and 8 to the education for sustainability, involving partners in Switzerland, in 5 countries of the European Union (Portugal, Poland, Spain, United Kingdom, Germany) and in 7 developing countries (Laos, Cambodia, Tanzania, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Mozambique and Kenya).

Sustainable *management*
of natural resources

Climate and energy

Education for sustainability

Food *security*

Local *economy*
and environment

International cooperation

Oikos considers cooperation for development to be closely related to the safeguard of natural resources, biodiversity and ecosystems.

A healthy environment can effectively ensure food security and access to water sources, as well as increase “resilience”, meaning the ability to respond appropriately to unexpected events, such as those caused by climate changes.

We work mainly in rural areas, within or in the immediate vicinity of protected areas, where natural environments are particularly fragile and their protection is endangered by inadequate and unsustainable practices and behaviors.

We develop all our programs in close collaboration with the beneficiaries of the projects, in respect of local values and traditions.

In order to ensure the long-term sustainability of our interventions we always invest in professional training and education, involving all stakeholders, from children to parents, from women to officers of the local authorities and representatives of the civil society.



Tanzania

We have been working in Northern Tanzania since 1997, within Tarangire-Manyara and Meru-Kilimanjaro natural systems.

Since 2002 we are particularly concentrated on the area of Mount Meru, a dormant volcano covered with a dense forest that has the key role of maintaining the climatic balance and supplying water to roughly 500,000 people living in the area.

The Meru farmers and the Maasai shepherds who live in this area, base their survival on the use of natural resources. They are finding it increasingly difficult to find a balance between the need to satisfy their own demands and that of preserving the natural heritage. For this reason we have invested our efforts in defining, experimenting and promoting strategies and technologies that will assist local communities in using their own resources (water, soil, forests) for productive purposes (agriculture, raising livestock, as well as tourism) in an efficient and sustainable manner throughout time.

We work with an integrated and inclusive approach, that involves:

- **communities**, through the establishment and promotion of new income generating activities in the environmental field (community eco-tourism, renewable energy, organic agriculture, etc.);
- **institutions**, providing the proper innovative, easy to use instruments (land management plans, databases, maps, etc.) and improving strategic services such as water, food security and environmental conservation;
- the **academic world**, promoting cultural exchanges and engaging research centers, local and international universities.

| ONGOING PROJECTS | COUNTRY | MAIN SECTOR | MAIN DONOR | TOTAL BUDGET | MAIN DONOR'S CONTRIBUTION | COST 2012 |
|--|----------|----------------------------------|--|--------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Cultivating the future in schools | Tanzania | Natural resources; food security | Intervita | € 630.570 | € 500.940 | € 138.846 |
| Improving Water and Sanitation access and Hygiene standards to achieve the MDGs in Arusha Region | Tanzania | Natural resources | EuropeAid | € 2.849.160 | € 1.994.412 | € 474.489 |
| Improving Water and Sanitation access and Hygiene standards to achieve the MDGs in Arusha Region | Tanzania | Natural resources | Charity and Defence of Nature Foundation | € 854.748 | € 854.748 | € 195.766 |
| Safe food, save lives | Tanzania | Natural resources; food security | Mediafriends | € 500.000 | € 500.000 | € 323.432 |
| Momella Water project | Tanzania | Natural resources | Charity and Defence of Nature Foundation | € 100.000 | € 100.000 | € 11.387 |
| Malemeu and Nkoasenga water project | Tanzania | Natural resources | Charity and Defence of Nature Foundation | € 166.668 | € 29.400 | € 13.221 |
| Energy installation in schools | Tanzania | Climate and energy | Polish Green Network/Oikos East Africa | € 30.979 | € 4.272 | € 4.271 |

MKURU TRAINING CAMP: AN ECO-VILLAGE MODEL

Our integrated and participated approach, applied with constancy in the north of Tanzania, this year allowed us to reach an important objective: the establishment of the Mkuru Training Camp (MTC).

MTC is a symbol of how Istituto Oikos works: it was created in 2003 as a base camp for cooperation projects and today it is a **center for research, training and education on the promotion of good practices in the management of natural resources**. It is located in the heart of the Maasai steppe and operated by Oikos in collaboration with local institutions and communities.

MTC is a tented camp where knowledge and good practices on water, soil, forest, wildlife and energy management are developed and promoted, with the objective of joining forces at local and international level in the attempt of making the Mkuru area a model for an environmentally sustainable and fair socio-economic development. MTC is open to researchers, tourists, volunteers, students, companies and other organizations. To know more visit: www.mkurutrainingcamp.org



Tanzania

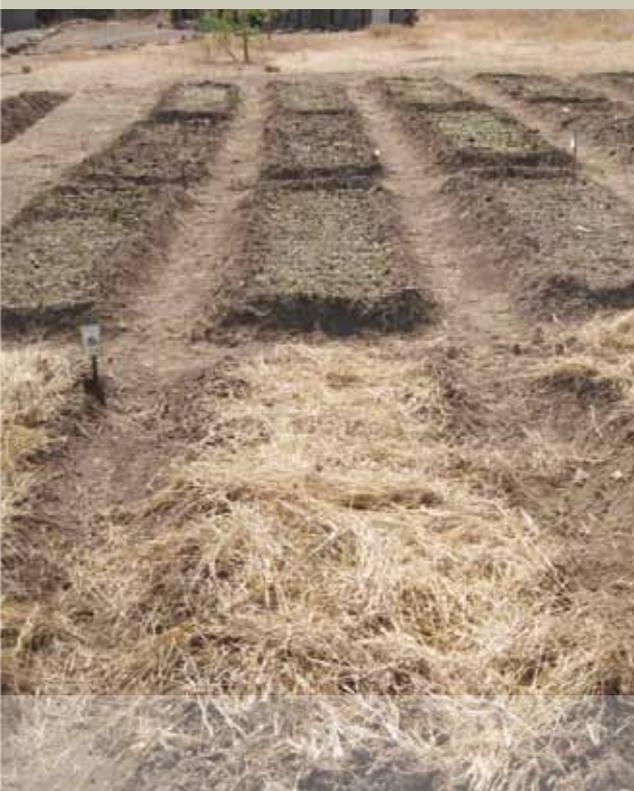
THE FUTURE CULTIVATED IN SCHOOLS

To improve the educational quality and the food security of 8.400 children between the ages of 6 and 14, who live in the Ngarenanyuki and Oldonyosambu wards (Arumeru District, Northern Tanzania), our starting points were the schools. Afflicting 64% of the children in this area, malnutrition is mainly due to bad eating habits and a poor diet which lacks micronutrients. This plague harms the physical and intellectual growth of an entire generation. Guaranteeing a complete meal at the school canteen, improving the school structure and the educational material means giving hope for the future. Thanks to the support of Intervita, the European Union and Mediafriends, we are working to **increase teacher and parent awareness on the importance of a healthy and nutritious diet, creating fruit and vegetable gardens in schools and improving school environments.**

In 2012 we gave way to 18 vegetable gardens in schools and established 13 rain harvesting systems; we built 12 kitchens; installed 11 improved stoves; supplied 14 tables for food preparation; guaranteed energy to 5 schools; built 7 playgrounds in primary schools; built one classroom, one office and 11 VIP latrines; we installed a water filter for fluorine reduction; we assigned 15 scholarships and we distributed materials to improve educational programs (almost 16.000 books; 125 desks; 2 bookcases; one blackboard; 3.500 scholastic material kits and a total of 580 educational tools including maps, dictionaries and atlases).

The training courses we organized involved:

- 141 parents and cooks on the theme of a balanced diet;
- 198 students and parents on sustainable agriculture and on the management of fruit and vegetable gardens in schools;
- 128 people on alternative systems for rain harvesting;
- 130 young men and women on environmental education;
- 24 teachers and 64 students on the use of computers (8 computers were bought for schools);
- all the primary school teachers in an English course;
- 8.534 people, including students, school employees and parents, in an awareness raising campaign on the importance of a balanced diet and on adopting adequate health and hygiene measures.



Tanzania

CLEANER, CLOSER WATER

In the Leguruki and King'ori wards (Arumeru District, north of Tanzania) the local population lives mainly relying on agriculture. The water distribution system, dating back to 1958 and thought to serve less than 15.000 people, is inadequate for the current 50.000 inhabitants, who - especially women and children - are obliged to walk for kilometers to find water in nearby villages.

Thanks to the support of the European Union and of the Charity and Defense of Nature Trust, we are carrying on an ambitious water project that will increase clean water availability by 65% in this area.

The project foresees the construction of a **245 km long aqueduct, that can reach the most remote areas and guarantee an average distance of 500 meters from the closest water distribution point.** After an year and a half from the start of this project, we have completed the first 22 km of the main line and the Nkoasenga distribution line. Now that the works have been completed in the roughest areas, the rest of the construction can continue more rapidly.

A **participated management of this water system** is fundamental to avoid conflicts and guarantee the correct maintenance of the structure. To favor the establishment of worthy mechanisms, we supported the constitution of the MAKILENGA Water Users Association. This association is responsible for the plant's management. It was registered in November 2012 and in 2013 the members will receive training aimed to become gradually independent in the use of the aqueduct.

Furthermore, we are engaged in an **educational outreach campaign on good water and sanitation practices** and in the participated construction of latrines (600 latrines will be built by the end of the project). To guarantee the greatest extension of the campaign's contents we created and trained 17 "school clubs", one per school, in charge of promoting good hygiene practices among schoolmates. The school clubs saw the participation of 770 children and reached out to a total of 3.549 students. The educational messages are presented in the form of theatre representations, concerts, dances and seminars to which classes, teachers and, if possible, families are invited to attend. The same mechanism has been used for villages: 13 groups adequately trained have already reached 667 families with awareness activities.



Mozambique

We arrived in Mozambique in 2010, thanks to the collaboration with the Italian association Muindi Semi di Sorriso, within **The Quirimbas treasure** project, of which we were technical partners.

With the desire to make our competence and experience available to public authorities and Mozambique civil society, we established contacts with many public and private institutions who operate in areas of education, environmental safeguard and sustainable development in the Cabo Delgado Province. In particular, the collaborations with the Instituto Industrial e Comercial di Pemba, the Universidade Catolica de Moçambique di Pemba, the Quirimbas National Park and a few Italian associations present in Pemba, have given origin to the project **Profissão turismo. Vocational training and educational programs to increase employability in the hotel and tourism sector in Ibo and Pemba Districts, Cabo Delgado Province**. This initiative, made possible by the financial support of the European Union, will be launched at the beginning of 2013 and it will allow us to start a 4-year project in the Cabo Delgado region, as well as to open an office in Pemba for the activities coordination.

Tourism in Mozambique is the strategic field which we rely on for giving way to the development of sustainable socio-economic programs. We work in the north of the country, which is characterized by the presence of the Quirimbas National Park, a protected area measuring 750.630 hectares, including a coastal area that is almost completely uncontaminated by man: a mosaic of small islands surrounded by barrier reefs and intricate mangrove forests where over 430 different bird species can be found. About 120.000 people live in the park, mostly along the coastline, and their main sustenance depends largely on the use of natural resources. A sustainable management of the park, promoting and valuing its biodiversity through the development of eco-tourism initiatives, represents a unique opportunity to reconcile the local population's well-being with the safeguard of the natural heritage.

| ONGOING PROJECTS | COUNTRY | MAIN SECTOR | MAIN DONOR | TOTAL BUDGET | MAIN DONOR'S CONTRIBUTION | COST 2012 |
|------------------------|------------|--|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| The Quirimbas treasure | Mozambique | Natural resources; local economy and environment | Muindi and Milan Municipality | € 294.500 | € 49.290* | € 18.562 |

* Project where Istituto Oikos is a partner. The amount concerns the part of the main donor's contribution directly managed by Istituto Oikos.



Myanmar

Myanmar is one of the world's least developed countries, yet it hosts extremely diverse species and habitats. Since its independence in 1948, the country has been economically and politically isolated, a situation that prevented an excessive exploitation of natural resources, as occurs instead in the neighboring countries. After over 60 years of military dictatorship, from 2010, Myanmar has given way to a democratization and reform process, as well as an "open" political view on an international level. Consequently, **the conservation of the environment represents, alongside the economic development, one of the country's greatest challenges.**

We have been operating in Myanmar since 2006. We managed 9 projects regarding the preservation and participated management of natural resources, in collaboration with the Forest Department, local communities, Burmese environmental associations and local, Italian and international universities. This was made possible thanks to the financial support of private and public donors (European Union, Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Lombardy Region, Milan Municipality).

In particular, we work in the **Myeik archipelago and in the Rakhine state**, very remote, almost inaccessible rural areas, characterized by extreme poverty, especially among ethnic minorities. In these areas, due to poor land management, demographic growth has not been accompanied by the development of public services nor by a diversification of the local economy. The increase of competition has thus disadvantaged farmers and fishermen, given their subsistence-based economy, and has caused an alarming deterioration of forest, marine and coastal resources.

| ONGOING PROJECTS | COUNTRY | MAIN SECTOR | MAIN DONOR | TOTAL BUDGET | MAIN DONOR'S CONTRIBUTION | COST 2012 |
|--|---------|--|-------------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Promotion of innovative sustainable development strategies for the Rakhine coastal region | Myanmar | Natural resources | Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs | € 628.130 | € 313.150 | € 142.632 |
| COSMO: Conservation and Sustainable Management of Lampi Marine National Park | Myanmar | Natural resources | Stiftung Drittens Millennium (SDM) | € 625.797 | € 161.508 | € 76.598 |
| Improve knowledge and management of marine and forest resources in Southern Rakhine State | Myanmar | Natural resources | EuropeAid | € 708.747 | € 531.560 | € 96.540 |
| Supporting community fruit and vegetable gardens to increase food security in Southern Rakhine State | Myanmar | Natural resources; food security | Milan Municipality | € 519.830 | € 150.000 | € 54.054 |
| Participative land use management and eco-tourism to fight poverty and to promote sustainable development in the Myeik archipelago | Myanmar | Natural resources; local economy and environment | Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs | € 220.180 | € 150.000 | € 3.807 |
| PLUME Participatory Land-Use Management and Ecotourism in Lampi MNP | Myanmar | Natural resources | Stiftung Drittens Millennium (SDM) | € 427.174 | € 124.250 | € 3.871 |



SAFEGUARDING LOCAL COMMUNITIES AND NATURAL RESOURCES IN THE LAMPI PARK

The Myeik archipelago hosts the Lampi Marine National Park (LMNP) and contains a great diversity of habitats (rain forest, mangroves, coral reefs, sea grass), homing also the ethnic minority of the Moken people or sea gypsies. The natural and cultural heritage of the archipelago is at risk due to increasing illegal activities such as dynamite fishing and poaching. Several migration waves have brought an exponential growth of the island population in the last 15 years, causing environmental decay and a gradual marginalization of the Moken people. Istituto Oikos, the Forest Department and the civil society of Myanmar aim to strengthen conservation and management of natural resources and to work on a sustainable development program able to improve the quality of life of local communities.

In 2012 we activated a joint management of the LMNP with the Forest Department (Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry), to which it followed the construction of a park office and a guesthouse, along with the provision of a boat for transportation between islands and of a supply of technologic and field material. Furthermore, the Forest Department allocated 25 staff members for safeguarding the park, initially almost left to itself. From a scientific point of view, the social and environmental data collected (over 1000 species identified) were organized into a database and a zonation plan for the park was elaborated through a participative approach involving the communities, the authorities and local experts in a series of workshops both on a local and national level. Lastly, environmental education seminars were organized in the villages within the Lampi Park.

TOGETHER AGAINST ENVIRONMENTAL DETERIORATION, IN RAKHINE

Since 2010 we have been working in the Southern region of the Rakhine state, which is characterized by a vast variety of habitats (from coastal mangrove forests to evergreen hill forests) and by numerous native species. In this region, where the “cut and burn” agriculture and the destruction of the mangroves are putting at risk local communities and natural ecosystems, we support the Rakhine Coastal and Conservation Association (RCA), a local group who has spent years working on conservation and environmental education. Through RCA we involve rural communities in a process of identification and implementation of sustainable forest and agricultural practices with the aim of increasing food security, income generation and natural resources conservation.

We have started 4 pilot projects of Community Forestry (149 rural families manage a total of 325 hectares of forest) and we elaborated 4 multiyear management plans. At the same time we followed the registration process of the Community Forestry with the Forest Department, to guarantee local communities their rights regarding the use of the land over the next 30 years.

To promote income-generating activities, on the basis of a market study and considering the primary problems of rural families, we helped 4 groups of women (172 individuals in total) to start off productive community-based activities such as breeding cows and pigs, producing coconut pulp and Aquilaria plants, sought after in this area for the production of agarwood.

As always, environmental education accompanies each activity. We worked to improve the RCA's Environmental Education Center, creating educational pathways and installing a small meteorology station for data collection. We organized meetings in 67 rural villages, which saw over 3.000 participants; we built 3 nurseries for native plant species, where over 45.000 plants were produced; we involved 28 schools in a campaign to promote school gardening, which saw the participation of 240 teachers and 3.240 students.



Environmental conservation in Italy

In Italy we work mainly in Lombardy and Piedmont. Our activities for safeguarding the environment focus on environmental planning and collaborations between institutions, Parks and Provinces to advance conservation strategies that can be applied in different territorial contexts.

The constant synergy with the “Guido Tosi Research Group”, of the Unit for Analysis and Management of Environmental Resources of the Università degli Studi dell’Insubria, strengthens the rigorous scientific method we adopt throughout our projects.

| ONGOING PROJECTS | COUNTRY | MAIN SECTOR | MAIN DONOR | TOTAL BUDGET | MAIN DONOR'S CONTRIBUTION | COST 2012 |
|---|---------|---|-------------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Ibex project | Italy | Natural resources | Bergamo and Sondrio Provinces | € 52.000 | € 52.000 | € 10.395 |
| Conservation and management of the Natura 2000 Network in the Alto Garda Park | Italy | Natural resources; education for sustainability | Alto Garda Park | € 350.000 | € 79.860 | € 34.471 |
| Lomellina heronries fruition plan | Italy | Natural resources | GAL Lomellina | € 33.300 | € 29.970 | € 19.758 |
| Feasibility study for the creation of Local Parks in the corridor between the Grigna Park and the Orobie Park | Italy | Natural resources | CM Valsassina (Cariplo) | € 102.000 | € 35.996 | € 22.587 |
| Baita del Ghigel | Italy | - | Private donors | € 28.230 | € 28.230 | € 6.814 |
| Draft and editing of the SAC plans in the Pavia Province | Italy | Natural resources | Pavia Province | € 116.000 | € 116.000 | € 13.246 |
| Feasibility study to revise the boundaries of protected areas in Ossola Valley (phase 2) | Italy | Natural resources | VCO Province | € 25.620 | € 25.620 | € 8.480 |

2012 results

Environmental conservation in Italy

PUBLICATIONS

In 2012 we worked on the production of two important books that will be published in 2013.

The first is **“The Alpine ibex in Lombardy and throughout the Alps”**, the height of a project that began in 1980 with the Lombardy Region. For this project we worked side by side with different public administrations, and with a careful evaluation of all factors involved, we managed to re-introduce the Alpine ibex in different areas of Lombardy. The volume is a detailed documentation of the efforts made to reach our goal: at the end the 1980's, during the first re-introduction and coordination projects, bringing this mountain goat to have once again a stable presence throughout the Alps of Lombardy appeared as a challenge full of knowledge gaps and critical points. This book is a result of the passion of those people who believed there was a chance this species could find an optimal habitat for survival and reproduction in areas where it had been missing for centuries due to a reckless use of natural resources.

The second volume **“Monitoring Birds and Mammals in Lombardy. Techniques and methods”**, is the result of a series of multi-year projects during which we worked with the Lombardy Region towards standardizing wildlife monitoring methods. This publication, which includes detailed technical guidelines, images and tables, aims to become a manual on all the possible census techniques for the wildlife (birds and mammals) of the Lombardy Alps.

ECOLOGICAL CORRIDORS IN VALSASSINA

Since 2011 we have been working on the Safeguard of the biodiversity in the interconnection areas along the Orobic dorsal project, funded by the Fondazione Cariplo and carried out in partnership with the Mountain Communities of Valsassina, Valvarrone, Val d'Esino and Riviera. The goal is to foster the connection and integration of different areas of key importance in terms of biodiversity, strengthening the local ecological network. The project foresees a feasibility study for the establishment of three Parks of Municipal Interest (PEMI) as means for improving the conservation state of biological diversity in this area of interconnection between the Regional Park of Northern Grigna (Parco Regionale Grigna Settentrionale), the Orobic Valtellinesi and Bergamo Parks and, more in general, the bio-geographic alpine areas.

This year, the effort to gather primary environmental-naturalistic data, socio-economic and cultural information and indications on behalf of the stakeholders has been followed through. Thanks to regional technological systems and models for environmental evaluation, the information collected allowed us to identify areas with greater naturalness and critical elements that interrupt the planned ecological corridors. The technical aspects were combined with a campaign to increase people's awareness on the institution of PEMI as connective elements of the ecological network.



Educating for sustainability

Our current lifestyle is unsustainable. What we need to reach sustainability is to change our model, and this can be done only through educational outreach. Whether we call it educating for sustainability, responsible life style, ecologically sustainable behavior or simply common sense, we need to satisfy our needs without compromising the chance for future generations to satisfy their own.

For Istituto Oikos educating for sustainability means developing those aspects - knowledge, perspectives, new philosophies and expertise – that can favor justice and equality, democratic participation, economic income and the correct interaction between ecosystems and the community.

Our educational and awareness activities are aimed towards people of every age and are directed to all areas devoted to education: school, family, work place and media. Through the creation of school campaigns, educational workshops and training initiatives, the production of educational outreach material and the organization of seminars and public events, Oikos invests in the development of effective educational approaches, able to promote a culture of sustainability and responsible actions.

| ONGOING PROJECTS | COUNTRY | MAIN SECTOR | MAIN DONOR | TOTAL BUDGET | MAIN DONOR'S CONTRIBUTION | COST 2012 |
|-------------------------|------------------------|--|--|--------------|---------------------------|-----------|
| Energy for life | Italy and Europe | Education for sustainability | EuropeAid | € 902.973 | € 677.230 | € 163.208 |
| Food We Want | Italy and Europe | Education for sustainability | EuropeAid | € 918.413 | € 688.810 | € 240.342 |
| Maasai Women Art | Italy and Tanzania | Local economy and environment | Private donors | € 10.709 | € 10.709 | € 10.709 |
| Rifiutili Insubrici | Italy and Switzerland | Education for sustainability | Varese Province and European Union | € 236.000 | € 200.000 | € 69.218 |
| Seeds of sustainability | Italy | Education for sustainability | Cariplo Foundation and Varese Province | € 98.100 | € 98.100 | € 64.521 |
| Tourism in action | Italy and Brazil | Education for sustainability; local economy and environment | Milan Municipality | € 107.110 | € 72.310 | € 1.613 |
| Google award | Italy | - | Google | € 7.277 | € 7.277 | € 7.277 |
| The energy of the city | Italy | Education for sustainability; climate and energy | Cariplo Foundation | € 152.600 | € 86.000 | € 545 |
| Education lab | Italy | Education for sustainability | Milan Municipality | € 481 | € 481 | € 481 |
| Natural rice | Italy and Burkina Faso | Education for sustainability; food security; natural resources | Milan Municipality | € 128.400 | € 23.450* | € 6.495 |

* Project where Istituto Oikos is a partner. The amount concerns the part of the main donor's contribution directly managed by Istituto Oikos.

2012 results

Educating for sustainability

THE POWER OF EVERYDAY CHOICES

Making changes through small actions in everyday life: buying seasonal products, selecting unpackaged food to minimize the use of packaging material or rediscovering old recipes to reuse leftovers. In 2012 the theme of critical consumption was the main focus of our activities. Projects financed by the European Union, Fondazione Cariplo, Varese Province, Milan Municipality and Interreg (cross-border cooperation Italy-Switzerland 2007-2013) allowed us to point out, from different points of view, **the impact that our actions have on a global and local scale.**

Food We Want, an European awareness raising campaign, aims to promote family-based agriculture and sustainable agro-food systems as key solutions to fight hunger and contrast climatic changes. With this campaign we debated the consumer's role in supporting **new food production, distribution and consumption models. We launched an online platform in 5 languages (www.foodwewant.org)**, visited by an average of 300 people each day, where every week we publish articles that encourage discussion and spread of information on this subject. The production of "This is the story of your food", an animated video about local consumption, allowed us to reach, in just a few months, over 10.000 people. The collaboration with our project partners allowed us to organize training workshops for university students in Italy, Poland and the United Kingdom, involving a total of 450 participants. Lastly, to contribute to the understanding of an issue crucial for the future of our planet as that of agriculture, we began - in partnership with the Faculty of Agriculture of the Università degli Studi di Milano - a research project on correct agricultural practices and production systems in three countries of Sub-Saharan Africa: Kenya, Tanzania and Mozambique.

Our effort to deal with the **topic of waste reduction** continues with the **Rifutili Insubrici** project, within which the "Ri come..." exhibition was inaugurated in January. "Ri come..." is a traveling exhibition meant to raise awareness and develop common ideas on critical consumption and on waste reduction, reuse and recycling. The exhibition has already been in 5 sites, 3 in Italy and 2 in Switzerland, and it will continue to travel throughout 2013. Furthermore, in 2012, educational workshops were carried out in 20 schools in the Varese Province, using the educational kit "Rifutili the box", of which 700 copies were assembled. In 2013 will be launched "Rifutili - Creating Events", a software for secondary schools, created to debate, design projects and communicate about sustainability in schools. All the educational material is available for free online on the project's website: www.modusriciclandi.info.



Educating for sustainability

SEEDS OF SUSTAINABILITY

International campaigns are associated with small scale activities, aimed to give way to real virtuous communities, on the front line to adopt and promote the principles of sustainability. To put this objective into practice we implement very concrete initiatives, such as **Seeds of Sustainability**, an educational journey through urban gardening, supported by the Fondazione Cariplo and directed towards zone 3 of Milan and the Varese Province. 472 people actively participated in this initiative as well as several local groups (Consiglio di Zona3; ComitatoXMilano di Zona3; GAS; Cascina Cuccagna; il giardino degli aromi; DES-VA Distretto di Economia Solidale di Varese).

The promotion of domestic vegetable gardens was used as a practical and educational tool to make citizens and institutions stop and think about short production chains and the consumption of local, high quality, seasonal products as means to safeguard the territory's wellbeing. To stimulate the implementation of urban gardens we created and distributed 800 balcony garden kits, containing 10 different types of seeds, a manual to learn how to grow a balcony garden and a map highlighting the sustainable spots (shops, farmer's market etc.) in the zone 3 of Milan; we organized public thematic events (on spontaneous plants, nutrition, domestic compost, etc.) that saw the participation of over 300 people; we realized workshops and scholastic gardens in 10 schools and we launched a photographic contest to reward the most beautiful balcony-garden. Thanks to the partnership with the Università degli Studi di Milano and with AIAB, we were able to offer high quality contents and to guarantee to the new urban farmers the support of experts, always available to help clear doubts or solve problems.



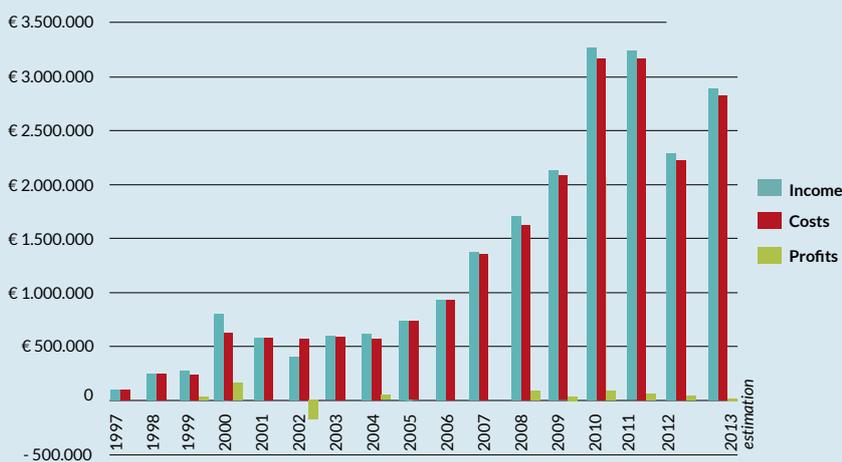
Economic aspects

The year 2012 is characterized by a large reduction of the revenues if compared to the previous year, going from 3.2 million Euro to 2.3 million Euro, a decrease of almost 30% compared to 2011. Despite this revenues reduction, at the end of the year Oikos registered a positive result of 44.380 Euro, maintaining a 2% profits percentage on the revenues, substantially the same as what was recorded the year before.

| | 2012 | 2011 |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Revenues | € 2.265.398 | € 3.189.395 |
| Profits | € 44.380 | € 66.228 |
| Profits (%) | 2,0% | 2,1% |

The reduction of the revenues is linked to the global financial crisis, which has had an effect on the entire system, with particular consequences for funds dedicated to public aid for development.

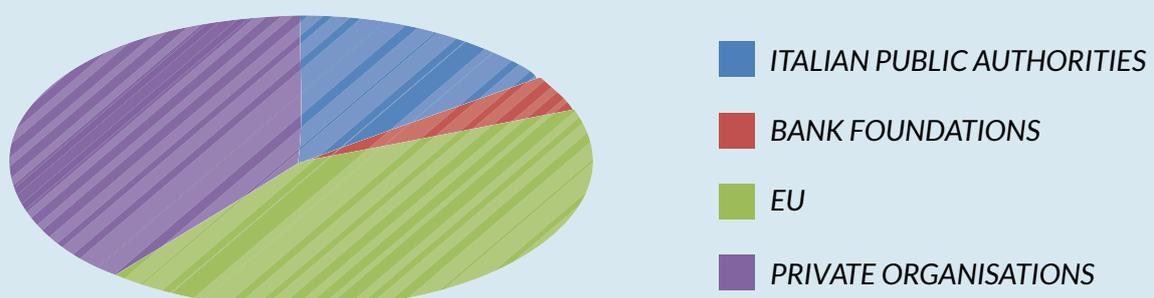
Trend of income, costs and profits 1997-2013



The figure shows the gradual increase in the trend of income and costs from 1997, with a drop in 2012. From the start of 2013, a recovery is already foreseeable, also due to the expected start of new projects and to the opening of two new operational bases in Brazil and Mozambique, that will be added to the list of those already consolidated in Tanzania and Myanmar.

Funding sources

The analysis of the income per funding source highlights a balanced diversification of the sources of income, greater than in the previous years. The funding sources diversification allows a gradual improvement in the operational management and it represents the result of a specific objective set by the organization in the past years. With the aim of increasing the stability and the structural growth of Istituto Oikos, also in the future a growing effort will be put in obtaining financial support from private foundations, companies and individuals, while keep applying for public and institutional grants.

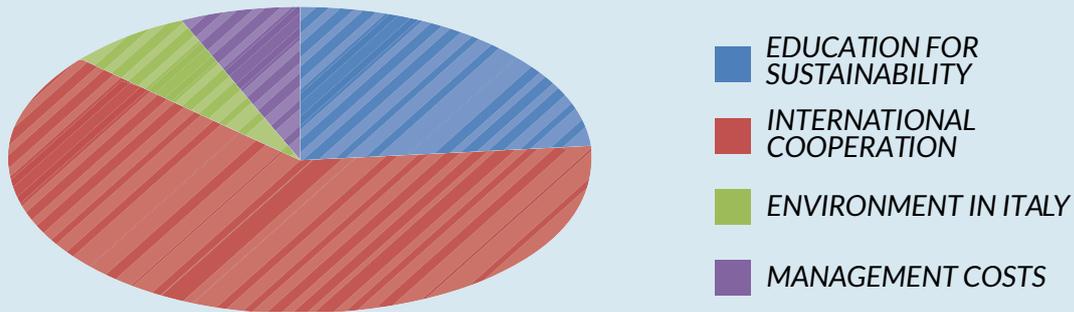


Economic aspects

Use of 2012 funds

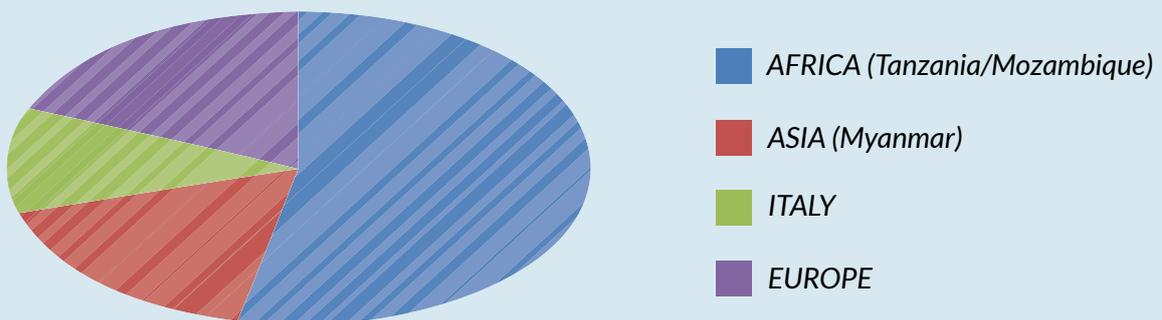
The management costs decreased compared with 2011, allowing us to maintain a positive balance and highlighting the substantial flexibility of the operational structure of the organization.

By intervention area



International cooperation projects absorb the majority of the costs, with a percentage just over 60%. Although much lower, the share dedicated to educational programs is also interesting, equal to 23%. The share allocated to environmental conservation projects in Italy is, instead, equal to 7%. It must be pointed out that indirect management costs are the 7%, aligned with our operational goal. This data is mainly effected by the staff, lease and maintenance expenses of the Milan office.

By geographic area



Africa and in particular Tanzania has a dominant role in the cost analysis per geographic area of intervention, with a budget equal to 52% of total costs; whereas Myanmar follows with a 17% quota. An important portion, equal to 22%, is instead dedicated to educational and awareness raising projects implemented in Europe. Projects with interventions exclusively carried out on the national territory take up a 9% quota.

Economic aspects

Financial situation

As already recorded in the past years, the structure continues to be solid, considering both the available current assets (over 1.8 million Euro) and credits towards donors and partners (over 4.1 million euro), with an increase of about 330.000 Euro compared to the previous year.

The entire value of the net profits is assigned to the organisation assets, which reach a value of 482.000 Euro, further increasing the organization's financial solidity.

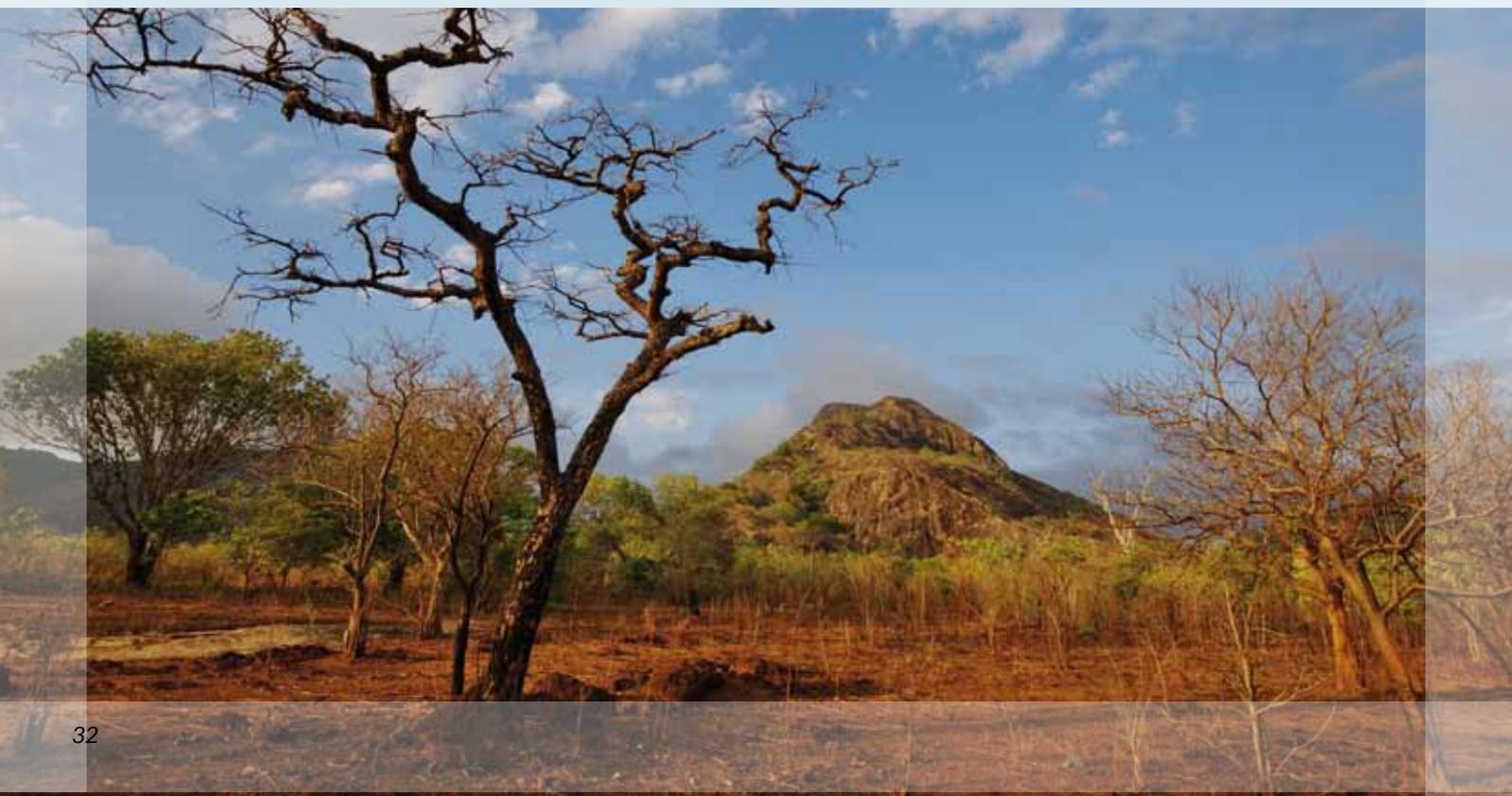
| | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------------|----------------|
| FIXED ASSETS | € 102.956,00 | NET ASSETS | € 481.926,00 |
| DUE FROM DONORS AND PARTNERS | € 4.165.476,85 | DUE TO DONORS AND PARTNERS | € 5.608.457,31 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | € 1.829.419,00 | | |
| OTHER ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE | € 45.222,00 | OTHER ACCOUNTS PAYABLE | € 52.691,00 |
| TOTAL | € 6.143.073,85 | | € 6.143.074,31 |

BALANCE SHEET OF THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2012

| ASSETS | 31/12/2012 | % | 31/12/2011 | % |
|--|-------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| FIXED ASSETS | € 102.956 | 2% | € 112.285 | 2% |
| Total intangible fixed assets | - | | € 1.240 | |
| Total tangible fixed assets | € 27.956 | | € 36.045 | |
| Total financial fixed assets | € 75.000 | | € 75.000 | |
| DUE FROM DONORS AND PARTNERS | € 4.165.477 | 68% | € 3.833.710 | 62% |
| Due from customers | € 54.718 | | € 91.338 | |
| Due from donors | € 3.910.714 | | € 3.496.731 | |
| Accounts receivable for advances to partners | € 95.677 | | € 72.714 | |
| Due from partners for contribution to projects | € 104.368 | | € 172.928 | |
| Due from subsidiaries | | | | |
| OTHER ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE | € 33.035 | | € 17.693 | |
| CURRENT ASSETS | € 1.829.419 | 30% | € 2.221.399 | 36% |
| ACCRUED INCOME AND PREPAID EXPENSES | € 12.187 | | € 3.584 | |
| TOTAL ASSETS | € 6.143.074 | | € 6.188.671 | |
| Memorandum Accounts | | | | |
| Guarantees to third parties | € 180.000 | | € 180.000 | |
| Memorandum Accounts Total | € 180.000 | | € 180.000 | |

Economic aspects

| LIABILITIES | 31/12/2012 | | 31/12/2011 | |
|---|--------------------|------------|--------------------|------------|
| EQUITY | € 481.926 | 8% | € 437.543 | 7% |
| Initial endowment | € 1.549 | | € 1.549 | |
| Profit for the year 2012 | € 44.380 | | € 66.228 | |
| Reserves | € 435.997 | | € 367.965 | |
| T. F. R. FUND | € 21.996 | | € 17.861 | |
| DUE TO SUPPLIERS AND PARTNERS | € 5.608.457 | 91% | € 5.609.389 | 91% |
| Due to suppliers | € 72.375 | | € 143.164 | |
| Project availability | € 5.292.515 | | € 5.232.151 | |
| Project availability for partn. monet. contribution | € 104.368 | | € 172.928 | |
| Advances to partners | € 34.867 | | € 61.147 | |
| Due to donors | € 2.747 | | | |
| Other accounts payable | € 101.586 | | | |
| OTHER ACCOUNTS PAYABLE | € 30.695 | | € 51.856 | |
| TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY | € 6.143.074 | | € 6.188.671 | |
| Memorandum Accounts | | | | |
| Guarantees to third parties | € 180.000 | | € 180.000 | |
| Memorandum Accounts total | € 180.000 | | € 180.000 | |



Economic aspects

TOTAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR 2012

| COSTS | 2012 | | 2011 | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| TOTAL INSTITUTIONAL COSTS | € 2.218.066 | | € 3.119.368 | |
| Costs for projects | € 2.068.407 | | € 2.931.570 | |
| European Union Projects | € 857.831 | 38% | € 2.089.407 | 66% |
| Italian public authorities projects | € 315.479 | 14% | € 293.164 | 9% |
| Other donors projects | € 895.097 | 39% | € 548.999 | 17% |
| General charges | € 149.659 | | € 187.798 | |
| TOTAL COMMERCIAL COSTS | € 68.324 | | € 50.712 | |
| TOTAL COSTS | € 2.286.391 | | € 3.170.079 | |
| Profit | € 44.380 | | € 66.228 | |
| Profit (%) | 2,0% | | 2,1% | |

| INCOME | 2012 | | 2011 | |
|---|--------------------|-----|--------------------|-----|
| TOTAL INSTITUTIONAL INCOME AND REVENUES | € 2.265.398 | | € 3.189.395 | |
| Income for projects | € 2.212.033 | | € 3.155.891 | |
| From the European Union | € 924.199 | 40% | € 2.252.939 | 70% |
| From Italian public authorities | € 336.431 | 14% | € 276.542 | 9% |
| From other donors | € 951.403 | 41% | € 626.410 | 19% |
| Other income | € 53.365 | | € 33.504 | |
| TOTAL INCOME AND REVENUES FROM COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES | € 65.373 | | € 46.913 | |
| TOTAL INCOME | € 2.330.771 | | € 3.236.307 | |



2012 Stakeholders

Partners in Italy

AIAB
Anolf Lecco
Comune di Milano
Consiglio di Zona 3
Distretto di Economia Solidale di Varese (DES-VA)
ERSAF Lombardia
Fratelli Ingegneri
Mirage Burkina
MUINDI Semi di Sorriso
Orticola
Parco Alto Garda Bresciano
Provincia di Varese
Rivista della NATURA
Università degli Studi di Milano
Università degli Studi dell'Insubria
Università di Milano Bicocca

Partners in Europe

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sonnenenergie e.V., Germany (DGS)
ECODES Fundación Ecología y Desarrollo, Spain
Fundación IBO, Spain
Institute of Global Responsibility, (IGO) Poland
Nature Trust, Malta
Oikos Cooperação e Desenvolvimento, Portugal
Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa (PENHA), United Kingdom

Partners in Tanzania

Arusha District
Community Based Health Care Council (CBHCC)
Meru District
Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology
Oikos East Africa
Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA)
Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI)



Partners in Myanmar

Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association (BANCA)

Marine Science Association Myanmar (MSAM)

Myanmar Forest Department (Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forests)

Rakhine Coastal Conservation Association (RCA)

Partners in other countries

Azienda Cantonale dei Rifuti, Cantone Ticino, Switzerland

Community Development and Environment Association (CDEA), Laos

COMPED Education and Waste Management, Cambodia

Fundação IBO, Mozambique

Mainyoito Pastoralist Integrated Development Organization (MPIDO), Kenya

Pangea Centro de Estudos Socioambientais, Brazil

Quirimbas National Park, Mozambique

Donors

Charity and Defense of Nature Trust

Comune di Milano

Comunità Montana Valsassina

ERSAF Lombardia

European Union

Fondazione Cariplo

GAL Lomellina

Interreg, Programma di cooperazione transfrontaliera Italia-Svizzera 2007-2013 "Le opportunità non hanno confini"

Intervita

Mediafriends

Ministero Affari Esteri

Parco Alto Garda Bresciano

Polish Green Network

Provincia di Bergamo

Provincia di Lecco

Provincia di Pavia

Provincia di Varese

Provincia VCO

Provincia di Sondrio

Provincia di Bergamo

Regione Lombardia

Stiftung Drittes Millennium (SDM)



Future perspectives

The year 2013 appears quite challenging. Many projects present encouraging results and require continuity, effort and strengthening of the communication with our partners. The need to operate using multi-year planning is increasingly evident if we want to reach results that will persist throughout time. However, the acquisition of financial resources necessary to guarantee this continuity requires an increasing effort and it is essential to know how to compete in the correct manner, and to find alliances and strategic cooperation with partners in Italy and abroad. We intend to face these challenges strengthening even more our ability to offer specific and solid expertise, offering and experimenting new methods that optimize efficiency, effectiveness and the sustainability of the interventions, measuring their success with clear, transparent instruments that are scientifically valid. Only with this approach it is possible to draw a greater advantage from our resources and to guarantee the fulfillment of the goals set with the donors.

For the year 2013 we identified priority actions and strategies to take:

- Promoting actions aimed to make food production and consumption more sustainable and fair in economic, environmental and social terms. The current agricultural-food system is showing all its flaws. Enormous quantities of food go to waste. Agriculture is responsible for one third of global greenhouse gas emissions and its negative impact on soil, forests, water and climate are ever so apparent. In the meanwhile the prices of food products increase in parallel with malnutrition and poverty. We intend to encourage and boost small scale farmers, women in particular, to produce food which is healthy, worthwhile and cultivated following the principles of sustainability. The solutions are already there: farmers market and edible school gardens in Milan as well as in Arusha; initiatives that support small scale landowners and breeders; valuing and defending the genetic heritage of local varieties.
- Promoting the tangible and intangible value of biodiversity and stating that the principle of conserving nature is a pre-condition for the growth and prosperity of human communities.
- Stimulating governments, public administrations, private sectors and local communities to take action with solid, credible mechanisms and strategies to improve the natural resource “government”, making the safeguard of biodiversity an essential element of territorial planning and to acknowledge and respect the rights of rural communities to land and environment.
- Encouraging public administrations and private sectors to account for environmental costs. It is a paradox that, in a world obsessively dominated by the economic value of goods, we continue to overlook the need of quantifying the costs of the loss of biodiversity. We need to be able to demonstrate, with facts and figures, that it is more expensive to continue with “business as usual” rather than seriously facing the consequences of any further loss in biodiversity.
- Encouraging local communities to take action, both in Italy and in the world, to conceive and experiment new methods that will allow us to connect biodiversity conservation with sustainable development and poverty reduction.



How you can help

Join us, **investing in the environment means investing in the future.**

Donations

Account for bank transfer:

Banca Popolare di Sondrio, Ag. 1 Via Porpora 104 - 20131 Milano

c/c n° 6906/78 intestato a Istituto Oikos, Onlus

ABI 05696 - CAB 01602 - CIN R

IBAN IT80R0569601602000006906X78

Account for postal transfer:

c/c n° 61923629

Companies

If you are a company you can support us actively, enriching your own business.

Why choose Istituto Oikos? Because it is independent from political parties, governments, religious institutions and it is an organization that has the recognition of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Oikos bases every action on solid scientific and technical principles, investing professionally and seriously in reconciling environmental conservation and the poverty reduction.

With us, companies can create partnerships, build campaigns for social communication, create events, choose to support a specific project or rather help us by making fair-trade presents to their employees.



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2012



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