



ANNUAL REPORT

2018



GREEN FLOWER FOUNDATION

Rue de Rive 13, 1204 Geneva

Tel: +41(0)77 522 87 01, www.greenflowerfoundation.org

contact@greenflowerfoundation.org

2018 ACTIVITY REPORT

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1. Editorial

Dear readers, this year has been a joyful one for the evolution of the Foundation!

On the ground in Ethiopia, our main project has now set in motion. Indeed, since 31 October 2018, our organisation has been officially recognised by the Ethiopian authorities as a non-profit organisation, which now allows us to implement our project.

At the Foundation's headquarters, we made a strategic decision by hiring an operations and project coordinator in the person of Paul Descheemaeker. The latter now makes it possible to manage the issues of project financing, day-to-day operational management and the development of the Foundation. He has been working 50% for the foundation since November¹, 2018.

In addition, Jorge Neto has been hired as a communication manager. He works 30% of the time and is seconded by the Assal Centre. Finally, the Addis Abeba team will be completed by Getachew Abraha, certified project accountant, who will start in early 2019.

As a reminder, in 2017, we also strengthened our field team with Ali Mohammed Ibrahim, a former professor at Jimma University and specialist in quality organic seed production and process management. He has been a key element in the development of our project in Bishoftu. After having been on sabbatical leave at the University until now, he has decided to join us for good, as our Head of in-country office in Ethiopia. We are pleased to have these dynamic and professional people as part of the Green Flower family.

2. Green Flower In a few words

The foundation offers professional training in organic horticulture to young people. We work in partnership with institutions, companies, communities and individuals who share our passion for innovative education, entrepreneurship and sustainable development. We currently have a project in Ethiopia and hope to replicate this project in other regions and/or countries in the long term.

Our team :

a. Foundation Board:

Elisabeth Assal - Bouchardy (President)

Mathieu Assal (Secretary)

Andreas Wigger (Treasurer)

b. Advisory Council :

Anne Guimond Kostecki

Charles Milo

Ammanuel Abbate

Gabriel Beasrat Belew

c. Our Operational Team:

Geneva Office: Paul Descheemaeker (Operations and Project Coordinator)

Jorge Neto (Communication and Marketing Manager)

Ethiopia Office Ali Mohammed Ibrahim (Head of Office)

Meron Tobiaw (Project Assistant)

Getachew Abraha (Project Accountant)

3. Our project in Ethiopia

GFF defines organic horticulture as the production of fruits, vegetables, herbs, medicinal and ornamental plants in accordance with the principles and practices of organic agriculture. The latter focuses on ecosystem management rather than the use of chemical inputs, such as fertilizers and pesticides. It aims to protect the long-term fertility of the soil and to prevent pests and diseases. Ultimately, organic horticulture promotes the health, equity and care of all living organisms and future generations.

GFF has developed a high-quality training programme for young people, with a particular focus on women, sustainable organic horticulture and entrepreneurship. It strives to empower students to develop specific skills and knowledge in order to find good jobs and/or create their own business.

As a first project, GFF aims to strengthen the capacity of Bishoftu Polytechnic College (BPC, situated 60 km south of Addis Ababa) to provide high quality, hands-on training in organic horticulture. Such training will ultimately support Ethiopian organic agriculture, such as practiced by public and private sector actors, ranging from small farmers to micro, small and medium-sized enterprises.

The direct beneficiaries are the professional training center BPC, the teachers of the organic class and the students (15 to 25 years old).

The indirect beneficiaries are the families of the students (often farmers) and the horticulture enterprises in the surroundings of Bishoftou. They should benefit from better incomes and more employment opportunities in the field of organic horticulture.

The objective of the GFF project is to contribute to the Ethiopian government's priority of food security and youth employment by increasing food availability and creating an enabling environment for the commercialization of organic agriculture.

The main impact of the project that GFF aims to achieve in the long term is to improve human resource capacity in organic horticulture in Ethiopia. In addition, the project will contribute to the increase of food availability while preserving human health, good quality of soil and an intact environment.

During 2018, we essentially finalized the project proposal according to the needs of the Ethiopian Ministry of Agriculture. We also obtained the approval of key stakeholders and prepared the project implementation plan. In addition, we have created our national office (In-Country Office) and finalized the legal registration of the

project. In addition, we obtained a taxpayer identification number (TIN number) and opened a bank account. During this period, needs assessments were conducted to develop curricula in organic horticulture, to prepare the school infrastructure and teaching equipment, and to develop partnerships with horticulture enterprises that would host internships for the students.

In addition, the signing of the collaboration agreement between GFF and the BPC made it possible to officially set up the new professional training section in organic horticulture. Such a section is new in Ethiopia and BPC has started with the first class for organic horticulture in Ethiopia in November 2018.

Our team completed many procedures that were mandatory in order to obtain legal registration of the project.

During the last mission to Addis in November 2018, Elisabeth Assal (President), Andreas Wigger (Treasurer) and Paul Descheemaeker (Project and Operations Coordinator) were able to carry out the student selection process. We have 35 student registrations (including 21 girls) at the beginning of the new school year, starting in November 2018. These students have started the first level (Level I) and are preparing to do an internship in a company in the spring of 2019. Upon their return, they will be able to start the specialized program (level II) with a curriculum specially designed for this program in collaboration with the competent authorities.

This program is designed by a group of experts including representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, the Federal TVET Agency and the Oromia TVET Agency (the Oromia Regional Vocational Schools Agency and the Federal Agency), our professors Hailu and Dereje and our GFF team (Ali Mohammed and Meron Tobiaw).

Before the beginning of the courses we were able to organize an internship in a company for our two teachers. They went to the Green Path Food organic farm in Butajira (3 hours from Addis) for an intensive one-week immersion. They therefore had the opportunity to combine the practical aspects of the training with the theoretical knowledge learned during their university studies. They are highly motivated to pass on their acquired practical knowledge to their students.

In addition, the GFF team, in collaboration with the BPC directorate, have undertaken the creation and implementation of an organic farm within BPC. This is the practical learning ground for our students. In order to ensure the smooth running of operations, our GFF team strives to support and motivate teachers. To reinforce our intention to

leave the project to the BPC, we have appointed Hailu, our teacher, as "GFF Farm Manager".

The farm's goal is to create a centre of excellence in organic horticulture learning, but also to bring an entrepreneurial aspect to our students by putting them in a real context from production to sales. The financial gains from the sale of products from this GFF farm are also intended to support the dual formation following our withdrawal in 2021.



To set up the farm, we had some challenges.

We had to remove overgrown plants and trees and level out the area for the garden. Furthermore, the garden beds had to be designed the soil had to be prepared for planting.

The dated water pump was defective and therefore required inspection reparation. It should be noted that the groundwater pocket supplying our pump is located at a depth of nearly 100 meters and offers a very large volume of clean water. After replacing the old parts our water pump was fully operational!

Our goal is to improve the pump's power system with a solar panel system that can both power the pump and power our students' computer room. We hope to be able to quickly supply the farm with a sustainable and environmentally friendly source of

energy. In addition, since the school is subject to frequent interruptions of electricity, this solution would offer many advantages.

Since the beginning of December we have been planting organic seeds including carrots, Chinese cabbage, shallots, onions, peppers, beans and several varieties of tomatoes.



GFF has also redone the paintings in the classrooms, library and study room, especially for our organic horticulture students. Our librarian, Zemzem Mohammed, is responsible for ensuring that all computer and research equipment (books, media) is well maintained. She also has a role as a trainer in the use of these tools with students.

In order to provide English courses, GFF recruited Mehari Mekonnen Ayalew. He is a certified English teacher, living in Addis Abeba. We intent to offer our students a high quality teaching in English. That, in turn, should allow them to better access knowledge about organic horticulture in the internet and to communicate with international companies that are interested in organic vegetables and herbs. The teacher says that he is optimistic about the progress of his students. He teaches 6 hours of English per

week and uses a course material in an interactive way, which would seem to be lacking in traditional English language teaching.



4. Financial statements

The 2018 accounts as presented as follows:

Accounts 2018			
BALANCE SHEET			
ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
BANK GENEVA	99'734	ANTICIPATED COSTS	29
BANK ADDIS	8'270		
PREPAID EXPENSES	857	CAPITAL	50'000
		ACCUMULATED RESULTS	41'445
		RESULT OF THE YEAR	17'388
	108'862		108'862
Compte de Résultat			
Charges		Produits	
PROJECT ETHIOPIA I	23'848	DONATIONS ETHIOPIA I	50'000
SALARIES GENEVA	24'362	DONATIONS ETHIOPIA II	50'000
RENT	4'695	DONATIONS GENERAL	3'350
TRANSPORTATION COSTS	5'326		
INSURANCES	302		
GENERAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	27'279		
FINANCE COSTS	148		
	85'962		103'350
PROFIT 2018	17'388		

The 2018 donations come from private philanthropists. In 2018, the Foundation employed one person in the Geneva office. Direct expenses for the project in Ethiopia represent the salary costs of our local contact, as well as various administrative and mission expenses related to the exploratory and development phase of our project. We will start the action phase as from January 1 2019.

5. Contact us, support us

GREEN FLOWER FOUNDATION

Rue de Rive 13

1204 Geneva

Switzerland

+41 (0) 77 522 87 01

Contact@greenflowerfoundation.org

www.greenflowerfoundation.org

MAKE A GIFT

Swiss Alternative Bank Ltd.

Rue du Port-franc 11

P.O. Box 161

1001 Lausanne

IBAN: CH11 0839 0034 5975 1000 7

CLEARING: 8390

TAKE ACTION

You can help the foundation, either as a volunteer or by submitting your own project to us.