



ANNUAL REPORT

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**DEAR MEMBERS, SUPPORTERS, PARTNERS
AND FRIENDS OF MAKE ME SMILE,**

2020 has been among the most challenging years in our history, not only for the implementation of our programs in Kenya and Colombia but also to continue our fundraising efforts to support the crucial work of our partner NGOs.

I am more than glad to share this year's progress of all our projects with you and am sincerely grateful that we managed to overcome this most challenging year with your support and the amazing commitment of our teams around the globe!

It is only with your continued support and your recurring donations that we were able to continue our work and further increase the impact on the lives of tens of thousands of children and vulnerable

families in our project regions. For your trust and encouragement, even in these most uncertain times, I want to extend my sincere appreciation and gratitude in the name of the entire organization!



I also want to appreciate and congratulate our teams in Kenya and Colombia, especially the directors of Make Me Smile Kenya and the Fundación Estación Biológica Bachaqueros, for not only overcoming this year but providing the most professional leadership during these difficult times to all their employees while adapting our programs to the newly arising circumstances.

Our Fundraising department was lead with tireless efforts and constant new innovation by Roger Winandy, whose support and steering our organization through these uncertain times I want to sincerely appreciate!

I wish you a wonderful read through our annual report. The next pages will speak for themselves and for the impact we were able to achieve through our various programs made possible only due to your support!

Thank you for making us smile!



MAKE ME SMILE INTERNATIONAL

Make Me Smile International is a non-profit association, which was founded in Austria in 2008. Since 2020 Make Me Smile International also operates in Switzerland and in Germany.

In cooperation with local partner organizations we are active in Colombia, Kenya und Lebanon.

Our expertise and focus cover the areas of child and youth welfare by strengthening families, health, gender equality, environmental protection, refugee support programs and the promotion of development awareness.

Make Me Smile International helps to realize eight of the seventeen Sustainable Development Goals defined by the United Nations.



MAKE ME SMILE KENYA



Make Me Smile Kenya is an NGO with a holistic approach to sustainable development and was founded in 2008 in Kisumu, Western Kenya.

To guarantee the sustainability of our work, we closely cooperate with the local government as well as all relevant actors and strengthen existing structures. This enables the beneficiaries to provide for themselves and their children independently and to represent their rights for themselves.

We are involved in Kenya in the realization of seven of the seventeen UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to ensure sustainable development. (<https://sdgs.un.org/>)

These goals are achieved by focusing on three focus areas in Kenya:



Child and youth care by strengthening families

We are not only helping the most vulnerable children with direct interventions, ranging from education to health, psycho-social support, and the protection of children's rights. Furthermore, we are sustainably strengthening families through innovative agriculture and economic strengthening programs



Gender Equality

Prevention of sexual gender-based violence and the advocacy and promotion of women's rights and empowerment opportunities have become our key focus areas. Furthermore, we are promoting and implementing Gender Equality through vocational training and provision of job opportunities for adolescent girls and young women.



Health

We have built and are running a model Health Centre focusing on maternal-child health in cooperation with the government. Through capacity building, we strengthen existing structures, to improve the access to quality and affordable health care in Kisumu County and induce necessary structural social changes. In two Youth Friendly Centres, we provide young people with constant access to contraceptives and reproductive health services.



DEAR MEMBERS, SUPPORTERS, PARTNERS AND FRIENDS OF MAKE ME SMILE,

The beginning of my remarks is coupled with saying thank you for the amazing journey as we celebrate how your contributions have changed communities for the better. Your 2020 support realized positive strides, saved lives and gave hope to thousands of families.

Confronted with the enormity of the global Covid-19 pandemic, you did not retreat your support, but helped us face the challenge head-on. Today, we are proud to say thank you and that's because we have never let go of a belief that has guided our mission, vision and objectives as an organization.

To offer some thoughts on where we would wish to go in 2021, it is a special honor to present our upcoming projects:

At MMS-K, we believe that, through child friendly services, the children can really create a better future for other children, their families, community and society they live in. Our focus is on Gender-based violence as an affront to human dignity. We must work together to ensure that all girls and boys can live lives free from violence, or the threat of violence, in order to reach their full potential. We believe that Gender based violence increases girls' vulnerability, threatens their health, and undermines their full enjoyment of their human rights.

Our Craft Centre continues to empower adolescent girls and young women. Cognizant of the importance of education and Kenya's back to school policy we will ensure that we identify children of school-going age especially young adolescent mothers and help them re-enroll back to school.

Child-headed households will live in houses that are safe, secure and comfortable with others able to gradually be able to regularly meet their basic needs.

I want to note how much being the lead of MMS-K I was honored to take on has reminded me that children matter. To this end, let me finish by thanking the tireless work of our inspiring and exceptional team in the communities advocating and fighting for children's rights. Finally, I want to reiterate my thanks to MMS-K Chairman and Founder Mr. Maximilian Ullrich for his tremendous leadership and for the close collaboration we enjoyed over the past years.

Together, we demonstrated a special team working together to bring special attention to a problem spot.

We reaffirm and redouble our commitment towards our vision where every child enjoys his or her potential.

Simon Peter

COVID 19

IN KENYA

The coronavirus has hit the Kisumu region very strongly. The people in the community shared the same worries as the people everywhere around the world. What is going to happen? Next to the unknown, the poverty in the region made it extremely difficult to get access to disinfectants or even soap.

With the help of our donors, we were able to distribute hygiene packages to the most vulnerable households, especially HIV-positive people and the elderly. A monthly hygiene package for a family of five consisted of four kilos of soap, three washable cotton face masks, and illustrated information material in the local Luo language.



2.309

households reached



9.236

kg of soap distributed



11.545

people reached

COVID 19

IN EUROPE

"If Covid-19 comes to Kenya, what then? To experience an epidemic, however severe, in Austria is a privilege."

"This thought has stuck with Michaela, a long-time and dedicated volunteer. In addition, because of the lockdown and the mandatory masks, there was an unexpected amount of free time available and a need for masks - both had to be used. Since Michaela had already sewn a few masks to protect her family, an easy-to-multiply cut was already polished. To make the production as efficient as possible, she needed support. Martina, a master tailor friend, was immediately on board. But apart from the production, the marketing, the online shop, the packaging and the delivery still had to work.



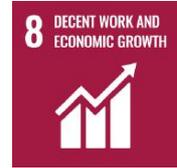
Sustainability is essential for Michaela, every step of the way. Only the elastic bands and about ten percent of the fabrics used were bought new. Otherwise, everything that met the government's cotton standard was cut up and sewn. Donated bed linen, beautiful old shirts, clothes that were no longer worn and fabrics that are in every seamstress' closet and have never been used.

Orders from Vienna were delivered by bicycle, packing was done with recycled materials and the fabric leftovers from the masks.

The effort of all involved was definitely worth it. After a month of cutting, ironing, sewing, photographing, packing and delivering, the project was completed with € 2,550 for the Corona relief program by Make me Smile Kenya.

CHILD AND YOUTHCARE THROUGH STRENGTHENING FAMILIES

MWENDO



The MWENDO project aims to address the needs of orphans and vulnerable children (OVC) living with HIV and empower the household's economy in a sustainable way.

One of the tasks of our child and youth care workers is to implement interventions to improve the lives of families and children. A special focus is given to children living with HIV.

The interventions led to a number of impacts, such as empowered caregivers and improved relationships between the caregiver and children living with HIV, improved self-esteem, better nutrition and an increase in numbers of children enrolled, maintained and transitioned to the next school levels.

SILC

The participants of the SILC project (Saving and Internal lending communities) learn how to manage money as a community. Participants pay in a certain amount of their monthly income. If they need a loan to start a business or repair their house, they can apply for a loan from their SILC.

19.958 OVCs supported

2.309 Birth certificates distributed

228 SILCS accompanied



VERTICAL GARDENS

Through our **vertical gardens**, we started this year to support families who have children living with HIV by meeting their nutritional needs. The gardens are designed in a way that they withstand the rainy season and need little water in the dry season. The plants were chosen to meet exactly the needs of the children and regrow quickly.

This program was only made possible through the support of the Hand in Hand Fonds and the Austrian National Bank, for which we are very grateful.



OESTERREICHISCHE NATIONALBANK
EUROSYSTEM

FLOOD RELIEF

Like every year, the rainy season causes a lot of damage and we are supporting the most vulnerable families in rebuilding their destroyed homes. This year, we also rebuilt 2 Classrooms of a school and planted 900 trees to withstand future floodings

140 Gardens created

710 Vulnerable Children nourished

8 Houses rebuilt

2 Classrooms rebuilt

900 Trees planted



GENDER EQUALITY



CRAFT CENTRE

Many adolescent girls and young women in Kenya are prevented from completing their secondary education or vocational training and have a hard time in the labor market, due to the prevailing patriarchal structures and outdated traditions combined with their commitment to take care of the children and the household. Apprenticeships are in demand and rare. Without qualifications, it is very difficult to find a job, so many remain looking for work or are forced to accept poorly paid informal work. Therefore we have established our Craft Centre. Through that, we help the young women who receive training and or employment in our social tailoring business to create their own future.

After completing their 6 month training, every student receives a tailoring machine and a business start up package, together with continuous guidance, helping them to open their own business. So that the women can concentrate fully on their work or their training, we have set up a playroom where the children of the mostly single mothers can play undisturbed.

In 2020 we managed to train 10 young women, whom all started their own businesses afterwards.

HEALTH



Mayenya Health Centre

We established a fully equipped model Health Centre, with a modern maternity wing. We employed a total of eleven staff members for a period of six months. In addition to traditional staff ("clinical officers," nurses, lab technicians, pharmacists, administrators), there is space for a specially trained nurse and a "Youth Friendly Center" adjacent to the hospital, where adolescents can inquire anonymously about sexuality and adolescent issues, as well as access contraceptives free of charge.

Our sincere thanks and appreciation go out to our donors and partners who have made the realization of this project possible! Especially the Development Aid Club Vienna and Neuroth with their support of Medical Equipment.



4.467 Patients treated

1.152 Patients under five years

Youth Friendly Centre

Religion and tradition are very crucial topics in Kenya. It is almost impossible for young people to talk openly with adults about topics such as sexuality and contraception. This leads to a knowledge gap that can become a major problem as they get older. Contraceptives are considered taboo - even if there is a desire to use them, young people feel at the mercy of stigma from their community and therefore often quickly discard them. That's why we have established and are operating our Youth Friendly centres, where we give out free advice and contraceptives to adolescents.

In total we could reach **1415 young adults and teenagers in 2020.**

HEALTH & GENDER EQUALITY



REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

AND SEXUAL GENDER BASED VIOLENCE

2020 does not only mark the ending of our three-year ADA program, but it also marks the beginning of the second phase of the project "Improvement of the quality of reproductive health care and gender equality in Kolwa East and Miwani" which will run until 2023 again in cooperation with the Austrian Development Agency.

Over three years we have been addressing and advocating the topics of Reproductive Rights and Gender Equality in the communities of the region. Through numerous interventions, we sensitized communities, protected survivors of Sexual Gender-Based Violence, empowered women and made the topics a priority in the communities.

The new program will not only focus even more on Sexual Gender Based violence and the support of the victims, but it will also contain a democracy strengthening part, which will hold politicians accountable for the current state of the health system and the implementation of women's rights in the county. Like this, we want to ensure the sustainability of the project.

24.500 People reached

385.877 Contacts made

6.874 Youths and adolescents reached through our Youth Friendly Centres

14.194 Successful Referrals of Sexual Gender Based Violence victims

With funding from

 Austrian
Development
Cooperation

VOLUNTEERING

IN EUROPE AND IN KENYA



Vienna

During a pandemic, our ability to send volunteers to Kenya directly was clearly limited. Nevertheless, our volunteers did great work from Austria. As already mentioned, Michaela and Martina made a big contribution by producing and selling masks. A whole team of little helpers supported them in the production and logistics. Michaela also came up with the amazing idea of organizing a flea market where she sold all the things she no longer needed and donated the proceeds to Make Me Smile Kenya. Thank you, Michi :) We were able to raise several thousand Euros through all these activities.

Once the first wave of Corona was over, we were able to hold our annual Vololumni meeting. Of course with social distancing and in the fresh air. We talked about our experiences in Kenya, told new and old stories, and ate delicious biscuits and pizza together.

2020 was also the year we got endless support in the Viennese office day in and day out. Carla, for example, who to this day still helps us with various activities, from social media posts to the annual report and research for our grants. Michi helped us with our annual report and our social media. Andreea contributed to our public relations work and Tom has not only created but been taking care of all our websites for almost a decade.

We have had endless supporters throughout the year and this report would just be too small to list them all. Thank you all so much for your endless support especially in times like these.

Asanteni Sana!

Next year we are excited to welcome back our Volunteers in Kisumu!

FUNDACIÓN ESTACIÓN BIOLÓGICA BACHAQUEROS



The Foundation Fundación Estación Biológica Bachaqueros (FEBB) is a Colombian NGO with 25 years of experience in reforestation work. Their main task has been to develop, manage and implement projects that focus on the restoration of tropical ecosystems, research on biodiversity and the implementation of agro-forestry systems. Their social engagement focuses on training local communities to develop concrete measures for the protection, restoration and sustainable management of ecosystems and water resources.

The native forests revival project (Local name : Viveros hermanos) was designed by FEBB in order to continue their work to restore ecosystems and promote social and ecological connectivity in regions affected by loss of biodiversity and water shortage. The project resulted from a collaboration between FEBB and Make Me Smile International, in response to their goal of planting 1.000.000 native trees.

During the first year of the project, FEBB built up a team of local volunteers and employees as well as contracting trainers for the workshops. The first goal achieved was to articulate 120 local actors who own land. They are composed of indigenous communities, afro-descendants , farmers and “neo peasants”, 20 educational institutions, 2 NGOs, and an agricultural producers association, 2 indigenous reserves, 1 afrodecens reserves. The project has provided them with training, materials, and technical support to launch their micro nurseries that each produce between 350 to 6,000 trees including fruit trees and native trees. Several of these species are under local threat in danger or are included in the international lists of threatened species, and species from mangrove ecosystems.

The goal of this Pilot project was to plant 100.000 Trees during the project period of 18 months, of which about 40.000 had been planted in 2020. Make Me Smile continuously supports the project and we hope for and are looking forward to the future trees to be planted out of this cooperation.

Lebanon was hit by unprecedented ascending multiple crises at once, which severely impacted the lives of children and families living on its soil. More than 80% of the Lebanese, refugees, and migrant populations are living under the poverty line, exposing children to child labor in its worst forms as schools were closed, or became inaccessible. Lebanese children are more and more in need of an adequate response as other response plans failed to compensate for the emerging need. In a new report, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has revealed that over 30% of Lebanese children were sleeping on an empty stomach.

After the Beirut Blast, and the increasing economic hardship occurring, FICE international and Make Me Smile International mobilized their resources, fundraised, and transferred a total amount of 5880.12 USD to Himaya to distribute Food and Educational kits to the most vulnerable children and their families.

Under its social assistance unit launched to respond to economic hardship when occurring in parallel to a child protection concern, Himaya assessed cases of children benefitting from its services and selected the most vulnerable in terms of food security and education needs.

According to which,

- 23 Families (5 Syrians and 18 Lebanese) were supported by being provided with food kits over 3 months. The selection of the families was done as per the social assistance procedures and the economic hardship assessment.

- 130 Educational kits were purchased and distributed to the already assessed children who were found most severely in need of the educational kits in order to prevent or mitigate the out of school risk, including but not limited to the exposure to child labour.



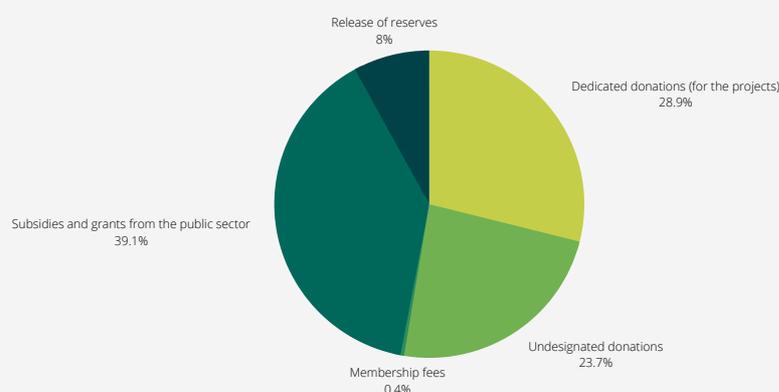
FINANCES

MMS INTERNATIONAL



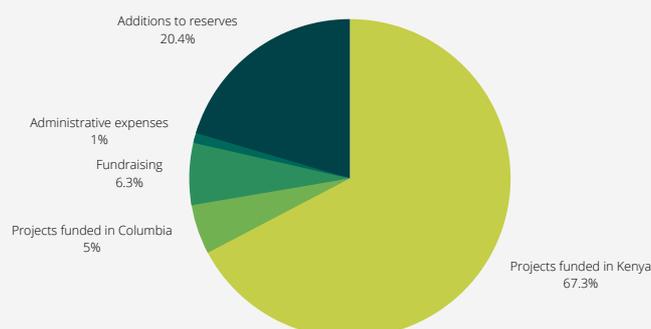
Origin of funds

| | € EUR | K KES | |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|----------------|
| I. Donations (including donations in kind) | | | |
| a) Dedicated donations (for the projects) | 80.314,54 | 9.544.579,93 | 28,92% |
| b) Not-dedicated donations | 65.793,61 | 7.818.912,61 | 23,69% |
| II. Membership fees | 1.040,00 | 123.593,60 | 0,37% |
| III. Subsidies and grants from the public sector | 108.500,00 | 12.894.140,00 | 39,06% |
| IV. Interest earned from the bank | 2,22 | 263,82 | 0,00% |
| V. Release of reserves | 22.095,89 | 2.625.875,57 | 7,96% |
| Total | 277.746,26 | 33.007.365,50 | 100,00% |



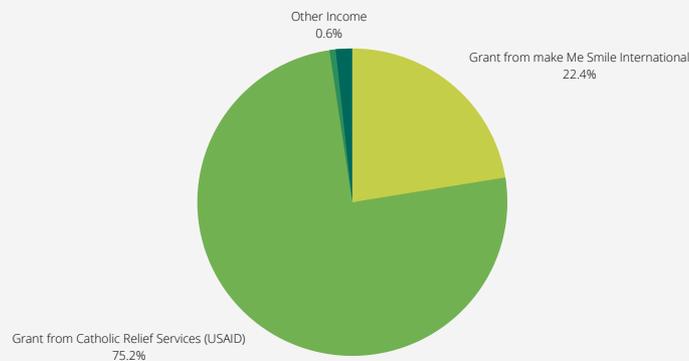
Allocation of Funds

| | € EUR | K KES | |
|---|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| I. Activities for implementation of statutory purpose | | | |
| a) Projects funded in Kenya | 186.839,94 | 22.204.058,50 | 67,27 % |
| b) Projects funded in Colombia | 13.965,48 | 1.659.657,64 | 5,03 % |
| II. Fundraising | 17.474,96 | 2.076.724,25 | 6,29 % |
| III. Administrative expenses | 2.814,88 | 334.520,339 | 1,01 % |
| IV. Addition to reserves | 56.651,00 | 6.732.404,84 | 20,4 % |
| V. Total | 277.746,26 | 33.007.365,50 | 100 % |

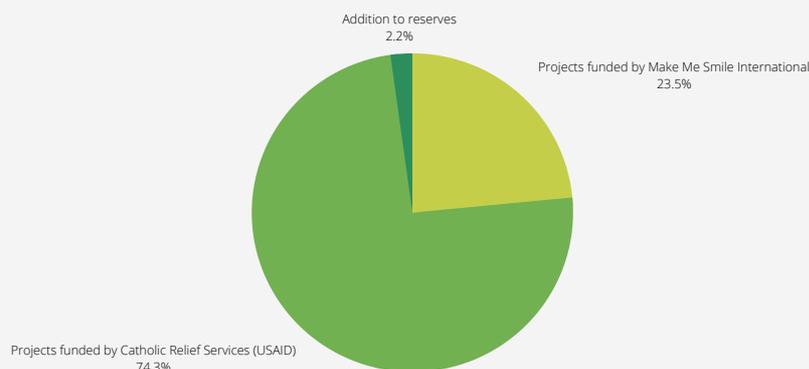


FINANCES - MMS KENYA

| Origin of funds | € EUR | K KES | |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| I. Donations (including donations in kind) | | | |
| a) Grant from Make Me Smile International | 186.839,94 | 22.042.295,70 | 22,43 % |
| b) Grant from Catholic Relief Services (USAID) | 621.811,44 | 73.896.071,00 | 75,21 % |
| II. Other Income | 5.261,17 | 625.237,00 | 0,64 % |
| III. Interest earned from the bank | - | - | 0,00 % |
| IV. Release of reserves | 14.800,57 | 1.688.979,38 | 1,72 % |
| Total | 828.713,11 | 98.252.583,08 | 100 % |



| Allocation of Funds | € EUR | K KES | |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|--------------|
| I. Activities for implementation of statutory purpose | | | |
| a) Projects funded by Make Me Smile International | 195.515,28 | 23.065.762,65 | 23,48 % |
| b) Projects funded by Catholic Relief Services (USAID) | 614.587,99 | 73.037.636,59 | 74,34 % |
| II. Acquisition of Assets | - | - | 0,00 % |
| III. Addition to reserves | 18.609,84 | 2.149.183,84 | 2,19 % |
| V. Total | 828.713,12 | 98.484.267,20 | 100 % |



THANK YOU FOR MAKING US SMILE!



And special thanks to our partners:



Entwicklungshilfeclub



MAKE ME SMILE INTERNATIONAL

DONATION ACCOUNTS

Austria: Make Me Smile International
IBAN: AT53 2011 1829 6886 8700
BIC: GIBAATWWXXX

Switzerland: Make Me Smile International
IBAN: CH53 0873 3045 2887 5615 0
BIC: BKTHCH22XXX

Germany: Make Me Smile International e.V.
IBAN: DE06 8306 5408 0004 2374 80
BIC: GENO DEF1 SLR

Luxembourg: Make Me Smile International a.s.b.l.
IBAN: LU21 0030 1953 2093 0000
BIC: BGLULL

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