



Annual Report 2024

In 2024, we have grown significantly as a family foundation, both in our mission and projects, as well as in our relationships with local coordinators in Africa, contacts in traditional communities, and Auriga volunteers. Our organization has transformed into a dynamic and enthusiastic group of people who are constantly in touch and working together. The projects are evolving in a structured manner and have concrete goals.

In 2024, projects have been continued and expanded, as well as newly developed and prepared. It was a "Wow!" year for all Auriga Stars, which is hopeful for what is yet to come. The enthusiastic involvement of the new board members, volunteers, and community members, is the driving force behind our collective efforts to effect positive changes and create a sustainable impact at our project locations.

Over the past year, we have once again spent time at our focus locations of Kibera and Sakut in Kenya, and Losimingori in Tanzania. It is heartening to see that we have built strong personal connections with the communities and that, despite cultural differences, we can communicate well with each other.

This year's completed projects show clear results, and we can already enjoy the impact of last year's projects. In the slums of Kibera, we have noticed that our recurring presence in itself has a significant impact on the people, as they see hope for change.

In 2024 we have continued to build toilet facilities in four villages of Kibera, each with four or five toilets and a washroom for the girls and women. We have now provided seven of the fourteen villages in Kibera with a toilet building!

During each work visit, in addition to local volunteers with expertise, we take young people from the slums as note-takers, interviewers, or photographers. They also accompany us into the rural areas of Kenya and Tanzania. This way, we develop to the fullest extent from within.

Ultimately, we have grown from individual projects out of compassion and empathy, to holistic support for, with, and by the people at our focus locations.

The 50 children from the traditional community in Sakut (Kenya) have been attending school for the second year now. It is magnificent to see how these children are growing, both physically and emotionally! They are the future of their community.

We have further provided the school with learning materials and toys, and spent a lot of time in the community.

Fifty vulnerable children from the traditional community of Losimingori, in Tanzania, are now also attending school! The situation there may be even more dire, so the help provided to these children is crucial. Many thanks to our donors!

This year, we have worked closely with Padmad, a Kenyan company in Nairobi that produces reusable, organic-cotton sanitary pads. Women from the slums work in simple sewing studios, and Padmad trains local women to give workshops on menstrual health, menstrual stigma, and family planning. We have distributed sanitary pad kits and organized workshops in both the slums and rural areas of Kenya and Tanzania, with several of our volunteers being trained by Padmad.

Last year, we also dedicated ourselves intensively to developing the more extensive "Water and Biodynamic Agriculture" project. Together with local communities, we strive to convert temporary food-aid into a permanent and sustainable solution.

Preparatory work visits were also conducted to Roo Village, a village on the border of Uganda, where a large number of people, from young to old, are infected with HIV. The women of Roo Village want to dedicate themselves to the many orphaned children in the region, whose parents have passed away due to AIDS. Through the construction of a modest school, they aim to provide daily care. Feeding the children will be through the proceeds of small-scale, biodynamic farming, on a plot of land officially donated by a village elder.

A similar initiative awaits in Uganda and Malawi in the future. We receive weekly requests for assistance, and we do what we can as a small foundation.

As a humanitarian aid foundation, we receive many collaboration requests from local and international organizations in Africa. However, at this time, we prefer direct and immediate interaction with the communities where we currently operate. We are in ongoing communication with other NGO's and learn from them, but we primarily value close contact with the local population, particularly the elders (both men and women), warriors, healers, and mothers from the communities. By focusing on mutual involvement and collaboration, we use the power and leadership from the grassroots level, to collectively build sustainable development and meet the needs of the communities. Many NGO's focus on a specific goal (such as combating female genital mutilation) while we prefer a more holistic approach, and consciously remain culturally and contextually impartial. In addition, we are often concerned about the high overhead costs of the NGO's that invite us to collaborate, which, in our opinion, result in too little of the donated money reaching the intended purpose.

Therefore, we keep our foundation small and compact, with growth only coming from the bottom up with volunteers who dedicate their hearts, time, energy, and expertise.

Another development this year was the initial design and expansion of our website, where we also produced videos for social media to showcase the stories and locations of our projects visually. Through social media experiments, we investigated which types of videos were viewed the most, and what reactions this evoked. It was found that people are highly interested in the daily lives, and the norms and values of the communities, as well as the love and connection they share.

We launched the website in February, currently mainly focused on the desktop, we are working on a mobile version for more accessibility.

At the end of this year, we amended the articles of association, in preparation for applying for the ANBI (Public Benefit Organization) status with the Tax Authorities in The Netherlands.

Thanks to donations in the past year the Auriga Family Foundation:

- built four more toilet facilities with separate washing areas - for women and girls - in the Kibera slum in Nairobi, Kenya (a total of seven of the fourteen villages in Kibera now have a toilet block).
- supported St. Juliet School in Kibera (a school for orphaned and street children run by Kenyan volunteers).
- provided all 12, 13, and 14-year-old girls at St. Juliet School with eco-reusable sanitary pad kits, that offer more than adequate protection for all menstruation days. We started with the youngest girls in the upper grades, because they are extremely vulnerable. The only way for them to get money for sanitary pads is to perform sexual acts. It's heart-breaking to learn that they only receive 20 cents per transaction. Sometimes, men buy a pack of disposable sanitary pads and pay one pad per sexual service. We continue to raise funds for the girls of Kibera!
- distributed the same reusable, sanitary pad kits in schools and communities in the rural areas of Kenya and Tanzania, accompanied by workshops. These initiatives were highly successful! There is no pollution in these areas, and fortunately the washable eco-reusable, sanitary pads do not cause plastic pollution (disposable sanitary pads are mainly made of plastic).
- enabled 100 young children in Kenya and Tanzania to attend school. These are the most vulnerable from the traditional communities we work with, including orphans and children with only one parent. They are between 4-6 years old and sometimes malnourished. They attend school six days a week, where they receive two nutritious meals per day and learn to read, write, and do calculations. They also learn Swahili and English.
- supported and empowered two groups of underprivileged youth from the slums and rural areas of Kenya and Tanzania by taking them as Auriga Star photographers or note-takers to the project locations.
- conducted preparatory research in Losimingori, Tanzania, regarding the implementation of the "Water and Biodynamic Agriculture" project in 2025. This involved obtaining quotes and construction planning for a water well, irrigation system, soil preparation, materials, soil analysis, climate-resistant trees, crops, seeds etc.

Self-funded by the Auriga family:

- food aid,
- educational materials,
- games and toys,
- baby clothes,
- blankets,
- reusable sanitary pad kits,
- visas for volunteers,
- family visas, as well as travel and accommodation expenses.

Objectives for 2025:

- Actively raising funds.
- Continue installing toilet facilities in Kibera.
- Provide the lower grades of St. Juliet School with a toilet facility.
- Sponsor the education of the 100 school-going children from the traditional communities in Sakut and Losimingori for another year.
- Start the construction of an additional classroom for the two schools connected to the sponsored children from Sakut and Losimingori.
- Provide all 15, 16, 17, and 18-year-old girls at St Juliet School with eco-reusable sanitary pad kits.
- Initiate phase one of the "Water and Biodynamic Agriculture" project in Losimingori, Tanzania: drilling a water well, setting up an irrigation system, and preparing the land.
- Start training (and sharing of knowledge and experience) of the community members and children of Losimingori in climate-resilient, biodynamic, micro-agriculture by graduate agricultural specialists, with expertise in climate-resilient agriculture, agroforestry, and biodynamic farming.
- Develop project "Roo Village" and raise funds for it.
- Apply for ANBI status with the tax authorities in The Netherlands.
- Establish a website optimized for mobile phones.
- Expand the network.
- Evaluate requests for assistance from Uganda and Malawi at the end of 2025/beginning of 2026.

Vision and dedication

Over the past year, our foundation has undergone a significant shift towards a more holistic approach, placing humanitarian work and nature conservation at its core. Through in-depth conversation with local communities, both in the rural areas and in the slums, we have come to understand the essential relationship between humans and nature. Our aim is to empower traditional communities to continue living in their own environments, rather than being forced to migrate to urban areas due to poverty and ecological degradation.

The slums are filled (and growing worldwide every day) with people who previously lived peacefully and happily in nature with their extended families, being fully self-sufficient. Climate change affects the African hinterlands much harder, as they are already more arid. Now the streams are drying up, groundwater levels are decreasing, water holes are shared with wild animals (which are becoming increasingly territorial), grass is withering, and livestock are dying. This ultimately drives people far away to the cities in search of work. Often, there is no work or it is severely underpaid, forcing people to only be able to live in the slums. Conditions there are so poor that most residents do not live past the age of 35. We have met and spoken with several people, whose greatest wish is to return to the land of their ancestors.

Last year, we dedicated ourselves to developing the more extensive "Water and Biodynamic Agriculture" project in response to these challenges. Together with the local communities, we strive to convert temporary food aid into a permanent and sustainable solution.

The current focus is on Losimingori in Tanzania, where we hope to dig a well in 2025 and revitalize 15 hectares of barren land with the community members and a group of specialized volunteers. The soil is clean but poor, dry, and depleted. Through irrigation, biodynamic farming, and organic composting, we will work to make the land fertile again. The land belongs to the Losimingori School, and the 660 children who attend school there, will be involved in training to practice climate-resilient agriculture. Specialized agronomists will teach them how to cope with climate shocks and how to achieve a healthy and complete nutrient cycle in the adapted, biodynamic agriculture. Their parents will learn and work on the site as well, and have been fully engaged in the process over the past year. The ultimate goal is self-sufficiency.

We have held many meetings where we were particularly touched by the community spirit. They support and care for each other, even though they have almost nothing and suffer from hunger.

With a focus on people and nature in our projects, we work towards preserving the way of life of traditional communities and their pride in their ancestors and traditions, as well as their vitality and resilience. This is important not only to maintain their well-being and identity but also to support sustainable development and community building.

Acknowledgments

Thanks to all our donors! Without your support, our projects would not have been possible. Your contribution truly makes a difference. Thank you very much for your support and trust!

Thanks to our new board members, the entire Auriga family, and all volunteers, both at home and abroad! Your commitment, dedication and support are invaluable. Thank you for your involvement and hard work! We have achieved a lot in the past year, thanks to all of you, Auriga Stars!

Both humans and nature are vulnerable, but also strong and resilient. Together, we can accomplish a lot. A little push, and the quality of a human life, or a piece of land under the sun, improves enormously. Growth is possible step by step, and the power that emerges from this, is an inspiration for all Auriga Stars.

With a warm heart and determination, we will continue to work towards a better future for those who need our help so desperately. We will persist!