



BLUE SKIES FOUNDATION

2022 REVIEW

LEVELLING UP





A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHAIRMAN

We are all aware of how tough the last three years have been. Covid, inflation and the cost-of-living crisis have affected us all. But what we perhaps need to talk more about is how challenges like climate change and, importantly, our response to these challenges, will impact everyday lives in the communities where we work.

I am always struck by the impact that the Foundation has in enabling people to access basic needs and vital resources so that they and their communities can improve their lot. 2022 is another excellent example of this as we completed another twelve projects which will bring significant benefit to people for years to come. But we can only go on doing this by persisting to strengthen the link between the wealthiest countries, and those that are in most need of support.

When it comes to climate change, we are acutely aware of the scale of the challenge ahead. Blue Skies already sees it affecting many of our farming communities where we source our fruit. However, if we are to rise to the challenge and leave no one behind, then the actions we take now in the 'West' must not be to the detriment of the people in the 'South' who will be most affected by a changing climate.

'Net Zero' procurement strategies are essential, but unless we take care, they risk alienating communities who are not yet adept to embracing sophisticated techniques for measuring, reporting and reducing their carbon emissions.

And so, we must 'level up'. Let us not allow borders to be closed to food imports in the name of climate change. And let us not create more reasons for migrants to want to risk their lives in order to flee their home countries. Instead, we must continue working together to generate opportunities for trade while taking responsibility to support local communities to address the social, economic *and* environmental challenges that they are faced with now and will have to face in the future.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to Henri Zondag, our outgoing Director from Albert Heijn. Henri has played a pivotal role in shaping our Foundation, having been with us since day one. He will be missed by us all. In Henri's place, we welcome Erik Vorenkamp, who has been a friend to Blue Skies for many years.

Anthony Pile, Chairman

REFLECTIONS FROM THE TEAM

"The Foundation has made a significant impact on the lives of the people and the communities we serve by providing funding for sustainable transformational projects that address vital social issues, promote education, improve healthcare and sanitation, protect the environment, and promote food security for the future". *Alistair Djimatey, Blue Skies Ghana.*

"I am extremely happy that through the Foundation we are also able to inspire and encourage others, give them better life to in their communities, creating a ripple effect of positive change." *Gloria Asare, Blue Skies Senegal.*

"With the improvement of the safety items installed and supported by the Foundation, parents feel more comfortable and safer to let their children participate in the activities Árvore da Vida is promoting in the Community. The areas that were previously avoided due to lack of safety, are now in full use such, as the playing square and the game room which received the protection net on Windows. The professionals of the Institute are also using the playing square more frequently for the activities they plan with the children because they feel safer". *Flavia Mommeti, Blue Skies Brazil.*

OUR UNIQUE COOPERATION

The Blue Skies Foundation is a cooperation between the fresh fruit company Blue Skies, and two retailers, Waitrose in the UK and Albert Heijn in the Netherlands. Through this unique and progressive cooperation, the Foundation seeks to support the communities which participate in the production of fresh-cut fruit products that are made by Blue Skies.

The Foundation is structured in a way that enables projects to be chosen by the people living within the communities where Blue Skies operates in Ghana, South Africa, Senegal, Egypt and Brazil. Our Councils, which are made up of representatives of the communities where we work, and our Board of Directors, ensure we follow a democratic process in how projects are prioritised, and take collective responsibility for overseeing the implementation and evaluation of all our initiatives. Funding is provided annually in equal contributions by our founding partners, Waitrose, Albert Heijn and Blue Skies.

OUR FOUNDATION PARTNERS



Albert Heijn
Foundation

ADVISORS



OUR 2022 FOUNDATION PROJECTS



Ofaso Water Project

Drilling of a borehole and the procurement and installation of a 20,000L Polytank for a rural Community in Ghana.



Toilet Project CEM School

Construction of an 8-seater biofil toilet (biogas toilet) with a water collection system and polytank for hand washing for the CEM school in Daga, Senegal.



Techiman Teachers Accommodation

Completion of a 4-bedroom accommodation block for teachers at a Basic School in Ghana.



Balfour Primary School Educontainer

Procurement and installation of a single classroom educontainer (converted shipping container) for a preschool in South Africa.



2022 School Farm of the Year Competition

The seventh year of our competition to reinvigorate interest in agriculture among young people in Ghana



Siyathemba School renovation

Painting and repair of 14 classrooms at a primary school in Siyathemba in South Africa.



Polytank for Anyakope

Procurement and installation of a 30,000L polytank for a community of about 1200 People in the Volta Region of Ghana.



Arvore Da Vida

Improvement of infrastructure and safety measures for an education centre in Brazil that provides support for 160 vulnerable children .



Mechanised Borehole for Pokrom Community

Drilling, procurement and installation of 2 x 25,000L polytanks for the Pokrom Community in Ghana.



El-Rashad Emergency Room Project

Provision of medical equipment for the emergency room at a local community hospital in Egypt.



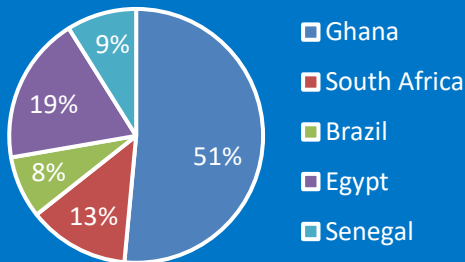
Fotobi Biofil Toilet

This project provided 12 biogas toilets and water collection system for handwashing for the Fotobi community in Ghana, which includes 3,400 farmers, teachers and school children. The toilet connects to an off-grid appliance that turns organic waste from the system (as well as food scraps and animal manure) into cooking gas that can be used by the community. Through the installation of toilets it is expected to reduce water-borne diseases, particularly cholera.

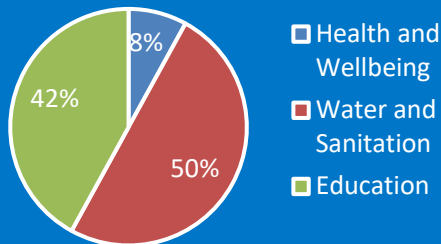
HOW OUR FUNDS WERE SPENT

In 2022, the Blue Skies Foundation collectively raised over GHc 2.06m. This was made up of contributions from Waitrose, Albert Heijn and Blue Skies. The charts below show how these funds were spent by country and project category. Funding is proportioned based on a number of factors, including sales turnover from each country, fruit origin, local needs and macro social and economic indicators.

Funding split by country



Funding split by project category



OUR IMPACT

In 2022, the Foundation partnered the University of Northampton Centre for Sustainable Business Practices to conduct a social impact study in Ghana. The researchers adopted a bespoke Social Impact Matrix© methodology to assess the impact of the Foundation's activities in Ghana against the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDG's). Drawing on several secondary data sets relevant to the study and using data that is currently captured, the report shows a combined monetised social value generated in 2021 in Ghana of US\$1m, against an investment of £150k. The chart below shows how this breaks down by the relevant SDG.



In addition to the Social Impact Study, the Foundation conducted its annual project evaluation. Below are some of the highlights of our 2022 evaluation report.

5,537

The number of girls (age 0-18) with improved access to education

1,782

The number of people with improved access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene

1,089

The number of boys (age 0-18) with improved access to education

455

The number of households with improved access to clean water, sanitation and hygiene

FOUNDATION TEAM

The people who make it work



Abena Antwi Advisory Director, Independent



Robert Arhinful Finance Blue Skies



Victoria Asamoah Foundation Assistant, Ghana



Gloria Asare Foundation Rep Senegal



Mohamed Bahgat Foundation Rep Egypt



Simon Derrick Coordinator Blue Skies Foundation



Alistair Djimatey Foundation Manager, Ghana



Jemima Jewell Director Waitrose



Flavia Mometti Foundation Rep Brazil



Waydu Nhlapo Foundation Rep South Africa



Anthony Pile Foundation Chairman Blue Skies



Justice Vilakazi Foundation Assistant, South Africa



Henri Zondag Director Albert Heijn



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