



RAPUNZEL One World Organic Foundation promotes more than 400,000 euros fundings

The RAPUNZEL One World Organic Foundation supports eco-social initiatives both regionally and worldwide

Legau, 23rd April 2024 – In the 2023 financial year, the RAPUNZEL One World Organic Foundation approved a total of more than 400,000 euros in grants for over 30 eco-social projects in Germany and around the world. The focus of the grants, some of which last several years, is on measures that promote food security and climate resilience and empower children, women and disadvantaged groups.

‘Education and thus the promotion of children and young people is real work for the future. That's why we support vegetable gardens in schools, for example, as green learning and experience spaces - whether here in the Allgäu or in Africa,’ explains Joseph Wilhelm, Chairman of the RAPUNZEL One World Organic Foundation. In 2023, the foundation approved over 50,000 euros for the establishment of school gardens in southern Germany; further grants are planned. Regional forest and nature kindergartens have also received funding as nature education facilities.

In the Global South, the foundation also supported the Hekima Girls' Secondary School in Tanzania in 2023. This secondary school for girls achieves some of the best results out of 4,000 Tanzanian schools - and at the same time, hands-on training in organic farming is an integral part of everyday school life. In Laos in Southeast Asia, the foundation financed a kitchen house for 165 schoolchildren, thereby improving their nutritional situation.

Climate-resilient organic farming

‘The issue of climate justice is more pressing than ever,’ explains Barbara Altmann, member of the Board of Trustees. ‘We are convinced that organic farming offers solutions for climate-resilient agriculture - and thus also improves food security worldwide.’ This is why the RAPUNZEL One World Organic Foundation also supports corresponding initiatives, particularly in the Global South, for example:

- Fundación ECOTOP is restoring degraded ecosystems in the highlands of Bolivia with the help of sustainable quinoa cultivation.
- Nyodeema Foundation e.V. organizes a community garden in The Gambia with the women of a village affected by rural exodus, thereby generating income.
- The Stay Foundation trains small farmers in Uganda in the ecological cultivation of organic grain adapted to climate change, thereby combating poverty.
- Life-giving Forest e.V. is reforesting in the Philippines, training local residents in organic farming and empowering people with disabilities in particular.

The foundation also supports educational projects in its own region: Five forest kindergartens in the Allgäu region will each receive 1,500 euros as a Christmas donation.

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Strengthening the habitat of bees and wild bees

The 2023 Foundation has taken up bees and wild bees as a new area of support due to their important role as pollinators. Bee colonies, for example, adapt their life cycle to the flowering phases of plants. As the flowering phase tends to start earlier due to climate change, there is no longer any synchronization between the bee colony and the plant. The effects of climate change therefore pose a real threat to pollinators.

Through Mellifera e.V., the foundation supports training programs for beekeepers who want to switch to beekeeping in line with the needs of the species. It is also co-financing a scientific study by the Aurelia Foundation on the biodiversity and reproduction of wild bees on agricultural land.

About the foundation

The RAPUNZEL One World Organic Foundation is committed to strengthening organic agriculture, education and eco-social initiatives as well as health education and nutritional counselling both regionally and worldwide.

The foundation, which was established in 2022, sees itself as a consistent further development of the ecological and social commitment of Rapunzel Naturkost GmbH. The organic food pioneer provides the foundation with annual donations, including the Rapunzel Bio-Cent for every Rapunzel product sold. In addition, donations are made by other companies and private individuals.

More information about the foundation can be found at www.rapunzelbiostiftung.de/en.

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