

# We are more relevant than ever



On her farm in Machakos, a bumpy two-hour drive from Kenyan capital Nairobi, Mary Mwikali Musau introduces her cows by name. She goes on to greet the black rabbits, while pointing to the fruit and vegetables on the table.

Mary says that it has been a difficult year for many people, but that she and her family have coped. Yes, it's been tough for the children who couldn't go to school and for her husband who lost his job, but no-one has fallen ill from COV-ID-19. And they have had enough food to eat.



Those listening to her story are members of the Swedish parliament. They are sitting in front of their computers; Mary is talking into a microphone while a We Effect colleague films her. The visit to Kenya is digital.

The conversation between Mary and the politicians is about how the lockdowns in Kenya have affected the local community, about drought and how the climate crisis impacts access to water... and how Mary and the other members of the Kilalani Women in Coffee cooperative have been able to give each other support.

The digital journey gave Swedish politicians an insight into the situation for smallholder farmers in Kenya and how We Effect is taking concrete action. The meeting was also a boost for Mary; it gave her an opportunity to talk about her challenges – and also about the successes and what solidarity means in practice. And even though the meeting was digital, the atmosphere was engaged and warm. It was a proper meeting.

The coronavirus crisis has changed the way We Effect works. It has not only meant that we work more digitally and travel less, we have also adapted our development cooperation. The basis is still support for people's own organisations with

a strong emphasis on gender equality, but now we are working more specifically to tackle hunger and support everyone's right to food. This involves providing support for the here and now – but also reducing vulnerability ahead of future crises.

## "Now we are working more specifically to tackle hunger and support everyone's right to food."

The pandemic affects everyone – but the people living in poverty and vulnerability are hit hardest. Most of these people lack functioning healthcare and a social safety net. The situation is most difficult of all for women, who are also subject to increased violence. As it stands right now, the people we work with will have to wait several years before they can get access to a vaccine.

The coronavirus crisis shines a spotlight on injustice in the world and the importance of international collaboration and solidarity. However, it also shines a spotlight on opportunities and resilience and what can be achieved when people, organisations and companies stand arm in arm and work together. This is the power we are striving to strengthen.

2020 has been a tumultuous year, for everyone. At the same time we see that We Effect's work is more relevant than ever, and we have been given a stronger voice – both in the Swedish development debate and together with our partner organisations around the world.

We have produced the strongest results in the organisation's history. We Effect and Swedish cooperation makes a difference. We have therefore made it a joint responsibility to continue to do what we can to contribute to a world without poverty and injustice. The world we want after the crisis will be defined by how we act now. We are #StrongerTogether



Anna Tibblin, Secretary

Am Chant Frhum
Lotta Folkesson, Chair of
the Board

## 3,682,549

PEOPLE RECEIVED DIRECT
SUPPORT FROM WE EFFECT



THIS INCLUDES E.G. STUDY CIRCLES,
SAVINGS & LOANS GROUPS,
AND SUPPORT FOR
HOUSING COOPERATIVES



We support development driven by those living in poverty themselves

12,079,709

PEOPLE RECEIVED INDIRECT SUPPORT FROM WE EFFECT

Through our advocacy work and communication, we reach far more than those who receive direct support.

NUMBER OF COOPERATIVES THAT RECEIVED SUPPORT FROM WE EFFECT WERE

1,274

**OF WHICH** 

248

**WOMEN'S COOPERATIVES** 





We raised SEK 55.2 million from individuals and companies

# Threat of a hunger pandemic shifted focus to the right to food

For We Effect 2020 began like any normal year.

In Sweden plans were under way for a visit by the membership organisations to Kenya in September, discussions were being held about how the initiative for the Almedalen Week political event would focus on democracy in Latin America, and the decision was made that Secretary General Anna Tibblin would travel to Costa Rica for an international cooperation meeting.

At the same time regional personnel and partner organisations prepared to organise study circles, start up savings and loan groups, build housing cooperatives and bring people together around sustainable agricultural methods.

In short: the reality presented new and old challenges but everything would carry on, mainly through meetings between dedicated people.

#### Then came the coronavirus.

"I remember the very first decision," says Anna Tibblin. "The management group had planned a two-week trip to Mozambique to hold a conference on the challenges facing Southern Africa. This was before the travel restrictions came in, but still we didn't risk travelling. We realised that we might find it difficult to return home."

This was the first of many planned trips that had to be cancelled. Then came the really big question: can the operation carry on as usual with such an altered reality?



Anders Lago. Photo Marcus Lundstedt

"We sat here in Sweden feeling sorry for ourselves, so extremely privileged, while the pandemic truly was a disaster in other parts of the world," says Anders Lago, Chairman of HSB and Vice Chair of We Effect's Board. In many of We Effect's countries, most of the people work as day labourers and need to leave home to sell things and services. And to buy food.

It was soon clear that the focus had to be on the right to food, and the Boards of We Effect and Vi Agroforestry decided on a shared strategy.



Marie Nygren.

"The UN predicted that the number of people facing acute hunger would double," says Marie Nygren, CEO of KF, We Effect's largest member organisation. Here at home demand in our shops increased overnight as stockpiling began. How would the supply system cope? If the situation was so unsettled in Sweden, what was it like in the poor parts of the world?

"The food shortages were first seen in the towns and cities," says Anna Tibblin. "People were unable to leave home to earn money or to buy food."

In the countryside too the situation soon became critical.

#### JANUARY

In early January We Effect joined forces with Vi Agroforestry to arrange a study trip to Rwanda and Kenya with the Swedish parliament's cooperative study group (soc. dem.).



Fourteen members of parliament got to see examples of work in the region and meet grass-root activists and decision-makers alike.

#### FEBRUARY →

After 23 years in Paraguay, with many positive results, We Effect ended its activities in the country.

We Effect began supporting local organisations in Paraguay in 1996. Now the country's farmers' movements are stronger and the housing cooperation is growing.



## We Effect arranged a future workshop

with representatives of its member organisations to answer the question of how we can achieve the global goals set out in Agenda 2030 using the power of cooperation. At the same time the new head office was quietly opened.



## 18 million kronor

We Effect was delighted to receive SEK 18 million from the Swedish Postcode Lottery. A donation that is extremely helpful in fighting poverty and hunger and contributing to better gender equality in the countries where we operate.



Farmers, whether they produced food or other crops, were unable to go to the market to sell their goods, or to buy food for their children.

We Effect's strategy is based on long-term sustainable development, but in 2020 the pandemic forced a change.

"We had to help people survive," says Nina Larrea, Regional Manager for Region Asia. The housing cooperatives were given support to start up kitchen gardens and rooftop crops, and instead of working on value chains and market knowledge, the focus was on putting food on the table.

#### "We must help people survive."

"We were forced to stop some initiatives," says Anna Tibblin. Money that was originally intended for training initiatives was instead used to buy and distribute seeds. In some cases our partner organisations could deliver their harvests to the UN's World Food Programme. In Zimbabwe half the population is dependent on food

aid. The partner organisations have also distributed hand

Diamantino Nhampossa. Photo private

sanitiser and disseminated information about the pandemic. In Sri Lanka a seed bank was established so that smallholder farmers could afford seed. In the Philippines a newly started women's cooperative handed out several tonnes of food to those in need. In Zimbabwe many years of advocacy directed at traditional leaders (chiefs) yielded results, and now land can increasingly also be

inherited by women and girls.

Mozambique has been very hard hit by the hunger effects

of the pandemic. It is estimated that over 40 per cent of all children in the northern province of Niassa are undernourished.

"Niassa has had several years of extreme weather – either far too much or far too little rain," says Diamantino Nhampossa, Country Manager in Mozambique. "And this was on top of the pandemic, which prevented people from going to the market."

#### Gender equality has never been more important

Many governments have seized the opportunity to put the thumbscrews on the opposition and civil society. If nothing else, the opposition has been accused of crimes against the restrictions, and complicated new rules have been introduced for all organisations.



#### MARCH →



The climate crisis is a gender equality crisis, argued the Board of We Effect in a joint statement on International Women's Day. Women are hit hardest by climate change and Sweden is playing an important role in strengthening their rights.



We Effect organised a meeting between the Minister for International Development Cooperation Peter Eriksson and the Federation of Swedish Farmers, LRF, in Västerbotten to discuss the essential role of farmers in the world. Farming and nature organisations need to collaborate more to tackle the threats facing farmers and to strive for a better climate and greater biodiversity.

Premiere for We Effect LIVE – caused by the coronavirus pandemic. Anna Tibblin opened a live link to the world from her kitchen table in Hud-



dinge, outside Stockholm. Solidarity is the only thing that mitigates the effects of the virus.

## Don't forget the world's poor during the coronavirus crisis,

writes We Effect's Board in a joint statement. The only way of overcoming the coronavirus pandemic and its effects are through greater international collaboration and solidarity.

In Colombia, three agricultural union leaders were murdered in the same week because the restrictions prevented them from moving from dangerous areas. In total, 120 human rights activists were murdered in the country in 2020. And the authorities blame the pandemic when they fail to investigate the murders.

"In Latin America the governments have taken different approaches," says Damaris Ruiz, Programme Manager for We Effect's Region Latin America. In Columbia the restrictions have been extremely strict, while the government in Nicaragua claimed there weren't any cases of coronavirus

in the country, and even forbade doctors and nurses from wearing masks at work. Civil society organisations there joined forces to create an observatory that asked members of the public to submit reports on the disease. It emerged that 17,000 Nicaraguans had died of the virus. According to official statistics, Nicaragua had had 200 deaths.

"In Tanzania there has been a ban on attempting to protect againstinfection or even talking about the pandemic," says Anna Tibblin. "There is no coronavirus in the country, it's all fabricated by foreign interests to destabilise Tanzania," claimed President Magufuli, who then died suddenly.



#### APRIL →

We Effect launched a global campaign on Twitter and Facebook to highlight how people's lives are affected and how they are handling the coronavirus crisis. Using the hashtag #Coronavoices, the people themselves showed how the virus and its effects are impacting the world's most vulnerable people.



The report Cause of death: farmer was released and described an acute situation for farmers who defend their right to land and the environment. Anna Tibblin, Secretary General of We Effect, and Lotta Folkesson, Chair of LRF Västerbotten and Vice Chair of We Effect at the time, led a session questioning Swedish members of parliament that was broadcast live.



#### MAY

We Effect took the initiative in an industry-wide report to highlight how the coronavirus pandemic is affecting the world's poor.

Together with six other Swedish development cooperation organisations, the report sets out what Sweden can do to fight increasing hunger and poverty. The report was launched at a live discussion with Anna Tibblin and members of parliament from the Moderate Party, Centre Party, Green Party and Social Democrats.



Nina Larrea. Photo Stefan Tell

"The members of our Palestinian partner organisations find life difficult even in normal times," says Nina Larrea. "Now everything has got worse, with lockdown and the borders completely closed." In the Philippines the government has introduced new, even stricter terrorist legislation which means people can be imprisoned for weeks without formal charges.

A group of civil society organisations

have appealed to the highest court in the Philippines.

We Effect's focus on women has become increasingly important during the pandemic, while at the same time many partner organisations have not prioritised gender equality work. Women work in the informal sector to a greater extent than men – for example 54 per cent of all women in Latin America – and have been forced back into the home.



Photo Marcus Lundstedt

"In Latin America, 40 million women work as domestic staff," says Damaris Ruiz. "When the restrictions came in, their employees had to ask them to choose between spending day and night at their workplace or giving up their job. Many women were unable to leave their own families and lost their income."

Several international surveys and We Effect's own reports show that male violence towards women has

increased during the pandemic, while at the same time courts and women's refuges have been closed.

In countries with stringent restrictions it has been impos-

sible for women to leave the home, even if they are subject to serious violence. In Palestine the partner organisation PWWSD started up an emergency phone line where violence against women can be reported.

## "Violence against women has increased during the pandemic."

"Less income, less social space and increased violence have affected the women in our collaboration programme," says Nina Larrea.

#### Digital visits bring us closer together

A global organisation is faced with major challenges when travel is not possible, either internationally or within countries.

"The province of Niassa, where we have a large part of our operation, is 2,000 km from Maputo," says Diamantino Nhampossa. "In normal times I fly there at least twice a year. Now I've not been able to travel at all."

The internet connection in many offices around the world, and in the homes where employees work from home, is often poor.

"We have let several of our partner organisations buy better internet using money that was intended for other purposes," says Nhampossa.

At the same time the pandemic has made We Effect a more global organisation.

"Sometimes 200 people take part in our digital global meetings," says Anna Tibblin. "This has created greater openness. Everyone can take part and hear what's being said. Speaking can be allocated democratically and people talk one at a time. Since it doesn't matter if a person is based in Nairobi in Kenya or Falun in Sweden, we can assemble working groups with participants from all over the world. The meetings have

#### JUNE

We Effect and several other organisations took the initiative to

#### #RestartTheWorld

In June civil society organisations, authorities and decision-makers met in a number of talks. We Effect released the following report in partnership with many other organisations:

'How can Swedish aid address COVID-19?'

#### SEPTEMBER →

#### No one should be a farmer with their life at stake

- under this moto the Federation of Young Swedish Farmers and We Effect arranged a webinar with young farmers from three continents. Farmers in all countries need to stand arm in arm and learn from each other across the borders, and this calls for resolutions to strengthen farmers' rights, argued the panellists.



Sustainable enterprise should be rewarded. In the autumn We Effect, together with the member organisations Riksbyggen, Coop and Folksam, supported the Concord 'Take Action' campaign. Together with a raft of organisations, companies and private individuals, the campaign is calling for a law on enterprise and human rights.

#### **OCTOBER**

#### Two out of three Swedes want to pay more for fair food

How can we create justice on a plate? On World Hunger Day We Effect, LRF, Lantmännen and Stockholm Consumer Cooperative Society joined forces for a live discussion on the best way Sweden can tackle increasing hunger by striving for everyone's right to food. A survey by market research company Sifo was presented and shows that Swedish consumers may consider paying a higher price for food that benefits vulnerable farmers.

also become more efficient. When you meet during a crisis, it's serious."

"Stockholm has come closer
this year," says Damaris Ruiz,
speaking via Teams from Nicaragua. "Meeting face to face is good,
but a lot can be achieved digitally.
We have meetings with colleagues
around the world on different issues every week."

Global digital meetings, sometimes with 200 people!

In purely technical terms, a lot has happened during the first year of the pandemic. Teams and Zoom have both exploded. Every other week there were new updates and the systems were swiftly improved. People who had never been connected online – such as a group of indigenous women in Guatemala defending human rights – can now easily be reached from the other side of the world.

"It can, however, be difficult for us in Sweden to understand that 'working from home' means something different in Harare than it does in Stockholm," says Anna Tibblin. "Above all, our female employees in other parts of the world have a lot of responsibility for looking after their children and the home and for caring for the sick, while at the same time they have worse internet connections and are very worried about losing their job due to the pandemic. In Sweden we have a social security system that our employees in other parts of the world simply do not have. Also, we can travel in ways that they can't."

Anna-Karin Hatt, CEO of the Federation of Swedish Farmers, was the first person to make a virtual journey with We Effect. The internet connection may not always have been the best, and some nuances disappeared in translation, but nevertheless the debut journey was a great success and will be followed by many more, for member organisations and politicians alike.

"It became a genuine meeting during a difficult time for farmers in Southern Africa," says Anna-Karin Hatt. Several million people do not have enough to eat. Smallholder farmers in particular have been hard hit by draughts and cyclones. Small margins have become non-existent.

"Needless to say, a physical journey makes an even stronger impression but it was an extremely valuable meeting. Not least because I was reminded that Southern Africa's farmers face even greater and more far-reaching challenges – such as low literacy and climate change."

"Obviously digital meetings can never fully replace physical meetings, but they are an excellent complement," says Anna Tibblin. "Eventually we will be able to travel again, but we will only do so when necessary."

"The planet is grateful," says Diamantino Nhampossa. "We are flying less and this is good, for the sake of our children and grandchildren."



Anna-Karin Hatt and Anesu Truzmbah from Tanzania. Photo Marcus Lundstedt

#### NOVEMBER →

Powerful hurricanes relentlessly struck people in We Effect's countries of operation in Central America. There were many deaths, thousands of people were forced to leave their homes and essential crops were destroyed. We Effect set up a special initiative for those affected who had already been badly hit by the coronavirus pandemic.



# A virtual premiere journey!

The LRF's CEO, Anna-Karin Hatt travelled with We Effect to Southern Africa on a 'digital journey'. Via computer screen she met farmers and gained a direct insight into how COVID-19 has exacerbated an already serious situation for farmers in the region.

#### Fair food for all!

We Effect and Vi Agroforestry launched their first joint factual report to highlight and address the increasing hunger in the world. The participants in a very high-profile webinar included Minister for International Development Cooper-

ation Peter Eriksson, and the UN's Special Rapporteur on Right to Food, Michael Fakhri.







**Stronger together!** We Effect, Vi Agroforestry and their member organisations, along with a high number of Swedish influencers, teamed up to highlight and raise funds to fight hunger. The nationwide 'A united Sweden against the hunger pandemic' campaign, with live broadcasts, digital fundraising and initiatives, resulted in over SEK 5 million for We Effect and a high level of engagement in social media, especially among young people.

#### DECEMBER →

We Effect took part in a candlelit vigil with, among others, the Swedish Society for Nature Conservation in honour of those murdered for defending their land and the environment. The issue was also brought to the fore in a joint op-ed in Swedish daily Aftonbladet.



# After 35 years in the country, We Effect's Board reluctantly decided to phase out its operation in Nicaragua.

The decision was a consequence of new legislation which means that all persons and organisations that receive financial support from abroad are obliged to register as 'foreign agents', and thereby risk imprisonment for collaboration.

#### TOGETHER AGAINST POVERTY AND HUNGER

#### **Board of Directors**



LOTTA FOLKESSON Chair of the Board Forestry and agricultural entrepreneur in Vännäs, Västerbotten. Board Chairman for Federation of Swedish Farmers Västerbotten and for the same federation's Horse Delegation, also Chairman of the Copa Cogecas Women's Committee in Brussels. Elected 2015.



Vice Chair Executive Chairman of HSB, Deputy Chair of FUB and board member of Folksam Sak, Berättarministeriet and the International Co-operative Alliance. Previous positions include Chair of the municipal board of Södertälje Municipality, Chair of the Board of Telge Group and of the Swedish Water & Wastewater Association. Elected 2012.

ANDERS LAGO



**BJÖRN LARSSON** PhD Economics and Advisor. Previous positions: CMO and EVP BA Market Coop Sweden, CMO Swedbank, CEO Lowe Brindfors Annonsbyrå, McKinsey & Co, CEO Bonnier Net AB. Elected 2016.



HELEN PERSSON Consumer Association Stockholm. Member of the board of CBS (Coop Butiker och Stormarknader). Responsible for member activities, sponsorship and PR. Many years' experience in communication, HR and project management for e.g. SSAB and Ericsson. Has managed and been co-owner of Strategic Health Consultants, a consultancy firm in organisation and leadership. Elected 2015.



YLVA WESSÉN President and CEO of Folksam. Chair of KPA AB and Folksams Forskningsstiftelse. Member of the board of ICMIF and its Executive Committee, and of Insurance Sweden. Previous roles include head of Risk and Compliance at Folksam, and as a lawyer at DLA Nordic. Elected 2019.



BRITTA VON SCHOULTZ Communications Manager, Riksbyggen. Previous positions include Press Officer for Riksbanken and the Swedish Prosecution Authority, as well as Strategic Communication Advisor at Kreab Gavin Anderson. Has also spent many years as a journalist at Sweden's national TV and radio broadcasters SVT and SR. Elected 2015.



Head of Client Coverage, Large Corporates & Institutions at Swedbank. Has held various senior positions in the Swedbank Group, both in Sweden and internationally. Elected 2019.



ERICA LUNDGREN CEO, OK Västerbotten. Previously Sales Director for Norrmejerier, Business Area Manager and Subsidiary MD within Proffice Sweden. Member of the Board of OK Marknadsservice and OKQ8 Marknad. Elected 2017.



ANNA TIBBLIN Secretary General of We Effect and Vi Agroforestry. Previously Regional Manager in Southern Africa and Latin America, has worked in aid assessment in her own consulting company and also been a journalist for daily and trade newspapers.



the former Vice Chair.

In December 2020, Tommy Ohlström stepped down from his role as Chair of the Board of We Effect, a position he had held since 2014. Over the years Tommy helped to develop the strategic colaborations with We Effect's member organisations and focused specifically on the issue of companies and human rights. He also participated in several Swedish high-level delegations to Guatemala to highlight the difficult situation for human rights and environmental defenders. He has been succeeded by Lotta Folkesson,

We Effect reaches a broad section of the public in its awareness-raising and fundraising activities via its member organisations. Representatives from the founder organisations sit on the Board of Directors and help make decisions about We Effect's long-term work.

#### MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Hyresgästföreningen | Kooperativa Förbundet, KF | Federation of Swedish Farmers, LRF | Lantmännen | OK economic association | Riksbyggen | Coop Sverige AB | Folksam | Swedbank | HSB Riksförbund | Fonus | Kooperativa Ledares Förbund | Consumer Association Stockholm











#### Consumer associations

Coop Central, Coop North, Coop Norrbotten, Coop West, Consumer Association Göta, Coop Finspång, Knäred Consumer Association, Färingsö Consumer Association, Coop Varberg economic association, Coop Tabergsdalen, Coop Gotland economic association, Coop Värmland, Consumer Association Stockholm, Kristianstad-Blekinge Consumer Association, Veberöds Consumer Association

#### **HSB** associations

Dalarna, Gävleborg, Göta, Gothenburg, Karlskoga, Malmö, Mölndal, North-west Götaland, North, North Bohuslän, North Greater Stockholm, Stockholm, South-east, Södertälje, Södertörn, Southern Norrland, Uppsala, Östergötland

#### Federation of Swedish Farmers regional associations

Gävleborg, Halland, Jämtland, Jönköping, Dalarna, Norrbotten, Skåne, South-east, Västra Götaland, Värmland, Västerbotten, Östergötland, Örebro, Mälardalen, Västernorrland

#### Studieförbundet Vuxenskolan

Förbundet Vi Unga, Swedish Empowerment Center, Coompanion Sverige, Ekobanken Brunnsviks folk high school, Ädelfors folk high school

#### **DIRECTORS' REPORT**

The Board of Directors and the Secretary General of We Effect (reg. no. 802004-1524) hereby submit the following annual report for the financial year 1 January – 31 December 2020.

#### GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT OPERATIONS

#### Purpose and vision

We Effect is a non-profit association with a mission to fight poverty and injustice in the world. We Effect, in cooperation with its Swedish member organisations, works to create commitment, mould public opinion, mobilise resources and win public support for long-term international development work. Our vision is a sustainable and just world free from poverty. We Effect is not affiliated with any political party or religion.

#### Mission and target group

We Effect's mission is to conduct development cooperation activities that strengthen local and member-based organisations comprised of women and men living in poverty. By supporting these local associations and cooperative companies, We Effect wants to strengthen members' influence over their own lives and communities. These associations are our partner organisations, and we conduct our aid activities together with them. We Effect is the world's largest development cooperation organisation. Our cooperation aims to promote cooperative and member-owned enterprise in our focus countries.

#### Core values

We Effect believes that everyone is equal and has the right to live under acceptable conditions. We work according to the conviction that people are stronger together and that sustainable development presupposes a respect for human rights and democracy.

#### Our aid work

We Effect works within two main thematic areas: sustainable rural development with support to farmer organisations, as well as adequate housing with support to cooperative housing associations. All work is permeated by a strong gender equality perspective. We Effect works to unite democracy with business development and social responsibility. The right to land, financial services, a sustainable environment in ecological balance and equal rights permeates all our activities.

To counter the effects of the coronavirus pandemic, an interim strategy was developed which means that all operations are included in a clearer focus on the right to food. The strategy was developed in partnership with Vi Agroforestry and adopted by the Board in June. The strategy is overarching for all operations in both organisations. This means that some operations need to adapt, while others probably need to be phased out. The aim of the new strategy is to adapt development cooperation to meet the partner organisations' needs in both the short and long term.

Most of our partner organisations around the world are member-based farmer organisations, housing cooperatives or savings and loan associations. We choose our partner organisations with great care and a prerequisite for cooperation is that we share a willingness and ability to contribute to reducing poverty, increasing justice and supporting sustainable development.

The partner organisations within rural development operate for instance in providing farming advice, price negotiations, business development and strengthening people's self-empowerment. The organisations also work to influence the unfair structures that contribute to poverty. Within the thematic area of adequate housing, We Effect is working with organisations that fight to secure access to land for homes, thus enabling member-owned housing for poor people. We Effect is also working to develop savings and loan associations that provide people living in poverty, especially in rural areas, the opportunity to finance their own investments.

We Effect works with a strong focus on rights. This means that people are active participants in their own development. This working method helps to ensure that human rights are respected, protected and fulfilled. It also helps to tackle the structural causes of poverty and injustice, rather than just the symptoms. We Effect's rights-based approach states that all people have rights and are capable of effecting change, and are not just powerless victims or recipients of aid.

#### Our global organisation

We Effect's head office in Sweden functions as a base for fundraising, market communication and advocacy activities, along with financial and programme quality assurance. The global management group coordinates all activities. The commitment and efforts of the member organisations are

essential elements of We Effect's operations. The organisation is decentralised and decisions are made as close as possible to our development work on the ground. We Effect's local presence is one of the added values of the organisation as it promotes local ownership, efficiency and sustainable development, and leads to a better understanding of local issues.

We Effect has five regional offices around the world. There are also national offices in several of the countries in which we operate. We Effect's development activities are organised into five geographical regions:

- Eastern Africa encompassing Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda. The regional office is located in Nairobi, Kenya.
- **Southern Africa** encompassing Malawi, Mozambique, Zambia and Zimbabwe. The regional office is located in Lusaka, Zambia.
- Latin America encompassing El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Bolivia and Colombia. During the year the decision was made to phase out the operation in Nicaragua in 2021. The regional office is located in Guatemala City, Guatemala.
- Europe encompassing North Macedonia, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Kosovo and Moldova. The regional office is located in Skopje, North Macedonia.
- Asia encompassing the Philippines, Palestine and Sri Lanka, where the operations in Vietnam and Cambodia have been phased out in 2020. The regional office is located at our head office in Stockholm.

We Effect has special criteria that determine where the organisation works. Fundamental is that the organisation works in countries and areas where it can provide added value beyond just funding. We Effect always conducts an assessment regarding desired results. The decisions are based on whether an initiative would be considered relevant to support and whether it has the potential to yield good results. Considerable poverty and injustice does not always mean that effective operations can be pursued that would lead to positive results. The Board of Directors decides on which countries We Effect should work in.

#### Collaboration with member organisations

In 2020, We Effect had 68 member organisations. Together, We Effect and the companies and organisations that make up the association's membership form a development cooperation organisation that is strongly rooted in Swedish society. We Effect enjoys a profound and extremely important partnership with the member organisations within the following areas:

- Fundraising: The fundraising activities of the member organisations are an important source of income for We Effect. The goal is for this fundraising to support the member organisations as well; for We Effect to remain relevant to the member organisations' employees, customers and members and to contribute added value to the member organisations' business activities.
- Advocacy: The member organisations are an important channel when informing the Swedish public about global conditions, development issues and We Effect's development cooperation activities. We Effect also works with the member organisations to strengthen Swedish support for development cooperation, and to get more people to take a stand to support a more just world.

#### Partnerships and networks

We Effect collaborates with several international organisations. We Effect is a member of the board of AgriCord, an international network of 12 development cooperation organisations working to strengthen farming and farmers' organisations in developing countries through project funding, mainly from the EU. We Effect is also a member of the International Land Coalition (ILC), a global alliance of civil society and intergovernmental organisations working together to promote secure and equitable access to land. In addition, We Effect is on the board of the global ICMIF Foundation, which promotes the use of microinsurance as a method of fighting poverty. We Effect is also active in the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA), in particular in the European part of the organisation called Coops

Europe, where nine development cooperation organisations promote joint advocacy work, exchanges and studies on cooperative development. We Effect is active as well in the EU-LAT network, which coordinates activities relating to human rights and monitors EU policies towards Latin America. Coordination of these global networks and cooperations takes place from our liaison office in Brussels. In addition, We Effect is a member of the Association for Women's Rights in Development (AWID), which aims to strengthen individuals, organisations and international movements working to promote women's rights. In Sweden, We Effect is represented on the board of Concord Sweden, a European network aiming to influence the EU's development cooperation policy. We Effect is on the board of Co-operatives Sweden, an umbrella interest organisation for We Effect's member organisations. We Effect is also active in the government-appointed FAO committee, Giva Sverige (the Swedish Fundraising Association), Föreningen Riksinsamlingen (Children of the World), Ideell Arena and Fairtrade Sweden.

#### OTHER NON-FINANCIAL INFORMATION

#### **Collaboration with Vi Agroforestry**

We Effect conveys Sida funds to Vi Agroforestry, (fundraising organisation Vi Planterar Träd/We Plant Trees), for aid development activities in Eastern Africa. The organisations share administrative and marketing departments and the Secretary General, and collaborate in various areas. This collaboration has been strengthened by the joint interim strategy, which is overarching for both organisations' operations. In line with the strategy, a report "Fair food for all" has been produced together with Vi Agroforestry. The report was launched jointly and has served as the basis for joint action debate articles. A joint seminar was held in October to mark World Hunger Day: 'Justice on a plate – how can Sweden tackle increased global hunger?' with speakers such as Peter Eriksson, Sweden's Minister for International Development Cooperation, and Professor Michael Fakhri, the UN's Special Rapporteur on Right to Food.

#### Code of Quality for fundraising organisations

We Effect is a member of Giva Sverige (the Swedish Fundraising Association), which is a collective body for Swedish fundraising organisations. Giva Sverige has developed a Code of Quality for ethical and professional governance of organisations, to which We Effect adheres. Over the years, We Effect has worked to maintain transparent administrative systems and policies for its activities. We Effect works continually to ensure that the organisation's methods and the level of quality in projects are consistent in all parts of the world. Since 2013, compliance with the code has been monitored by an external auditor.

#### SIGNIFICANT EVENTS DURING THE YEAR

A new department manager was appointed for the Marketing Department, and at the end of the year a new manager was appointed for the Human

During the year an interim strategy was drawn up together with Vi Agroforestry with a focus on the right to food. The new strategic focus means that Vi Agroforestry and We Effect are adapting the programme operations to more clearly support cooperative and other member-based organisations in securing the right to food and reducing vulnerability ahead of future crises The work will be characterised by a strong emphasis on gender equality, climate justice and anti-corruption. The strategy was adopted by the Board in June.

#### The Administrative Department

The Administrative Department consists of three units: Finance, Human Resources, and Organisational Support & Compliance.

In the Administrative Department there has been a continued strong focus on the internal project to strengthen and define clearer roles and responsibilities throughout the organisation, and ensure that country offices, regional offices and the head office have sufficient resources to more effectively manage change processes and keep up with technological developments. During the year, there has also been a strong emphasis on improved procedures for managing and following up risks, where the department has updated policies and templates. We have also developed a digital learning platform. Finance has procured a new accounting system that will be implemented throughout the operation in 2021.

#### The Marketing Department

There has been a strong focus during the year on carrying out a reorganisation of the department. The reorganisation, which is divided into three teams, was confirmed at the turn of the year.

In autumn a campaign was carried out to address the looming global hunger disaster in the wake of the pandemic. We Effect and its member organisations gathered behind a joint call: Stronger Together. This call resulted in the fundraising campaign 'A united Sweden against the hunger pandemic'.

The campaign was communicated in autumn 2020, primarily via social media, but also via the member organisations' own channels for customers and employees. One hundred and fifty Swedish influencers, with a total of 24 million followers, engaged in 'A united Sweden against the hunger pandemic'. As part of the campaign, three episodes of a talk show were broadcast in which Assistant Secretary General of the UN, Ulrika Modéer, representatives of HSB and Coop and others took part. The campaign received five million views, generated almost 20,000 donations and rose SEK 2.8 million for We Effect. The campaign was run in partnership with Vi Agroforestry and generateda total of SEK 5.2 million.

In the campaign, the charity Children of the World highlighted We Effect's nutrition projects in Mozambique. We Effect and Children of the World have been working with the local health authority and local organisations in the poor province of Niassa for five years to tackle undernourishment among under-fives. The initiative was highlighted by Swedish national broadcasters SVT and Sveriges Radio.

Two reports were produced together with the Press and Advocacy Department: 'Farmers with their lives at stake' and 'Fair food for all'. A social media campaign was also run during the year to raise the awareness of Agenda 2030 and to disseminate knowledge.

During 2020, We Effect received donations of SEK 55.2 million. We Effect's member organisations and other companies account for 38 per cent of the fundraising, the Swedish Postcode Lottery for 36 per cent, and private donors for 26 per cent.

#### **Press and Advocacy**

The year began with 14 members of Sweden's parliament visiting our operation in Kenya, with many discussions about gender equality, democracy, cooperation and agriculture as a result. Shortly afterwards the pandemic struck, which subsequently dominated the department's work during the year. Politics and public opinion focused strongly on Sweden, but this also created opportunities to clearly emphasise the importance of international collaboration. Swedish development cooperation is key to tackling increasing hunger and securing everyone's right to food in the world. The member organisations were involved in debates at an early stage, which was followed by the #Coronavoices Twitter campaign, newsletters, factual reports, a series of live seminars on Facebook and a digital trip to Southern Africa. The department initiated projects with other organisations to highlight how the pandemic is affecting people in poverty and further contributing to a lack of gender equality, and a report about the need for a feminist climate policy was produced together with 16 other civil society organisations.

#### **International Department**

The International Department has had to undergo major change during the year to adapt the programme operations, as well as the field organisation and working practices, to the new conditions during the coronavirus pandemic. A guide, for example, was produced to support these processes following extensive consultations with the regions to implement the interim strategy. Instructions and guidelines have been drawn up to support our local partner organisations in adapting their operations and tackling the acute consequences faced by both the organisations and their members as a direct consequence of the pandemic.

The organisational review carried out by the International Department in the latter half of 2019 was consolidated during the year. Overall the changes were a success and helped to focus and refine the department's mission and mandate. No new organisational adjustments or changes were made in 2020.

During the year the department completed the roll-out and implementation of the organisation's new action management system, Crops. Along with the accounting system, Crops is the very core of the organisation's IT system for ensuring effective management, and good internal governance and control of development collaboration. Crops has helped to improve accessibility to information within and between the organisation's various offices, while also fostering improved governance within the organisation.

**Southern Africa** – We Effect's operations in Southern Africa have been hit hard by the strict restrictions introduced because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In December, We Effect conducted its first digital study trip. The trip was a meeting between Anna-Karin Hatt, CEO of the Federation of Swedish Farmers, LRF, and farmers in Zimbabwe and Mozambique. The aim was to

provide an insight into how the COVID-19 restrictions have affected the situation for farmers. Zambia has been struggling with a weak economy for many years, and towards the end of 2020 it was clear that it was unable to make the repayments on its large debts - the first country in Africa to be in that position. The country is therefore at risk of going bankrupt. The weak economy affects the farmers, for example through higher prices for seed, fertiliser and pesticide, which in turn result in smaller harvests, lower incomes and worse opportunities to eat their fill. In Malawi, We Effect and other international organisations teamed up to persuade donors and the government to provide financial support to buy emergency PPE, such as face masks and disposable gloves, and also to persuade them to support people who sell their goods on the street. In Mozambique the government began a review of the country's land policy during the year. We Effect's role in the review is to promote collaboration between the government and civil society, and it has therefore signed a memorandum of agreement with the government. The agreement is important recognition of We Effect's work on land issues in Mozambique.

Eastern Africa – The operations in Eastern Africa were also heavily affected by the COVID-19pandemic. Lockdowns were introduced in Kenya and Uganda with bans on social gatherings and requirements on social distancing. In Tanzania the country was declared free of COVID-19 after a few months. Elections were held in Tanzania during the year with the current president gaining an overwhelming majority of the votes, but both the opposition and external observers claimed there was electoral fraud. The election campaign in Uganda was marred by violence and restrictions on the use of social media. Despite these challenges, a new agreement was signed with the EU to support democratic elections in Tanzania, along with two agreements with the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization, FAO, to support farming organisations in Tanzania and the forestry value chain in Kenya.

Latin America - In 2020 Latin America, like the rest of world, was severely affected by the coronavirus pandemic. The far-reaching restrictions in the region represented a powerful blow to people who already lived in difficult circumstances prior to the pandemic. Even though We Effect's work in the region was affected by the pandemic, major adjustments were made to enable it to offer as relevant support as possible to partners. In March, when the region's various offices switched to working from home, resources were redistributed to cope with the impending crisis by giving higher priority to projects that support food security. A few months later We Effect also began extensive efforts to strengthen partner organisations' digital capacity. 2020 was also a year of natural disasters. Two powerful hurricanes, ETA and IOTA, struck Central America less than two weeks apart, devastating large parts of the countries in which we operate in the region. As a result, We Effect has begun a recovery project whereby farmers are given support to restore their farms so that they can use them again quickly. At the end of the year, the Board decided to close down the operation in Nicaragua due to the new law which means that international organisations are classed as foreign agents, making it impossible for We Effect to continue to pursue relevant development work in the country.

Europe - In Region Europe the countries went into lockdown when the pandemic arrived, which resulted in stringent restrictions, states of emergency, and a difficult financial situation for the majority of the programme's target groups. The 'Food Security and Economic Empowerment in North Macedonia' project was launched in immediate response to the acute situation, and the project was developed in partnership with the Swedish embassy in Skopje. The aim was to mitigate the effects of the pandemic regarding access to food and to strengthen capacity among society's most vulnerable. The National Federation of Farmers (NFF) partner organisation in North Macedonia received an award from the Macedonian Centre for International Cooperation for its exemplary gender equality work and internal democracy in the country. In Kosovo the very first national parliament was arranged for the countryside by We Effect's partner organisation. The meeting was digital, which enabled several national and regional stakeholders to take part. Digital events were organised in all of the countries on 15 October to mark Rural Women's Day. The events were well-attended by ministers, ambassadors and many women from the countryside. In Bosnia-Herzegovina a new partner organisation - Vive Zene ('Living Women') - was welcomed into the programme during the year. The organisation supports and works on the rehabilitation of female survivors of war trauma and violence. The partner organisations in Moldova were given support to represent rural women and their situation in front of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, which was held in Geneva at the beginning of the year.

Asia - In Asia the multi-year phase-out of the regional office and programme for South-East Asia (Myanmar, Cambodia and Vietnam) was completed. Despite the major challenge presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, the on-site personnel did an excellent job in closing the programme in a high-quality way, and carrying out all of the administrative activities required to close the office and end collaboration with the partner organisations. Our commitment to cooperative development in South-East Asia was demonstrated through two closing seminars and memorial publications about the collaborations in Vietnam and Cambodia. Personnel have worked from home in all of the countries since March 2020. The partner organisations have adapted their operations to counter the acute effects of the pandemic by strengthening local markets, supporting family farms and kitchen gardens, and creating and improving seed banks, for example. In the Philippines the work was impeded by the lack of government support and several hurricanes in succession. In Palestine curfews and lockdowns worsened an already difficult situation for the Palestinian areas, while at the same time poor healthcare made the situation even more uncertain. In Sri Lanka the operation has been able to continue slightly more normally as transmission of the virus could be restricted by closing the ports and airports. In the region, We Effect has managed to implement effective changes in its programmes and support partner organisations to adapt and improve the situation for people in farming and housing cooperatives and women's organisations. Several new projects have been started in the region with the support of Musikhjälpen ('Music Aid'), Radiohjälpen ('Radio Aid'), the EU and Sweden's consulate in Jerusalem.

#### FINANCIAL POSITION AND PERFORMANCE

The profit for the year after net financial items and earmarked funds amounted to SEK 11.2 million. We Effect is a non-profit organisation. However, the Board considers it important to have equity as a buffer, to ensure the long-term survival of our operations at all times. Financial assets are recorded at cost. We Effect will maintain low risk in its financial investments, in accordance with the organisation's policy of consolidation and capital investment. The Board proposes that the association's result be carried forward in its entirety.

#### Financing of operations

Total operating income in 2020 amounted to SEK 346.4 million. Donations from companies and individuals are an important element of financing, and totalled SEK 55.2 million, including product sales. The public grants amounted to a total of SEK 281.3 million and grants from non-public organisations amounted to SEK 6.8 million.

We Effect is a strategic partner to Sida CIVSAM, and the majority of the financing comprises the framework grant of SEK 189 million.

#### Expenses for development aid activities

The volume of our expenses for development aid activities was SEK 302 million, including forwarded grants. Africa receives the highest proportion of financial support, at 50 per cent. Support to Latin America amounts to 24 per cent, Asia 12 per cent, Europe 5 per cent and Global 2 per cent. The advocacy activities and other expenses for charitable activities in Sweden amount to 7 per cent

#### Significant events after the end of the financial year

Likely, the coronavirus pandemic will continue to have far-reaching consequences for We Effect's work. One concern is less funding for development collaboration, another is a change of priorities among donors. The unequal access to vaccines is also of great concern, along with how this affects our personnel, our partners and the rest of the population in the countries where we operate.

There was a minor reorganisation of the head office at the beginning of the year, with the unit for Human Resources being separated from the Administrative Department. The aim of this was to strengthen the focus on staff issues.

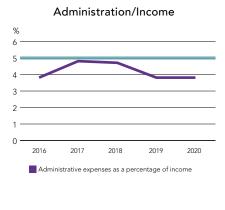
#### **Future development**

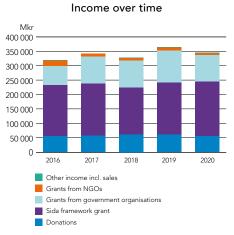
Operations in 2021 will largely involve continuing the implementation of, and work on the total of 13 development cooperation programmes in the regions, as well as continuing to adapt the operation to the global strategy for the right to food. Several major IT projects began towards the end of 2020, such as a new accounting and CRM system, which will go live in 2021. We have also developed a digital learning platform, which is being launched in March 2021.

#### **ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

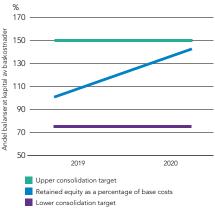
#### Income statement

Amounts in SEK	Note	2020	2019
OPERATING INCOME			
Donations	3	55,234,590	59,544,744
Grants	3	288,171,239	302,138,067
Net sales		4,536	16,807
Other operating income	4	3,032,306	2,771,748
Total operating income		346,442,671	364,471,366
Operating expenses	5		
Expenses for charitable activities	6	-301,745,422	-331,459,910
Administrative expenses	7	-13,184,228	-13,831,752
Fundraising expenses		-11,551,292	-17,608,111
Cost of goods and services sold		-5,385	-21,342
Total operating expenses		-326,486,327	-362,921,115
Operating result		19,956,344	1,550,251
Earnings from financial investments			
Earnings from securities and receivables	0	F 040	204 200
accounted for as non-current assets	8	5,012	-394,328
Other interest income and similar profit/loss items	9	144,706	627,049
Interest expenses and similar profit/loss items	10	-912,328	-236,569
Total earnings from financial investments		-762,610	-3,848
Result after financial items		19,193,734	1,546,403
Result for the year		19,193,733	1,546,403
Change in earmarked funds			
Result for the year according to the income statement		19,193,733	1,546,403
Utilisation of earmarked funds from		1 350 700	2 270 020
prior years		1,350,690	3,379,929
Earmarking of funds		-9,310,476	-1,350,690
Remaining amount for year/ change in retained equity		11,233,947	3,575,642





## Consolidation targets



The aim is for administrative expenses to be a maximum of 5 per cent of sales.

The internal consolidation target is for the retained equity to be between 75 and 150 per cent of the total base costs, which comprise administrative, fundraising and communication expenses, and 10 per cent of expenses for charitable activities. This leaves a sufficient level of reserves in place to wind down activities in a responsible manner should there be a considerable drop in income from fundraising and grants.

#### Balance sheet

Amounts in SEK	Note	2020	2019
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Intangible assets			
Capitalised expenditure for development and			
similar	11	0	0
Intangible assets		0	429,170
		0	429,170
Dramanty, plant and anying out			
Property, plant and equipment	12	2 774 110	2 120 724
Land and buildings	<u>12</u> 13	2,774,118	3,139,726
Equipment, tools and installations		1,142,614	1,405,025
		3,916,732	4,544,751
Financial assets			
Financial assets	14	36,835,572	36,970,178
Total financial assets		36,835,572	36,970,178
Total non-current assets		40,752,304	41,944,099
Current assets			
Inventories			
Products		0	1,899
Total inventories		0	1,899
Current receivables			
Accounts receivable – trade		649,792	914,260
Other receivables	15	10,049,285	18,162,671
Prepaid expenses and accrued income	16	5,890,802	10,183,057
Total current receivables		16,589,879	29,259,988
Cash and bank		162,776,371	126,595,253
Total current assets		179,366,250	155,857,140
TOTAL ASSETS		220,118,554	197,801,239
			.,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,
Amounts in SEK			
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES			
Equity			
Retained equity		94,539,179	83,305,232
Earmarked funds		9,310,476	1,350,690
Total equity		103,849,655	84,655,922
Provisions	4-7	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	
Other provisions	17	645,154	645,154
Total provisions		645,154	645,154
Current liabilities			
Accounts payable – trade		2,433,753	3,736,865
Liabilities, unutilised grants	18	104,866,342	91,200,117
Other liabilities		932,318	8,931,120
Accrued expenses and deferred income	19	7,391,332	8,632,061
Total current liabilities		115,623,745	112,500,163
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		220,118,554	197,801,239

## Change in equity

	Earmarked funds	Retained equity	Total equity
Opening balance 2020-01-01	1,350,690	83,305,232	84,655,922
Earmarked	9,310,476	-9,310,476	-
Utilised	-1,350,690	1,350,690	-
Result for the year	-	19,193,733	19,193,733
Total comprehensive income	7,959,786	11,233,947	19,193,733
Closing balance 2020-12-31	9,310,476	94,539,179	103,849,655

The above amounts for earmarked funds were earmarked by the donor.

#### Cash flow statement

	2020	2019
Operating activities		
Result after financial items	19,193,733	1,546,403
Adjustments for non-cash items	1,079,064	320,260
Cash flow from operating activities before changes in working capital	20,272,797	1,866,663
Changes in working capital		
Changes in inventories	1,899	6,673
Change in current receivables	12,670,109	4,581,758
Change in current liabilities	3,123,582	-4,700,870
Cash flow from operating activities	36,068,387	1,754,224
Investing activities		
Acquisition of financial assets	-21,875	-1,405,025
Investments in financial assets	-8,142	-12,098,556
Sale of financial assets	142,748	10,526,070
Cash flow from investing activities	112,731	-2,977,511
Cash flow for the year	36,181,118	-1,223,287
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	126,595,253	127,818,540
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	162,776,371	126,595,253

#### NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

#### with accounting principles and year-end comments

All amounts are in SEK unless otherwise stated. Information in parentheses refers to the previous year.

#### NOTE 1 Accounting policies and valuation methods

This annual report has been drawn up in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act (1995:1554), the Swedish Accounting Standards Board's BFNAR 2012:1 Annual and Consolidated Accounts (K3) and Giva Sverige's (the Swedish Fundraising Council's (FRII's)) Guidelines for annual reports. The accounting policies and valuation methods are unchanged compared with the previous year.

#### **Recognising income**

#### **Operating income**

Only the inflow of economic benefits that the association has received or will receive for itself is recognised as income. Unless otherwise stated below, income is measured at the fair value of what has been received or will be received. Below is a description of when income is recognised for each income item.

#### **Donations and grants**

A transaction in which the association is given an asset or service that has a value without giving back the equivalent value in exchange is a donation or received grant. If the asset or service is received because the association has met or will meet certain conditions and the association has an obligation to repay the counterparty if the conditions are not met, it is a received grant. If not, it is a donation.

#### **Donations**

Donations are generally recognised as income when they are received. As regards donations in the form of equities, real estate and art that the association intends to sell, the income is recognised when the donation is made. A donation entered as income is recognised as either an asset or cost, depending on whether or not the donation is used immediately. Donations that the association intends to put to continuous use in the operation are recognised as non-current assets. Other donations, which are not used, are recognised as current assets. As a general rule donations are measured at fair value.

#### Grants

Grants are recognised as income when the conditions for receiving the grant have been met. Received grants are recognised as liabilities until the conditions for receiving the grant have been met. Grants received to cover particular costs (e.g. for administration) are recognised in the same financial year as the cost that the grant is intended to cover. Received grants are measured at the fair value that the association has received or will receive.

#### Net sales

Income from the sale of goods and services is usually recognised at the time of sale.

#### Other income

In most cases, other income is a non-recurring item, such as a capital gain from the sale of real estate, damages received or insurance compensation received.

#### Leases

All of the association's leases are operating leases, meaning that the lease payment is recognised on a straight-line basis over the term of the lease.

#### **Recognition of costs**

Operating costs mainly comprise expenses for charitable activities, fundraising expenses and administrative expenses. Other operating costs that cannot be attributed to the main functions are costs of goods sold, which include purchasing, administrative and sales costs. Other expenses derive from costs for the ongoing maintenance of non-current assets abroad.

Expenses for charitable activities comprise costs attributed to the association's mission according to its statutes. They encompass approved project expenses for development activities and costs that arise as a

direct result of an activity within the association's remit, including costs for monitoring, reporting and local audits. Expenses for charitable activities also include costs relating to advocacy as well as highlighting the association's work in accordance with the association's mission as set out in the

Fundraising expenses comprise costs attributed to work to raise money in the form of donations and grants from donors. Fundraising expenses also include costs for fundraising materials, advertisements, donor registers, fundraising campaigns and mailings.

Administrative expenses include central functions such as IT, Finance, HR, administrative systems, other joint costs for the association and audit expenses. Joint costs are allocated based on the number of employees per department.

#### Remuneration to employees

Ongoing remuneration to employees in the form of salaries, social security contributions and similar are expensed as employees carry out the services required. Plans for remuneration after termination of employment are classified as defined benefit plans and the simplification rules stated in BFNAR 2012:1 are applied.

Pension obligations have been secured through a transfer of funds to a pension fund. In cases where the pension fund falls short of the obligation, a provision is recognised. In cases where the pension fund exceeds the obligation, no asset is recognised. Remuneration upon termination of employment is only recognised as a liability and cost when the company has a legal or constructive obligation to terminate an employee's employment

before the normal termination date.

#### Valuation principles

Assets, liabilities and provisions are measured at cost unless otherwise stated below. Receivables have been stated, after individual valuation, at the amounts that are expected to be received. Receivables and liabilities in foreign currencies have been translated at the closing day rate.

#### Intangible assets

Intangible assets are measured at cost less any accumulated amortisation and impairment losses. Amortisation is carried out on a straight-line basis across the asset's estimated useful life. The following amortisation periods are used:

Intangible assets: 5 years

#### Property, plant and equipment

Property, plant and equipment abroad that are classified as equipment and exceed a price base amount are recognised as equipment. The purchases are deemed to be financed through grants and the grants decrease the cost of the non-current assets. Property, plant and equipment are recognised as an asset in the balance sheet when it is probable, on the basis of the information available, that the future economic benefit associated with the holding will accrue to the association and the cost of the asset can be reliably calculated.

Property, plant and equipment are systematically depreciated over the asset's estimated useful life. Every non-current asset is measured as an asset. Non-current assets in the form of land and buildings abroad have not been divided into components because they are deemed to have the same useful life. When the assets' depreciable amount is determined, the asset's residual value is observed where appropriate. A straight-line depreciation method is used.

The following depreciation periods are used:

Land No depreciation
Buildings 20 years
Equipment 5 years

Impairment only occurs when a decrease in value is deemed to be permanent.

#### Financial assets

Long-term interest-bearing assets are measured at amortised cost less any impairment losses. All assets held to diversify risk are considered to be part of a securities portfolio and viewed as one item when valued at the lower of cost or market value, and for impairment testing. Impairment occurs if the market value for the whole portfolio is less than its cost and the decrease in value is deemed to be permanent.

Accounts receivable - trade are valued individually at the amounts expected to be received. Receivables and liabilities in foreign currencies are measured at the closing day rate.

#### Inventories

Goods for resale are measured using the first-in, first-out principle, at the lower of cost and net realisable value on the balance sheet date.

#### **Earmarked funds**

Donations that have not yet been utilised and other earmarked funds are recognised as earmarked funds in equity.

A provision is recognised when the association has obligations that relate to the financial year or previous financial years and that, on the balance sheet, are certain or probable as to their existence but uncertain as to the amount or date required to settle the obligation. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amount that will have to be paid.

#### **Cash flow statement**

The cash flow statement has been prepared using the indirect method and shows the association's inbound and outbound payments divided into operating activities and investing activities. The reported cash flow includes only transactions involving inbound or outbound payments. Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash as well as balances available at banks and other credit institutions.

#### **Contingent liabilities**

A contingent liability is recognised when there is:

- a) an existing obligation that originates from actual events but is not recognised as a liability or provision because it is not likely that an outflow of resources will be required or because the size of the commitment cannot be calculated with sufficient reliability, or
- b) a possible obligation that originates from actual events and the existence of which will only be confirmed by one or more uncertain events in the future.

#### Translation of foreign currencies

Receivables and liabilities in foreign currencies are measured at the closing day rate, i.e. the exchange rate on the balance sheet date.

The association is exempt from income tax on its non-profit activities because it meets the requirements for a public service in accordance with tax legislation.

Insofar as the association conducts business activity, the main rule is that the business activity is taxable. Business activity can be exempt from tax if it has a natural connection to the public service purpose or is a time-honoured source of financing. Business activity that is normally taxable may also be exempt from taxation in certain cases if the main principle applies.

#### NOTE 2 Accounting estimates

We Effect makes estimates and assessments about future development. By definition the resulting accounting estimates will rarely correspond to the actual outcome.

#### **NOTE 3** Fundraising

Donations recognised in the income statement	2020	2019
Individual donors	13,727,179	14,183,959
Folksam	1,174,155	1,090,435

#### NOTE 3 continued

Fonus	8,608	11,127
HSB and affiliated associations	3,413,881	3,500,501
KF, Coop and consumer associations	10,442,111	13,217,656
Lantmännen	374,740	473,000
Federation of Swedish Farmers	2,818,063	2,920,820
OK economic association	103,800	88,375
Swedish Postcode Lottery	19,802,380	17,000,000
Riksbyggen	2,015,692	2,105,155
Swedbank	522,535	500,000
Other fundraising companies	485,174	4,453,714
Legacy	346,272	-
Total donations	55,234,590	59,544,742

The above amounts include a dividend of SEK 68,716 from Humanfond.

Grants and public grants recognised in the income statement	2020	2019
Funds raised, non-public grants		
Radiohjälpen	3,515,046	2,786,904
Swedish Postcode Lottery, special projects	2,512,457	4,107,881
Welthungerhilfe	770,528	1,137,951
F 1 . 1 . 4C1		045 (00

R S

Welthungerhilfe	770,528	1,137,951
Fairtrade Africa	-	215,698
WYG Int. SAIRLA	36,046	670,339
Total funds raised, non-public grants	6,834,078	8,918,773
Grants from government organisations, public grants	2020	2019
AgriCord, Directorate General for Development Cooperation (Belgium)	363,520	1,065,647
AgriCord, IFAD FFP ASEAN	358,396	-
AgriCord, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, Africa		836,386
AgriCord, FO4ACP Africa	397,778	-
Sida Bogota, Colombia	1,432,236	3,851,621
EU	37,665,633	21,139,678
Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Malawi	167,070	10,687,094
Sida, EU Contribution	8,194,628	5,825,810
International programme office, trainee funds	-	198,726
Sida CIVSAM	188,956,946	182,394,841
Sida, information grants	2,650,592	2,854,736
Sida Guatemala City, Guatemala	5,750,625	14,082,238
Sida Harare, Zimbabwe	8,794,342	10,673,875
Sida Tanzania	25,148	7,714,573
Sida Maputo, Mozambique	20,801,214	31,930,068
Sida Ethiopia Sustainable Cotton	2,392,975	-
Sida Lusaka WEE	3,386,058	-
Total public grants from government organisations	281,337,161	293,219,293
Total grants and public grants recognised in the income statement	288,171,239	302,138,067
Total fundraising comprises the following	2020	2019
Donations recognised in the income statement	55,234,590	59,544,744
Non-public grants recognised in the income statement	6,834,078	8,918,773

#### NOTE 4 Other operating income

Total funds raised

	2020	2019
Rental income	276,201	467,176
Local income abroad	332,508	-
Other income	2,423,597	2,304,572
Total other operating income	3,032,306	2,771,748

62.068.667

68.463.517

#### NOTE 5 Personnel costs

Average number of employees	2020	2019
Sweden	43	39
Belgium	1	1
Region Europe (counted together with Asia last year)	9	9
Region Asia (counted together with Europe last year)	25	24
Region Latin America	49	41
Region Southern Africa	54	88
Region Eastern Africa	24	23
Total employees	205	225
	2020	2019
Men	74	92
Women	131	133
Total average number of employees	205	225

The average number of employees does not include employees who received remuneration less than one half price base amount SEK 23,650 (23,250) This reporting is supported by BFNAR 2006:11.

Salaries and remuneration	2020	2019
Service in Sweden		
Salaries and remuneration	21,330,356	20,136,509
Payroll overheads	9,856,308	9,021,705
Total service in Sweden	31,186,664	29,158,214

The total for salaries and payroll overheads for service in Sweden amounts to SEK 31,186,664 (29,158,214), of which pension costs total SEK 3,685,363 (2,632,968) in 2020.

Salaries and remuneration	2020	2019
Service abroad		
Region Asia	4,649,633	4,775,686
Region Europe	1,807,084	1,757,941
Brussels	901,725	741,781
Region Southern Africa	11,128,318	16,152,324
Region Latin America	10,599,931	12,289,266
Region Eastern Africa	7,390,134	7,462,029
Total service abroad	36,476,825	43,179,027
Total salaries and remuneration	67,663,489	72,337,241

The association's activities are based to some extent on volunteer work. The number of volunteer hours totalled 0 (0) in 2020.

#### Pension expenses and other social security contributions

Pension obligations are secured via a fund at Folksam (KP Pension & Försäkring). Pension payments from the fund during the year amounted to SEK 4,188,612 (4,208,234). The present value of the obligations covered by the fund amounted to SEK 70,792,662 (71,117,199) on the balance sheet date. The balance in the association's portion of the fund exceeds the pension liability by SEK 17,939,815 (16,579,217). In accordance with an agreement with PRI Pensionsgaranti, the pension obligations have been secured via credit value insurance up to and including 31 December 2020. As a special insurance condition, the pension fund must have an over-consolidation reserve, a minimum of 120 per cent (120) of the liability.

#### The Board and senior executives

Salaries and remuneration, and pension costs include costs for the Secretary General. Salaries and remuneration total SEK 873,298 (863,385). Pension costs, including statutory taxes amount to SEK 806,298 (766,987).

The Secretary General has the following conditions of employment: mutual notice period of six months; in the event of notice being given by

the employer, severance pay corresponding to six months' salary is paid. No remuneration is paid to the Board. Outstanding pension obligations to the Board amount to SEK 0 (0).

There were no transactions with Board members, senior executives or key individuals. The association enjoys a close partnership with its member organisations, which assist with advice in their respective areas of activity.

Gender balance of Board members and senior executives	2020	2019
Board members on balance sheet date		
Women	6	5
Men	3	4
Total Board members on balance sheet date	9	9
Secretary General		
Women	1_	1
Men	-	-
Total CEO	1	1

#### NOTE 6 Expenses for development aid activities

	2020	2019
Region Eastern Africa		
Kenya	9,253,158	9,869,257
Regional projects in Eastern Africa	12,917,325	14,240,542
Vi Agroforestry, forwarded grant	20,243,969	19,351,996
Tanzania	8,510,306	16,992,122
Uganda	6,338,696	7,892,706
Region Southern Africa Malawi	8,733,391	16,384,348
Regional projects in Southern Africa	6,138,955	5,060,214
Mozambique	26,223,120	37,276,812
Zimbabwe	39,778,182	29,058,317
Zambia	12,521,248	12,620,687
Property Unit Zambia	243,084	773,190
Region Latin America		
Regional projects in Latin America	15,457,182	18,890,152
Bolivia	6,727,479	4,414,651
Colombia	3,406,177	4,245,223
El Salvador	12,892,256	9,925,937
Guatemala	21,494,708	22,204,662
Honduras	6,845,794	9,650,610
Nicaragua	6,353,920	5,434,208
Paraguay		3,756,803
Region Asia		
Regional projects in Asia	4,230,232	3,794,631
Cambodia	960,184	1,999,338
Palestine	11,326,209	7,627,212
Myanmar/Burma	170,394	2,083,223
Philippines	7,169,171	7,159,602
Sri Lanka	9,596,217	8,658,786
Vietnam	2,761,754	3,771,173
Region Europe		
Regional projects in Europe	2,959,898	4,060,892
Albania	2,580,131	3,782,581
Bosnia-Herzegovina	1,532,226	981,353
Kosovo	720,859	555,235
Macedonia	5,686,968	4,072,553
Moldova	2,590,250	3,011,130

#### NOTE 6 Continued

Global		
The global programme	4,200,372	5,147,284
Total project expenses	280,563,813	304,747,330
Other projects etc.		
Trainee programme	-	202,722
Advocacy activities in Sweden	12,681,880	14,344,408
International Department	3,975,134	5,287,775
Other projects	4,524,594	6,877,675
Total expenses for development aid activities	301,745,422	331,459,910

#### NOTE 7 Operating leases

	2020	2019
Future lease payments are due as follows:		
Due for payment within 1 year	2,902,727	2,944,265
Due for payment in 1-5 years	12,364,580	10,242,076
Estimated lease payments during the period	15,267,307	13,186,341

Future lease costs refer to premises and IT equipment. A new lease was signed in 2018 for 2019–2026 for the premises. Expensed lease payments in the income statement amount to SEK 3,155,883 (3,483,817).

## NOTE 8 Earnings from other securities and receivables accounted for as non-current assets

	2020	2019
Capital gains from sales	5,012	-394,328
Total	5.012	-394,328

#### NOTE 9 Other interest income and similar profit/loss items

	2020	2019
Interest income	144,706	143,695
Exchange rate differences	-	483,354
Total	144,706	627,049

#### NOTE 10 Interest expense and similar profit/loss items

	2020	2019
Other interest expenses	139,591	3,175
Exchange rate loss on foreign currency accounts	772,737	233,355
Total	912,328	236,530

#### NOTE 11 Intangible assets

	2020	2019
Capitalised expenditure for software		
Opening cost	2,145,850	2,145,850
Closing accumulated cost	2,145,850	2,145,850
Opening amortisation	-1,716,680	-1,287,510
Amortisation for the year	-429,170	-429,170
Closing accumulated amortisation	-2,145,850	-1,716,680
Closing carrying amount		429,170

#### NOTE 12 Land and buildings

	2020	2019
Opening cost	7,312,167	7,312,167
Closing accumulated cost	7,312,167	7,312,167
Accumulated depreciation		
Opening depreciation	-4,172,441	-3,806,833
Depreciation for the year according to plan	-365,608	-365,608
Closing accumulated depreciation	-4,538,049	-4,172,441
Closing carrying amount	2,774,118	3,139,726

Land and buildings abroad comprise the association's own offices in Guatemala, Honduras, Kenya and Nicaragua.

#### NOTE 13 Equipment

	2020	2019
Opening cost	1,405,025	-
Purchases	21,875	1,405,025
Closing accumulated depreciation	1,426,900	1,405,025
Depreciation for the year	2020	2019
Closing accumulated depreciation	-284,286	-
Closing carrying amount	1,142,614	1,405,025

#### NOTE 14 Securities holdings

Securities holdings (SEK thousand)	Cost	Market value on closing day
Securities held as non-current assets		
Discretionary fund 7	36,970,178	39,373,046
Total securities held as non-current assets	36,970,178	39,373,046
Change in securities held as non-current assets	2020	2019
Opening accumulated cost	36,970,178	35,792,020
Investments during the year	8,142	12,098,556
Sales/disposals	-142,748	-10,920,398
Closing accumulated cost	36,835,572	36,970,178
Closing book value	36,835,572	36,970,178

#### NOTE 15 Other receivables

Total other receivables	10.049.285	18,162,671
Other receivables	1,252,132	1,895,309
Receivables – Donors	3,973,493	2,638,946
Receivables – Partner organisations abroad	4,823,660	13,628,416
Specification of other receivables	2020	2019

#### NOTE 16 Prepaid expenses and accrued income

	2020	2019	
Prepaid rent	773,018	771,000	
Accrued income	4,739,925	8,837,656	
Prepaid expenses	377,859	574,401	
Total	5,890,802	10,183,057	

#### NOTE 17 Other provisions

	2020	2019
Provisions at the beginning of the year	645,154	645,154

#### NOTE 18 Liability received, unutilised grants

Specification of liability received, unutilise grants	2020	2019
Sida CIVSAM	18,885,484	27,558,312
Sida Info	165,858	301,450
Other Sida grants	50,854,509	26,607,160
AgriCord	103,200	183,625
EU grants	27,332,042	26,827,771
Norwegian embassy, Norad	-	167,070
Other public grants for activities		301,406
Total public grants	97,341,093	81,343,982
Grants from organisations and companies	7,525,250	9,253,322

Liabilities to Sida CIVSAM and other donors arise when the donation has been received but the activities are yet to be carried out.

#### NOTE 19 Accrued expenses and prepaid income

	2020	2019
Other items	3,765,105	4,330,659
Holiday pay	2,313,181	2,312,615
Accrued social security contributions	1,313,047	1,988,788
Total	7,391,333	8,632,062

#### **NOTE 20** Contingent liabilities

	2020	2019
Pension commitment	1,415,853	1,422,344
Bank guarantee	1,210,300	-
Total contingent liabilities	2,626,153	1,422,344

#### NOTE 21 Significant events after the end of the financial year

The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic will have far-reaching consequences for the organisation's operations. We can expect altered priorities from cooperation development financiers, and greater competition for funds raised. The structure of our development cooperation activities will also be affected, although it is difficult to say how exactly.

Stockholm, 5 May 2021

Lotta Folkesson Chair of the Board

Anders Lago Vice Chair

Peter Ström

Björn Larsson

Pritta van Schaultz

Frica Lundaren

Erica Lundgren

Helen Persson

Anna Tibblin Secretary General

#### **AUDITOR'S REPORT**

To the Annual General Meeting of We Effect, corp. ID no. 802004-1524

#### **REPORT ON THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS**

#### **Opinions**

We have audited the annual accounts of We Effect for the year 2020. In our opinion, the annual accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act and in all material respects fairly present the association's financial position as of 31 December 2020 and its financial performance and cash flows for the year in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act. The directors' report is consistent with the other parts of the annual accounts.

#### **Basis for opinions**

We conducted the audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. The auditors' responsibilities under those standards are further described in the sections on "Authorised public accountant's responsibility" and "Elected auditor's responsibility".

We are independent in relation to the association in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. As an authorised public accountant, I have fulfilled my ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we gathered is sufficient and appropriate as a basis for our opinions.

#### Responsibilities of the Board of Directors and Secretary General

The Board of Directors and the Secretary General are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these annual accounts in accordance with the Annual Accounts Act. The Board and Secretary General are also responsible for the internal control that they deem necessary to prepare annual accounts that do not contain any material misstatements, whether due to error or impropriety.

In preparing the annual accounts, the Board and Secretary General are responsible for assessing the association's ability to continue the operation. They provide information, when appropriate, concerning conditions that may affect the ability to continue operations and use the going concern assumption. The going concern assumption is not, however, applied if the Board and Secretary General intend to liquidate the association, cease operations or have no realistic alternative than to do either.

#### Authorised public accountant's responsibility

I have to conduct the audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (ISA) and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance on whether the annual accounts are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to submit an auditor's report that contains our opinions. Reasonable assurance is a high degree of assurance, but no guarantee, that an audit performed according to ISA and generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden will always discover a material misstatement if such exists. Misstatements can arise due to impropriety or error and are material if individually or together they can reasonably be expected to affect financial decisions that users make based on the annual accounts.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISA, I exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. Moreover:

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatements in the annual accounts, whether they are due to impropriety or error, formulate and carry out auditing procedures based in part on these risks and gather audit evidence that is adequate and suitable to form a basis for my opinions. The risk of not discovering a material misstatement due to impropriety is higher than for a material misstatement due to error because improprieties may involve acting in collusion, falsification, intentional omission, incorrect information or disregarding internal controls
- I obtain an understanding of the part of the association's internal control that is of significance to my audit to carry out auditing procedures that are suitable considering the circumstances, but not to make a statement on the effectiveness of internal controls.
- I evaluate the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Board of Directors and the Secretary General.
- I draw a conclusion on the suitability of the Board and Secretary General using the going concern assumption in preparing the annual accounts. I also draw a conclusion, based on the audit evidence collected, about whether there are any material uncertainty factors pertaining to such events or conditions that may lead to significant doubt about the association's ability to continue its activities. If I draw the conclusion that there is a material uncertainty factor, I must call attention in my auditor's report to the disclosures in the annual accounts regarding the material uncertainty factor or, if such disclosures are inadequate, modify the opinion regarding the annual accounts. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence gathered up to the date of the auditor's report. Future events or circumstances may, however, mean that an association can no longer continue its activities.
- I evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the annual accounts, including the disclosures, and whether the annual accounts portray the underlying transactions and events in a manner that provides a true and fair view.

I must inform the Board of the audit's planned scope and emphasis as well as its timing. I must also inform of significant audit findings during my audit, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identified.

#### Elected auditor's responsibility

I have to conduct an audit in accordance with the Auditing Act and thereby in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. My objective is to achieve a reasonable degree of certainty as to whether the annual accounts were prepared in accordance with the Swedish Annual Accounts Act and if the annual accounts provide a true and fair view of the association's position and performance.

#### REPORT ON OTHER LEGAL AND REGULATORY REQUIREMENTS

#### **Opinion**

In addition to our audit of the annual accounts, we have also conducted an audit of the Board's management of We Effect for the year 2020.

We recommend to the Annual General Meeting that the members of the Board of Directors and the Secretary General be discharged from liability for the financial year.

#### **Basis for opinion**

We conducted the audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. Our responsibility as set out in these standards is described in more detail in the section on "The auditor's responsibility". We are independent in relation to the association in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden. As an authorised public accountant, I have fulfilled my professional ethical responsibility in accordance with these requirements.

We be lieve that the audit evidence we gathered is sufficient and appropriate as a basis for our opinion.

**Responsibilities of the Board of Directors and Secretary General**The Board of Directors and the Secretary General are responsible for the

Auditors' responsibility

Our objective regarding the audit of the management, and thereby our opinion regarding discharge from liability, is to gather audit evidence in order to be able to assess with a reasonable degree of assurance whether

any Board member or the Secretary General in any material respects committed any act or any negligence that may give rise to liability for damages for the association.

Reasonable assurance is a high degree of assurance, but no guarantee, that an audit performed according to generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden will always discover actions or neglect that may give rise to liability for damages for the association.

As part of an audit in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards in Sweden, the authorised public accountant exercises professional judgement and maintains professional scepticism throughout the audit. The review of the management is mainly based on the audit of the accounts. What additional review procedures are carried out are based on the authorised public accountant's professional assessment and other selected accountants' assessment based on risk and materiality. This means that we focus the review on such measures, areas and circumstances that are significant to the business and where deviations or violations would be of particular significance to the association's situation. We go through and test decisions made, decision documentation, actions taken and other circumstances that are relevant to our opinion regarding discharged from liability.

Stockholm, 21 May 2021 Öhrlings PricewaterhouseCoopers AB

Erik Albenius Authorised Public Accountant Hans Eklund Elected auditor

Mans Stellen



Cover photos: Photo Edson Artur | Jamia Salimo. Photo Edson Artur | Olivia. Photo Claudio Vasquez Bianchi | Placida Odencio. Photo Nana Buxani | Aulelia Leonidas. Photo Wilfred Mikomangwa | Aziko Rrënja. Photo Esmeralda Harizi | Photo Wilfred Mikomangwa | Rosa Camaja. Photo José Alfredo Pacajoj Carranza | Photo Magnus Fond | Photo Nana Buxani | Photo Edson Artur

