

## Annual Report Koppert Foundation 2019

### Preface

This is the third annual report of the Koppert Foundation, and the second covering a full year. The three focus areas remained the same: small farmers, support for Koppert employees involved in social projects and education & innovation.

The total allocated annual budget was also available in 2019. The sum of all contributions to all accepted projects was approximately equal to the available budget.

In 2019, the lessons learned with regard to the acquisition, assessment, monitoring and evaluation of projects started to bear fruit for both the working group and the project board. The lessons learned, implementation practices and ideas have been documented in a working document to help to draw lines to the future.

### Organization

The Koppert Foundation has a governance structure with a board, a project board and a working group. The management structure and working method have been the guiding principle for the work processes. The board was expanded in 2019 with Micha Oosthoek, who will serve as an external member. The number of board members is now odd (3).

Most applications are received via the website [www.koppertfoundation.org](http://www.koppertfoundation.org). The working group screens each application to see whether it fits within the focus, and creates an impression of the applicant. Applications with a positive advice from the working group are submitted to the project board, which ultimately decides whether the project will be financially supported.

The secretariat of the project board was transferred from Ingrid van Toor to Francien van Epen in 2019. The project database on GROW continued to be a very useful tool for managing all information related to projects. In some areas the database has been improved to further increase its usefulness.

A new working group (Education working group) was established at the end of 2019 to support the existing working group in the implementation of the educational projects. This often requires input in the field of knowledge and organization from Koppert. The Education working group reports to the existing working group.

### Publicity

The Foundation is visible to the world through the website [www.koppertfoundation.org](http://www.koppertfoundation.org), in the languages English and Dutch. There is a flowchart page to help the applicant assess the eligibility of the project. On this page one finds application forms for small and large projects. Every Koppert subsidiary website now has a brief introduction of the Koppert Foundation in the local language, with reference to the Koppert Foundation website and in some cases to the relevant subsidiary for further help and explanation. However, this has not yet led to much response.

A folder, banners and a PowerPoint presentation were created and used to promote the Koppert Foundation. The intention is to feature the work of the Koppert Foundation every quarter on the company's GROW intranet.

As of 2019, an introduction to the work of the Koppert Foundation is part of the program on the introduction days for new employees.

### Projects - general

In 2019, a total of 36 projects were positively assessed and supported. The number of projects and financial contributions per focus area:

- 11 projects related to small-scale farmers; 55% of the contributions
- 13 projects for social responsibility / involvement of Koppert employees; 5% of the contributions
- 12 projects for education / innovation; 40% of the contributions.

The number of projects and financial contributions per continent:

- Africa: 18 projects, 67% of the contributions
- Europe: 13 projects, 13% of the contributions
- Asia: 4 projects, 15% of the contributions
- Latin America: 1 project, 5% of the contributions

A total of 15 applications were rejected for various reasons: they did not fit the focus of the Foundation, it was difficult or impossible to assess the impact, projects requested were canceled, etc.

The table below shows some key figures of the years 2018 and 2019 next to each other for comparison.

Number of projects per focus area	2018	2019
Smallholder farmers	5	11
Employee involvement	5	13
Education / innovation	4	12
total	14	36

## Projects in 2019 - overview

The projects are briefly described below for each of the three focus areas, with a heading for each project with country (and project name, region) and a description of the project, collaborating partners if relevant, and the impact. In some cases, the classification may be somewhat arbitrary, because projects aimed at small-scale farmers often also have an education component as well.

The location of projects has been made visible on a Google interactive map with a short description and visual material (if available).

### Small-scale farmers

#### *Ethiopia (Agricultural assistance in Gambella)*

Support for a three-year project, in which ZOA helps 300 local families and 100 refugees families from South Sudan to improve their food security and income through support through materials and training in sustainable agricultural practices, diversifying crop range and marketing.

#### *Ethiopia (Improve farmers livelihood in rural areas in South Ethiopia)*

The Koppert Foundation has promised NGO Nuru Ethiopia 3 years of financial support (depending on progress) for the realization of a cash crop project within a larger project initiated and organized by Nuru in Ethiopia. This will stimulate and develop the capacity of cooperative members (farmers) to produce some types of legumes efficiently and sustainably for better nutrition of households and fair profit margins through cooperative marketing. This project should lead to higher family incomes, better resilience in agricultural management and sustainable incomes from the (12) professionalized farmers' cooperatives. Ultimately, more than 7,000 people in 1,200 families will benefit from the improvements.

#### *Ecuador (cocoa processing center in Damas)*

The Koppert Foundation supported the World Servants organization in the construction of a cocoa processing center for a local cooperative. This project helps the 115 farming families involved to grow their cocoa in a more sustainable way. In addition, this center makes it possible to process the harvest into a higher quality product. This gives them a stronger position in the value chain and a higher payout price. As a result, the income of these families will increase.

#### *Syria (agricultural rehabilitation)*

For a second time, Koppert Foundation has pledged support to TEAR to once again help some (115) highly vulnerable Syrian peasant families restart their businesses after the humanitarian crisis (through local organization MERATH). However, before the project started, the situation in the country deteriorated considerably and the whole was suspended for better times.

#### *Ghana (small-scale irrigation systems)*

Here Koppert Foundation contributed together with other donors and the initiator 'Pumping is Life' to a small-scale irrigation project in Northern Ghana. 30 farmers received training from ELPG (= Ecological Agricultural Projects Ghana) in the fields of agriculture, economics, animal husbandry, horticulture, irrigation. Of these, 15 have been selected for the construction of wells with a rope pump, water tank, irrigation system for 800 m<sup>2</sup>, chicken coop or goat shed and arboricultural garden. The project aims to increase local employment and better income for farmers and family (also outside the rainy season), better drinking water supply, more and better food on the local market. As farmers commit to repayments, resources are released to help the next cohort of farmers with a similar project.

*South Sudan (ZOA agriculture project)*

An employee of a good relationship from Koppert retired and asked for a contribution to a ZOA agricultural project in South Sudan in which he was involved.

*Nigeria (support for internal refugees)*

The AidTrade organization supports internal refugees in Nigeria by helping them get started with agricultural activities in their new place. The Koppert Foundation has supported the purchase of seeds in this project.

*Senegal (Food for life)*

Mercy Ships has helped a practical school of a train-the-trainer agricultural project in Senegal by installing and maintaining a solar system providing energy for irrigation and the school building. This makes them independent of fossil energy, thus taking an important step towards sustainability.

*Kenya (HortImpact)*

In this project Koppert Foundation helped to support farmers (50-100 families) to improve their position in the vegetable production chain. This has been achieved by encouraging the use of better varieties and by training farmers in the use of modern cultivation methods, integrated crop protection, use of greenhouses, irrigation and, last but not least, access to financing and marketing. The project was co-sponsored by Rijk Zwaan, Rabobank Foundation and SNV Kenya.

*Uganda (Nature's Farms)*

Joseph Muyeti received a contribution to empower up his company (Nature's Farms) to give practical training in the field of sustainable agricultural practices according to the principles of Foundations for Farming to small-scale farmers and other interested parties from surrounding communities.

Projects involving Koppert employees (or relatives)

*Philippines (Caring hands)*

The Koppert Foundation supported a former employee from Asia and his partner in designing and conducting practical training for mentally handicapped people, together with an accompanying family member. This teaches them to grow organic fruit and vegetables in their own garden in a sustainable way. This can improve not only the income situation, but also the acceptance and dignity of these people.

*Ghana (Back to School)*

A daughter of an employee received a contribution for the construction of a meeting space for the project "Back to School", which is committed to education for teenage mothers in the Ghanaian municipality of Agona Nsaba.

*Kenya / Uganda (Bake for life)*

A Koppert employee received a contribution to make footage of the 'Bake for Life' project in Uganda. This project includes a number of bakeries where women and mentally handicapped people are given the opportunity to receive vocational training, learn and earn an income.

*Netherlands (benefit dinner 'Stichting de Ontmoeting')*

Koppert Foundation supported a benefit dinner organized by 'Stichting Ontmoeting' with where a Koppert employee assisted. This foundation supports stalled people to get their lives back in order and thus offer a new perspective.

*Netherlands (local clothing bank Lansingerland)*

Koppert Foundation supported the operation of the local clothing bank 'Geef een Kans', where more than 10 volunteers collect clothing and shoes to offer them in an organized manner to approximately 600 people in Lansingerland who have little means to buy this themselves.

*The Netherlands (Enjoy a Meal Together - Christmas meal)*

A spontaneous idea and initiative led by the joint effort of tens of Koppert volunteers together with a few local companies to a festive Christmas dinner for about 150 people from Lansingerland who cannot afford such or who are dealing with loneliness.

*Netherlands (Greenhouse Gala for Charity)*

Koppert Foundation contributed to the Greenhouse Gala for Charity, held on the occasion of the opening of a new greenhouse at Koppert Cress. The donations from this Westland charity gala went to the new Muziekids studio in the Princess Máxima Hospital in Utrecht and the Westland Foundation De Zaaier, which is active in Northeast Congo.

*Netherlands (Young Perspective in Zoetermeer)*

Koppert Foundation once again supported the 'Young Perspective' foundation. Volunteers work here as a buddy and mentor for young people (6-24 years) who need such support to build their future. The application was made by an employee of Koppert BV who works as a buddy-volunteer for this foundation.

*Netherlands (Gouda children's farm)*

An employee received a financial contribution for maintenance and repair of an animal shelter on a petting zoo where she herself volunteers.

*Netherlands (Lionsclub Maasland)*

An employee is actively involved in this Lions Club and knocked on the door of the Koppert Foundation for sponsorship, to make it possible to realize charity campaigns. This has been honored.

*Netherlands (Sinterklaas Lansingerland)*

An employee is actively involved in taking care of Sinterklaas gifts for children in families that depend on the Food Bank. She received a contribution for the purchase of the gifts.

*The Netherlands (Sint for Everyone1 The Hague)*

Another employee participated in a similar project in The Hague by presenting part of a radio campaign. Here too the Koppert Foundation has made a donation to the organization to finance Sinterklaas gifts for the children.

Education / innovation

*Zimbabwe (Farming forward)*

Here Koppert Foundation supported a project of TEAR in the implementation of an innovative game at the Ebenezer training center. Social enterprise Kucheza developed the game and trained a number of trainers to

teach groups of students and farmers in a contemporary and playful way to improve their agricultural practices in an imaginary company, learn to look at their company in an economic way and the importance of cooperation experience in cooperatives.

#### *Sri Lanka (training horticultural management)*

By donating a number of books (Knowing & Recognizing edition 2018) that have been used by Lentiz education group to support an IPM training to employees of the Ministry of Agriculture in Sri Lanka.

#### *Kenya (AMEA - Agribusiness Market Ecosystem Alliance)*

AMEA is a fast growing network of public and private organizations working in the agricultural sector, all aimed at helping professional farmers develop. Koppert Foundation supports the Kenyan local AMEA network, so that Koppert Kenya can make use of this.

#### *Kenya (Maiani Food Forest)*

The Ghetto Smart organization wants to develop a smart, environmentally sustainable way to produce diverse food by setting up a food forest together with the local population. And thus to tackle one of the basic causes of migration from the countryside to the city. Koppert Foundation supports this initiative.

#### *Kenya (study effectiveness CABI plant doctor training)*

After training 2 groups of plant doctors in Kenya, it was essential to investigate the impact on the knowledge, attitude and behavior of the target group. CABI conducted this research with funding from the Koppert Foundation. This was done by analyzing the advice from the database and a group discussion with a number of the trainees. The share of IPM in the registered advices appeared to have increased slightly. However, the awareness of the existence of non-chemical solutions and the curiosity of the plant doctors to conduct more research into this themselves had increased significantly.

#### *India (Plant Doctor Training)*

The IPM curriculum for plant doctor training, which CABI and Koppert have jointly developed and evaluated for Kenya, has been adapted by local CABI experts and consultants from Koppert India to the relevant pests and diseases and the products available for biological approach. The training was then given to a group of advisers and future trainers from different origins. The Koppert Foundation contributed financially to this.

#### *Uganda (Protection of widows and orphans)*

In Uganda, unfortunately it often happens that neighbors or relatives lay hold on the home and property of a woman and children after the death of her husband. This makes victims homeless, poor and vulnerable to other forms of abuse and violence. Without their own land, the possibility of growing crops and providing for their own living will also disappear. The Koppert Foundation supported the International Justice Mission organization, which works with police and local officials in investigating cases of illegal land expropriation and detecting and arresting perpetrators. This project may not seem to fit entirely in the focus areas, but can be seen as an innovative way of supporting small-scale (mainly female) farmers.

#### *Uganda (Wobulenzi Town Academy)*

This project took place at a school in the Luwero district (central Uganda). The school was set up by the English NGO Serve Direct. Under the guidance of an experienced Dutch development couple and through the contribution of the Koppert Foundation, a 3-hectare piece of land at the school premises has been reclaimed, fenced and irrigated. Seeds, compost and textbooks were also purchased. All this contributed to improvement

the quality of education enormously, and to teach students (and teachers) in a very practical way how to grow food crops in a sustainable and effective way.

*Netherlands (Nature's little helpers)*

Support the educational kit 'Nature's little helpers' that primary school teachers can use to make children (7-10 years) enthusiastic about nature in Dutch primary schools and to become aware of how insects, fungi and bacteria contribute to health food and encourage them to play outside more often and explore their environment, strengthening their relationship with nature.

*Netherlands (Verges of Harvest)*

With a financial contribution and an insect hotel, the Koppert Foundation supported a local citizens' initiative, where passers-by to and from the Rottemeren recreational area can get acquainted with all kinds of fruit trees and shrubs and other edible plants. One may also harvest (modest amounts). The furnished area also functions as a nature-friendly refuge area for various insects, birds and other animals.

**Financial year report 2019**

opening balance	€	3.686,77	Expenses	
Income			Donations to projects	€ 377.880,20
Koppert BV	€	375.000,00	Website	864,26
Other donations	€	1.625,00	office supplies	€ 1.341,50
			Closing balance	€ 225,81
check	€	380.311,77		€ 380.311,77

**Numbers visualised**

