

2024

Profile of the Louis Leitz Foundation

The charitable Louis Leitz Foundation was established in November 2001 as a trust foundation by 39 founders of a former entrepreneurial family. It was recognized as a foundation with legal capacity under civil law by the Stuttgart Regional Council on 6 June 2006.

By establishing the foundation, the founders are following the guiding principle that the peaceful coexistence of people of all origins, skin colors, religions and generational affiliations is based on all individuals being able to develop their own talents, secure a living by themselves and participate in society. Enabling people through education, vocational training and income generating opportunities is, therefore, of prime importance to ensure lasting social cohesion.

The purpose of the foundation is to support children, as well as youngsters and adult people, who are physically, mentally or economically disadvantaged in unfolding their potentials by offering access to education, training and employment. Hence, the motto of the Louis Leitz Foundation is:

Providing a Better Future through Education | Vocational Training | Employment

Being a grant-giving, charitable foundation, the Louis Leitz Stiftung focusses on granting financial assistance to educational, training and income generating projects for people in challenging learning and/or living environments. In 2024, the following, exemplary medium-term projects (funding period 3 - 6 years) were supported:

Projects in Germany:

- **ANNA for Future** offers participants in pre-vocational training programmes at the Anna Haag Mehrgenerationenhaus in Stuttgart-Bad Cannstatt socio-pedagogical and psychological support so that they can overcome pandemic-related obstacles. The aim is to successfully integrate these young people with lesser educational opportunities, many of whom have a migration background, into vocational training and into the mainstream labour market (<https://www.annahaaghaus.de/>).
- In **KREATIV-KITAS**, 3 to 6-year-old children who grow up in less encouraging family environments participate in regular, creative-artistic workshops, helping them to discover and unfold their personal strengths. They go through a social, motorical and psychological-emotional learning process, which improves their chances of a successful school start. The staff of the participating daycare centers is empowered to offer early childhood cultural education themselves, while the project is rolled out and consolidated using video educational material produced in the pilot facilities (<https://www.lkjbw.de/>).
- **PILOT-TANDEMS** supports children with difficult starting conditions. The one-on-one mentoring program of our partner KinderHelden gGmbH, which builds on adults volunteering as learning companions for primary school children, develops new content: pilot tandems are testing new learning materials and methods, that help mentors to provide even better, mentee-tailored support in the areas of German language skills, mathematics, study skills and self-confidence. (<https://www.kinderhelden.info/>).

International projects in Southeastern Europe and in Africa:

- **Income generation through REFORESTATION** for small-scale farmers in Uganda is the goal of a project which started in 2020 with a two-year pilot phase in western Uganda and has been expanded to central and eastern Uganda since 2022. Local partners from the Stay Foundation network (NGOs and schools) are trained in setting up tree nurseries and growing seedlings. Our long-standing project partner Fairventures Worldwide contributes their expertise in selecting suitable, fast-growing tree species. Farmers learn to create their own agroforestry areas with timber tree species and agricultural crops and to generate income through marketing their produce (<https://stuttgarter-stiftungen.de/arbeitskreis-internationales>).
- **BUDUCNOST Empowerment** offers training programs in agriculture, vegetable and fruit processing to marginalized Bosnian women who have suffered sexual violence. Followed up by start-up loans for setting up their own small-scale operations and marketing opportunities via an agricultural cooperative, the women and their children are enabled to achieve economic independence and social reintegration. The work of a “resource center” established for this purpose is being further expanded in cooperation with local companies and the municipality (<https://medicamondiale.org/>).
- **MEDICA Zenica** in Bosnia-Herzegovina is supported on a long-term basis through the LL-foundation fund “Eastern Europe”. Every year, around 130 female victims of sexual violence, who receive psychosocial support in the women’s shelter are being offered training courses to become tailors or hairdressers. In combination with workshops for personal and professional development, the project aims at opening up avenues for them to become economically and psychologically independent. The six-month vocational trainings and plus workshops have also been offered at different village locations since 2009 (<https://medicamondiale.org/> and <https://medicazenica.org/>).

Short-term funding complements the project portfolio:

Entrepreneurship-Trainings at twelve secondary schools in Uganda are being supported by the LL-foundation Fund “Africa” in 2024. The project equips school graduates with “life skills” and practical business knowledge to enable them to develop and implement their own business initiatives. Implemented by the local NGO “Teach a man how to fish”, the concept includes both teacher training and practical training for groups of students in school-based start-ups. (<https://teachamantofish.org.uk> und <https://www.probono-oneworld.de>).

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