

# ANNUAL REPORT 2022

U-LANDSHJÄLP FRÅN FOLK  
TILL FOLK I FINLAND SR



# UFF





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Managing Director’s review	4
Organisation	6
Operating policy	7
Support for non-profit purposes	8
Climate action	9
Clothes collection service	9
Steering clothes for reuse	11
Reuse of clothes	12
Environmental responsibility	12
Environmental impacts of operations	13
Global development cooperation	14
Focal points of global development support	14
Support for global development projects in 2022	17
Education	19
Health	21
Small-scale farming and the environment	23
Community development and Child Aid	24
Communications and advocacy work	24
Fundraising	25
Fundraising sources	26
Shops	27
Wholesale	28
UFF as an employer	28
Economic responsibility	29
Contact information	30



## MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REVIEW

The year 2022 was UFF's fourth operational year as a foundation, advancing climate action and global development work as well as communication and advocacy activities. UFF's non-profit societal work has continued for five different decades, currently as a foundation and previously as an association. In this annual report, we discuss our 2022 operations and their impact.

When the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic finally started to dissipate, the operational environment became a little more predictable again – but the war raging in Europe together with the energy crisis brought new challenges. Nevertheless, the Foundation's societal work, that of managing national-level clothes collection services, continued in the customary manner. However, the amount of clothes donations received was clearly less than prior to the pandemic. The costs of logistics and handling for every collected kilogram of clothing increased because of a decrease in the overall amount of clothes passing through the service. The decreased volume impacted fundraising as there were fewer items available to offer for wholesale. Therefore, wholesale fell short of projected levels. This situation was remedied by retail fundraising, which exceeded expectations.

All in all, UFF plans had been adjusted for post Covid-19, and it was possible to clearly direct more funding than planned into the Foundation's societal missions. Therefore, in addition to bringing clothes collection services to Finland, the Foundation was able to fund global development with approximately the same amount of euros as prior to the pandemic. Communications and advocacy work still took place largely through digital channels. The accessibility and content of UFF's social media platforms provided service for customers, donors and other interest groups, as well. Quick surveys were conducted among regular customers about topics such as how they felt about recycling clothes and extending lifecycles of products.

UFF's mission was supported and carried out with 10.4 million euros. These non-profit inputs can be broken down as follows: 81% climate action, 17% global development, and 2% communication and advocacy work. The societal benefits of the Foundation's work included over 12 million kilograms of clothes recycled for reuse, the participation of hundreds of thousands of people in projects benefitting their communities and societies in the poorest countries in the world, and in Finland, communication activities were carried out in the areas of climate action and global development.

At its best, sustainability is promoted with work that is long-term, committed and aims for continuous improvement. The Foundation's basic work continues steadily after the Covid-19 pandemic years. Adjustment measures taken have been sufficient and effective. In 2023, we expect to put the euros supporting global development back to the same level as they were prior to the pandemic. The global development work carried out by UFF together with many local parties is a practical way of implementing the Africa strategy developed in Finland for a few years now. This cooperation is equal, all parties may increase their competences, and the strategies of lifelong learning, entrepreneurship and continuous development form parts of all the activities and development. Occasionally, reflections on development policy may seem distant. However,

the war raging in Europe at this time has shown people living in Finland that foreign policy may suddenly become urgent domestic policy when people fleeing a life-threatening crisis to a different country become refugees. UFF is actively helping people in the world's most vulnerable communities so that they can have decent living conditions and see more opportunities than despair in their futures.

UFF's capacity to fund global development is founded on the careful sorting, classification and sale of donated clothes. When clothes are sold, they are primarily reused as such. The European Union initiative to collect end-of-life textiles includes a potential serious threat to this form of fundraising. **Reusable clothes may be placed among end-of-life textiles that are not reused as such. The lifecycles of these products end prematurely if they are shredded to make raw material for new clothing to be manufactured from recycled textile fibre.** Undamaged clothes also face shredding if the EU limits exports of used clothes and the access of these products to the global market which would hinder global demand. Europeans are currently unable to put all of their used clothes into reuse. UFF works to communicate about these issues so that problems can be avoided and corrected, and usable clothes will always find their way to reuse through appropriate collection channels.

**The Foundation counsels donors of clothes to bring all clothes with any reuse potential to UFF's clothes collection points. UFF sorts the clothes and directs them to proper reuse as such ensuring that the resource – the existing clothes items – is not wasted and that undamaged, reusable clothes are not merely shredded into raw material.** This way, the Foundation is able to offer people in Finland clothes collection services and fund global development projects.

The most sustainable actions are created, maintained and enhanced through cooperation. The best sources of inspiration are practical lessons learned and common sense. We promise to emphasise these in all of our operations, letting them guide us toward a more sustainable future.

Thank you!

Virve Groning, Managing Director

**UFF donations account:**

Account FI49 2001 1800 3905 39

Permit: RA/2020/1599

Do you wish to give us  
feedback, offer ideas or  
ask a question?

Please contact us using  
the feedback form at:  
[www.uff.fi](http://www.uff.fi)

## ORGANISATION

UFF is an independent, Finnish non-profit organisation that takes climate action in Finland in the form of clothes recycling and supports global development work in Africa and Asia. The aim of UFF's work is to add sustainable social value through environmental and human wellbeing and responsible participation. The work of the Foundation promotes sustainable development, which also reduces extreme poverty in the world. UFF-supported global development projects take place in Africa and Asia, focusing on education, sustainable environmental development, and the promotion of economic welfare.

## VISION

Our vision is a socially, ecologically, and economically sustainable and fair world, where everyone has the right and opportunity to take responsible and positive action.

## MISSION

UFF contributes to a sustainable development action platform for people by running clothes charity collection services, fundraising and partnering in global development programmes among the world's poorest people.

## VALUES

Fairness means implementing local and global responsibility; creating social assets and sustainability at the individual, community and global level.

Seeking best practices means implementing the principle of incremental development and searching for effective solutions that promote sustainability.

Focussing on people who are part of our actions here and abroad with user-friendliness that emphasises the common good and creates spirals of good for global development and wellbeing.

The Board administers the Foundation's work and ensures that the work is organised appropriately for the fulfilment of the Foundation's purpose. The party in charge of the day-to-day operations is the Managing Director, who ensures that the purpose of the Foundation is fulfilled and handles the daily administration of the Foundation in accordance with the Board's instructions and specifications.

**Board 2022:**

Örjan Österdal, Chairperson of the Board  
Helle Lund, Member of the Board  
Kaj Pihl, Member of the Board  
Riitta Tamminen, Member of the Board, Deputy Chairperson  
Jesper Wohlert, Member of the Board

**Managing Director:**

Virve Groning

Since 1987, UFF's climate action has helped to mitigate climate change impacts through the services of clothes collection, sorting, and recycling. UFF-supported development projects focus on life-long learning and help to reduce poverty in Africa and Asia.

Using the national-level clothes collection service offered by UFF, Finnish consumers may recycle their reusable clothes, footwear and textiles effortlessly. The extension of the lifecycle of textiles in their original purposes saves natural resources and helps to curb climate change, the detrimental effects of which impact us all.

The Foundation also carries out communication and advocacy work. UFF communicates through many channels about its clothes collection service and the respective environmental benefits and brings issues that developing countries are facing into the everyday lives of people living in Finland.

## UFF IN NUMBERS IN 2022

**Support for common benefit work:  
10.4 M €:**

**Support for climate work:**  
**8.4 M €**

**Support for global development work:**  
**1.8 M €**

**Support for communications and  
advocacy work:  
0.2 M €**

**Personnel:**  
**302**

## OPERATING POLICY

UFF promotes sustainable development through environmental protection, human wellbeing, and accountable participation. The Foundation has a certified enterprise resource planning system: ISO 9001 Quality Management System, ISO 45001 Occupational Health and Safety Management Series, and ISO 14001 Environmental Management System.

When successful, this operational system produces a sustainable and growing contribution to the organisation's universally useful activities for the benefit of our environment and global development. The goals are: to reach the qualitatively set production and financial goals, zero accidents with regard to occupational safety, and optimised resource use regarding products collected and energy used.

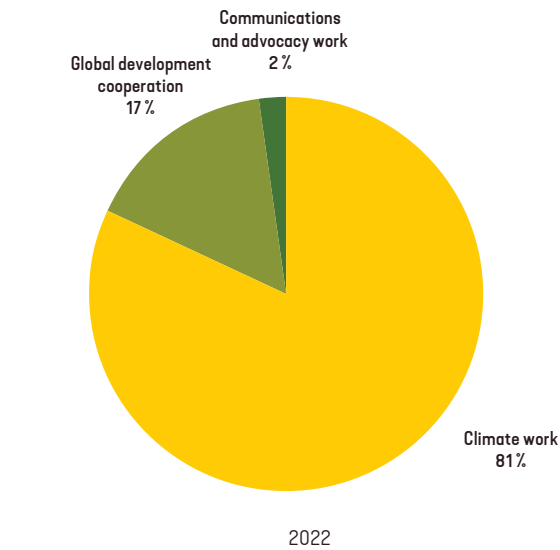
The operations and decision-making of the Foundation are guided by workplace safety, environmental impacts, and compliance with regulations. These issues are considered when choosing important service providers and subcontractors. UFF is committed to the continuous improvement of the quality of its operations, environmental protection, and the sustainable use of resources. In accordance with continuous improvement principles, UFF staff receive regular training in order to ensure the quality of their work complies with the evolving requirements in terms of quality, environment, and workplace safety. Management methods, processes, work methods, methodologies, and tools are assessed, enhanced, and renewed. The Foundation monitors, complies with and promotes legislation, statutes and other requirements that guide its work.

The Foundation communicates its policy approach to staff, subcontractors, and other interest groups. Service providers that commit to the UFF policy approach are given preference in otherwise equal bids. In order to ensure the continuous development of its operations, the Foundation uses regular audits and documentation to monitor achievement of objective setting as well as sufficiency and appropriateness of the available resources.



# SUPPORT FOR NON-PROFIT PURPOSES

The Foundation collects funds for climate work and development cooperation work by selling used clothes and entering into financial partnerships.



Climate work	8 452 349 €	81%
Global development cooperation	1 761 790 €	17%
Communications and advocacy work	165 008 €	2%
Support for non-profit purposes	10 379 137 €	

The operating expenses from climate work consist of personnel and logistics costs of the clothes collection service together with the costs of collection points and facilities. Operating expenses also include the costs relating to personnel and premises costs at the sorting and packaging centres in Klaukkala and Helsinki.

Supporting global development forms one of the Foundation's core duties. In 2022, UFF supported 31 projects in Africa and Asia.



The duties of the Foundation also include communicating about climate action and its environmental benefits, and UFF-supported global development projects. In 2022, expenses from UFF's communication and advocacy work were 165,008 euros.

## CLIMATE ACTION

### CLOTHES COLLECTION SERVICE

UFF's clothes collection service is accessible to everyone, providing us with a responsible way of recycling clothes we no longer need, old shoes and household textiles. By donating serviceable clothes, people in Finland can support the Foundation's climate action and its global development work. Proceeds from clothing sales are used to cover all the expenses of UFF climate action and global development support.

UFF's clothes collection service reaches more than 5.4 million Finns in 280 municipalities. In 2022, the number of clothes collection points was 1,484 through 3,427 collection boxes.

In 2022, a total of 12,327,426 kg of clothes was donated to UFF. The largest amounts of clothes were collected in the cities of Helsinki, Tampere and Oulu. During its 35 years of operation, UFF has recycled almost 235 million kilograms of clothes, either to be reused as such or to be recovered as material.

Collection boxes are emptied at least once a week. Fill levels of these collection boxes are monitored in order to maintain service level, cost effectiveness, and environmental efficiency. Donations are also welcome at UFF shops.





## CLOTHES COLLECTION IN 2022

Support for climate work

8.4 M €

Finns reached

5.4 M

Clothes collected

12.3 M kilos

Clothes collection points  
in 280 municipalities

Collection boxes

3,427

UFF clothes collection points have smart sensors with QR codes. These sensors improve the environmental and economic soundness of the collection service through improved logistics. The expenses of UFF's climate action are funded with the proceeds from clothes sales and no tax revenue is spent on the operations. In 2022, the Foundation spent approximately 8.4 million euros for producing the clothes collection service, which averages 1.5 euros per resident of a collection area.

UFF collects clothes and textiles that are usable in their current condition. UFF asks that donations be packed in sealed plastic bags to protect them from dirt and moisture. There is a map of UFF clothes collection points on the UFF website.

## STEERING CLOTHES FOR REUSE

Reusing clothes for their original purposes is the best option from the environmental perspective. Compared to the manufacture of new textiles, such reuse reduces CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and the amounts of water and chemicals required. Clothes donated to UFF are sorted in UFF's sorting and packaging centres in Klaukkala and Helsinki so that clothes can be effectively routed to reuse, preferably as they are.

In sorting clothes, UFF follows an order of priority: primarily, clothes are sorted to be reused for their original purposes; secondarily, they are to be recycled for raw material. If an item of clothing is not suitable for use as such and cannot be recycled for raw material, it is sent to be incinerated for energy. All donated clothes are sorted manually in order to accomplish an optimum reuse rate. In 2022, the calculated reuse rate of clothes donations came up to 98%, to be used either as such, or as raw material. This figure includes the unsorted clothes sold through wholesale whereby the buyer sorts the items for further use.



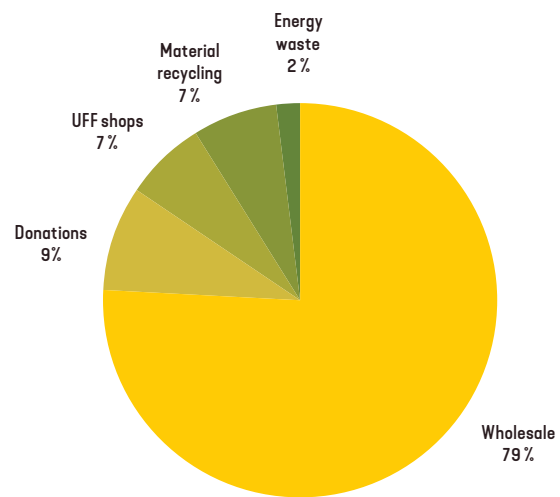


REUSE OF CLOTHES

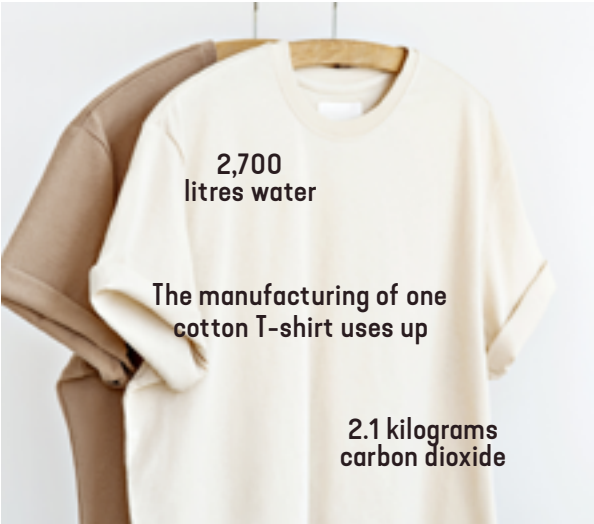
During its over 35 years of operation, UFF has collected over 235 million kilogrammes of clothes. The reuse of clothes reduces carbon dioxide emissions and the use of pesticides and water.

In 2022, the calculated reuse rate of recycled clothes was 98%.

Wholesale	79 %
Clothes donations	9 %
UFF shops	7 %
Material recycling	7 %
Energy waste	2 %



The stock inventory of 2021 [4%] raises the total to 104%.



Source: World Resources Institute

ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSIBILITY

UFF operations mitigate climate change and its detrimental effects. Everyday climate actions are available to everyone through the Foundation’s clothes collection service and shops. People in Finland can reduce their carbon footprint by donating clothes and favouring second-hand clothes over new ones.

The reuse of textiles means that a used item, or a part of one, is reused for its original purpose. Reuse is the best option from the environmental perspective, because reuse extends the lifecycles of clothes and reduces the need to buy new textiles.

Under its environmental programme, the Foundation is committed to extending the lifecycles of the donated clothes in the best possible way considering their condition. Clothes donations are carefully sorted manually in order to achieve the highest possible reuse rate. It benefits both

the environment and the economy when clothes circulate as clothes throughout their entire lifecycle and do not end up as raw material or get incinerated too early. Making use of clothes as raw material for new textile fibre or for other products is only the secondary option, even under the current waste legislation.

A total of 79% of the collected clothes was reused through wholesale; 7% was sold at UFF shops; 7% was sold to be reused as raw material, for example, as rags for the building industry; 9% was forwarded as donations. Products suitable for reuse were donated in Finland to various parties, such as Ukrainian refugees and organisations supporting unemployed people.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS OF OPERATIONS

The Foundation takes into account the environmental impacts of its operations. Environmental issues are managed in accordance with the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System. The goal of UFF’s environmental programme is to salvage usable clothes for reuse so that the lifecycle of more and more clothes continues in their original purpose. The target is energy-efficient sites and a favouring of renewable forms of energy. Of the energy used by UFF sorting and packaging sites, 100% was renewable. The reuse of the millions of kilograms of clothes donated to UFF annually saves significant amounts of water, energy, and chemicals. The reuse of clothes reduces the amount of textile waste and carbon dioxide emissions, and helps retain biodiversity.

UFF trains its drivers to drive economically using transport management systems that provide information on the effects of driving. UFF logistics planning favours renewable diesel, made from waste, which reduces greenhouse gas emissions by up to 90% compared to traditional diesels.

In 2022, the share of renewable diesel in the fuels used was 74%. UFF trucks fulfil the highest European emission standard [EU6].

In 2022, the carbon handprint of UFF’s clothes recycling service corresponded to the annual carbon emissions of 30,000 Finns. This carbon handprint is calculated in terms of carbon emissions not emitted, gained through the reuse of clothes as compared to manufacturing new clothes. In 2022, UFF’s carbon handprint was slightly smaller than in the previous year, as the amount of clothes donations decreased.

UFF supports the EU targets for a reduction in the use of plastic bags, issued in the Packaging Waste Directive. Under the 2050 Commitment, UFF targeted a 25% reduction in the number of plastic bags sold, with the year 2016 as the baseline. This goal was reached soon after it was set, and in 2022, the total sales of plastic bags was further reduced, despite the increase in the number of sites. Part of the plastic bags in UFF shops are manufactured from 90% recycled material.





# GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

UFF supports global development work that aims to promote lifelong learning and reduce poverty. The Foundation supports the implementation of UN sustainable development goals through its activities in the fields of teacher training, primary education, vocational education, health, small-scale farming, and environment and community development. In the poorest communities of the world, our work enables sustainable and fair development socially, ecologically, and economically. In 2022, UFF supported global development projects with approximately two million euros.

In 2022, UFF supported 31 development projects in India and Sub-Saharan Africa, reaching almost two million direct and indirect beneficiaries. We fund projects that promote the quality of basic education and healthcare as well as improved food security, livelihoods and gender equality.

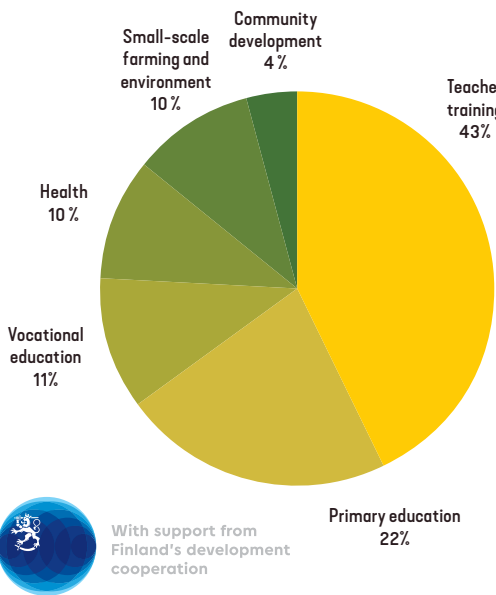
In 2022, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland continued its support to UFF's global development work in Mozambique. The support was directed to two basic education projects in Zambezia Province. These projects have advanced the right of children with disabilities to take part in basic education. We also supported development cooperation in Angola, India, DR Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, and Zimbabwe in their least developed communities in rural areas and cities. The Foundation's support is carried to its destinations by local associates.

Finns have supported UFF's climate action and global development work with their monetary and clothes donations for 35 years. This long-term support has made it possible to help hundreds of thousands of people in the poorest countries of the world, enhancing the quality of their lives.

During 2022, UFFs associate organisations in Africa were given quality-checked, carefully selected clothes and footwear suitable for reuse for their local fundraising activities. These organisations use the recycled clothes to raise funds for education and community development projects.

## FOCAL POINTS OF GLOBAL DEVELOPMENT SUPPORT

Teacher training	43%
Primary education	22%
Vocational education	11%
Health	10%
Small-scale farming and environment	10%
Community development	4%



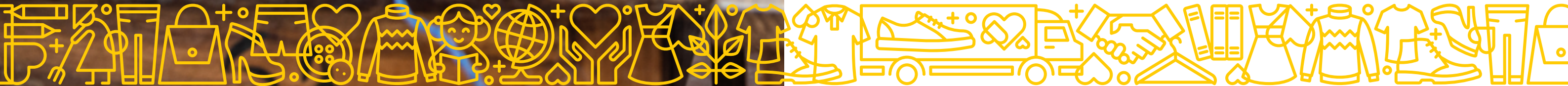




SUPPORT FOR GLOBAL  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS IN 2022

Teacher training	Amount of aid (€)
Angola, teacher training institutes	137 112,12 €
India, teacher training programme	121 927,81 €
DR Congo, teacher training institute	82 335,82 €
Malawi, teacher training institutes	48 498,45 €
Mozambique, teacher training institutes and One World Institute	354 873,84 €
Primary education	
India, the Kadam StepUp Programme	162 855,84 €
Mozambique, projects on the improvement of the quality and inclusiveness of education (MFA 175 016 € + UFF 41 618 €)	216 634,00 €
Vocational education	
Angola, Benguela Vocational School	82 892,14 €
Mozambique, Nhamatanda Vocational School	9 508,32 €
Zimbabwe, Technical School and Ponesai Vanhu Vocational School	87 297,22 €
Health education	
Angola, projects to combat Covid-19, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis	79 816,95 €
Mozambique, project to combat malaria	67 329,32 €
Namibia, project to combat malaria	15 519,50 €
Environmental and small farming projects	
Angola, adaptation to climate change, accessibility to water, and Farmers' Club	149 747,25 €
DR Congo, Farmers' Club	14 661,08 €
Zimbabwe, Farmers' Club	9 699,69 €
Child aid and community development	
India, project to promote the wellbeing of young people "AWC"	11 500,00 €
Mozambique, preschool work, promotion of orphans' schooling, Cabo Delago reconstruction project	60 153,43 €
Federation Humana People to People development project administration	106 676,12 €
Total	1 819 039,32 €

The table presents the sums used by the projects during the financial year 2022.









#### PROMOTING VOCATIONAL EDUCATION, ANGOLA

Training that promotes youth employment holds a key position when we speak of reducing poverty in developing countries where the population's share of young people is great. During the current decade, there are more than one billion young people in the world trying to gain access to working life. Productive employment, sustainable livelihoods, decent work instead of poor working conditions, and entrepreneurship all help to establish a foundation for the empowerment and economic growth of societies. The employment situation of youth is often particularly challenging in the peripheral regions of developing countries.

Poverty is common in Angola, and it has been estimated that four people out of ten sustain themselves on less than one US dollar a day. Unemployment rates are very high. UFF's local associate ADPP Angola organises vocational education for young people in Benguela, Angola. The students attend a combination of upper-level basic education alongside vocational studies of their choice. This way of working addresses the lack of upper-level schools and youth unemployment. In Angola, similar to many other countries in that part of the world, a pivotal reason for poverty and unsustainable development is the lack of education.

During 2022, approximately 150 young people took part in vocational education and basic education corresponding to school years 7–9. At EPP Benguela school, it is possible to qualify as a water technician or environment technician, or graduate in the field of agriculture. The range of studies offered is based on local needs and realities, as the school is located in a rural area suffering from climate change. Last year, despite its peripheral location, the school succeeded in cooperating with companies in that region, which made it possible for ninth-graders to obtain meaningful traineeship positions.

With the graduates' improved competences, other inhabitants of the region could reap the benefits of improved food security, hygiene, and water management.



## HEALTH

Globally, people's health is influenced by many factors such as climate change and its detrimental effects. The consequences of disturbing ecosystem balance are visible when we take a look at global wellbeing and health. For instance, the lack of clean water, the extreme weather phenomena, and indoor and outdoor air pollutants strongly impact people's health and wellbeing.

Those who suffer the most from climate change are the inhabitants of the poorest countries. Under the UN Sustainable Development Goals, everyone is entitled to healthy, varied nutrition, clean drinking water, and proper sanitation.

In 2022, UFF supported health promotion ventures in Angola, Namibia, and Mozambique, focusing on work to combat malaria, HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and Covid-19. These illnesses still pose a serious threat in the southern parts of Africa, where vaccination coverage is low.

The health of women, girls, and infants is promoted through actions directed at HIV-positive women in order to prevent children contracting HIV from their mothers. In addition to clinical work, UFF's associates work to build a sense of activity, community, and health awareness in their communities to ensure long-lasting outcomes. In Angola, for example, the project that combatted HIV and tuberculosis reached a total of approximately 24,000 girls and women. They obtained peer support in women's groups together with information about reproductive health and women's rights.







In Mozambique, the focus of the work was on spreading information as well as on preventive action. During the year, ADPP and volunteers reached approximately 200,000 people. A part of the project involved malaria awareness training of almost 400 basic education teachers in malaria awareness. The teachers then reached approximately 98,000 basic education students. The project also distributed mosquito nets in villages. ADPP was involved in distributing about 3.2 million mosquito nets to disadvantaged people in different parts of Mozambique.

In 2022, UFF supported small-scale farming projects, Farmers' Clubs, in Angola, DR Congo, and Zimbabwe. A total of approximately 125,000 people benefitted from these projects. The number includes farmers participating in the Clubs as well as their family members.

Sustainable development requires diversity and combining different sectors. Groups of small-scale farmers, easily convened, offer an excellent opportunity for many types of training. Therefore, in addition to cultivation techniques, both of the projects carried out training sessions on other development-related topics. In DR Congo, adult literacy training was provided for those who were interested in it, and in Zimbabwe, people had the opportunity to participate in economic affairs and entrepreneurship training. A total of 2,000 adults benefited from these courses.





COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT  
AND CHILD AID

Equal opportunities and sufficient livelihoods advance comprehensive development. Community development projects empower local communities in developing countries and bring about positive changes.

In India and Mozambique in 2022, UFF supported children who were not able to attend primary education. These projects involved approximately 1,300 vulnerable children.

In addition, UFF took part in the promotion of preschool work in Nacala, Mozambique, offering early education to approximately 1,100 pre-schoolers. Preschools prepare children for studies in state-run primary education. Early education helps children start school, improves their learning outcomes and decreases the number of school dropouts.

One of the UFF-supported community development projects involved the reconstruction of the Cabo Delgado Province in the northern part of Mozambique as well as the area’s economic development. In recent years, the area has suffered from natural disasters and violence. By developing agricultural business based on small-scale farming, the project helped approximately 21,000 internal refugees to resettle and find a livelihood.

COMMUNICATIONS  
AND ADVOCACY WORK

The Foundation carries out advocacy work and communicates about domestic climate action, the environmental benefits of the action, and issues relating to developing countries. UFF uses diverse channels to communicate the outcomes of its work to domestic and international interest groups. UFF shares information through its communication channels such as its website, shops, publications, and social media. This annual report is published in Finnish and English on the Foundation’s website.

The social media accounts of the Foundation on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and LinkedIn have more than 35,000 followers. UFF uses social media to inform the public about its clothes collection service and its environmental benefits as well as about UFF’s second-hand shops and the positive impacts on sustainable development of the development projects UFF supports. In 2022, UFF communicated about the importance of children’s rights, the outcomes of development work, and the many environmental benefits of recycling clothes. The Planet Company website was used for communicating the Foundation’s carbon handprint, in effect, the climate change mitigation potential of its operations, as well as the impacts of UFF-supported development work in Mozambique’s educational sector.

UFF and Finnish Pensioners’ Federation continued their cooperation in the communication and global education project Global and Local. The project studied the goals of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development from the perspective of pensioners. It also provided information to the aged about sustainable development goals using the members’ magazine and public events in different parts of Finland. During the year, the project supported by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, reached more than 115,000 members of the Pensioners’ Federation.

School groups, the media, and other groups visited the Foundation’s sorting centre and various shops during the year, learning about sustainable development, the clothes collection service, and global development work. UFF engaged in advocacy work by participating in online lectures and events such as the Corporate Sustainability course at the Hanken School of Economics and the Forever Green event at Haaga-Helia University of Applied Sciences, for example.

The Foundation engages in active dialogue about its sustainable development work, communicating with clothes’ donors, shop customers, and other interest groups. UFF carries out customer surveys, which it uses to map customers’ views and their level of information concerning clothes recycling. The Foundation provides information on a weekly



basis to researchers in various fields, students, and media representatives when they request information, and carries out interviews and cooperation in a variety of ventures. Such information exchanges led to several workshops, lectures, research papers, and dozens of media interviews.

In fall 2022, the Foundation’s website was the target of a cyberattack, which caused it to stay offline for several weeks. Nevertheless, the site obtained almost 400,000 visits during the year. Most often, the visitors looked for information about the locations of clothes collection points and the operating hours and locations of second-hand shops. The website was also accessed in order to search for information about UFF shops’ sales campaigns and instructions on recycling clothes.

UFF is one of the founding members of the international Federation Humana People to People charity organisation. The work of the organisations in this cooperation network is local and independent, but cooperation makes it possible for participants to share best practices regarding topics such as global development, clothes recycling, and communication processes.



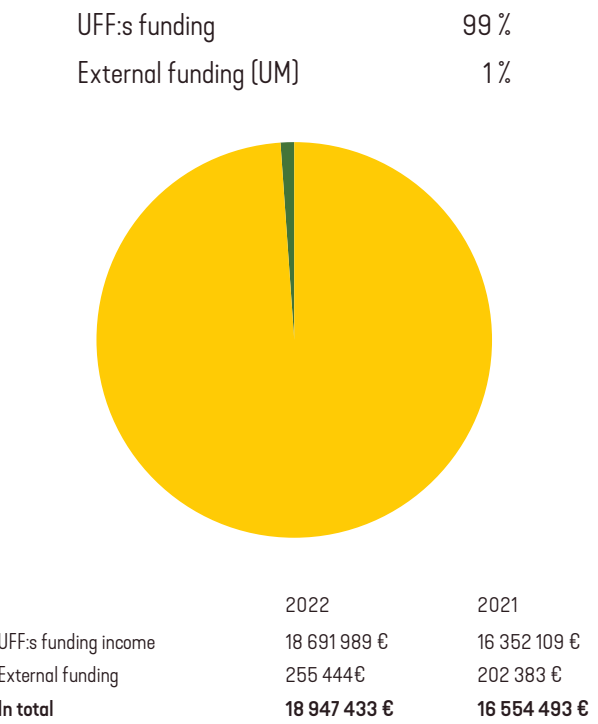


FUNDRAISING

UFF raises funds for climate action and global development work through selling used clothes and entering into financial partnerships. The operating expenses from fundraising in 2022 were 8,097,714 euros.

The fundraising expenditure consists of the expenses from the network of shops in Finland. In 2022, UFF had 22 shops, the operating expenses of which amounted to 8,097,714 euros and comprised rents, operations, and personnel expenses.

SOURCES OF FUNDRAISING



UFF SHOPS  
IN 2022

Fundraising shops  
22

The shops are located in  
Helsinki, Espoo, Vantaa,  
Tampere, Turku and Jyväskylä.

Pieces of clothing sold  
over 2.5 million.

SHOPS

UFF shops offer consumers a sustainable, ecological choice, and items to suit their individual styles. UFF has shops specialising in vintage fashion: five in Helsinki, one in Tampere, and one in Turku. The clothes selections in the other shops consist of modern high-quality items. The selections in the shops are replenished daily with hundreds of items, providing the entire family with appropriate alternatives.

UFF’s second-hand shops sell carefully selected used clothes of high-quality suitable for the season. In 2022, the Foundation had 23 shops in Southern Finland, of which 12 were located in Helsinki, three in Tampere, two in Espoo, two in Vantaa, two in Turku, and one in Jyväskylä. Seven percent of received donations were reused through the shops during 2022.

Buying a recycled item constitutes an ecological choice that supports sustainable development. By their choices, UFF customers support employment in Finland and abroad, climate action in Finland, and global development work in Africa and Asia.

The UFF website and social media channels actively provide information about current events at the shops as well as their selections and campaigns. In 2022, four new shops were opened: two in Helsinki (one in the University of Helsinki metro station and another in the REDI shopping mall), one in Vantaa (in the Jumbo Shopping Centre), and one in Turku (on Eerikinkatu).

As the seasons change, UFF shops set up so-called Exact Change Days (“Tasarahpäivät”), during which the sale prices are down to one euro at their lowest. After the sale is over, there is a range of new items offered, which is also replenished daily.

The loyal customer card of UFF shops works on the Cardu platform. By the end of 2022, there were approximately 39,000 downloads of this loyal customer card. Through the application, regular customers may obtain information about current events at shops as well as the Exact Change Days and other offers. During 2022, more than one million customer visits were made to the Foundation’s shops.



You can donate these  
usable items to UFF:

- clothes
- footwear
- handbags
- accessories
- home textiles
- sports equipment
- toys



## WHOLESALE

The majority of clothes donated each year is directed to reuse in their present condition or as raw material through wholesale. In addition to Finland, the Foundation has wholesale customers in the Baltic countries, Africa, and Asia. In 2022, the majority of clothes, 79%, was directed to reuse through wholesale. With such wholesale, the Foundation raises funds to support global development cooperation and domestic climate action as well as communication and advocacy work.

The sorting centres of UFF's largest wholesale customers are located in the Baltic countries, which is where over half of the wholesale materials are sorted. In order to increase performance, wholesale customers monitor and report on the reuse rate of recycled clothes in their sorting centres.

In 2022, the Foundation delivered selected, quality-inspected clothes to its global development associates in Mozambique, Malawi, and Angola for local fundraisers. The local associate organisations used the proceeds from the sales to fund development projects in the educational and social sectors. In addition to project funding, the sale of clothes creates jobs in the retail sector as well as in the maintenance and repair of textiles. These jobs further improve local economies and increase the standard of living.

There are more used clothes in the EU than is possible for its citizens to reuse themselves. Therefore, in order to extend the lifecycles of these clothes, we must take them outside the EU for reuse.

## UFF AS AN EMPLOYER

During 2022, UFF employed an average of 302 professionals monthly. Of these, approximately 77% worked in shops, 20% in clothes collection and sorting, 1% in communication and global development, and 2% in administration. In addition to its sustainable development goals, the work of the Foundation is guided by its ethical principles, equality and anti-discrimination programmes.

### OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY

The Foundation aims to be a workplace in which wellbeing and safety at work are a part of every working day. This occupational safety culture is founded on regular training and guidelines as well as practices that specify the means to mitigate risks in advance. An occupational safety mind-set forms an integral part of work routines and workplace supervision.

In 2022, the number of safety incidents decreased in comparison to the previous year. UFF's frequency of safety incidents is lower than the average among companies in the wholesale and retail trade.

Every UFF employee participates in training events that promote and improve workplace safety, such as those for the Occupational Safety Card and first aid. One quarter of staff hold the Occupational Safety Card.

Observations relating to workplace safety are collected, and any near-miss situations and other possible safety incidents are investigated. The information is utilised in pre-emptive occupational safety work. The effectiveness of workplace safety actions is monitored through surveys concerning workplace safety and wellbeing at work.

## ECONOMIC RESPONSIBILITY

UFF's operating culture includes economic responsibility: careful operative planning, profit planning, and pre-emptive risk management as well as the continuous improvement of all of these. Goals and financial indicators are specified, monitored, and reported on in accordance with good governance practice.

In addition to legislation and the Foundation's bylaws, the work of UFF is guided by principles and policy approaches specified in the enterprise resource planning system, such as the ethical principles and anti-corruption policies. UFF is one of the founding members of the Finnish Fundraising Association (VaLa) as well as one of the authors of its good governance guidelines for non-profit organisations.

The Foundation follows standard procedures in supervising its in-house and external affairs. Audits are carried out in accordance with the annual schedule specified in the Foundation's enterprise resource planning system. These audits assess the operations in terms of compliance with plans, any possible deviations, and the root causes of such, as well as corrective actions. In addition to internal audits, all of the Foundation's functions in Finland and in developing countries undergo annual external audits. These audits are carried out by an authorised auditor. In addition to audits, global development activities are monitored through constant dialogue and reporting.







## CONTACT INFORMATION

### Website:

[www.uff.fi](http://www.uff.fi)

### Clothes collection:

tel. (09) 2764 7622, [vaatekerays@uff.fi](mailto:vaatekerays@uff.fi)

### Communications:

[info@uff.fi](mailto:info@uff.fi)

### E-invoicing:

U-landshjälp från Folk till Folk i Finland sr,  
2952170-7  
E-invoice address / EDI ID 003729521707  
Broker 003723327487, Broker Apix

### Mailing address:

Järvihaantie 12, 01800 Klaukkala

### Social media accounts:



Instagram: [uff\\_fi](https://www.instagram.com/uff_fi)



Facebook: [UffFinland](https://www.facebook.com/UffFinland)



LinkedIn: [UFF](https://www.linkedin.com/company/uff)



Twitter: [UffFinland](https://twitter.com/UffFinland)

## SHOPS 15.5.2023

### ESPOO

- Sello, Leppävaarankatu 3-9

### HELSINKI

- Arabia: Hämeentie 111
- Bulevardi 30 (vintage)
- Fredrikinkatu 36 (vintage)
- Hakaniemi: Hämeentie 4 (vintage)
- Itäkeskus: Turunlinnantie 12
- Kaisaniemi: Vuorikatu 16 (vintage)
- Kalasatama: Hermannin rantatie 5
- Kallio: Helsinginkatu 22
- Kamppi: Runeberginkatu 4 C
- Malmi: Malminkaari 13-16
- Pasila: Ratavartijankatu 3
- Töölö: Mannerheimintie 104
- Töölöntori: Runeberginkatu 44 (vintage)
- Vuosaari: Tyynylaavantie 5

### TAMPERE

- Hämeenkatu 9
- Hämeenkatu 18 (vintage)
- Hervanta: Pietiläntie 2

### TURKU

- Humalistonkatu 5 (vintage)
- Eerikinkatu 9

### JYVÄSKYLÄ

- Asemakatu 4

### VANTAA

- Jumbo-Flamingo, Tasetie 8
- Tikkurila: Asematie 4-10





# UFF

## DONATIONS ACCOUNT

NORDEA FI49 2001 1800 3905 39

Permit: RA/2020/1599

