



# ANNUAL REPORT

2018





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*Dear members, supporters and interested parties!*

I would like to thank you and our partner organizations for your support in achieving our goals. It is a special honour for me to present our upcoming projects to you in the following.

We believe that good health is a central component of human well-being. Healthy populations live longer, are more productive and save more, so health has a significant impact on the economy. Our innovative drive to provide medical and social services in one place will take a big step forward this coming year. Our health centre will have a maternity ward and will be accessible to young people. We will open the health centre at the beginning of next year..

Furthermore, we recognize how important a solid basic education is for the economic progress and development of children.

With your support we will continue to support vulnerable children & teenagers and especially girls who have had to drop out of school due to pregnancy including those that are at risk of acquiring HIV and AIDS. Our hope is to continue with our good cooperation in order to provide school leavers in particular with better access to educational opportunities.

I am looking forward to many more opportunities to advance our goals together in 2018.

Feel free to give comments and suggestions that will help us realize the vision of Make Me Smile Kenya together.

Thank you very much for your support!

**Simon Peter**

*Project Manager & Co-Founder Make Me Smile Kenya*

*President FICE Kenya*

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## MAKE ME SMILE KENYA

Make Me Smile Kenya is an NGO with a holistic approach towards Sustainable Development Cooperation!

Primarily, we support vulnerable children, adolescent girls and young women! To create a lasting impact, we build on existing structures like the government- and community strategy and seek to sustainably empower the support network of our target group.

By involving relevant stakeholders and providing a holistic range of services, we are working towards a better future, especially for children, women and their entire communities in western Kenya.



*Our Mission Statement*  
We help people to help themselves,  
for the benefit of the children,  
because we believe in everybody's potential



## FOCUS AREAS



**Child- and Youth Care**



**Health**



**Gender Equality/Women's rights**



**Economic empowerment**

## OUR FOUR FOCUS AREAS:



### Child- and Youth Care

We continuously ensure the children's wellbeing and positive development, which is measured through various indicators including education, health care, child protection, psychosocial support, safe shelter, food & nutrition and economic strengthening of their families. This allows us to provide personalized interventions and the necessary support based on our findings.

Our goal is to create empowered and self-sufficient households that can meet the needs of their children, even beyond their childhood (university etc.).



### Health

A healthy society increases the chances of a better future!

We are currently building a health center with a maternity ward focusing on maternal birth assistance, family planning and HIV prevention. To provide medical care to rural areas and make it more accessible, we conduct medical outreach programs and free medical camps.

Through our Reproductive Health Program and within our Youth Friendly Centres, we convey objective information about Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and provide contraceptives anonymously and free of charge!



### Gender Equality/Women's rights

Through awareness raising programs, we promote gender equality and stand up against sexual gender-based violence (=SGBV). To achieve a long term social and behavioral change, we also include men, religious leaders, youths and children in the discussion.

Besides raising awareness, we created access to SRHR information and contraceptives for more than 118.000 people! To reduce violence against women, we established five SGBV Help Desks in health facilities.

Our team of trained Nurses and Paralegals takes care of the victims and helps them receive justice!



### Economic empowerment

Over 1200 members of our established village savings and loaning associations gained access to microcredits and receive interests on their savings.

Vulnerable families receive assistance in creating an additional income, for instance by receiving seedlings, livestock and training in entrepreneurship skills and financial literacy. Our Crafts Centre is going to provide a stable working environment and vocational training opportunities for young women.



## 1. HOLISTIC SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN & ADOLESCENTS (OVC PROGRAM)

With this project we support vulnerable children and adolescents while pursuing the goal of improving their living conditions in a sustainable way. This year, we managed to increase the number of supported children (Orphans and Vulnerable Children (=OVC)) from 5600 to 12.680. The beneficiaries, aged between 0-18 years, are (half-) orphans living with highly vulnerable caregivers or in child-headed households.

### **That's how we support our children**

The children are integrated in local families. This process ensures that they grow up in a familiar environment and keep up the connection to their roots. 205 trained Community Home Visitors (=CHV) support the children and their families according to their individual needs. To improve child well-being, support is provided in many areas:

- health and nutrition
- formal and vocational education
- child protection and legal support
- psychosocial support and care
- safe shelters and economic strengthening

The CHVs make sure that those children are living in a non-violent environment, have a roof over their heads, sufficient nutrition and access to health services.

The aim is to support families in a sustainable way, so that they are enabled to take care of their children's needs autonomously for a long-term period. The project offers all members of the household a chance to improve their economic, social and health situation as well as access to education.

### **Education:**

It is our aim to support families up to a point in time at which they are able to pay for their children's school fees by themselves.

Out of the 12.680 children, that we take care of, 12.198 are currently going to school. We support 330 children with scholarships as they would not be able to attend school otherwise. In order to promote the families' responsibility and their self-participation we only pay for 80% of the fees needed for secondary school. We accompany the families to ensure that the children attend school regularly and are able to transition to upper levels.

Moreover, 4 adolescents received vocational trainings e.g. to become electricians, mechanics, tailors or hairdressers and became self-reliant.

### **Health and Nutrition:**

All OVCs are now aware of their HIV status! Our caregivers impart their knowledge in workshops and private conversations to educate our children about HIV and malnutrition.

Children with signs of deficiency obtain nutritional supplements. In case of malnourishment by one-sided nutrition the families receive seeds and workshops to set up a vegetable garden.



### **Economic strengthening of families:**

Through this intervention, we support families and children to start activities that can help them to raise money for their household use. We distributed 78 goats as productive assets to households mainly child-headed and of high vulnerability.

To ensure the children's welfare, these households received monthly emergency cash transfers. Furthermore, we set up Village Savings and Loaning Associations on a regular basis, whereby families get access to microcredits and a motivation to save money. In 2018, 1.234 people were active in 96 Village Savings and Loanings Associations. We monitor the families to ensure they are able to take care of their needs.

### **Psychosocial care and Support:**

We ensure that the children have a safe place that gives them the possibility to talk, play and prosper. They receive psychosocial support by our Community Household Visitors which we trained specifically in this field of work. Our Safe-Parks and Children Clubs also offer these children the possibility to interact and play with each other in a safe environment, offering the chance to develop themselves.



### **Our commitment against violence & negligence:**

We are regularly confronted with cases of child abuse.

Paralegals were especially trained to reduce child abuse and to be there for affected children. Our staff has been informed about our child protection guidelines and committed themselves to protect our children from certain risks, abuse, neglect, discrimination and exploitation.

The year witnessed various activities that ensured vulnerable children live free from abuse, neglect, discrimination, stigma and exploitation. We supported 356 children acquire birth certificates which is a legal document. We also educated families and children on children rights and responsibilities



## 2. PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN AND TEENAGERS

In our Safe Park and Children Clubs, children and adolescents of all age groups can leave their everyday worries behind.

### **Safe Park and Children Clubs**

Our Safe Park in Kolwa East is open five days a week to all children and provides, besides the playground attractions, a steady offer of animation- and education-activities. To reach children from rural areas as well, we organized 13 Grand Children Clubs in the form of a mobile extension of our safe park, which enabled us to put a smile on 7823 children's faces within the last year. Additionally, 1104 children benefited from the small children club sessions held at the Safe Park in collaboration with seven nursery schools.

The children receive a freshly cooked lunch and can choose from a variety of activities, ranging from football tournaments to reading circles, poetry and debate clubs.

### **Smile and learn**

Children Clubs serve as a place where children and teenagers can openly talk about their feelings and emotions, as well as their wishes and problems. In the debate-clubs one can talk about relevant and possibly sensitive topics. This way they can learn and enlarge their knowledge about topics like HIV/ AIDS, reproductive health, gender equality and much more in a safe and playful environment.

### **iNoticing behavioural disorder**

Most of the participating children are part of our project for integral support of children and adolescents in which we support 12.680 (half-)orphans and children in need. We also utilize the Children Clubs as a screening method to observe the children's interactions with each other to identify those with behavioural problems.

### 3. SHELTER RENOVATION - WE WITHSTAND THE RAIN!

Last year, we were able to support 15 families in reconstructing their homes!

In the periods between March and May, people in Kenya live through the toughest time of the year – the rainy season. Each year during this season many houses within our project region get completely destroyed. Many families lack the necessary resources to rebuild their homes once the rainy season is over or, alternatively, prevent them from getting destroyed in the first place.

In order to protect their hard-earned possessions and ensure that highly vulnerable families live in houses that are safe, secure and dry, we help them to rebuild their homes. Imagine, the price for one house is “only” 250€! (~290 US\$). We provide the families with a persistent corrugated iron roof, which can withstand even the strongest rainfalls. The families organize the wood and helping workers to rebuild the house.





## 4. VILLAGE SAVINGS ASSOCIATIONS

Similar to a bank, village saving clubs give people the opportunity to save money or borrow money in certain emergencies.

Often the money is small, but important purchases such as the purchase of seeds, school uniforms or school fees is not available. The barriers of national banks for obtaining a loan are high. To tackle this problem, we have initiated this project and seeing great success! Our Village Savings Associations already have 1.234 members!

One association consists of 30 members. In the last year, 1.234 members in total have engaged actively in 96 registered Village Savings Associations. The members meet every two weeks and can pay up to 2 € into a community pot.

If the members of the savings clubs thus spontaneously need money, they can take out a loan at a fixed interest rate of 10%. The loan must then be repaid within one month, including interest. At the end of the year, the entire savings and the interest income will be distributed to the members in proportion to the total amount paid. This gives members an incentive to save and also provides access to capital to cover unexpected expenses or a possibility into self-employment.

Some members of the savings clubs started their own small businesses: small vegetable shops, kiosks, second-hand clothing stores and many others. Many members used the money for upcoming school fees of children or put the money in the construction of houses after the rain season. Our Household Economic Department provides monthly follow ups to the businesses with a view of providing technical support and guidance. This reporting period realized 100 percent success of the groups amidst market challenges.



## 5. REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH AND GENDER EQUALITY

In September 2017, we launched a three year project, which has started to bring great change and enhance equal opportunities, especially for women. Our goal is to build consciousness about taboo topics of reproductive health and contraceptives, as well as prevent violence against women. Through this program, over 118.000 Kenyans already received access to contraceptives. Contact points for victims of domestic violence have already been established. Women are being encouraged to make self-determined choices regarding their bodies and their future.

### our approach

80 Rain Workers and 14 Rain Worker Supervisors will be visiting households, offering advice and providing them with knowledge about reproductive health and rights of women.

Moreover, they are conducting continuous round table talks, advising conversations with key persons in the community and Health Centres and organize sport events.

They are assisting people during the utilisation of reproductive health services and improving their accessibility. The fact that the majority of our rainworkers work in the health system creates a natural multiplier effect. They help people use reproductive health services and improve their accessibility.

Normally, contraceptives should be available in public health centres, yet in reality this is not true. In many cases contraception can't be carried out without interruptions, since there aren't enough contraceptives or they are forgotten to be renewed.

### Men convince men

60 male champions (trained men with knowledge about sexual education) reach the conscience of other men easier, which means they can spread the message of gender equality and acceptance to contraception among them. Within this team, we find five representatives of religious communities, who are also spreading this knowledge in their churches.

### Protect women from violence

8 Sexual Gender Based Violence (SGBV) staff, are present on a daily basis in five health centres. Women can report violence anonymously and undergo regular health checks.

The staff supports them all along and cooperates with executive authorities and the key personnel of the communities. Half of the staff operates within the communities and spreads information about SGBV, as well as visits women regularly, to observe the development of the situation.





### Preparing adolescents for their future

54 of our Peer Educators are students, who have been trained and helped by rain workers to convey information to other students.

27 Teachers from 27 local schools within our project region, have equally participated in these trainings and are now monthly organizing so called “School Health Clubs”.

A theatre group conveys these messages in the form of participative educational plays in which topics of sexuality and contraception are addressed in an entertaining way. The audience can freely participate in their creation.

4 Youth Friendly Centre staff provide “knowledge” to teenagers and young adults: employees of four Health Centres and two Youth Friendly Centres in the region are training them. Furthermore, adolescents can also, when desired, get information about sexuality and contraception and access contraceptives anonymously and free of charge. The community won’t be informed about their requests. These centres offer teenagers continuous supervision and serve as safe meeting points.

30 Youth Advocates, who are still teenagers themselves, spread “knowledge” in the communities and to other teenagers and promote Youth Friendly Centres amongst them.

Additionally, 12 Radio shows per year transmit entertaining “knowledge” to even the most rural communities. The shows are produced in the local language “Luo”.

Project duration: September 2017- September 2020

The project is financed by the cooperation of the Austrian Development Agency. The County of lower Austria and G & H Roberts Community Trust.



## 6. DENTAL CAMP

There is a high prevalence of dental problems.

Many people in Kolwa East, Kisumu, have no insurance, which covers dental treatment. Due to high fees and small income, many people just have to live with their condition and suffer the consequences. Apart from reduced chances in job applications, untreated teeth can lead to sincere diseases affecting the whole body and health and in worst cases even lead to death.

We held a dental camp led by Dr. Hanno Senger from Austria and Dr. Paul Ojwando (Local dentist from Kisumu) in three of our sites namely; Gita health centre, Chiga Dispensary and Orongo Dispensary. During the camp, 955 patients received services that ranged from; fluoride application, dental extraction, dental emergencies, diet counselling, dental cleaning and examination and referrals.

## 7. TWO MAKE ME SMILE YOUTH FRIENDLY CENTRES

Contraceptives are seen as a taboo – even if there is a wish to use contraception, Youngsters often see themselves stigmatized by society and unable to afford them, therefore remain at risk-

In our two Youth Friendly Centres (YFC) in Chiga and Kawese, we have an open ear and provide anonymous and free of charge access to contraceptives. Eunice Awuor Omollo and Roseline Awuor Orimbo, our two permanently employed YFC nurses, whom we trained at delivering youth friendly services are available to the teenagers.

## 8. KIPAJI- ENCOURAGING ARTISTIC TALENT

The creative industries have experienced an increasing demand in recent years. Increasingly large funerals, birthdays, weddings and parties offer opportunities for young people to gain a foothold in the entertainment industry.

In a two-month training course, the skills of talented young people were trained and tips for self-marketing were given. Target group Young people between 18 and 25 years of age, who live in the project region, were invited to a casting. The 26 participants who received the best marks from the jury were selected for the project. Measures Established artist in the fields of music, dance, theatre, photo & film conveyed their knowledge to the young people in an eight-week training course.

Together they also developed business plans so that the young people can consider whether what they have learned can secure their future income. At a big closing event the young people presented their choreographies, songs, films, photos and plays. In addition to the local community, important people from the public sector and the economy, as well as the Minister of Culture were invited to the performance, so that the young artists can build up their network of contacts.



## 9. AIDSFREE (JUA-PROJECT) - STOP MOTHER-TO-CHILD TRANSMISSION OF HIV

The aim of the AIDSFREE project is to prevent HIV infections of newborns. The project targets both: pregnant and breastfeeding adolescent girls. It is intended to enhance access to health and social services. We inform, look after and accompany young mothers and young pregnant women over a long period of time, so that their children are born healthy and can grow up in a child-friendly environment.

### Promoting knowledge about HIV and prenatal care

There are promising medical opportunities to drastically reduce the transmission of HIV between mother and child: with an instructed intake of HIV medication during pregnancy in combination with other strategies, the risk of transmission can be reduced to less than 2%. However, knowledge about and access to these medical options are not yet sufficiently spread in Kenya.



### Preventing new infections of newborns!

Within the project AIDSFREE, young women at risk of HIV and their children are cared for during and after pregnancy.

EiReduction in sexual disease transmission occurs through prenatal care, HIV testing, and contraceptive measures.

We are pursuing the following goals with it:

- Reducing disease transmissions through prenatal care, HIV testing and preventive measures
- Improving the health of infants and preventing new infections
- Supporting women in health, psychosocial and general issues
- Sensitizing the society, relatives and the living environment of the women

### Working with and in the community

The program reached its beneficiaries through household visits in their respective communities, in our case in Kolwa East, Miwani and Kajulu.

An AIDSFREE team consisted of three people - One mentor and two Household Facilitators (one male and one female). Each team was looking after 5-8 young women. Mentors were the actual persons of reference for the women. They supported and accompanied them during their pregnancy, sensitized relatives, informed about medical possibilities and explained medications or, for example, the entries in the mother-child-passport.

Household Facilitators supported the mentors in their work but were particularly active in the respective community and sought to build mutual trust and exchange between the community, the relatives and the project.

At the end of the project, all 55 girls who were pregnant were followed to positive completion of postnatal care.

## 10. CRAFT CENTRE

We established a craft centre for women, creating a steady income for the employees and supporting young women through vocational training to become tailors.



### **Good for the women - good for the community**

With this project we give women the chance of an education and a fair-paid job. A stable source of income gives women security.

The Swiss master tailor, Cindy, has been active in the field of development cooperation since many years. Her engagement is funded by the Swiss organization Comundo, enabling her to be our first permanent European employee in Kenya. She is a trained tailor and supports the development and the management of the craft centre with her business know-how.

As the Craft centre was launched towards the end of 2018, Cindy trained five adolescent girls and young women for a start. She will be working with us until the end of 2020 and will also be training a local project manager, who will then continue running the craft centre independently.

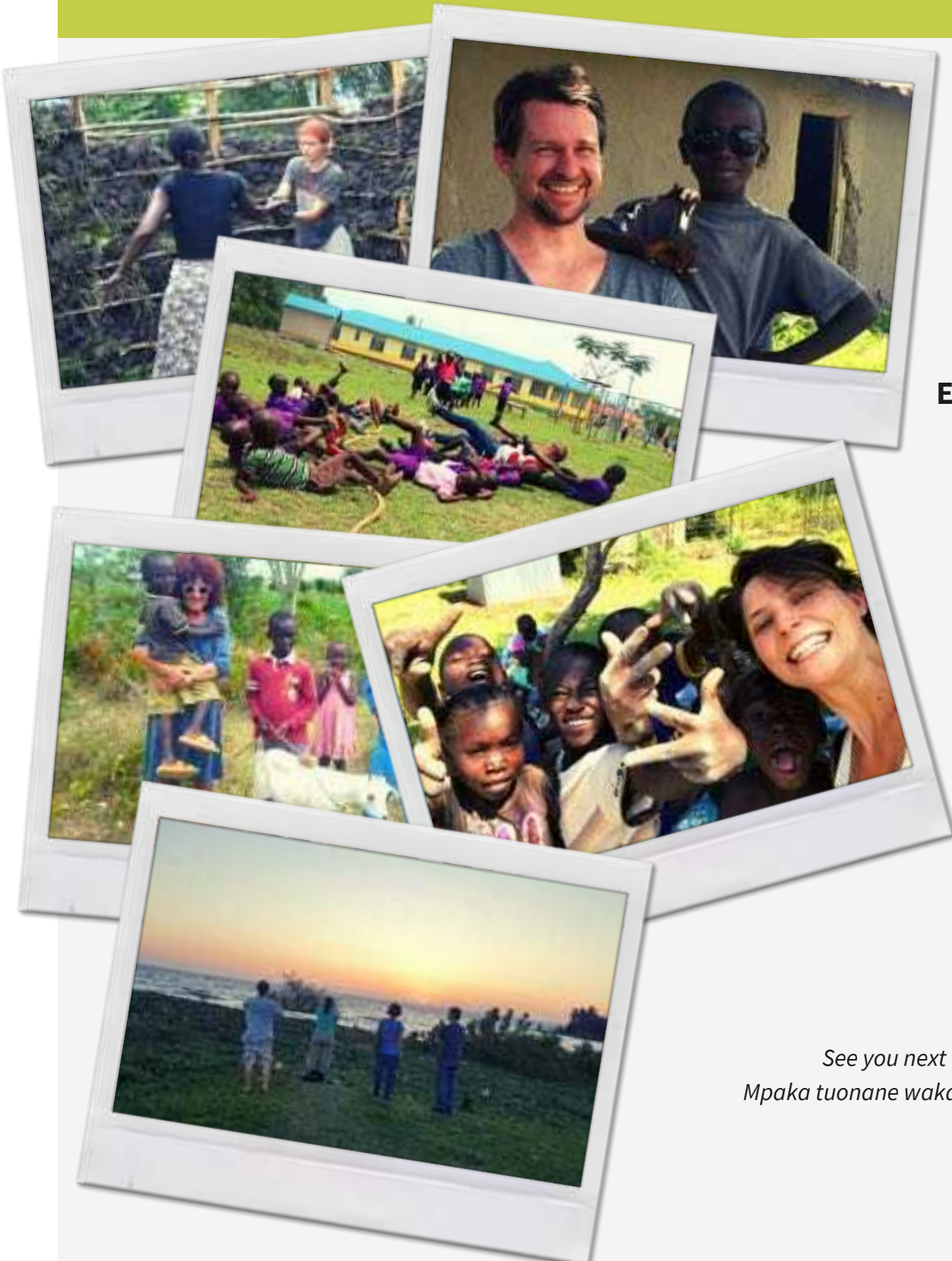
## 11. VOLUNTEERS AT MAKE ME SMILE KENYA

Many thanks to all the volunteers who made 2018 so wonderful.

Your endless efforts are improving many of our projects and motivate us day by day!



**Clara  
Cornelia  
Emilia  
Eva  
Gregor  
Hanna  
Elisabeth  
Lisa  
Matthias  
Martina  
Michael  
Nicola  
Paulin  
Raphael  
Roberta**



*See you next time!  
Mpaka tuonane wakati mwingine!*





*Dear members, supporters and those who are interested!*

It is my great pleasure to present you our Annual Report of 2018, thereby providing you with an insight into our recent work in Kenya.

Our entire team in Kisumu is still committed to implement the projects presented here and to continue to develop them in order to meet our holistic approach of sustainable development cooperation. Thanks to our small but energetic team in Austria and the many volunteers, we are able to provide you with the latest reports and information on our projects and ensure their financing and continuity.

We are especially proud about the impact towards Health and Gender Equality, made by our three-year Programme, which is co-financed by the Austrian Development Agency.

This extensive programme is reaching 24.500 people in our project region, by creating awareness and educating about reproductive health, family planning, prevention of sexual and gender based violence, while improving accessibility of these services.

Most importantly, I want to thank and congratulate our Kenyan Team. Due to their commitment and hard work, we were awarded as the best implementing partner organization in Western Kenya by USAID/World Vision and from April 2018 onwards have been entrusted with the support of 12,680 Orphans and vulnerable children.

In order to continue realizing such accomplishments and increase our impact, we depend on your donation and support, without which all this would never have been possible! Respectfully, I ask you to support our work and make it possible to put smiles on more children's and people's faces, which last for generations. To ensure that your donation remains tax-deductible, we undergo an annual audit by an Austrian auditor, who carries out an independent audit of all project expenses.

It is possible to get involved voluntarily and to support us, either in fundraising activities in Austria or as part of our international volunteer program on site in Kenya. We thank all the helping hands, which have supported us enormously and we honour and appreciate every little help we get.

Thank you for making us smile!

**Maximilian Ullrich**

*Gründer, Obmann und Geschäftsführer von Make Me Smile*



## TRANSPARENCY IS IMPORTANT TO US



This is how we used your donation in 2018

### Make Me Smile Kenya

(Implementing organization in project region)

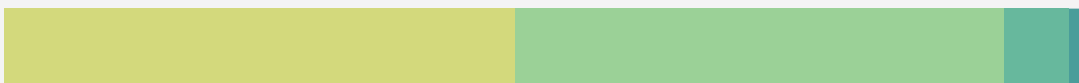
Origin of funds	€ EUR	K KES	
I. Donations revenue			
a) Donations revenue from Make Me Smile International	268.668,29	32.758.012,99	36,56%
b) Donations revenue from Catholic Relief Services (USAID)	337.176,51	40.070.056,59	44,72%
c) Cash donations	48.265,10	5.744.670,30	
II. Other revenue			6,41%
Interest revenue	173,09	20.569,90	0,02%
III. Release of reserves	94.187,63	11.007.368,66	12,28%
<b>Total</b>	<b>748.470,63</b>	<b>89.600.678,44</b>	<b>100,00%</b>

#### Origin of funds



Allocation of Funds	€ EUR	K KES	
I. Activities for implementation of statutory purpose			
a) Projects funded by Make Me Smile International	349.747,34	42.494.302,11	47,43%
b) Projects funded by Catholic Relief Services (USAID)	337.996,24	40.167.473,67	44,83%
II. Anschaffung von Anlagen	44.721,07	5.110.000,00	5,70%
III. Addition to reserves	16.005,97	1.828.902,66	2,04%
<b>Total</b>	<b>748.470,63</b>	<b>89.600.678,44</b>	<b>100,00%</b>

#### Allocation of Funds



Since 2017 we take care of your tax-deduction. Please let us know your full name according to the registration form as well as your date of birth. There's nothing more to do for you, as we take care of the whole process.

This is how we used your donation in 2018

**Make Me Smile International**  
(Fundraising Organization Austria)

**Origin of funds**

€ EUR

I. Donations (including donations in kind)		
a) Dedicated Donations (for the Projects)	329.049,03	92,91%
b) Sponsorships	4.765,00	1,35%
c) dedicated donations for administration and fundraising	14.987,30	4,23%
II. Membership Fees		
	470,00	0,13%
III. Subsidies and grants from the public sector		
	0,00	0,00%
IV. Other income		
a) Interest earned from the bank	10,31	0,00%
V. Release of reserves		
	4.863,93	1,37%
<b>Total</b>	<b>354.145,57</b>	<b>100,00%</b>

**Origin of funds**

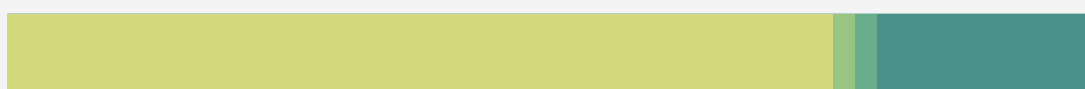


**Allocation of Funds**

€ EUR

I. Activities for implementation of statutory purpose		
a) Projects funded in Kenya	268.668,29	75,86%
II. Fundraising		
	7.809,50	2,21%
III. Administrative expenses		
	6.979,52	1,97%
IV. Addition to reserves		
	70.688,26	19,96%
<b>Total</b>	<b>354.145,57</b>	<b>100,00%</b>

**Allocation of Funds**



## NON-PROFIT ASSOCIATION

Please support us with your donation, every contribution counts!

**Austria:** Make Me Smile International

IBAN: AT53 2011 1829 6886 8700

BIC: GIBAATWWXXX

**Switzerland:** Make Me Smile International

IBAN: CH53 0873 3045 2887 5615 0

BIC: BKTHCH22XXX

**Germany:** Make Me Smile International e.V.

IBAN: DE06 8306 5408 0004 2374 80

BIC: GENO DEF1 SLR

## CONTACT

**Make Me Smile International**

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Legal address: Rathausstraße 6, 2490 Ebenfurth, Austria

Head Office: Hornigweg 5, 190 Vienna, Austria



<https://www.facebook.com/makemesmileinternational>



[https://www.instagram.com/makemesmile\\_international/](https://www.instagram.com/makemesmile_international/)

## MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION

Payee: Make Me Smile International

Rauthausstraße 6  
2490 Ebenfurth, Austria  
ZVR-number: 729094416

I authorize Make Me Smile International to collect payments from my account via SEPA direct debit. At the same time, I instruct my bank to authorize SEPA direct debits drawn from Make Me Smile International. I can claim reimbursement of the amount due within eight weeks of the debit date. On this occasion, the conditions agreed with my bank are valid.

**Amount:**  5 €  25 €  60 €  \_\_\_\_\_

**frequency:**  monthly  quarterly  annually  once

### My data:

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

IBAN: \_\_\_\_\_

BIC: \_\_\_\_\_

If you want us to deduct your donation, we ask you for the following data:

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Ja, ich möchte regelmäßig über den Newsletter informiert werden!

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

Location, Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you very much for your support**

Please send the registration form by mail (Hornigweg 5, 1190 Vienna)[IB1] .





**THANK YOU  
FOR MAKING US  
SMILE!**

