

Mission

Report

2016

**Istituto Oikos: 20 years
for the environment**





CONSERVATION OF
NATURAL RESOURCES AND
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Mission Report 2016

Istituto Oikos: 20 years
for the environment



07 – 14

01. Who we are

15 – 29

**02. Twenty years for
the environment**

30 – 31

03. What we have learned

32 – 47

04. 2016 Successes

48 – 53

05. 2016 Financial statement

54 – 55

06. Outlook

56 – 58

07. Our supporters

59 – 62

08. Join us

Letter from the president



Rossella Rossi
President of Istituto Oikos Onlus

In 2016 we celebrated 20 years of activity.

A goal almost unhopd in 1996 when, with so many dreams and no financial resources, we took our first steps. Since then, the group has grown and has remained solid, more than ever united by a strong bond of solidarity and by the memory of the great Guido Tosi, still an unreplaceable source of inspiration and reflection for all of us six years after his passing.

In the last year, we have strengthened our five offices network—two in Italy and three abroad—where 158 people have managed 42 projects and dealt with different issues, united by a single goal: to transform international agreements or national policies in the environmental sector into concrete, well documented and replicable actions.

We have worked to redevelop the wetland network that guarantees a vital ecological link, a “water bridge” between the Park of the Ticino Valley and the Olona river, in Lombardy. We have worked to protect many threatened species, among which the bear, in Europe and Myanmar, a country where the trapping and illegal trading of the Malaysian bear is still very active. In Tanzania, with the *Eco-Boma* project, we have cooperated with the Maasai communities to implement concrete strategies for the use of land and water to deal with climate threats. A vital commitment, taking into account that

2016 has been the hottest year since 1880 and that in Tanzania draught is an ever-feared scourge. And not forgetting that every year natural disasters push another 26 more million people towards poverty. We have worked by focusing on the training of personnel, we have promoted awareness campaigns in schools and experimented with innovative techniques, such as bioacoustics, to monitor the presence of sea mammals in the Quirimbas National Park, and collision prevention systems to reduce the impacts between vehicles and wildlife in the Province of Varese.

But we have also continued to ask ourselves what will be the role of an NGO such as Istituto Oikos in future years. The unplanned acceleration of human activities continues to put the foundations of our communal home at risk. The future of sustainability requires a commitment on a growing number of fronts: from the maintenance of the functionality of ecosystems to the revision of production and food consumption mechanisms, from climate strategies to the ability to “engage businesses” with the themes of global change. We have neither the strength nor the competences to commit ourselves on all of these fronts. In 2017, we will therefore work to make the small contribution that Istituto Oikos will be able to offer to the construction of a fairer and more sustainable future even clearer, better defined and more meaningful. For individuals, communities and the environment.

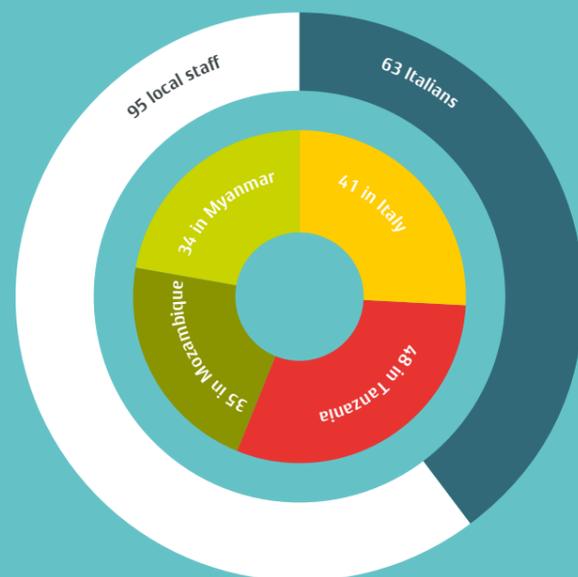
01

Who we are

Istituto Oikos is an independent, non-religious non-profit organisation, founded in Milan in 1996 by a group of biologists and naturalists.

We work in Europe and across the world to safeguard biodiversity and to promote a responsible management of natural resources and more sustainable lifestyles as tools for social and economic development and for fighting poverty.

158 people have worked with us in 2016



Where we work

Istituto Oikos has chosen to focus its efforts in few geographical areas: the Maasai Steppe in Northern Tanzania, the coastal areas of the Tanintharyi Region and of the Rakhine State in Myanmar, and the Cabo Delgado Province in Mozambique.

Our in-depth knowledge of the areas of intervention, the close cooperation with local institutions and the relationship of trust we have established with the communities have all been possible thanks to the permanent presence of our staff on the field. These are key elements for promoting lasting, sustainable changes.

Oikos coordinates a network of local branches, in Italy and abroad, which have different levels of legal autonomy, but share a common vision and mission.



A future in which ecology,
economy and equity come
together to reconcile
the needs of man and
the environment.

To contribute to preserving
ecosystems and supporting
development through
professionalism, innovation
and participation.



vision



mission



Scientific committee



Adriano Martinoli

Professor of Zoology and Wildlife Conservation at the University of Insubria



Paolo Anselmi

Anthropologist and social researcher, Vice President of Istituto GfK Eurisko and professor of Social Marketing at the Catholic University of Milan



Giorgio Cancelliere

Water resources management expert and coordinator of the Water Resources Management in International Cooperation master course at University of Milan Bicocca



Mauro Corinaldi

Entrepreneur



Maurizio di Robilant

President and founder of Robilant Associati and Fondazione Italia - Patria della Bellezza



Andrea Mustoni

Zoologist at Adamello Brenta Natural Park in Trentino

I have been collaborating with Oikos since it was founded, helping to identify biodiversity conservation strategies and ensuring that scientific projects are supervised. I encourage innovative, multidisciplinary approaches to environmental and wildlife issues and I promote scientific and cultural synergies. But when it comes to wildlife studies, I never say no to fieldwork!

I have been carrying out ongoing research on corporate social responsibility and on social and environmental sustainability communication strategies since the mid-nineties. Over the last twenty years, I have gained a deep respect for Oikos' work in promoting ecosystem conservation, the sustainable management of natural resources and the economic, social and cultural development of local communities. I am honoured to be part of the Oikos Scientific Committee and I hope to keep contributing in the future.

I have worked in international cooperation in the field of water for 40 years. I saw Oikos grow through the people who benefited from its interventions, in the remotest places reached by water, and grew alongside them through experiences I shared with the many collaborators who are the very heart of the organisation.

Helping Oikos has allowed me to return to Tanzania after many years and to tell my children about Africa and its people. Oikos has done fantastic work and I hope to soon be able to contribute to the organisation's work in a new country.

I have been following Oikos since it was founded. My main sectors of activity are brand strategy and communications and I have tried to make a small contribution to the life of the organisation with my expertise and that of my partners, in exchanges that are always rich and interesting. Over the years, I have seen Oikos grow under many aspects and I hope to be a part of this great work for a long time to come.

I find concrete, sustainable solutions that help humans live in harmony with nature. Istituto Oikos has given me the opportunity to embark on this fascinating challenge with a group of well-prepared, meticulous, like-minded people.



Accreditations

Accredited npo (Varese Prefecture)

Enrolled in the public register of Civil Society Organisations (osc) and other not-for profit entities, pursuant to art. 26 of Law no. 125/2014 of the Italian Agency for Development Cooperation (Decree no. 2016/337/000241/0 dated 04/04/2016)

Socially useful npo pursuant to Decree 760/97

Membership

CoLomba (Lombard NGO association)

Expo dei Popoli

International Union for Conservation of Nature - IUCN

Italian Coalition to Fight Poverty

Italian NGO Association



02

Twenty years for the environment

4,000



SMALL-SCALE FARMERS

helped to improve production and sales



6



SOCIAL ENTERPRISES

launched



20,000



STUDENTS

involved in sustainability education activities in Italy

288



PROJECTS

managed in 20 years



16



UNIVERSITIES

and research institutions worked with us



57,700

INHABITANTS

reached by drinking water



Collaborated with

22

PROTECTED AREAS

3,000



PERSONS TRAINED

on good environmental practices

Twenty years in the Alps

*Eugenia Carlini,
Environment in Italy sector*



Monitoring operations

If I had to say why we have been in the mountains of the Lombardy and Trentino Regions for 20 years, one word says it all: Guido*. I met him in 1988, when I knocked on the door of his office at university as I wanted to write my degree thesis in the mountains, which was my great passion. He suggested an internship in Val di Scalve to monitor ibex and chamois. I still have the hand-written report I wrote during that work experience, with its hand-drawn, pastel-coloured maps.

In '96 I accepted my first real job in the Alps with the newly-founded Oikos: the translocation of chamois from Val di Lei to Val Codera, where the species had disappeared due to habitat reduction and human activity.

Guido always showed a high level of expertise, and above all a rare creative approach, in these activities. We in fact invented an innovative trap system: a pole with several ties and a ring-shaped tube onto which a net was attached. The trigger release was the same as those used in remote-controlled electric gates. We would attract the chamois with salt, which they love, and then lower the remote-controlled enclosure from the other side of the valley. Once the chamois were ready to be transported, we would take them to Val Codera by helicopter.

*Guido Tosi, university professor and co-founder of Istituto Oikos

My clearest memory, of an experience that allowed me to gain skills that are still essential in my current work at Oikos, relates to Vida. Vida is one of the 10 bears we have reintroduced to the Trentino area since 1999 and whose movements we studied over ten years.

One day she was walking across the Adige Valley, and as usual I was right behind her. I remember it as if it were yesterday. From the mountain ridge, it took her just 40 minutes to descend to the valley and reach the motorway. That night, 30th of August 2001, she was hit by a car. The driver called the emergency services but the traffic police didn't believe him. Then they found a smashed headlight, they made their way down the slope and found the female bear in a state of shock. The alarm was spread.

The bear's radio collar had broken on impact and I had lost track of her, however there was a notice in the police station asking them to contact us in the event of bear sighting reports. And so, Vida was found. She was tranquilised and transported to Spormaggiore. She had a displaced ulna and radial fracture in her back-left leg; had the vets performed surgery and placed her leg in a cast, they would have been left with no choice but to feed her for 30 days and keep her in captivity forever. It was instead decided to keep her anaesthetised

for a few hours, administer a slow-release antibiotic for the grazes and then release her in Val di Tovel: there, after fitting her with a new radio collar, we would monitor her breathing overnight.

However the mortality sensor triggered at 3 am. I stayed where I was, lying in the grass, with the radio on and baited breath. Then, at 4.45 am, just as dawn broke, the signal recommenced. Vida looked up, raised her undamaged paw and reared herself up. Her sleep had been so deep that the sensor recorded a state akin to hibernation. Over the 30 days needed for the bone to heal, Vida changed her lifestyle: she slept at night and was active during the day, so that she could see where she was putting her paws.

A short time later, a ranger of the Adamello Brenta Nature Park called me to say she had been seen running. I left her at the end of June 2002, 600 km from where she was set free.

Within the scope of this project we have applied one of the Guido's great teachings, namely that of always creating a close-knit team of people. Because if you don't trust the

people you perform such delicate activities with, then you won't achieve the objective and the scientific undertaking will fail. Over the course of the years, we have always tried to do this.

The most important thing I learned in my twenty years in the mountains is that nothing is impossible: for many, reintroducing ibexes, bears or chamois to the territories they once lived in was a utopia, but we did it. The regenerative capacity of nature is truly astounding.

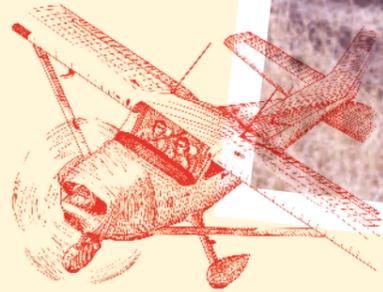
The two rules of biodiversity conservation are to protect and take action. We followed these commandments in everything we did in the Alps. And if after 20 years you see that it still works, then you know that it is worth continuing.



Vida released in Val di Tovel



The researchers team just landed in the savannah



On the elephant trail



*Valeria Galanti,
Project Manager of the Tarangire
National Park Conservation Programme*

Istituto Oikos' story in Tanzania starts with elephants' migratory routes in Tarangire's National Park, in the lands burnt by the sun right below the Equator. All thanks to the initiative of Guido Tosi, the researcher who made Oikos' history, by founding and making it grow. In 1996, a student of his who dreamed of Africa, convinced him to find a way to go to Tarangire National Park. Infected by such enthusiasm, he and Rossella managed to obtain European Union funds to study the migratory movements and distribution of the park's large mammals over a three-year period. Thus, Oikos made its first steps: with a group of young zoologists who set off for Africa without knowing exactly what to expect, but with a great initiative and a desire to contribute to the conservation of a truly unique natural environment.

I clearly remember the emotions during our first expeditions, the nights spent in tents and the first time I saw the elephants. You never know what to expect from those unpredictable giants and, above all, you never know how to behave when they charge. And even if you get to know them over time, observing their behaviour is an experience that always takes your breath away and that you never get used to.

We followed the movements of 12 zebras, 13 wildebeests and 7 elephants whose pastures were at risk due to crops that had sprung up on those very routes in recent years. We were using radio collars and, for the first time in Africa, GPS to track the elephants. This system allowed us to identify the areas in which poaching is more widespread, although the poachers often removed the radio collars from the animals they killed and buried them in the ground. With GPS, we were able to retrieve the collars and then assigned rangers to patrol those areas. And not only: this method immediately allowed us to come into contact with the world of international research. We went on plane expeditions—landing in the savannah, just like in films—with experts from the Frankfurt Zoological Society, the authors of the books I was studying and who we now worked with, side by side.

Capturing elephants is a very delicate affair. We would follow them from the air and dart them with anaesthetic when we got close. We would follow them by car and fit the radio collars (which were always removed on completion of the study) once tranquilised, then take the measurements and head off. They say that elephants do not forget. How true that is: the



Tarangire National Park, Tanzania

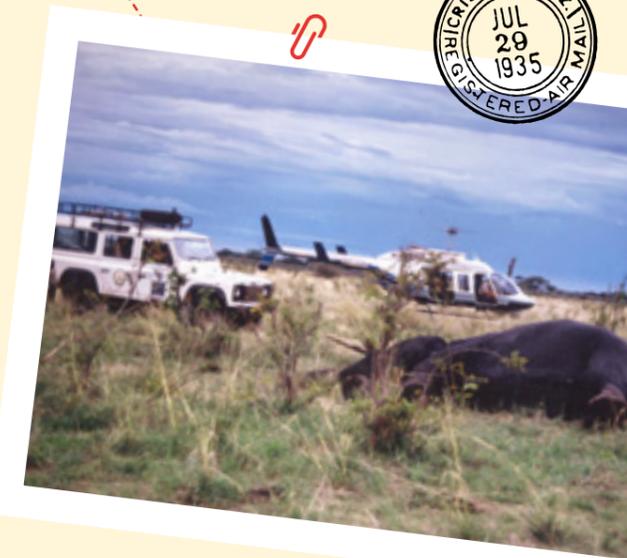
matriarch of a group from which we captured a female recognised our cars for months and would charge as soon as she saw us, without hesitation.

Tarangire National Park taught us to always leave space for doubt: this is what allows us to move forward, to improve and to grow.

This joint work allowed us to accurately track the migratory movements of the elephants and highlight the areas of greater conflict, so that we could then work with the local communities. This was the part that required the most time and energy, but together we created land use maps and began to raise awareness on the importance of the routes. Those who carry out our work today take this for granted, but at that time nobody believed that studying the environment also meant studying the behaviour and the practices of the people who live in those territories. Tanzania was already full of researchers who used scientific methods, but we were convinced that an ecosystem's animals and resources cannot be protected without considering those who live with the animals, and without providing them the tools to understand that some habits can have disastrous effects on the environment. Our greatest achievements were being able to work with the Park Authority and the local communities synergistically and at multidisciplinary level, and having gained our place in the world of international research.

The first experience in Africa taught Oikos researchers something of great importance: there is always something new to learn every day, something that sometimes makes you question what you believed was true until the day before. Tarangire National Park taught us to always leave space for doubt: this is what allows us to move forward, to improve and to grow.

Elephants capturing operations



"Observing their behaviour is an experience that always takes your breath away"



Nearby water

*Giorgia Cancelliere,
Water resources management expert
and Water Programme coordinator
in Tanzania*



Twelve years ago, I set up a study with two students of the Water Resources Management in International Cooperation master course (University of Milan Bicocca) to identify the critical points of water supply in the Arusha National Park area, Northern Tanzania.

There was an extremely urgent need for drinking water: the resources were there but were polluted by fluorine, a contaminant that drastically lowers the calcium level in the bones, especially in children, and the drinking water was located within the Park's boundaries, where the people had no access and were therefore in perennial conflict with the Park. I can now say that one of our greatest achievements was to help creating a dialogue between the community and the Park, which now pays to use the water from our aqueduct, just like all the other users.

We chose to work with the community from the outset: we provided technical support however, in order to create an aqueduct in the Park, without destroying the ecosystem, the key was the collaboration with the villages, which provided 50 people ready and willing to reach the work zone every day. And so in 5 years we managed to supply water that was safe to drink to the entire district of Nagrenanyuki—11 villages and 12 schools, 18,000 people—by building aqueducts and dams and supporting the villages in a true culture change: when we turned on the tap in the school in Nyamakata for the very first time in 2009, the children fled in terror. They didn't understand how water could gush from the ground as they had never seen it before. Once we had explained the whole process to them, they slowly got used to it.

In 2011, the districts of Leguruky and Kingori, having heard of our work in the nearby district of Nagrenanyuki, asked us to help them improving their aqueduct. And so the second project commenced, targeting 24 villages (about 40,000 people, 38 schools and 5 hospitals), which were competing against each other for access to water.

Together we reached agreements to manage the resource through a single institution, which would go on to become a social enterprise:



Nyamakata school, in the Uwiro village, connected to the water supply system



Aqueduct construction in the Arusha National Park area



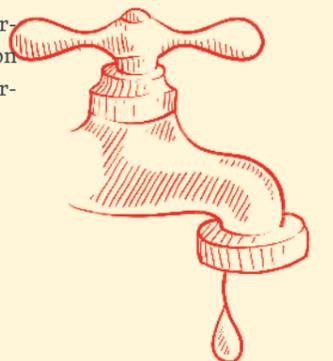
In 5 years we managed to supply water that was safe to drink to the entire district of Nagrenanyuki by building aqueducts and dams and supporting the villages in a true culture change.

Makilenga, a community organisation for water and hygiene management that brings together all 24 villages. The organisation is now managed independently and is recognised as a model throughout the region, a solution recommended by water resource management legislation.

Having water means relying on dignified hygienic and sanitary conditions, reducing the incidence of diseases and slashing medical expenses; being able to launch economic activities (greenhouse vegetable production in Kimosonu has resulted in expansion of the village, also in terms of demographics), and having the opportunity to improve one's social situation. Especially that of women who, in the Maasai society in particular, have a very marginal role, despite the fact that they are truly in charge of the households and are responsible for all duties, including collecting water. In 2006, the women of Mkuru would travel 6 km to collect 20 litres of water every day, while today they have much more water less than 250 metres away and can devote more time to their families and economic activities. Women account for 30% of the Makilenga committee: their input has been the determining factor in a number of decisions and they are more aware of their opportunities.

Continued collaboration with the university, over 12 years, was vital to the success of this programme. The university gave its scientific

contribution, allowing us to introduce the bulk system to Tanzania, which allows the homogeneous and fair distribution of water, and the measuring of water use changes over the years. On average, the Maasai consumed 3 litres of water per person per day; following the construction of a well and a distribution system, they can count on 80 litres per day. Nevertheless, consumption increased by just 5 litres in two years, and now, 10 years later, they use no more than 25 litres when consumption in western countries is ten times that. These figures have allowed us to look back, understand the importance of social education on water use, and move on from the idea that certain conditions are immutable in time.



Arriving on
Lampi Island



Lampi, discovery of a forgotten paradise

*Lara Beffasti,
Myanmar Programme Manager*

It all began in 2006 with a few slides and a great desire to accept challenges. An acquaintance of Rossella gave a presentation that took our breath away: before our eyes scrolled image of tropical islands, mangrove forests, a rich variety of wild animals, with small fishermen's boats being the only sign of man's presence in these unspoiled landscapes...

Oikos' adventure in the Archipelago of Myeik, Myanmar, began in 2008, with the aim of carrying out the necessary research to create a project to protect the Lampi Marine National Park. We left from Kawthaung, point of entry to Myanmar from Thailand, with one of the just 20 boats with permission to visit.

The catamaran proceeded at a nerve-rackingly slow pace, its engines continuously breaking down, leaving us adrift in the middle of the sea on more than one occasion. We had just two weeks to gather the information that we needed. What most struck me during the crossing were the boats, dotted in that sea, days' navigation away from the villages; the Moken, a semi-nomadic people who live in the Archipelago, spent weeks on board, fishing without nets or traps. Nights were coloured by Thai boats that came into Myanmar illegally to fish as much as possible.

At the time, only a couple of international environmental NGOs had authorisation to work in the country, but none of them in Lampi, for reasons of safety due to the difficulty accessing the area. We would go to Nay Pyi Taw, the new capital, at least once a month, to persuade the government that Lampi Island was a place of key importance, and that it needed to be protected. They granted us permission for one year and the project was approved by the European Union in 2009. Since then the authorities have renewed our permits on an ongoing basis giving us exclusive rights to work in the area.

The true expeditions to the area commenced that year alongside Burmese researchers. They arranged for fishermen, who had never had international guests before, to open their homes to us. One day, not knowing what to make us to eat, they prepared huge crabs and lobsters before our incredulous eyes. I was struck by this gesture, because the locals rarely eat fish: they catch it to sell in Thailand, indeed this is their main source of income.

The park office and the guest quarters were constructed as part of the project. Between 2010 and 2012, the Ministry of the Environment of Myanmar assigned temporary staff together with whom we started preparing the

first Park Management Plan, which was later approved by the government. We adopted a participatory approach, involving institutions, communities and research bodies, from the outset. With the local NGO BANCA and the University of Insubria, we identified more than 1000 species within Park boundaries, and each year the list continues to increase.

I can now say that our greatest achievement was allowing the Park to truly exist and to start managing and protecting it. Many of the islands where we now observe birds or search for turtle nests would have been invaded by rubber or coconut plantations. Water, waste and latrine management has improved and in the last two years small handicraft, tourist guide and other businesses have begun to spring up, bringing with them significant economic opportunities for young people in particular.

I would like Lampi to stay how it was when I first arrived. But there are big plans for touristic development, so I am trying to be realistic and hope that tourism creates jobs and improves the services that the locals need.

And that we protect biodiversity and the Moken culture, which are the Archipelago's most valuable resources and are closely inter-linked. Only thus will we be able to say that we achieved the dream we had when we first saw those slides.



Lara e Valeria
during their first mission

Lampi Marine National Park, Myanmar



Three countries, one great dream

*Rossella Rossi,
President of Istituta Oikos*

A common thread runs from the very heart of Tanzania to Lampi, the only marine park in Myanmar, to then return to Africa, to the incomparable reserve of biodiversity that is the Quirimbas Archipelago in Mozambique. Following its path means joining together the pieces of a single large programme: constructing solid networks, promoting science, knowledge and a culture of environmental sustainability. In the interest of the community, young people and the institutions.

Guido and I arrived at Mkuru one morning in September 2002. We were looking for a place to provide training on the opportunities that tourism offered to the local communities. Between Mount Meru and Mount Kilimanjaro, in a beautiful part of the savannah, we found four abandoned stone houses, the involuntary bequest to the village from an adventurous entrepreneur who had had to leave the country in a great hurry. "Will you allow us to rent these buildings?" I asked Pello, the elderly chief of the Maasai village, off the top of my head, without giving it much thought. He said yes straight away. And added: "In exchange, instead of paying us rent, you could build us a school for the village". With the help of treasured friends, we managed to collect the first eight thousand euros needed for the school in Mkuru. The inauguration, which took place nine months later, was attended by all. So happy were they to see what we had made it possible.

The great celebration marked the start of an alliance between Oikos and the Maasai community of Mkuru, which fifteen years later is stronger than ever. Mkuru Training Camp (MTC) is now a training centre for local communities, students and volunteers. Both local and international. With the mission of promoting "good practices" for managing the fragile environmental resources from which the lives and income of the community depend: the arid pastures, food for the livestock and at risk of desertification; the forest of Mount Meru, indispensable source of water for 500,000 people; the fertile irrigated lands at the foot of Mount Meru, exposed to pesticide abuse.

Mkuru has allowed scientific collaboration between local and international universities and research institutions; the following were established: Camel Safaris, a small community tourism enterprise; Maasai Women Art, a cooperative of Maasai women awarded at 2015 Milan Expo, which decided to stop cutting trees for charcoal production purposes and focus on bead handicraft instead; CERC (Community Energy Resource Centre) for the distribution of renewable energy and, from 2016, an experimental centre for vegetable leather tanning. And MkuRun, the marathon in August.

All this makes Mkuru a small door that is open to the world, a place where young men

and women can nurture their dream of access to a better future, well before innovation and culture, the hope of finding their space in a changing world. For themselves and for their children.

Thirteen years after founding MTC, we decided to pursue the same challenge in two new areas: Lampi Marine National Park (Myanmar) with the inauguration of a Visitor Centre that is a support facility for research activities as well; and the Island of Ibo, in Quirimbas National Park (Mozambique), with the construction of an Eco-centre.

The common thread is always the same: to build a common, economically viable and long-term programme with our partners. To bring the environmental research, innovation and environmental culture to serve the local people; to create a virtuous mechanism through which communities, researchers and members of the institutions can become a part of wider networks; to share the challenge of making environmental and biodiversity protection a sustainable undertaking.

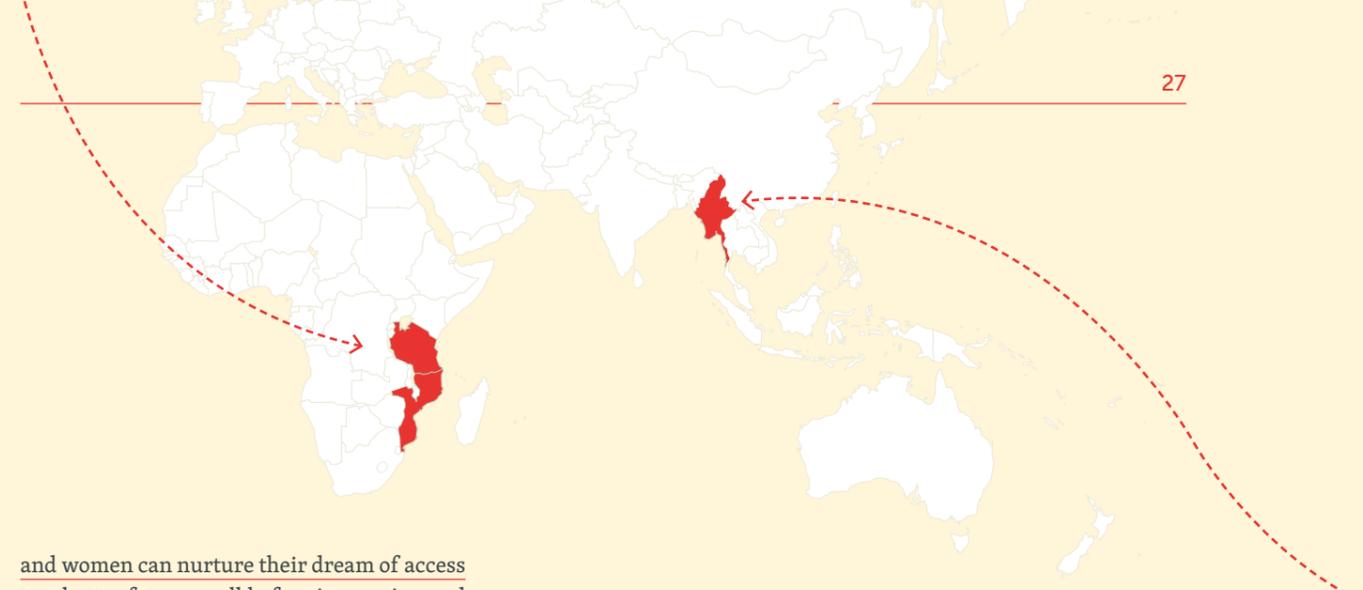
The great celebration marked the start of an alliance between Oikos and the Maasai community of Mkuru, which fifteen years later is stronger than ever.



Lampi Visitor Centre inauguration



Ibo Eco-centre, work in progress



Pello, Mkuru village chief at the time, with his family



The work of Istituto Oikos has been possible in the last 20 years thanks to the close cooperation with associations, institutions, entities and international research institutions.

A synergic work in which the expertise of each party has contributed to achieving lasting results.

Italy

Public entities

Area Council 3 – Municipality of Milan
[Adamello Brenta Nature Park](#)
 Alpi Marittime Nature Park
 Alto Garda Bresciano Park
[Autonomous Province of Trento](#)
[Campo dei Fiori Nature Park](#)
 Dolomiti Bellunesi National Park
[Mughetti Local Park \(PLIS\)](#)
 Municipality of Albosaggia
[Municipality of Albizzate](#)
[Municipality of Cassano Magnago](#)
[Municipality of Formazza](#)
[Municipality of Gravedona ed Uniti](#)
 Municipality of Milan
 Municipality of Origgio
 Istituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale (ISPRA, Institute for Environmental Protection and Research)
 Natural History Museum – Bolzano
 Natural History Museum – Milano
 Orobic Bergamasche Nature Park
 Orobic Valtellinesi Nature Park
 Paneveggio Pale di San Martino Nature Park
 Pineta Tradate Appiano Gentile Nature Park
[Valle del Ticino Lombardy Park](#)
 Val Grande National Park
 Valle del Lambro Nature Park
 Valli del Lario e del Ceresio Mountain Community
[Valli del Verbano Mountain Community](#)
 Varese Economic Solidarity District (DES-VA)
 Politecnico di Milan
 Province of Belluno
 Province of Bergamo
 Province of Brescia
 Province of Como
 Province of Lecco
 Province of Lodi
 Province of Milan
 Province of Pavia
 Province of Sondrio
[Province of Varese](#)
[Rile-Tenore-Orona Local Park \(PLIS\)](#)
 Stelvio National Park
 Natural Science Museum – Trento
 Lombardy Region
 University of Milan
[University of Insubria](#)
[University of Milan Bicocca](#)
 University of Sassari

Associations and private companies

Altrementi Association
 Anolf Lecco Onlus
 Applied Ecology Institute
[Architetti senza frontiere \(ASF\)](#)
[Association for International Solidarity in Asia \(ASIA\)](#)
 Association of Producers of Energy from Renewable Sources (APER)
 Casa delle Agricolture di Castiglione
 Casalasco Consortium
 Casargo hospitality management college
 Catholic University of Milan
[Centre for an Appropriate Technological Development \(CAST\)](#)
[Centre for Information and Development Education \(CIES\)](#)
[Civil Voluntary Service Group \(GVC\)](#)
[CoLomba – Cooperazione Lombardia](#)
[Development Cooperation Centre \(CCS Italia\)](#)
 Fratelli Ingegneri Spa
 Horcynus Orca Foundation
[Ingegneria senza frontiere \(ISE\)](#)
[International Volunteering Centre \(Ce.V.I.\)](#)
 Istituto Europeo di Design (IED)
 Italian Association for Organic Agriculture (AIAB)
 Italian Association Responsible Tourism (AITR)
[Italian Climate Network](#)
 Koiné Cooperativa Sociale Onlus
 L'aliante Foundation
 Legambiente Innovazione Foundation
[Legambiente Lombardy Onlus](#)
 Mirage Burkina
[Muindi Semi di Sorriso Onlus](#)
 Nostrale Association
[OPES Impact Fund Foundation](#)
 Oxfam Italia
 Parco Segantini Association
[Pithekos Association](#)
 Regional Intervention Centre for Cooperation (CRIC)
 Serbelloni Foundation
 Terre Solidali Onlus
 The Lombard Horticultural Society
 Timesis S.r.l.
[Training for Communication \(For. Com.\)](#)
 WWF Italia

Europe

Public entities

University of Twente, Faculty of Geo-Information Science and Earth Observation (ITC) – Netherlands
 Research Institute of Wildlife Ecology, University of Vienna – Austria

Associations and private companies

[APS \(Portugal\)](#)
[Arche Nova \(Germany\)](#)
[Artemisszió Foundation \(Hungary\)](#)
[Bulgarian Gender Research Foundation – BGRF \(Bulgaria\)](#)
[CEPS Projectes Socials \(Spain\)](#)
[Computer Technology Institute and Press “Diophantus” CTI \(Greece\)](#)
 Deutsche Gesellschaft für Sonnenenergie e.V. – DGS (Germany)
 Fundación Ecología y Desarrollo ECODES (Spain)
[Fundación IBO \(Spain\)](#)
[Humanitas \(Slovenia\)](#)
 Institute of Global Responsibility – IGO (Poland)
 Nature Trust (Malta)
 Oikos Cooperação e Desenvolvimento (Portugal)
 Pastoral and Environmental Network in the Horn of Africa – PENHA (Great Britain)
[PEIPSI \(Estonia\)](#)
[SCCD \(Slovakia\)](#)

2016 collaborations

Tanzania

Public entities

Arumeru District
[Arusha District Council](#)
 Arusha Municipality
 Arusha National Park
 Arusha Region
 Arusha Technical College (ATC)
 Centre for Agricultural Mechanisation and Rural Technology (CAMARTEC)
 Dar es Saalam University
[Longido District Council](#)
[Meru District Council](#)
 Ministry of Water and Irrigation
[Monduli District Council](#)
[Selian Agricultural Research Institute \(SARI\)](#)
[Small Industry Development Organization \(SIDO\)](#)
 Sokoine University of Agriculture
 Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI)
 Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC)
 Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA)
 Tanzania National Resource Forum (TNRF)
 Tanzania Wildlife Conservation Monitoring (TWCN)
 Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI)
 Tarangire National Park
[The Nelson Mandela African Institute of Science and Technology \(NM-AIST\)](#)
 Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI)
 University College of Land and Architectural Studies (UCLAS)

Associations and private companies

African Wildlife Foundation (AWF)
[Alliance Française \(AF\)](#)
 AVRDC – The World Vegetable Center
[Belgian Fund for Food Security \(BFFS\)](#)
 Camel Safari Camp
 Community Based Health Care Council (CBHCC)
 Faida MaLi
 Foundation Article 25
 GIZ Tanzania
[Global Climate Change Alliance \(GCCA\)](#)
 Global Service Corps (GSC-Tanzania)
[Honeyguide Foundation](#)
[Iles des Paix \(IDP\)](#)
 Kakute Ltd – Company for Technology Dissemination and Training
[Maasai Pastoralist Foundation \(MPE\)](#)
[Maasai Women Development Organization \(MWEDO\)](#)
[Makilenga Water Consumer Association](#)
 Mali Hai clubs
[Marketplace Literacy Community Trust \(MLCT\)](#)
[Meru Sustainable Land – MESULA Ltd](#)
 Meru/Usa Forest Plantation
[Mkuru Training Camp \(MTC\)](#)
 Mount Meru Catchment Forest
 Ngarenanyuki Community Energy Resource Center
[Oikos East Africa](#)
 Oldonyosambu Community Energy Resource Center
 Osetwa Mount Meru Community Based Organisation
 Postharvest Education Foundation (PHEF)
 Responsible Tourism Tanzania
[South Rift Association of Land Owners \(SORALO\)](#)
 Tanzania Horticultural Association (TAHA)
[Tanzania Maasai Women Art \(TMWA\)](#)
 Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement (TOAM)

Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB)
 Tanzania Traditional Energy Development Organization (TaTEDO)
[The Nature Conservancy Tanzania \(TNC\)](#)
[TRIAS Tanzania](#)
 Ujamaa Community Resource Team (UCRT)
[Water Service Facility Trust \(WSFT\)](#)
 Wildlife Conservation Society Tanzania (WCS)
 Women Development for Science and Technology Association (WODSTA)
 World Vegetable Centre (AVRDC)
 WWF/Tanzania Programme Office

Mozambique

Public entities

[Administração do Ibo](#)
[Administração Nacional das Áreas de Conservação \(ANAC\)](#)
[Direção Provincial de Cultura e Turismo de Cabo Delgado](#)
[Instituto Industrial e Comercial de Pemba \(IICP\)](#)
[Instituto Nacional de Desenvolvimento da Pesca de Pequena Escala \(IDDPE\)](#)
[Ministério da Terra, Ambiente e Desenvolvimento Rural \(MITADER\)](#)
[Quirimbas National Park](#)
[Serviço Distrital de Actividades Economicas de Metuge \(SDAE Metuge\)](#)
[Universidade Lurio](#)

Associations and private companies

[Advantage Consulting](#)
[Associação do Meio Ambiente \(AMA\)](#)
[ECO Moçambique](#)
 KULIMA
 LUPA
[Universidade Católica de Moçambique – Faculdade de Gestão de Turismo e Informática \(UCM Pemba\)](#)

Myanmar

Public entities

[Ministry of Environmental Conservation and Forestry \(MOECAE\)](#)
[Ministry of Hotel and Tourism \(MOHT\)](#)
 Ministry of Livestock, Fisheries and Rural Development, Department of Fishery
[Ministry of Natural Resources and Environmental Conservation \(MONREC\)](#)
 Myeik University
 University of Yangon

Associations and private companies

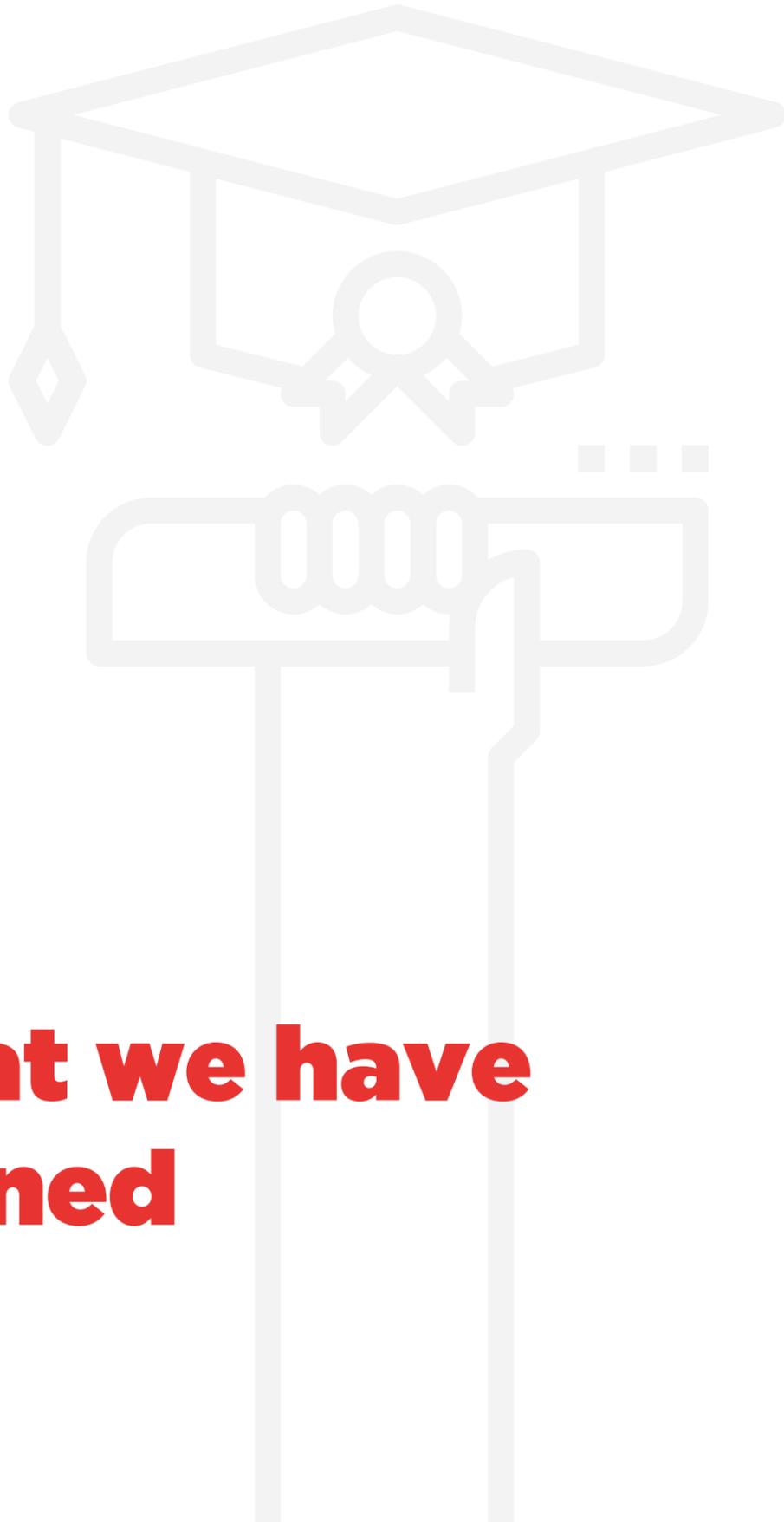
[Biodiversity and Nature Conservation Association \(BANCA\)](#)
[Flora and Fauna International \(FFI\)](#)
[Food Science and Technology Association \(FoSTA\)](#)
[Gender and Development Institute \(GDI\)](#)
 Marine Science Association Myanmar (MSAM)
[Rakhine Coastal Region Conservation Association \(RCA\)](#)
[Rural Development Service \(TWA\)](#)
[The Center for People and Forests \(RECOFTC\)](#)
 Union of Myanmar Travel Agencies (UMTA)
[Wildlife Conservation Society Myanmar \(WCS\)](#)

Other Countries

Afrique Vert – Niger
[Al Shouf Cedar Society \(ACS\) – Lebanon](#)
 Azienda Cantonale dei Rifiuti, Cantone Ticino – Switzerland
 Chon Kemin National Park – Kirghizistan
 Community Development and Environment Association (CDEA) – Laos
 COMPED Education and Waste Management – Cambodia
 Cooperativa Mista Colibris – Brazil
 Eco-Gis – Kirghizistan
 Federation Telwa – Niger
 Great Gobi Strictly Protected Area, Zone B – Mongolia
 Intercooperation Kirghizistan – Kirghizistan
 International Takhi Group (ITG) – Mongolia
 International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) – Switzerland
[Kafkas University – Turkey](#)
[KuzeyDoğa Derneği – Turkey](#)
 Mainyoito Pastoralist Integrated Development Organization (MPIDO) – Kenya
 Neighbours Initiative Alliance – Kenya
 Pangea Centro de Estudos Socioambientais – Brazil
[Sarikamis National Park – Turkey](#)
 Terre Solidaire – Mauritania
 University of British Columbia, Centre for Biodiversity Research – Canada
 University of Illinois – USA
 Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography, Chinese Academy of Sciences – China
 WWF International – Switzerland

03

What we have learned



Science matters

How can we guarantee the wellbeing of the community without compromising the environment? The science is fundamental for finding solutions to this question. Applied research and focus on innovation are an integral part of the Istituto Oikos strategy. Environmental data monitoring and analysis are the foundations on which we create our interventions and ascertain the success thereof. In all our projects, we systematically rely on the input of **experts** on specific topics. We engage in continuous dialogue with the world of academia and with research centres, to improve our skills, and often take part in research projects. **We measure and critically assess the impact** of all our interventions.



Listening, involving and sharing are a must

No matter the environment, the project is first and foremost a **community** project and is the result of a daily **synergy** between private, public and local stakeholders. We constantly implement participatory processes to highlight any issues and requirements and so that strategies, benefits and results can be shared. We strive to protect nature and **improve the skills** of the local communities in order to create an inclusive economy around biodiversity conservation.



Change is only possible through stable, long-term alliances

In all our programmes we aim to achieve **structural change**, which obliges us to work with a long-term vision until **lasting results** are achieved. We create **stable alliances** with institutions, universities and local partners to promote research, test innovative environmental practices and promote an environmental culture, understood as a shared heritage on which local wellbeing is based. We have been working in the same areas for years because **we know that change requires time and that continuity is necessary in order to guarantee sustainable programmes and community autonomy**.



Educating for sustainability is crucial

The current global scenario, characterised by increasingly frequent social, political and environmental crises, demands that education play a key role in creating an **informed and motivated generation** capable of critically and actively overcoming the challenge posed by those issues that are most urgent: climate change, environmental degradation and poverty. We have been training young people in Italy and across the world for a number of years now. Through school projects, courses and social campaigns we encourage men and women to act responsibly and to acknowledge the value of the natural world and defend it.

04

2016 Successes



Biodiversity



Sustainable Communities



Water



Climate and energy



Ecological connection in the Lombardy Region

Ecosystem fragmentation as the result of urbanisation and the development of infrastructures such as roads and railways, is a permanent threat to biodiversity. In order to address this, Istituto Oikos has undertaken to requalify, upgrade and connect the natural areas of the Lombardy plain.

For the last three years we have been working on **wetlands**, very fragile ecosystems that are essential for the survival of many animal and plant species, and **among the most at risk on the planet**. We are creating an East-West ecological connection in the province of Varese: a "**wet-bridge**" from Ticino Park to the River Olona.

How? By increasing the ecological functionality of wetlands of particular environmental interest in the Municipalities of Besnate, Cavaria, Cassano Magnago, Albizzate, Castelseprio and Cairate. The areas of intervention will see increased naturalness and biodiversity, will be more connected to other natural environments and equipped to welcome visitors and schools.



Province of Varese:

- We completed topographical and bathymetric surveys in all areas of intervention.
- We monitored 75 species of bats, birds, dragonflies, amphibians and reptiles to assess the impact of our interventions.
- We drew up 3 project plans: The Boza Oasis in Cassano Magnago, Fontanili di Cavaria and Lagozzetta of Besnate.
- We completed our interventions in Ticino Park (eradication of exotic weeds, lake and pond excavation sampling, educational billboards).
- We created the *Young naturalist educational training kit* in collaboration with the University of Milan Bicocca.



The ecological connection also passes through technological innovation: Oikos and the Valli del Verbano Mountain Community is piloting new systems to counteract **roadkill**, the serious social and environmental problem of the killing of animals on the road, that causes the death of about 15,000 animals each year per Italian Province. In most cases the victims are mammals such as deer, wild boar, badgers, foxes and roe deers.

Our streets intercept major wildlife movement corridors. **The innovative, all-Italian anti-collision systems** we aim to install, are only activated in the event of the simultaneous presence of an animal that is about to cross the road and an oncoming vehicle. When the system is activated, a sound signal (screams or howls) is emitted. It frightens the animals, which are put off crossing.



In the Valli del Verbano Mountain Community:

- We studied the territory and identified the **main points of animal transit**, where 6 anti-collision systems are to be installed.
- We launched a campaign to raise awareness of roadkill: www.roadkill.it





The year of the bear

2016 saw Istituto Oikos promote both a cooperation project between Italy and Turkey for the conservation of the Brown bear (*Ursus arctos*) in the two countries, and an initiative for the conservation of the Malayan bear (*Helarctos malayanus*) in Myanmar.

Turkey - Brown bear

In the course of the year, we promoted the exchange of knowledge and experience between Europe and Turkey on the proper management of natural resources, encouraging the **use of good practices in the management of large carnivores**. In this context, after analysing the issues that come hand in hand with the presence of bears in Eastern Anatolia (province of Kars), we organised some **study visits and technical meetings in Italy and in Turkey**, in order to share our respective experiences, identify common problems and formulate new solutions. We also organised an **international bear workshop in Venice** and promoted educational activities for the young people who live in two important "bear territories": Trentino Region and Eastern Anatolia.

Myanmar - Malayan bear

The forests of Myanmar and of the Sagaing Region are home to an **endangered bear species**: the Malayan bear (or Sun bear).

Istituto Oikos is working with the **Myanmar Forestry Department** to establish the exact distribution of the species, find out more about their habitat requirements and promote their protection through local community involvement. In 2016, together with the **Wildlife Conservation Society**, we placed **120 camera traps** in the Rakhine and Sagaing forests: this field effort allowed us to record more than 65 bear videos, which will help us gain an understanding of their habit, and to also confirm the presence of 25 other local mammal species.



Empowering the park authorities

The bodies responsible for managing the protected areas are at the **forefront of biodiversity and ecosystem protection**. Oikos has always assisted the local and national institutions responsible to safeguarding the territory, with the aim of increasing skills, supporting them in planning and promoting the use of innovative methods for the sustainable management of natural resources.

Myanmar - Lampi Marine National Park

This year, park staff were again given the opportunity to take part in training courses on new monitoring and patrol techniques.

Together we monitored over **350 species** of mammals, reptiles and birds. Some of our key results were ascertained the presence of the Sunda pangolin (*Manis javanica*), a species considered to be critically endangered, and of the Smooth-coated otter (*Lutrogale perspicillata*, considered vulnerable) and confirmed the nesting of the plain-pouched hornbill (*Rhyticeros subruficollis*, considered vulnerable) in the park.

Mozambique - Quirimbas National Park

In 2016, we delivered environmental monitoring training to 15 park rangers, implemented 2 monitoring protocols on coastal birds and marine mammals and monitored 161 species. We explored the marine areas of the park using **bioacoustics techniques**, an innovative technology in our search for the dugong and other marine mammals and taught the park rangers how to use these tools to increase knowledge of marine resources and promote the proper management thereof.



The resilience challenge in Italy

Small rural centres, both in Italy and abroad, are often located on the fringes of society: young people flee to the city and the abandoned traditions tend to generate environmental degradation and social and economic isolation.

Our bet? Working alongside at-risk communities to **rediscover and valorise natural and cultural resources** as a strategy to revitalise the territory and aggregate and engage community members in sustainable and participatory local development.



In the Municipality of Gravedona ed Uniti (Como Lake's alpine territory) and in the Municipality of Formazza (Verbano-Cusio-Ossola):

- We created **informal groups** to valorise the territory and safeguard biodiversity ("custodian farmers" and "territorial ambassadors").
- We optimised the **local food products**, promoting their nutritional, environmental and cultural value.
- We launched and promoted new **excursion itineraries** and **food and cultural tourism packages**.
- We organised **events, meetings and training opportunities**, including an educational vegetable garden in Formazza to teach young people and tourists about the area's resources.
- We improved the trail network and signage in the **Albano Valley Local Park**.

Resilient communities on the web

www.lagodicomosostenibile.it / www.turismovalformazza.it

The **Cariplo Foundation** is Istituto Oikos' main ally in the Lombardy Region resilience challenge, together with all the local authorities and citizen groups, without whom these initiatives would not have been possible. For more information on the Foundation's commitment to resilience: www.osservatorioresilienza.it



New social, green and female enterprises

The lack of work and opportunities can encourage illegal practices that cause serious damage to the environment and local communities. In the territories in which we operate, we see tree cutting for charcoal production, the hunting of protected species, fishing with dynamite, over-grazing, monoculture advances and uncontrolled pesticide use.

It is often women who have the most difficulty accessing the labour market.

In the Maasai community in Tanzania, for example, women take care of everything: children, water, the elderly, and are the true custodians of the houses. Yet their entitlement to fundamental rights, basic education and political representation are not enforced; and they are not permitted to own land or livestock.

How to change this situation? Oikos has chosen to create **new economic, growth and training opportunities** for women and to focus on education and raising awareness throughout the community.



In Tanzania:

- We have involved 27 Maasai women in activities relating to the **vegetable leather tanning** and to the production of leather handicrafts and 108 women in buying and selling micro-businesses.
- We trained 4,500 women in **Marketplace Literacy**, a methodology to help them better understand local market dynamics, both as customers and as vendors.
- We launched 103 new **Village Community Bank Groups** to manage the **Social Funds** subscribed by 2,875 people, 94% of whom are women.
- We trained 31 women from traditional groups.

The **Themli Living Garden, Tanzania's first eco-restaurant**, opened by Istituto Oikos and now managed by a cooperative of Arusha women, serves approximately 20 lunches a day.

The **MESULA social enterprise** has supported the biological production of more than 100 male and female farmers in the Arusha Region by providing seeds and technical assistance, and facilitated the marketing of the products through a monthly **Farmers' Market**, three **Mobile Markets** a week and a small fruit and vegetable shop.

In Mozambique:

- We trained **72 small producers**, including 48 women, on good agricultural practices, bringing the total number of people trained to 462 in two years.
- We set-up the **Pemba Verde social enterprise** to support a network of 24 small agricultural producer associations in the sale of fruit and vegetables.





Responsible tourism: a development strategy for protecting the environment and local cultures

Rainforests and mangroves, coastal and marine ecosystems, savannahs and steppes are essential environments for the **wellbeing of many communities** throughout the world. Where a growing population and uncontrolled development threaten the environment, **sustainable tourism can be a solution** to the need to protect natural and cultural resources, while at the same time providing earning opportunities that encourage people to abandon harmful practices such as deforestation and the over-fishing.

In order to allow those who live in areas of great environmental and cultural interest that are also at high risk of degradation, to valorise the resources that surround them and to take advantage of the opportunities provided by tourism, **investing in training is essential**.



In Mozambique:

- We provided a **professional training programme** in the tourism field to 371 people in the Pemba and Ibo Districts.
- We encouraged the **work placement** of 40 people.
- We strengthened **24 local associations** in the Ibo District in tourism-related sectors (handicrafts, nature guides, hospitality).
- We reached 3,000 students with a **social theatre tour** on environmental protection.
- We began the construction of an **ecological monitoring and scientific tourism centre** in the Quirimbas National Park.

In the Lampi Marine National Park in Myanmar:

- We built and inaugurated the **park visitor centre**, with educational panels and an exhibition area.
- We produced the park **tourist guide** and website www.lampipark.org
- We organised **study visits** for park staff and local community representatives, tourism management **training opportunities** and English courses.

Community forests: protecting the land and supporting the communities

The forests of the Rakhine State, in Myanmar, are delicate ecosystems that are under threat of natural disaster and are also threatened by human activity. Forest lands are bought by **private individuals who deforest** in order to obtain precious wood or make way for rubber plantations. Moreover, the villagers, who have no financial alternatives, undertake the **uncontrolled cutting of trees for charcoal production** and to clear the way for farming. Soil impoverishment and habitat loss are concerning and exacerbate conditions for the local communities, which are often forced to abandon their villages in search for other forests in which to live.

Community forests are Oikos' solution for **protecting these environments, defending the local communities' right to use the land** in which they traditionally live, and increasing their resilience by providing economic alternatives.

Creating a community forest means giving a community the **right to use a specific plot of forest for 30 years**, in line with specific land use plans.



In Myanmar:

- We set-up **7 new community forests** for the management of 400 hectares of green spaces.
- We created 29 groups (mainly women) to start **small income-generating activities** linked to the sustainable use of forest resources such as dried chili production and bamboo weaving.
- We created **64 school vegetable gardens**.



The basis of life

There are currently still **800 million people** across the world with no access to drinking water. Water is the basis of life, of soil fertilisation, of ecosystem conservation and of power generation. Istituto Oikos intervenes in the countries in which it operates to **ensure community access to drinking water** and basic healthcare services. It promotes a **participatory management** of this resource through the creation of management committees, social enterprises and consumer associations. The main aims of this process are to reduce waste and water pollution, which are also possible thanks to constant and extensive education and awareness-raising activities.

Bringing safe, clean water to remote areas is possible by working in team, with the involvement of institutions and inhabitants alike, and intervening on various levels, from the creation of infrastructures through to education, the creation of latrines and technical training.



2016 KEY RESULTS



In Myanmar:

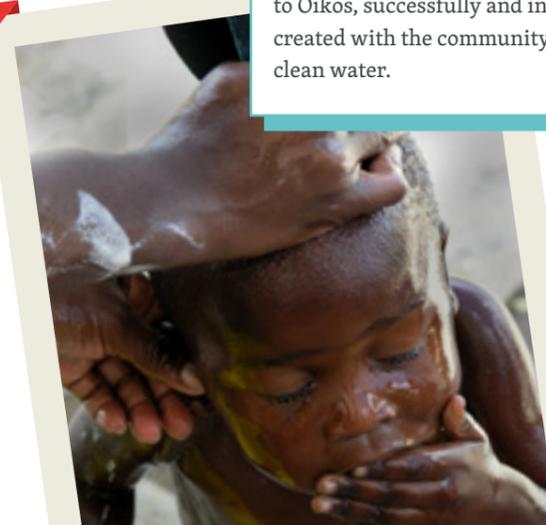
- We followed the self-construction of **29 latrines** in the village of Makyone Galet, in the Tanintharyi Region.
- We constructed **8 latrines, 7 wells and 7 rainwater collection tanks** in Rakhine State schools.

In Mozambique:

- We launched a **WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) programme** in the Ibo District in Mozambique.

In Tanzania:

- The **MAKILENGA Water Consumer Association**, a social enterprise launched by Istituto Oikos, successfully and independently manages 260 km aqueduct system that we jointly created with the community and that supplies 54,000 people in 22 villages with safe, clean water.



Adapting to a changing climate

Climate change has a very heavy impact in some parts of the world.

In 2016 an **unprecedented drought** hit the Maasai Steppe in Northern Tanzania, East Africa. The livestock, the Maasai's only source of livelihood, were decimated by lack of water and pastures. Small-scale Meru farmers found themselves without a harvest source of food and income.

Irregular atmospheric phenomena linked to **climate change** have dramatic effects in some parts of the world. Identifying **adaptation strategies** and promoting virtuous behaviours, being more knowledgeable of the natural resources and better managing them is vital to the survival of entire communities.

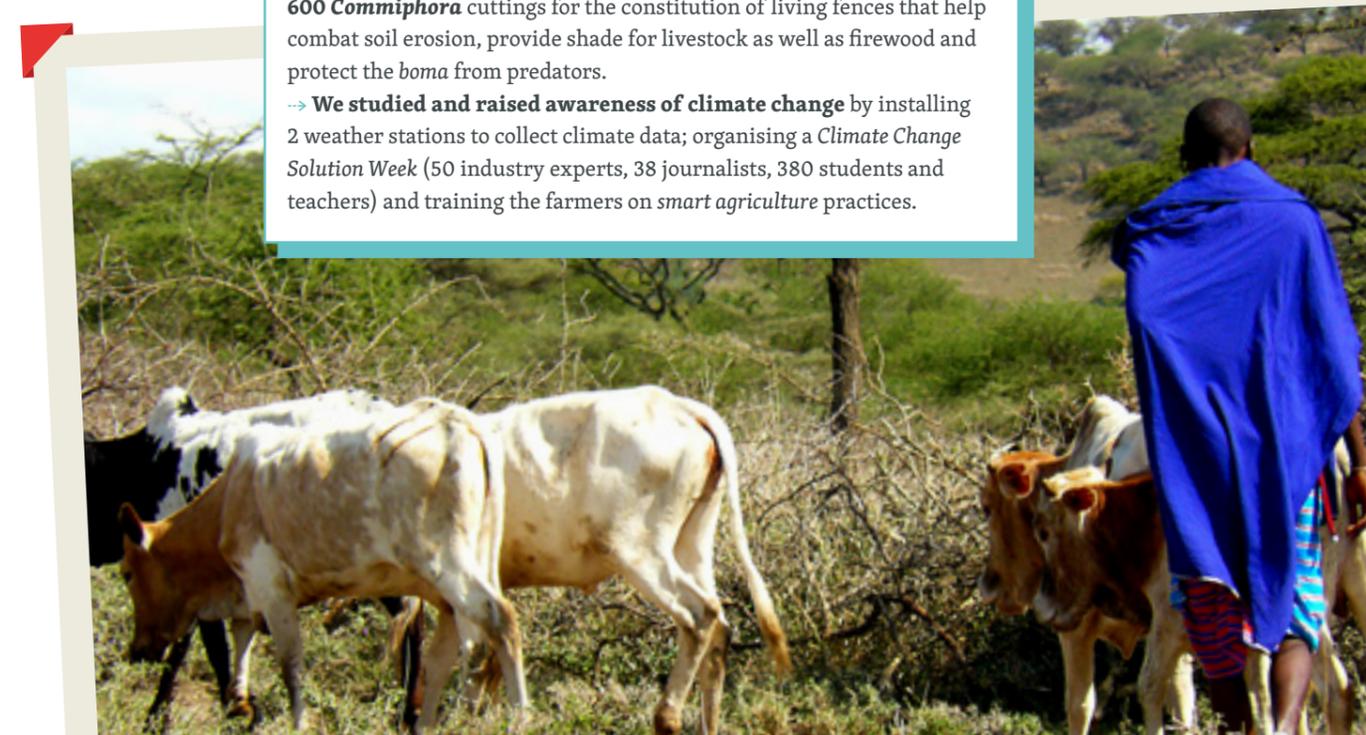
Istituto Oikos addresses this complex issue by applying an integrated approach: from water management to training technicians and local authorities, and creating job opportunities in sectors other than the traditional ones, which are no longer sufficient to ensure the wellbeing of the communities in the Arusha Region.

2016 KEY RESULTS



In Tanzania

- **We improved water management** by constructing a 5 km water supply network; rehabilitating 2 dams and creating 11 drinking water supply points and 8 livestock water collection points.
- **We promoted the sowing of those cereals most resistant to drought** in 14.5 acres of land managed by 37 small farmers and **planted 600 Commiphora** cuttings for the constitution of living fences that help combat soil erosion, provide shade for livestock as well as firewood and protect the *boma* from predators.
- **We studied and raised awareness of climate change** by installing 2 weather stations to collect climate data; organising a *Climate Change Solution Week* (50 industry experts, 38 journalists, 380 students and teachers) and training the farmers on *smart agriculture* practices.





Clean power in schools

In the Arusha Region, secondary schools often have no power and as soon as evening falls, pupils and teachers must suspend their studies.

Educational environments are crucial for personal growth and learning: for more than 5 years, we have been striving to make them better suited to those who attend them, by installing **innovative rural electrification systems**.



In Tanzania:

- We have guaranteed **access to electricity** to 12,500 students and supplied computer equipment to 10 schools.
- We launched **SOLAR WAVE, a social enterprise** for rural electrification that develops renewable energy networks and helps increasing local skills by guaranteeing the sustainability of the systems installed.



Climate change at the centre of the debate

Issues such as climate change, relations between the Northern and Southern parts of the world and environmental justice are rarely included in school curricula. Yet, addressing them would allow pupils to understand their importance, highlighting the interconnections and encouraging responsible lifestyles.

Istituto Oikos implements education for sustainability initiatives in Italian schools using innovative, **highly participatory methods** such as laboratories, online training, digital games and scientific theatre.



In Italy:

- We involved approximately **1,600 students** in sustainability education activities in schools.
- We designed a **multimedia educational platform** for teachers in 12 languages.
- We organised conferences and seminars for teachers and educational institutions.



2016 ongoing projects

PROJECT TITLE	START	PERIOD	MAIN DONOR	BUDGET
MOZAMBIQUE				
REDES IBO – Culture and nature as strategic resources for territorial development, community participation and good governance of IBO District	01/12/2016	48	European Union	€ 1,198,564
Pro-IBO – Innovative Technologies for Horticultural Production and Environmental Hygiene in Ibo District	30/11/2016	24	Lombardy Region	€ 92,800
Ensure food safety and environmental conservation in Macomia District	01/11/2016	24	ANAC – World Bank	€ 196,920
Rice production and processing in Bilibiza	15/10/2016	12	ANAC – World Bank	€ 92,995
Promotion of food security and food production in the urban and peri-urban contexts of Cabo Delgado, in the northeast of Mozambique	01/10/2016	12	8per mille – IRPEF	€ 205,500
Food safety and environmental conservation in Bilibiza – agricultural production: corn, sesame seeds and vegetables	01/10/2016	24	ANAC – World Bank	€ 175,768
Nutrition and nutritional support in the Moamba District to mitigate the effects of El Niño in the Province of Maputo	01/08/2016	4	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Maputo (AICS)	€ 99,910
Monitoring and Conservation Strategies of Dugong in Northern Mozambique	15/05/2016	10	Conservation Leadership Programme	€ 16,400
Support development of subprojects for enhancing communities' livelihoods in Quirimbas National Park	01/04/2016	36	ANAC – World Bank	€ 576,635
FORTUR – Vocational training and educational programs to increase employability in the hotel and tourism sector in Cabo Delgado Province	01/02/2015	24	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	€ 545,379
Pemba Verde – From seed to plate: Community resilience, biodiversity and access to food markets in Pemba	01/11/2014	24	Cariplo Foundation	€ 600,720
Natural resources conservation and economic development for fisheries coastal communities of Quirimbas National Park	01/07/2014	46	Ensemble Foundation	€ 119,965
PHARO – Protection of coastal and marine habitats in the Quirimbas National Park for Food Security and Economic Development	05/05/2014	36	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	€ 3,398,000
Profissão turismo , Vocational training and educational programs to increase employability in Cabo Delgado Province	01/02/2013	48	European Union	€ 1,277,633
TANZANIA				
FLOWERED – De-Fluoridation technologies for improving quality of Water and agro-animal products along the East African Rift Valley in the context of adaptation to climate change	01/06/2016	36	European Union	€ 1,683,874 ¹
Solar Utility for Off-Grid Electricity Services in Tanzanian Rural Schools	01/04/2016	12	Ekoenergy	€ 30,000
Solar energy for rural schools in Northern Tanzania	15/03/2016	12	Waldensian church	€ 114,950
Endangered Ecosystem of Northern Tanzania	01/01/2016	60	The Nature Conservancy	€ 756,653
Fostering Private Sector Participation in Rural Water Supply	01/11/2015	12	World Bank Group	€ 23,139
Solar Utility for Off-Grid Electricity Services	04/05/2015	24	Energy and Environment Partnership (EEP)	€ 285,715
Eco-Boma , A climate resilient model for Maasai steppe pastoralists	01/04/2015	48	European Union	€ 1,796,263
Investing in Maasai women for improving rural community well being	01/04/2015	48	European Union	€ 2,130,862
Improving access to water points for livestock holders from 7 villages of Simanjiro District	01/03/2015	60	Belgian Fund for Food Security (BFFS)	€ 1,029,000
S.A.F.E. Gardens – Sustainable Actions For Edible Gardens	01/02/2014	24	Municipality of Milan	€ 463,375
A fruit per day	01/01/2014	-	Private donors	€ 5,957

PROJECT TITLE	START	PERIOD	MAIN DONOR	BUDGET
MYANMAR				
Improving conditions of fishermen of the Myeik Archipelago and Lampi Marine National Park	01/12/2016	18	8per mille – IRPEF	€ 144,176
Conservation of Sun bear (<i>Helarctos malayanus</i>)	01/04/2016	48	Segré Foundation	€ 1,115,249
Natural resource management of Lampi Marine National Park in the Myeik Archipelago	01/04/2016	12	Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (KNCF)	€ 72,546
DAFNE – Women, Environment and Community forests for food security in Rakhine	28/12/2015	36	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	€ 1,515,270
Natural Resources Management of Lampi Marine National Park in Myeik Archipelago	01/04/2015	12	Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (KNCF)	€ 113,715
Supporting the population of Lampi Marine National Park in Myanmar to improve access to water and health and hygiene situation	01/01/2015	12	Waldensian church	€ 139,000
COAST – Enforce local capacities for the Environmental Conservation and tourism development in the Myeik archipelago	25/05/2014	36	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs	€ 1,793,000
TURKEY				
Improve Italy-Turkey cooperation for the management of brown bear populations (<i>Ursus arctos</i>)	15/02/2016	12	European Union	€ 163,218
LEBANON				
Specific study for preliminary phase of the reintroduction of the Nubian goat into the Shouf Biosphere Reserve (SBR)	09/06/2016	2	Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beirut (AICS)	€ 7,900
ITALY				
Road Kill – Ecological Corridors for Valli del Verbano Mountain community: measures for road impact reduction	01/04/2016	48	Cariplo Foundation	€ 519,464 ²
The Olona river: flowing biodiversity	01/04/2016	48	Cariplo Foundation	€ 747,000
Wet Bridge	01/01/2016	48	HOLCIM Italia	€ 20,000
RESTARE – Creation of RESToration AREAs in PLIS of Mughetti	01/03/2015	36	Cariplo Foundation	€ 180,000
Wet Bridge – A “water bridge” to connect wetlands	01/09/2014	48	Cariplo Foundation	€ 480,000
Pomatti! Resilience practices for the enhancement and promotion of agro local economy in Val Formazza	01/01/2016	24	Cariplo Foundation	€ 184,800
Non solo lago , Resilience strategies for tourism and environment enhancement of the mountain territory of Alto Lario	01/02/2015	20	Cariplo Foundation	€ 166,700
S.A.M.E. WORLD – Sustainability Awareness Mobilization Environment In The Global Education For EYD 2015	12/01/2015	36	European Union	€ 3,933,852 ³

1. Applicant: University of Cagliari. Oikos East Africa's budget: € 179,598

2. Applicant: Valli del Verbano Mountain Community. Istituto Oikos' budget: € 90,000

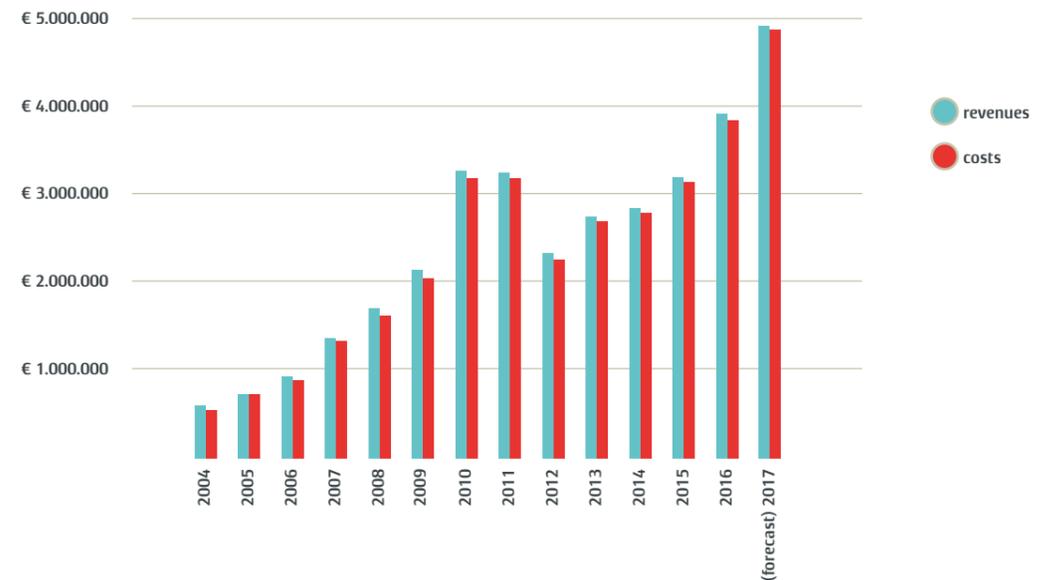
3. Applicant: CIES. Istituto Oikos' budget: € 359,771

05

2016 Financial statement

The economic result for 2016 is characterised by total revenues, mainly project-related, of Euro 3,918,569, with more than **20% increase compared to the previous year. Over the past 5 years Istituto Oikos has doubled its revenues**, showing a steady growth. The forecast is out of further growth in 2017.

Costs and revenues



Consolidated Istituto Oikos and Oikos East Africa revenues



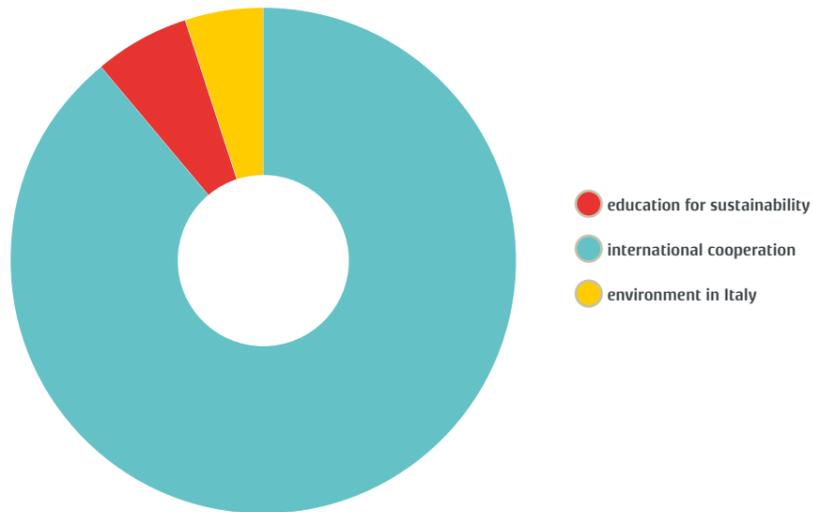
The financial statements of Istituto Oikos and the subsidiary, Oikos East Africa, which operates in Tanzania, have been consolidated since 2015. There was a **marked increase in the volume of Oikos East Africa's activities in the year**, with Euro 471,007 recorded at the year-end. The consolidated Group revenues for 2016 is Euro 4,397,616, with a forecast substantial growth for 2017.

Use of funds 2016

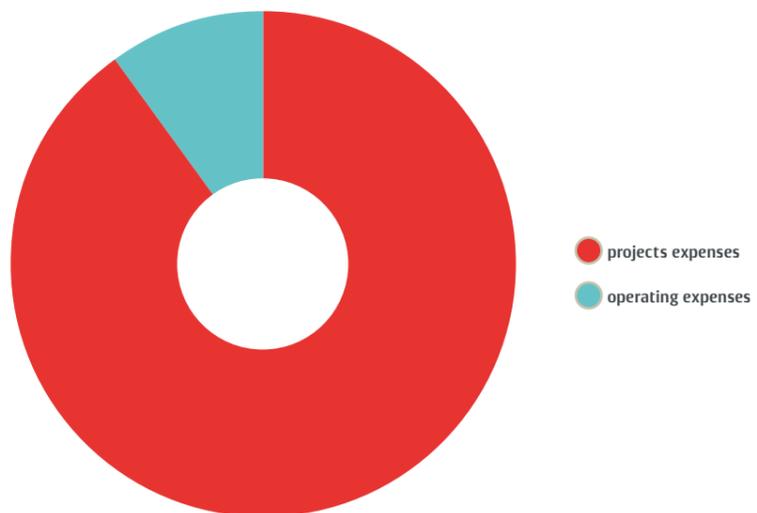
89% of the resources is destined to **international cooperation**, which remains Istituto Oikos' main sector of intervention. **Education for sustainability** projects in Italy and Europe absorb 6% of the resources, while the percentage dedicated to **environmental protection in Italy** is 5%.

The operating expenses for management and coordination, included human resources, absorb 10.5% of the total costs.

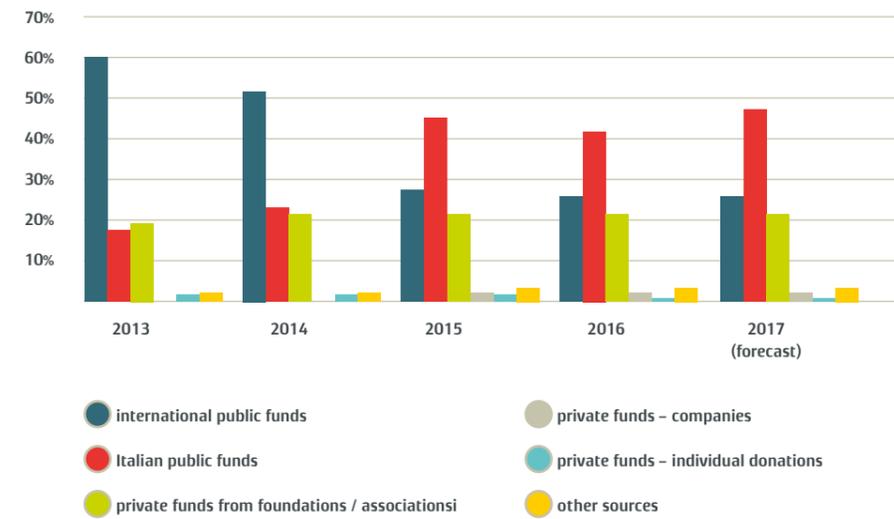
Sector of intervention



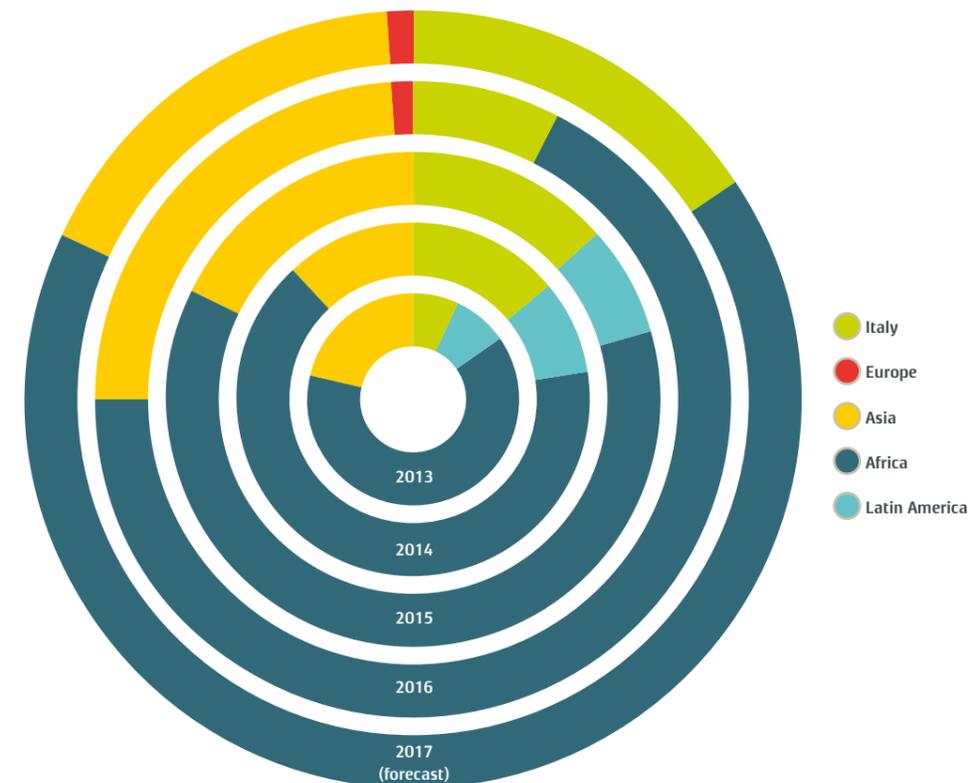
Project and Operating expenses



Sources of funding



Geographical area



Financial statement

ASSETS	2014	2015	2016
Fixed assets			
Tangible fixed assets	€ 15,040.92	€ 14,627.00	€ 10,962.00
Financial fixed assets (shares)	€ 75,000.00	€ 75,000.00	€ 75,000.00
Total fixed assets	€ 90,040.92	€ 89,627.00	€ 85,962.00
Working capital			
Receivables	€ 64,415.46	€ 33,198.09	€ 39,139.00
Activities that do not constitute fixed assets	€ 6,802,496.21	€ 6,356,633.00	€ 9,883,123.00
Liquid financial resources	€ 1,493,906.56	€ 2,448,603.00	€ 1,608,818.00
Total working capital	€ 8,360,818.23	€ 8,838,434.09	€ 11,531,080.00
Accrued income and prepaid expenses	€ 1,867.75	€ 2,407.00	€ 1,292.00
Total assets	€ 8,452,726.90	€ 8,930,468.09	€ 11,618,334.00

LIABILITIES	2014	2015	2016
Reserves	€ 558,636.16	€ 636,234.00	€ 756,725.00
Staff severance indemnity fund	€ 38,495.29	€ 47,646.00	€ 66,169.00
Debits	€ 7,816,041.96	€ 8,197,743.00	€ 10,733,877.00
Accrued expenses and deferred income	€ 39,553.47	€ 48,845.00	€ 61,563.00
Total liabilities	€ 8,452,726.88	€ 8,930,468.00	€ 11,618,334.00

STATEMENT	2014	2015	2016
Revenue for institutional projects from Private Entities	€ 709,040.55	€ 879,536.93	€ 973,528.00
Revenue for institutional project from Public Entities	€ 2,053,293.00	€ 2,253,625.58	€ 2,682,007.00
Revenue from fund-raising from individuals	€ 19,461.00	€ 4,148.10	€ 26,262.00
"5 per mille" Contributions	€ 11,211.45	€ 5,995.38	€ 7,565.00
Other revenue	€ 42,673.00	€ 39,475.56	€ 51,295.00
Total institutional income	€ 2,835,679.00	€ 3,182,781.55	€ 3,740,657.00
Revenue from secondary activities	€ 7,372.00	€ 58762.63	€ 177,912.00
Total income	€ 2,843,051.00	€ 3,241,544.18	€ 3,918,569.00

EXPENSES	2014	2015	2016
Institutional activities expenses	€ 2,764,074.00	€ 3,061,439.00	€ 3,594,666.00
Secondary activities expenses	€ 7,726.00	€ 60,324.00	€ 174,315.00
Financial and asset expenses	€ 15,700.00	€ 13,946.00	€ 22,302.00
Extraordinary expenses	€ 11,860.00	€ 20,706.00	-
Depreciations	€ 7,415.00	€ 7,536.30	€ 6,792.00
Total expenses	€ 2,806,775.00	€ 3,163,951.30	€ 3,798,075.00

Financial year surplus	€ 36,276.00	€ 77,594.00	€ 120,494.00
Balance	€ 2,843,051.00	€ 3,241,545.30	€ 3,918,569.00



06

Outlook

In 2017 we will give priority to the development of our human and financial capital. With one goal: to optimise, in terms of precision, quality and relevance, the contribution Istituto Oikos can give to changes towards environmental sustainability.



Projects and programmes

Biodiversity. We will commit to promote, in Italy and abroad, the knowledge and protection of biodiversity and to guarantee the **continuity of long term programmes** that have been on-going for years in Tanzania (Maasai steppes), Myanmar (Lampi Marine National Park and the forests of Southern Rakhine) and Mozambique (Quirimbas National Park), aimed at promoting the ability of natural systems to provide services essential for the survival of communities.

Climate change. We will contribute to the fight against climate change through **small actions, targeted and experimental**, promoted at local level, that will help to recognise and develop land management “good practices”.

Agro-ecosystems. We will support **small agricultural production systems** as tools for the eradication of poverty and, at the same time, for preserving the functionality of the soil and of agro-ecosystems, with the aim of ensuring food safety and climate change mitigation.

Economy and environment. We will continue to promote and explore **small scale businesses** that facilitate, at local level, reaching the long-term objectives in the sectors mentioned above.



Instruments

Upmost attention to innovation. We will strengthen our links with the world of innovation and research, at all levels, to make the areas we operate in “**field**” labs for the testing of new technologies and good practices.

Strengthening of partnerships and experts network. We will expand and diversify our network of relationships and competences to be more proactive, creative and innovative. We will plan times for **cultural exchanges and synergies between universities, research institutes, NGOs and enterprises** in the sectors of research, innovation, business and development, both in the north and the south of the world.

Development of internal personnel, giving priority to young people, women, staff on the field. In particular we will invest on the strengthening of our abilities to respond to the priorities of our donors, to engage adequate partners, guarantee an optimal management, to plan and manage appropriate monitoring and evaluation systems.

Optimisation of our scientific data gathering and analysis systems and valorisation of Istituto Oikos' experience acquired in 20 years of activity. We will commit to strengthen our ability to plan and manage systems for the evaluation of the impact of our actions and of the projects' results.

07

Our supporters



Everything we do is made possible by the commitment of a network of organisations, institutions, foundations and people who believed in us.

Our main supporters

International organisations

European Union, Food and Agriculture Organization - FAO, World Bank Group.

Public entities

Administração Nacional das Áreas de Conservação - ANAC (Mozambique), Italian Cooperation and Development Agency (AICS), Lombardy Region, Municipality of Milan, Province of Varese, 8x1000 IRPEF.

Private entities

A2A Foundation, Cariplo Foundation, Charity and Defence of Nature Trust, Ekoenergy (Finland), Engineering SA, Ensemble Foundation (France), HOLCIM Italia, Keidanren Nature Conservation Fund (Japan), Segré Foundation (Switzerland), Stiftung Drittes Millennium (Switzerland), The Nature Conservancy, Valdese Evangelical Church.



Diego and Gabriella

Volunteers for 6 months
in Lampi Marine National Park
in Myanmar

We set off thinking that we would learn more here than we would be able to teach, and that is precisely what happened. Respect for everyone and everything, and first and foremost the respect for the lifetime of men and animals, brings us joy and gives us hope.



Renata and Tommaso

Volunteers

We had known about Oikos' serious work ethic for some time, but it was only by working with the people who are part of the organisation that we were able to experience the passion, the enthusiasm and also the "folly" with which they pursue their objectives, making even the most ambitious projects feasible. We are proud to have helped out and we will continue to do so.



Steven Vanholme

Programme Manager of EKOenergy

Renewable energy has the potential to unite people. United in the fight against energy poverty, united in the fight against climate change. And with a positive solution: the sun and the wind.



Stefano Caserini

University teacher of Climate Change
Mitigation at Politecnico of Milan

It was a pleasure to work with Oikos on a well managed and coordinated project, S.A.M.E. World, which involved several European students and teachers on crucial topics: climate change, environmental migrations and justice. These are the "small-big" steps to build up the change.

08

Join us



Become a personal fundraiser

Organise an event, a tournament, a party to support our projects. Contact us for more information.



Leave with us

Take part to our ecovolunteering programmes in Mkuru Training Camp in Tanzania. Spend one or more weeks with the Maasai community and take part in our environmental protection and sustainable development activities.



If you are a teacher

Sensitivity to environmental protection issues is a cultural fact: this is why it's important to be aware of what we can do to reduce our impact on the planet from childhood. Oikos proposes educational courses in schools and provides educational materials to give teachers useful tools for promoting a culture of sustainability in the classroom. Visit our website to access all our content!



If you are a company

We develop tailored environmental education and staff engagement paths. We propose integrated Corporate Social Responsibility paths for employees, customers and suppliers. We provide the opportunity to support our projects in Italy and abroad, both financially and through the provision of services and the supply of goods as well.



Word of mouth

Passing on messages, information and good practices is an important part of our work. Help us to reach more and more people by sharing our initiatives and our materials on:



Istituto Oikos Onlus



istituto_oikos_onlus



istitutoOikos



Donations

Bank account

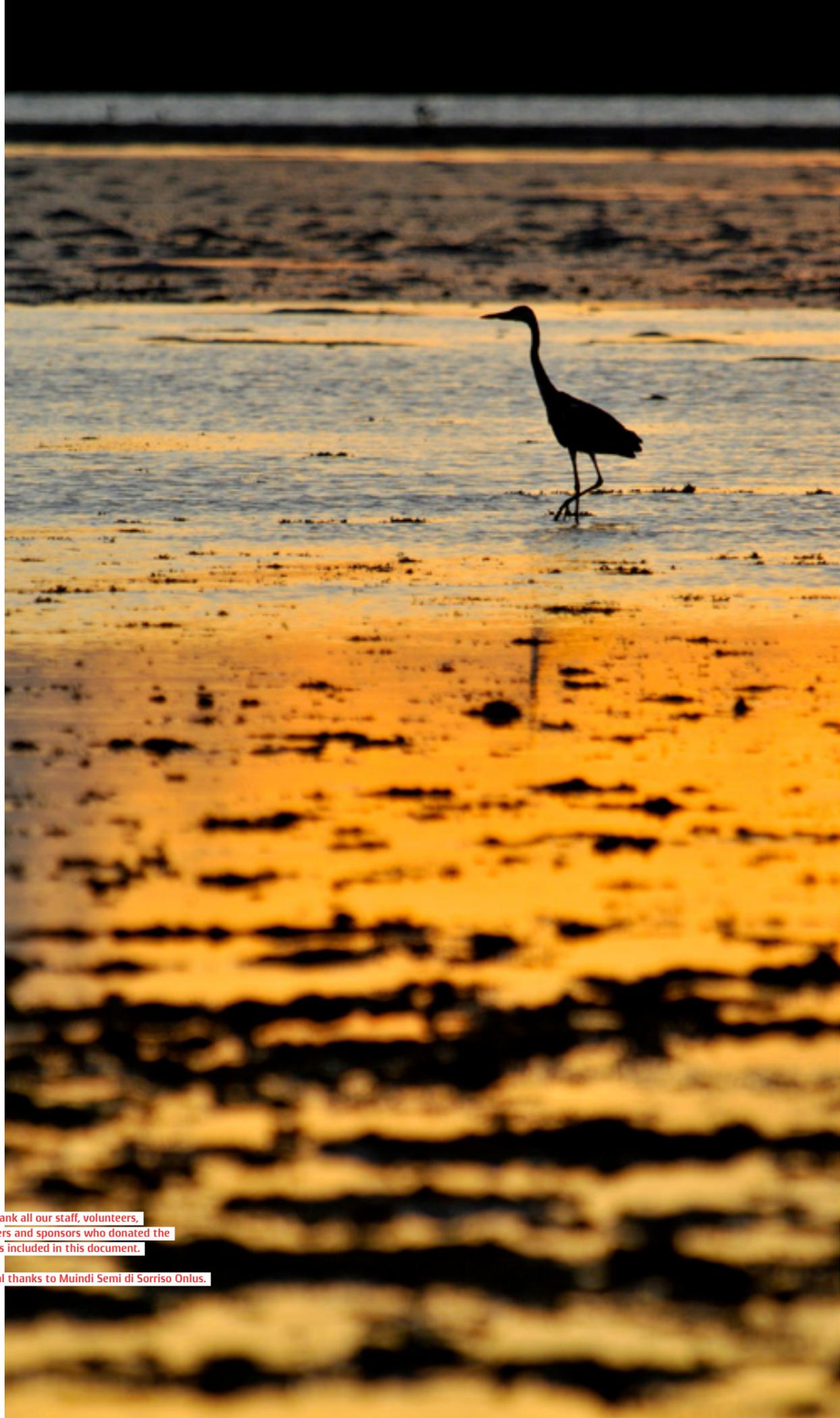
Banca Popolare di Sondrio, Ag. 1, via Porpora 104 — 20131 Milano
a/c no. 6906/78 78 in the name of Istituto Oikos Onlus
IBAN IT80R0569601602000006906X78
ABI 05696 — Sort code 01602 — CIN R

Postal account

61923629 in the name of Istituto Oikos Onlus

Donations made to Istituto Oikos are amenable to **tax deduction**.





We thank all our staff, volunteers,
partners and sponsors who donated the
photos included in this document.

Special thanks to Muindi Semi di Sorriso Onlus.

1996



Via Crescenzago 1
20134 Milano — Italy
t +39 02 21597581
f +39 02 21598963

info@istituto-oikos.org
www.istituto-oikos.org