

National Trust Partnership Curatorial Research Micro-Internship

INTO Heritage Policy

INTO's member organisations and their responses to the 17
Sustainable Development Goals

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June 2022

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Outline of the Report

This report seeks to analyse how INTO's member organisations have been responding to the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in recent years (*Figure 1*). For this purpose, the focus will be on either projects of the last four years (2018 – 2022) or projects that started earlier but are still ongoing.



Figure 1: The 17 Sustainable Development Goals (<https://sdgs.un.org/goals>).

The report is divided into two main sections:

- The first is an account of **case studies** from 4 member organisations of INTO – these are Fondo per l'Ambiente Italiano, Kulturerbe Bayern, the West African Shared Cultural Heritage Trust and the National Trust of Zimbabwe. These have been chosen as examples of how the organisations are working towards some of the SDGs, what methods and solutions they have developed, and how they are receiving funding for the projects. The organisations have been selected based on the breadth of SDGs covered by their projects, the quantity of sustainable projects they have been working on and the possibility of directly interviewing some of their members.

- The second is a **database** covering recent or ongoing SDG-linked projects of most INTO members. This has been devised as a frame of reference for a broader picture of how INTO members are working towards the SDGs and as a possible starting point for further research in the field. The actual database will be followed by an analysis.

Furthermore, the report will speculate on the potential for other INTO members to replicate or be inspired by the projects analysed in the case studies, as well as shed light on other sources for further research. Attached to this report there will also be a pack of documents cited as sources which have been given to me from members of the case-study organisations.

Case Studies

The 4 case studies that follow are divided based on organisation rather than specific projects as in more than one program from each institution has been analysed.

The method of research for these case studies mainly drew on desk-based research, especially through the websites of the various organisations, but also on personal communications with members of the institutions.

Fondo per l'Ambiente Italiano

FAI has put the environment at the centre of its activities, seeing it as an “indissoluble intertwining of history and nature”.¹ The organisation has thus been working with the concept of environment, aiming at promoting awareness of the environment as belonging to humanity, promoting a new “culture of nature” informing the conservation and enhancing programs in their heritage sites, disseminating a “culture of the environment” based on science, history and art for a strengthening of the educational system, and encouraging contact with nature.² Therefore, FAI has been engaging with various SDGs, and a variety of their programs and practices are thus described in this case study.

1. Progetto Beni Sostenibili



This project aims at achieving climate neutrality by 2040 through the use of efficient energy. This is achieved, for instance, by energy efficiency projects for buildings - replacement of boilers, inclusion of renewable energy - and the dissemination of sustainable behaviors such as keeping indoor **temperatures** where possible around 17°C in the reverse and cooling naturally in the summer³, using **low-consumption light bulbs** managed - only in some properties for now - by presence detectors. They have also installed **recharging stations** for electric cars and bikes in some sites to encourage soft mobility.⁴

¹ “FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 3.

² “FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 4.

³ “I Beni FAI promotori di nuove buone pratiche”, <<https://fondoambiente.it/il-fai/beni/sostenibilita-ambientale/>>.

⁴ “FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 6.

2. Reducing their Water Footprint



FAI aims at reducing their water footprint by 20% by 2030. The method consists of using non-potable to irrigate flowerbeds and gardens, and to supply toilets, crops, and fountains: this non-potable water is obtained by collecting rainwater through cisterns (including historic ones), by collecting groundwater directly, or by recovering purified used water. Moreover, they also use **traditional knowledge and water-efficient drip systems**, planting **low-water-demand species**.⁵

3. Protecting the Soil



The soil around the properties of FAI is protected from consumption and loss of organic matter by **not using pesticides** and fertilising it **without using chemicals**.⁶

4. Reforestation



The Zegna Oasis is a prime example of reforestation work carried out by FAI, and in 2020 the site became the centre of the decennial “**Zegna Forest**” project focused on safeguarding and enhancing natural and biological heritage.⁷

5. Protecting Biodiversity



FAI have several projects in their properties for the protection of species such as swifts, badgers, the alpine newt and the peregrine falcon, as well as pollinating insects.⁸ The “**Progetto Api e Farfalle**” focuses on the protection of bees and butterflies⁹, and the project “**Api nei Beni**” supports beekeepers through the creation of new bee colonies in the places the foundation cares

⁵ “FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 7.

⁶ “FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 7.

⁷ “Oasi Zegna”, <https://fondoambiente.it/luoghi/oasi-zegna?_ga=2.73147536.240913760.1655812787-257596832.1655812787>.

⁸ “FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 7.

⁹ “Progetto Api e Farfalle”, <<https://fondoambiente.it/italia-mi-piaci/naturalmente/>>.

for, such as Villa del Balbianello¹⁰: around 14 properties now host beehives.¹¹ The “**Progetto Rondoni**” rehabilitates and builds nests for swifts in some of FAI’s historical properties.¹²

6. *Protection from hydrogeological instability*



FAI protect the territory from hydrogeological instability by preserving and rebuilding dry-stone walls in defense of the soil and with hydraulic interventions and consolidation of the slopes of naturalistic engineering.¹³ For instance, this is the case for their property at **San Fruttuoso**.¹⁴

7. *Vegetable gardens and agro-biodiversity*



FAI has recovered the vegetable gardens that were once part of some historic properties: some examples are the gardens at **Villa Necchi Campiglio**, **Baia di Ieranto**, **Orto sul Colle dell’Infinito**, **Palazzo e Giardini Moroni**, **Podere e Casa Lovara** (Figure 2).¹⁵ Here, local vegetables are cultivated using traditional methods and knowledge, encouraging the recovery of the genetic variety of seeds and preserving the intangible cultural heritage of their areas.



Figure 2: vegetable gardens from Villa Necchi Campiglio, Baia di Ieranto, Orto sul Colle dell’Infinito, Palazzo e Giardini Moroni, Podere e Casa Lovara (clockwise from top left). A. Varisco, “FAI and the Environment” presentation, March 2022.

¹⁰ “Progetto Api nei Beni”, <https://fondoambiente.it/il-fai/il-fai-che-vigila/salvailsuolo/le-api/?_ga=2.39373856.240913760.1655812787-257596832.1655812787>.

¹¹ “FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 7.

¹² “Progetto Rondoni”, <<https://fondoambiente.it/italia-mi-piaci/naturalmente/>>.

¹³ “FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 7.

¹⁴ “San Fruttuoso: prevenire il dissesto archeologico”, <<https://fondoambiente.it/news/san-fruttuoso-prevenire-il-dissesto-idrogeologico>>.

¹⁵ FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 9.

8. *Recovery of alpine pastures*



FAI have recovered alpine pastures with the aim of increasing biodiversity, halting the abandonment of mountains, and promoting mitigation and adaptation to climate change. They are recovering endangered species of cattle, goats, and sheep.¹⁶ At the Pedroria and Madrera Alps the foundation has undertaken a project to restore the rural landscape to fight the abandonment of mountainous territories – this abandonment threatens the quality of life for inhabitants in the area and increases the vulnerability of the territories to climate change. The project has been recovering traditional dairy production practices and preserving the indigenous livestock since 2013.¹⁷

9. *The Sustainability Rooms*



Between 2022 and 2024 FAI will create spaces in three properties dedicated to **environmental issues**, an overview of the causes and effects of climate change in general and how these problems directly affect the properties hosting these rooms. These spaces will highlight FAI's concrete commitment to environmental safeguarding and conservation (interventions for the sustainability of the properties) and provide a new sense of **civic environmental education** by teaching the public about "sustainable" things they can do individually.¹⁸

10. *Environmental education*



The Sustainability Rooms are not the only example of FAI's promotion of civic environmental education. Since 2019, FAI has launched a series of awareness campaigns on environmental issues: "**FAI per il clima**" (*FAI for the climate*). This program of webinars and meetings is intended to spread knowledge on environmental action using FAI's sustainable practices in their properties as a starting point.¹⁹ FAI also organises a series of **conferences** with climatologists, geologists, botanists, zoologists, and other experts who illustrate the effects of climate change both on FAI's

¹⁶ FAI and the Environment" presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 8.

¹⁷ "FAI per il clima: l'esempio di Alpe Pedroria e Madrera", < <https://fondoambiente.it/news/fai-per-il-clima-lesempio-di-alpe-pedroria-e-madrera/>>.

¹⁸ FAI and the Environment" presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 11.

¹⁹ FAI and the Environment" presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 10.

properties and Italy in general, as well as suggesting strategies for adaptation to climate change initiated in FAI's territories and properties.²⁰ In particular, **Casa Bortoli** in Venice has hosted a meeting in 2021 on environmental emergencies and how they affect quality of life in Venice, which are broadcast on FAI's YouTube channel (FAI channel), and will host four more this year in 2022.²¹ FAI also offers various **botany visits and lectures** accompanied by expert agronomists and botanists to the public in many of their properties (Abbazia of Cerrate, Castello di Masino, Villa Fogazzaro Roi, I Giganti della Sila). For instance, Villa del Balbianello offers lectures on “manipulated greenery”, showing how nature is forced by the hand of man into unnatural and daring shapes, such as the big holm oak shaped like an umbrella to the *figus ripens* that wraps in a spiral around the columns of Loggia Durini.

In addition, FAI also make sure their **restoration sites are sustainable**, by reducing the consumption of raw materials, by promoting a circular economy using recycled and natural materials in their restoration and maintenance work, by reducing water and energy consumption and by avoiding the use of polluting substances.²²

Funding

FAI funds their projects in a variety of ways, for instance:

- By applying to EU calls for funding
- Through the Piano Nazionale di Ripresa e Resilienza of the Italian government
- By receiving contributions from various Italian and non-Italian institutions
- By receiving contributions from private individuals who fund specific projects
- By receiving contributions from companies who fund specific projects (e.g., the Sustainability Rooms are funded this way)²³

In conclusion, FAI's recent projects have been engaging with 6 SDGs: Climate Action, Life on Land, Affordable and Clean Energy, Clean Water and Sanitation, Responsible Consumption and Production, Quality of Education.

²⁰ FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 10.

²¹ FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 12.

²² FAI and the Environment” presentation by A. Varisco, March 2022, slide 8.

²³ Personal communication with Alessandra Varisco (FAI), 23.06.2022.

Kulturerbe Bayern

Kulturerbe Bayern has engaged with various SDGs in their most recent programmes: Quality Education, Affordable and Clean Energy, Responsible Consumption and Production, and Partnerships for the Goals.

1. *The Berggasthof Streichen in Schleching*



Kulturerbe Bayern has acquired the project of the *Berggasthof* of Streichen (*Figure 3*), a mountain inn, and has been working towards its restoration and preservation since 2021.²⁴ The dwelling is being restored to be a zero emission and zero energy building, and will be committed to sustainable food production and sourcing once it will be inaugurated again.²⁵



Figure 3: Berggasthof Streichen (< <https://www.kulturerbebayern.de/microsite-berggasthof-streichen/entdecken.html>>).

²⁴ “Kulturerbe Bayern erwirbt den Berggasthof Streichen in Schleching”, < <https://www.kulturerbebayern.de/microsite-berggasthof-streichen/entdecken.html>>.

²⁵ Personal communication with Bernhard Seidl (Kulturerbe Bayern), 24.06.2022.

2. Mein Kulturerbe Bayern



This project (2020–ongoing) aims at training teachers and educating children about the architectural heritage of Bavaria.²⁶ Each academic year focuses on a particular theme, with 2021/2022 being dedicated to historical roof structure. Children are equipped with an “explorer’s sheet” that enables them to discover roof structured independently and to acquire specialist knowledge (for instance, by exploring the roofs in their living spaces and visiting historical properties). A didactic guide to roofing is provided to teachers, offering them basic historical and construction knowledge, as well as practice-tested and coordinated teaching modules.²⁷ Indeed, working materials and templates for teaching have been prepared by the foundation for the initiative and are ready to be made available for teachers expressing interest.²⁸ Moreover, Kulturerbe Bayern has also hosted a few online training sessions for teachers interested in the project.²⁹

3. Gemeinsam nachhaltig für Kultur und Natur



Kulturerbe Bayern has partnered up with „UNSER LAND“ to promote the active preservation of cultural landscapes jointly with sustainable food production. The foundation has inaugurated the project in 2021, and it will mainly consist of events for the public to experience how food is produced sustainably in the region of Bavaria, thus promoting the businesses from the “UNSER LAND” network who are committed to sustainable food production.³⁰

²⁶ “Mein Kulturerbe Bayern”, < <https://www.kulturerbebayern.de/mein-kulturerbe-bayern/wir-stellen-vor.html> >.

²⁷ “Das Dachwerk”, <<https://www.kulturerbebayern.de/mein-kulturerbe-bayern/kampagnen.html>>.

²⁸ Mein Kulturerbe Bayern”, < <https://www.kulturerbebayern.de/mein-kulturerbe-bayern/wir-stellen-vor.html> >.

²⁹ Personal communication with Bernhard Seidl (Kulturerbe Bayern), 24.06.2022.

³⁰ “Gemeinsam nachhaltig für Kultur und Natur”, <<https://www.kulturerbebayern.de/blog/artikel/gemeinsam-nachhaltig-fuer-kultur-und-natur.html>>.

4. Kulturcamp



The foundation has contributed to this educational project by *bauwärts - Stadt Raum Bildung Kultur*. The project consists of a week-long “cultural camp” in the summer with workshops, lectures and visits: in 2020, the camp took place in Schloss Erkersreuth, a property under the care of Kulturerbe Bayern. The teaching of the 2020 camp was focused on architectural heritage, building culture and construction and monument preservation.³¹

Funding

Kulturerbe Bayern funds their projects in mainly three ways:

- State Funding – for instance, the German Ministry of Education partially funded the “Mein Kulturerbe Project” in order to provide good quality education.³² The Bavarian State Office for Monument Protection (Bayerisches Landesamt für Denkmal Pflege) and the Bavarian State Ministry for Sciences and Arts (Bayerisches Staatsministerium für Wissenschaft und Kunst) are providing funding for “Mein Kulturerbe Bayern”.³³
- Contributions from Partner Organisations and Private Individuals – the restoration of the Berggasthof in Streichen is partially funded by the “Yvonne and Thomas Wilde Familienstiftung”. “Mein Kulturerbe Bayern” is also funded by *bauwärts - Stadt Raum Bildung Kultur* and the Bavarian Chamber of Architects.³⁴
- Funding from the Public – members of the public who have contributed to funds for the restoration of the Berggasthof in Streichen make up the “Streichenfreunde”.³⁵

³¹ “Schloss Erkersreuth”, <<http://bauwärts.de/kulturcamp/>>.

³² Personal communication with Bernhard Seidl (Kulturerbe Bayern), 24.06.2022.

³³ “Mein Kulturerbe Bayern”, < <https://www.kulturerbebayern.de/mein-kulturerbe-bayern/wir-stellen-vor.html> >.

³⁴ “Mein Kulturerbe Bayern”, < <https://www.kulturerbebayern.de/mein-kulturerbe-bayern/wir-stellen-vor.html> >.

³⁵ “Mein Kulturerbe Bayern”, < <https://www.kulturerbebayern.de/mein-kulturerbe-bayern/wir-stellen-vor.html> >.

West African Shared Cultural Heritage Trust

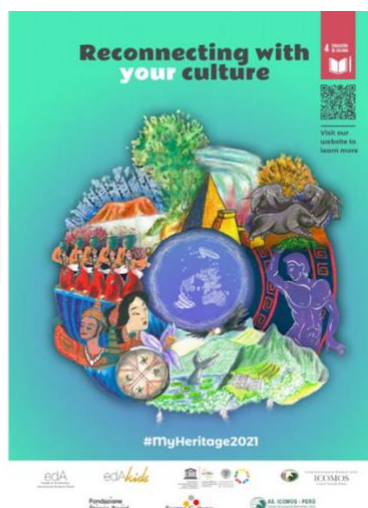
The West African Shared Cultural Heritage Trust (WASCHT) has engaged with 7 SDGs in their recent projects, showing how committed the organisation is to sustainable development – both environmental and socio-economic.

1. *Reconnecting With Your Culture*



In May 2021, WASCHT participated to the “Reconnecting With Your Culture” program (*Figure 4*), providing critical heritage-based education to children in the area. It was an international program promoted by the International Research Centre EdA Esempli di Architettura (Italy) in collaboration with UNESCO University & Heritage (Spain).

First, the program provided teacher training on child protection policies and on the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. On the second day, participants from *Vernacular Art Laboratory* were taken on a tour of heritage sites within the *Onikan Cultural Axis* and afterwards they congregated back at *Onikan House* to be trained on artistic expression methods. This was



developed further the next day, when participants from *Vernacular Art Laboratory* spent the day creating artworks in various mediums (poetry, dance, paintings).

Figure 4: Cover photo of the project (WASCHT Facebook Page).

Furthermore, participants from *JCI-Festac/ St. Margaret Comprehensive College* undertook the same activities, with the tour on one day and artistic expression on the next. The activities were also repeated for participants from *Slum Art*

Foundation. The program was closed by a final performance of artistic expression by all the participating children (*Figure 5*).³⁶



Figure 5: “Grand Finale” on 27 May 2021. (WASCHT, RWYC Report).

WASCHT also aimed to ensure that they focused on encouraging participation from otherwise under-represented children (economically and gender-wise).³⁷

2. Resilience / Liberty / Heritage Festival



In 2021 WASCHT proposed a festival for community development, called “Resilience|Liberty|Heritage”, which at creating a platform for potential collaborators to showcase aspects of their work that align with the UNESCO “Routes of Enslaved Peoples: Resilience, Liberty and Heritage” project and the African Union’s 2021 declared theme of “Arts, Culture & Heritage: Levers for Building the Africa We Want”. Proposed partners were young women and men who had built relatively small communities of followers.³⁸ The program was meant to include art exhibitions, webinars and a processional festival³⁹, however due to a lack of funding it had to be scaled back to promotion of the individual projects of the chosen partners on WASCHT’s social media pages.

³⁶ Personal communication with Şqlá Akíntúndé (WASCHT) and “Reconnecting With Your Culture” report 29.06.2022. A copy of this is attached to the report.

³⁷ Personal communication with Şqlá Akíntúndé (WASCHT), 27.06.2022.

³⁸ Personal communication with Şqlá Akíntúndé (WASCHT), 27.06.2022.

³⁹ < <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1gfvHHYYy0t7D14JbZauCNQZCNYGFYCOy/view>>.

3. Stakeholder Call to Action on the Lagos State Preservation Law (2011) and Listed Heritage Sites



WASCHT are project partners in a 5-year ongoing project for the Lagos State government tagged “Stakeholder Call to Action on the Lagos State Preservation Law (2011) and Listed Heritage Sites”. In the past 8 months, the foundation has done work in two coastal areas (Epe and Badagry) to assess the tangible and intangible cultural heritage. In doing this, WASCHT has also encountered the drastic effects of climate change and recommended mitigation strategies in their preliminary reports.⁴⁰

On the topic of environmental sustainability at WASCHT, Şolá Akíntúndé, architecture conservator and founding trustee at WASCHT, considers environmental sustainability in West Africa to be a modernised return to the pre-colonial industrial systems of the area, and stresses that the focus should be on continuous and consistent effort to consume and/or produce material items that are easily and abundantly available and replaceable.⁴¹ He identifies the production of heritage items as a chance to learn, as they were produced either in a manner or with a material that has been identified as harmful to the environment and should never be repeated, or in a sustainable way that should be emulated.⁴² He includes environmental sustainability in WASCHT’s daily conservation practices by working towards ensuring that locally abundant and regenerative materials are given priority in the material palette of the restoration sites, and by researching traditional industrial systems to explore cultural heritage-based methods.⁴³

⁴⁰ Personal communication with Şolá Akíntúndé (WASCHT), 27.06.2022.

⁴¹ Personal communication with Şolá Akíntúndé (WASCHT), 27.06.2022.

⁴² Personal communication with Şolá Akíntúndé (WASCHT), 27.06.2022.

⁴³ Personal communication with Şolá Akíntúndé (WASCHT), 27.06.2022.

Funding

- Contributions from other institutions and companies – for instance, *ShawLArchiTundeAfrica LTD*, *Van Pebbles Hub*, *Tasane NG*, *Loving Lagos Limited*, *Mike Adenuga Centre/Alliance Française de Lagos*, *Taiwo Akinlami Child Protection Academy*, *Mbari Uno* and *Seventh Sports & Events Ltd* all contributed to the “Reconnecting With Your Culture” program.
- Contributions from private individuals – for example, Chuka Mordi, Nneamaka Okafor, Nmadili Okwumabua and Peju Ibekwe all contributed to the “Reconnecting With Your Culture” program.
- Funding from WASCHT itself and from its members and committees

WASCHT does not get grants from governments as the political and social context of West Africa does not make the option feasible.

In conclusion, WASCHT is working towards 7 SGDs in their programs and projects, these being: No Poverty, Quality Education, Gender Equality, Reduced Inequalities, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Climate Action, Partnerships for the Goals.

National Trust of Zimbabwe

The National Trust of Zimbabwe's recent projects have been focusing mostly on community development. On the other hand, their relationship with environmental sustainability has been strongly influenced by their geographical context: for instance, many of their properties are low-energy because often they do not have access to electricity. Sometimes, they resort to buying energy from the State, thus having to operate within a coal-based economy. Their consumption of water is not high – partly because they do not need it for their specific properties, but also because the area often suffers droughts.⁴⁴

1. *La Rochelle: Skill-share Hub*



Committing to the SDG of decent work and economic growth, La Rochelle Centre has launched a **skill-share program** since 2020 to teach skills to the community and, in particular, to the women in the community as under-represented group, thus creating sustainable incomes through projects such as embroidery, pottery, weaving and beekeeping. The project will support women in the wider community to develop their skills and will help in providing market access for them to sell their products and grow their enterprises.⁴⁵

On April 13th 2021, for instance, they hosted their first embroidery workshop, where a leading embroidery consultant, Diana Negri, delivered a one-week training workshop to 13 women from neighbourhood areas. After the workshop, the women formed **La Rochelle's Embroidery Club**, which now meets weekly and generates income for needlework using the gift-shop as an outlet with future plans to include a website presence. La Rochelle is currently also establishing a **pottery centre** which includes the sourcing and funding of a potter's wheel and kiln, while continuing with weaving training and embroidery training.⁴⁶

⁴⁴ Personal communication with Sharon Waterworth (NT Zimbabwe), 24.06.2022.

⁴⁵ Personal communication with Sharon Waterworth (NT Zimbabwe), from the preliminary 2021 report, 24.06.2022.

⁴⁶ Personal communication with Sharon Waterworth (NT Zimbabwe), from the preliminary 2021 report, 24.06.2022.

2. La Rochelle Organics: Covid-19 Training and Awareness Project



La Rochelle Organics (LRO) implemented a Covid-19 Training and Awareness Project in 2020/2021. This initiative ensured that the negative health and financial impacts of COVID-19 upon the farm workers was greatly mitigated by providing long-term training, safe transport and healthy working conditions: including sanitizing stations and masks, so that they could continue to come to work without risking infection.

Of the 49,000 confirmed cases in Zimbabwe, only 1 out of 342 LRO workers reported to have contracted COVID-19 (January to July 2021): a strong indication that LRO has been quite successful in curbing the spread of the disease among its employees.



Figure 7: Packs of baobab supplements before distribution (S. Waterworth, from preliminary 2021 report; photo by Mr David Brazier).

Food packs and health supplements were given to all the farm workers to boost their resilience and 2,924 food packs (Figure 6) and 5,075kg of baobab powder was distributed (Figure 7). This went a long way to helping the farm workers meet their basic needs. In the end, including



Figure 6: Distribution of food packs (S. Waterworth, from preliminary 2021 report; photo by Mr David Brazier).

each individual household member, 1,700 people benefited.

LRO with the cooperation of an American tea company called 'Traditional Medicines' provided more food and health

supplements and a total of 5,400kg of maize meal and 540kg of baobab powder was distributed – this had a strong positive impact on the farm workers as access to food aid was severely curbed by the strict lockdown and both international and local development organisations have since been unable to operate properly. LRO was able to gradually increase salaries and this provided better food security for the farm workers and their families: for example, there was a 25% increment on basic salaries, as well as allowance increments of 164% effective from March 2021.⁴⁷

⁴⁷ Personal communication with Sharon Waterworth (NT Zimbabwe), from the preliminary 2021 report, 24.06.2022.

3. La Rochelle: Organic Farming



In addition, most the farmers working for LRO – once again, with a special focus on the women in the community – are also being trained in organic farming. This is also possible due to a cooperation with Organic Africa, who recently opened their organic herbal tea factory at La Rochelle Centre.⁴⁸

4. La Rochelle Organics: Deafness Awareness Program



LRO supported the Nzeve organisation for deaf and hearing men and women that reaches out to families and communities across Manicaland with deafness awareness, early identification and intervention for deaf children and support to their families. In Zimbabwe, deaf people are being overlooked because they have an invisible disability. As a result, deaf youth and particularly deaf young women see themselves as hopeless: their confidence having been broken by years of discrimination, even within their own families.

Thanks to the support provided by LRO in conjunction with DEG, Nzeve identified five skilled seamstresses and it was agreed that the materials and sewing machines needed, and the seamstresses' monthly fees, would be paid for. The seamstresses made masks and protective clothing for COVID-19 prevention and LRO is purchasing them. This benefitted both LRO in providing P.P.E to their farms and at the same time creating financial and social benefits for the deaf youth and their families.

The participants displayed enormous satisfaction from being able to partake in the initiative and earn an income. This income gives the participants a sense of responsibility that impacts their wellbeing, especially during the difficult times of the pandemic.⁴⁹

⁴⁸ "Historic Property and Novel Crops", <<https://ntoz.org/historic-property-and-novel-crops/>>.

⁴⁹ Personal communication with Sharon Waterworth (NT Zimbabwe), from the preliminary 2021 report, 24.06.2022.

5. Murahwa's Hill



This restoration project serves as an example of the delicate relationships NT Zimbabwe have with their surrounding communities, illustrating their potential difficulties. In fact, while the previous descriptions of their projects has highlighted a strong cooperative relationship between the Trust and communities, in the case of Murahwa's Hill the small community around it has not been as responsive. In fact, the Trust recently had to build a new wall around the site because people from the community had been trespassing and illegally used it, for instance by cutting trees to acquire wood, taking water from the late caretaker's cottage and dumping rubbish, as well as settling illegally on it. One such example was a woman who claimed to be a Spirit Medium and settled on the Hill, blocking the Trust from entering their site for local surveys by barring the way with boulders.

Despite these culturally sensitive difficulties, the restoration project is ongoing and the first priority – the wall, intended to signal the presence of the Trust and keep the site safe – has now been achieved (*Figure 8*). Once the work will be done, the Trust intends to build an **education centre** on the site, open to anyone but expected to attract mostly tourists and local school children.⁵⁰



Figure 8: Section of stone wall sourced locally
(<https://ntoz.org/exciting-developments-for-murahwas-hill/>).

⁵⁰ Personal communication with Sharon Waterworth (NT Zimbabwe), from the preliminary 2021 report, 24.06.2022.

Funding

As with the other foundations, NT Zimbabwe funds their projects through various sources:

- Contributions from external institutions and companies – for instance, LRO’s Covid-19 Training and Awareness Program and the Deafness Awareness Program were funded by German bank DEG.
- Cooperation with other institutions – the American tea company called “Traditional Medicines” contributed LRO’s food distributions in 2020.
- Contributions from private individuals

Once again, the geographical context strongly influences the Trust: while they receive some international contributions, many are also local, with inflation creating issues and difficulties when then converting the money into more secure currencies.⁵¹

In conclusion, NT Zimbabwe is the foundation that has engaged with the most SDGs in their recent programs out of the case studies in this report, having supported or created projects linked to 10 SDGs.

⁵¹ Personal communication with Sharon Waterworth (NT Zimbabwe), from the preliminary 2021 report, 24.06.2022.

Database

Recent projects from other INTO member organisations engaging with the SDGs are gathered in this database, which offers an overview of the various projects by identifying name of the project or site, a brief description, the organisation responsible, the SDGs linked to the project, a source, and additional comments.

Project or Site	Project Description	Member Organisation	SDGs	Source	Comments
Coastal Preservation	Conservation and Protection of natural coastal spaces	Conservatoire du littoral	13, 14	Link	Further Reading
White Paper	Document containing recommendations and solutions to climate issues	Union Rempart	13, 17	Link	
European Cultural Green Paper	Document showcasing relevance of cultural heritage for achieving the goals of the European Green Deal	Europa Nostra	13, 17	Link	
Life Green	Mobilise and raise awareness among young citizens about the European Green Deal	Catalonia La Pedrera Foundation	13	Link	
Meamtu Manòr	Educational centre, sustainable development for community around	Pro Patrimonio	4, 11	Link	

Sustainability Workshop	Promoting local materials and traditional techniques for sustainability	Boulouki	4, 11, 12	Link	
Rural Heritage Development of Oromia	Roundtables and Workshops on development of Oromia	Heritage Watch Ethiopia	11, 17	Link	
Student Awareness Program	Educational project on heritage with school visits	Zanzibar Stone Town Heritage Society	4	Link	
Heritage Directory	Program to promote work of local individuals, companies and organisations	Hout Bay and Llandudno Heritage Trust	8	Link	
Education Outreach and Awareness Program	Raises awareness among local children about sustainable heritage conservation and tourism development	Petra National Trust	4, 8, 11, 12	Link	
Stonemasonry Training	Raises awareness and trains Jordanians and Syrians in stonemasonry.	Petra National Trust	5, 8	Link	Encourages participation of women, an under-represented group, to the project.
Community Empowerment	Online training to participants from Syria, Jordan, Egypt	Petra National Trust	4, 11	Link	

in the fields of Heritage	on sustainable development and protection of cultural heritage sites				
Heritage for the Generations of Yemen	Educational training for children and teachers on heritage-related matters	Petra National Trust	4, 16, 17	Link	In collaboration with the Ministry of Education in Yemen
Digital Empowerment Program	Enables women of the region to develop and digitise their businesses in response to Covid-19	Petra National Trust	5, 8,	Link	
Rao Jodha Desert Rock Park	Natural restoration of the area	Mehrangarh Museum Trust	13	Link	Completed a few years ago, now protected by the Trust
Tree Plantation Drive	1618 + 10000 Ayurvedic Plant samples distributed in collaboration with Rajasthan Forest Department.	Indian Trust for Rural Heritage and Development	13, 17	Link	
Nizamabad Potters Village	Provided better equipment to the potters; dealt with infrastructure issues to gain them market access	Indian Trust for Rural Heritage and Development	8, 9, 13	Link	A solar panel was also built in the village

Monthly Lecture Program	Monthly lectures on environmental issues	National Trust of Sri Lanka	4, 13	Link	Conducted online during the pandemic
Heritage Training Program	Educational program with workshops and visits on heritage conservation and sustainable urban planning	Yangon Heritage Trust	4, 11	Link	
Urban Heritage Planning Program	YHT has been involved in committees and groups working on sustainable development and planning of Yangon	Yangon Heritage Trust	11, 17	Link	
Educational Program	Lectures, study trips and workshops on cultural heritage and the environment	Siam Society Under Royal Patronage	4	Link	
Pulau Ubin	Revitalising the island by investing on the sustainability and lives of the Kampung community	Singapore Heritage Society	3, 4, 9, 11	Link (page 18)	Investing in health of citizens, public education and construction, in the area
Public Outreach Program	Involvement of the public and students in conservation of cultural and natural	National Trust of Korea	4, 11	Link	

	heritage sites, paired with lectures				
Victorian Bushfires Response	Offering grants to affected individuals and re-building houses and natural spaces	National Trust of Australia (Victoria)	11, 13	Link	
Currumbin Wildlife Sanctuary	Wildlife conservation plan	National Trust of Australia (Queensland)	15	Link	
BIOPAMA	Addressing management and government issues in natural protected areas	National Trust of Fiji Islands	9, 13	Link	
Disaster Risk Reduction Program	The parks and areas under the 'Trust's management are part of disaster risk reduction strategies because their ecosystems are kept intact and in good health	National Trust of Fiji Islands	3, 13, 15	Link	These strategies help protect animals and people living in or near the areas
Māori Heritage Program	Educational programs on Māori Heritage sites, as well as funding for their development and conservation	New Zealand National Trust	4, 16	Link	
National Park Planning and Conservation	Climate change action plan, "conchservation", eco-tour guide training program, shore bird	Bahamas National Trust	13, 14, 15	Link	

	conservation program				
Protecting Species in Peril	Protection of Bahamian oriole, piping plover, Bahamian rock iguana, queen conch	Bahamas National Trust	14, 15	Link	
Educational Youth Programs	Discovery tours, eco-tours, summer camps, “Parks Pal”	Bahamas National Trust	4, 13	Link	
The Herbarium	Plant library and museum to raise environmental awareness and for education	National Trust of Cayman Islands	4, 13	Link	
The Insectarium	Library and archive of indigenous insects available to the wider public	National Trust of Cayman Islands	4, 15	Link	
Cayman Sea Sense	Local seafood education program dedicated to helping restaurants and their customers make informed and environmentally-positive choices	National Trust of Cayman Islands	12, 14	Link	
Educational Projects	National Trust Summer Camp, Heritage Heroes Youth Conservation Club, Adult Speakers, National Trust Library, School Visits	National Trust of Cayman Islands	4	Link	
Fund for the Environment	Identifying the biodiversity hotspots of Haiti,	Haiti National Trust	13, 14, 15	Link	

and Biodiversity	acquiring land for parks, and establishing long-term protective measures.				
Solidarity Fund	Funding projects on Reforestation, Agroecology, Communities, History & Culture, Outdoor Trails, Biodiversity & Conservation	Para La Naturaleza	8, 11, 12, 13, 15	Link	
Marine Conservation Program	Installation and maintenance of mooring buoys at premier dive sites throughout the territorial waters assisting to conserve, maintain and aid in the restoration of coral reefs and sensitive marine elements.	National Park Trust of the Virgin Islands	14	Link	
Species Recovery Program	Restoring endangered, endemic or indigenous species is one of the National Parks Trust's most critical programmes, as habitat loss threatens their survival.	National Park Trust of the Virgin Islands	15	Link	The most successful species re-introduction so far is the one of the Roseate Flamingo to the salt ponds of Anegada.
Reforestation	Reforestation efforts aim to increase floral species diversity, restore degraded habitats, conserve watersheds and raise public awareness of the importance of trees within the BVI.	National Park Trust of the Virgin Islands	13	Link	

Terrestrial and Wetlands Conservation Program	Dog Island Restoration Project, Anguilla Seed to Tree Project, Bird and Wetland Monitoring Program, Lesser Antillean Iguana Recovery Program.	Anguilla National Trust	15	Link	
Marine and Coastal Conservation	Anguilla Sea Turtle Conservation Group, Sea Turtle Monitoring Program, Coastal Zone Monitoring Program, Save the Sand project, Coastal clean-up program.	Anguilla National Trust	14	Link	
Montserrat Ocean Fund	Fund to finance ocean management on Montserrat.	Montserrat National Trust	14	Link	
Adopt a Home for Wildlife	Safeguarding and restoring pockets of habitats, e.g. tropical dry forest, across the island.	Montserrat National Trust	13, 15, 17	Link	During the pilot phase UKOTCF and MNT worked with several land-owners.
Natural Heritage Conservation Projects	Millennium Forest, St Helena Plover Conservation, Invasive Species Control, Pest and Predator Management,	St. Helena National Trust	13, 14, 15	Link	

	Marine Conservation.				
Protected Open Space Project	Wetland Nature Reserves, Woodland Nature Reserves, Coastline & Islands, Buy Back Bermuda, Farmland and Allotment Gardens.	Bermuda National Trust	10, 13	Link	
Coast and Ecology Project	Protection of biodiverse landscapes throughout the Commonwealth.	The Trustees of Reservations	13, 14	Link	
Sustainable Agriculture Project	Use of sustainable strategies to foster better food systems, preserve the heritage of these landscapes, and acquaint new generations with the methods.	The Trustees of Reservations	2, 11, 12	Link	
Human and Land Rights: Ending Racism and Injustice to Bring About Environmental and Cultural Equity	Meeting touching upon the intersection between cultural, environmental and social equity.	Gullah/Geechee National Trust for Cultural Heritage Continuation & Historic Preservation	11, 13, 16	Link	Single event that took place in May 2022, not a project.
Indigenous Land Acknowledgement Project	Filoli is collaborating with members of the Raymatush Ohlone community to create a detailed land acknowledgement program and narratives that honour and accurately reflect past and present indigenous communities.	Filoli	16	Link	

Database: Analysis and Comments

A strict numerical analysis of the data will now follow.

Considering the 50 projects in the database and the 23 projects from the four case studies, a predilection for specific SDGs emerges clearly from the data. The most popular ones are: no. 13 (**Climate Action**; 27/73 projects) and no. 4 (**Quality Education**; 21/73), followed by no. 11 (**Sustainable Cities and Communities**; 15/73), no. 15 (**Life on Land**; 13/73), no. 12 (**Responsible Consumption and Production**; 11/73) and no. 17 (**Partnerships for the Goals**; 11/73).

The table below exemplifies in how many projects each SDG was engaged.

Sustainable Development Goal	Number of Projects
1. No Poverty	3
2. Zero Hunger	2
3. Good Health and Well Being	5
4. Quality Education	21
5. Gender Equality	6
6. Clean Water and Sanitation	1
7. Affordable and Clean Energy	2
8. Decent Work and Economic Growth	9
9. Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure	3
10. Reduced Inequalities	3
11. Sustainable Cities and Communities	15
12. Responsible Consumption and Production	11
13. Climate Action	27
14. Life below Water	9
15. Life on Land	13
16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions	4
17. Partnerships for the Goals	11

Below is also a pie chart illustrating this distribution visually.



Figure 9: Pie chart illustrating each of the SDGs and from how many projects, out of the 73 mentioned in this report, they are touched upon.

A more general analysis of the data, with comparisons between projects from various organisations, follows in the next section.

Suggestions for Further Research and Conclusions

SDGs 1, 2 and 3 proved more popular among organisations in Africa, Asia and Oceania working with small communities. For instance, NT Zimbabwe and WASCHT combined cover all of the projects engaging with SDG1 (No Poverty) and almost all of the ones of SDG2 (Zero Hunger), with the exception of one project by The Trustees of Reservations (USA). NT Zimbabwe and WASCHT also engaged heavily with SDG3 (Good Health and Well Being), especially with NT Zimbabwe achieving worthy results in the limitation of Covid-19 spreading among the workers of La Rochelle Organics. SDG3 was also at the centre of some projects by SHS on the island of Pulau Ubin and by the National Trust of Fiji Islands.

SDG5 (Gender Equality) was only present in projects by organisations in Africa and Asia (NT Zimbabwe, WASCHT, Petra National Trust). This interest could be due to the social context of their respective areas but, if further research were to be carried out, I would expect it to be linked to projects from Western countries too, perhaps especially if connected to projects also covering SDG4 (Quality Education), which could help push young girls into areas of knowledge they are usually under-represented in.

SDG7 (Affordable and Clean Energy) resulted in only two projects by FAI and Kulturerbe Bayern, and **SDG6** (Clean Water and Sanitation) was present in only one project by FAI. However, it is necessary to keep in mind that the work of this project does not cover the entirety of all the projects from all INTO members, and I would expect these two goals to be more popular in various organisations located both in richer and poorer areas if further research were to be carried out.

SDG8 (Decent Work and Economic Growth) was more present in areas currently under or seeking economic development (both because of general context and because of recent difficulties with Covid-19), such as Zimbabwe, rural India, Syria and Jordan, South Africa and Puerto Rico.

SDG9 (Industry, Innovation and Infrastructure) was present in projects who focused on particularly small communities who needed development in infrastructure and innovation, such as the Nizamabad Potters Village (Indian Trust for Rural Heritage and Development) or the island of Pulau Ubin (Singapore Heritage Society).

SDG10 (Reduced Inequalities) was disappointingly only present in projects by NT Zimbabwe, WASCHT and Bermuda National Trust. I would suggest further research about this as perhaps more organisations have ongoing or recent projects targeting this goal.

An attention towards **SDG4** (Quality Education) was present in a huge variety of organisations. Unsurprisingly, these projects were usually tailored towards school children and students.

Moreover, it didn't seem to be as impacted by geographical and social context as much. This was also the case for **SDG13** (Climate Action). While the specific methods might have been different and tailored to the area, both were distributed worldwide and perhaps for this reason resulted as the most popular. Similarly, the other relatively popular SDGs, **11** (Sustainable Cities and Communities), **15** (Life on Land), **12** (Responsible Consumption and Production) and **17** (Partnerships for the Goals) were also widespread across continents.

SDG14 (Life below Water) was, as expected, popular among projects in coastal areas: Bahamas, Cayman Islands, Haiti, Virgin Islands, Anguilla, Montserrat, St. Helena, and coasts in the Commonwealth under the protection of The Trustees of Reservations.

SDG16 (Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions) was present in projects either dealing with war refugees, such as is the case for the project by Petra National Trust with the youth of Yemen, or with native peoples, such as the work done by the New Zealand National Trust and by the Gullah/Geechee National Trust for Cultural Heritage Continuation & Historic Preservation and Filoli in the USA.

In addition, I would suggest the Taiwan Environmental Information Association, the Indonesian Heritage Trust and the Amenity 2000 Association Japan as areas for further research. Their websites were not available in English so it was not possible to conduct much research into their projects, so perhaps someone with the proper linguistic knowledge could carry out this missing research.

In conclusion, it has emerged that many of INTO's member organisations have been working thoroughly towards the 17 SDGs. Expectedly, many have set up projects aiming at responding to specific needs in their area and adapting to the specific geographical, cultural, economic and social context they are operating in. Generally, it seems that most foundations rely on a variety of grants, donations, contributions and partnerships for funding. Many foundations could imitate each other's programs (for example, many could implement zero-energy and water-saving strategies that foundations such as FAI and Kulturerbe Bayern are already using, and more could have followed NT Zimbabwe's work in the Covid-19 Awareness Training program) adapting them to their particular situations. However, as the case of Murahwa's Hill in Zimbabwe perhaps exemplifies, cultural context has to be kept in mind in the adaptation of these strategies, especially in projects working towards community development.

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[Website of Filoli](#)

Other information (in the case of the four case studies) was sourced directly by interviewing members of the organisations (Alessandra Varisco, FAI; Bernhard Seidl, Kulturerbe Bayern; Şolá Akíntúndé, WASCHT; Sharon Waterworth, NT Zimbabwe). Other written sources cited (“FAI and the Enviroment” presentation, WASCHT’s report of the RWYC program, NT Zimbabwe’s 2021 provisional report) are attached in an accompanying information pack.