

## Connect, empower, transform

Trias empowers organisations of entrepreneurs all around the world. This gives family farmers and small business owners access to education, microcredits and markets. Trias gives women and young people a helping hand to grow.



### 120 local Trias consultants



Trias has 120 local consultants in Asia, Latin America and Africa. They are specialized in reinforcement strategies, microfinancing, marketing and other disciplines relevant to empower associations for farmers and entrepreneurs. Our consultants in all of the operating areas must be acquainted with the local culture and knowhow.

### 86 associations of farmers and entrepreneurs



Together with our consultants, 86 associations of farmers and entrepreneurs draft a development plan to strengthen 7 key disciplines: leadership, diversity, resource management, participation of members, services, CRM and finances. Each year they map their progress. This creates a permanent learning cycle, driving farmers and entrepreneurs to better achievements.

### 164.491 empowered farmers and entrepreneurs



3.6 million of family farmers and small entrepreneurs are affiliated to the 86 partners of Trias. Through our projects, we managed to reach 164,491 members in 2018 with a training, microcredit or another business-related solution. In this way, we increase the entrepreneurs' confidence and their family income. Together they set their local community in motion.

# SOME PROJECTS IN 2018/2019



## Education

**31,206 women** and **59,297 young people** from Uganda and Tanzania received education in entrepreneurship, microfinance and leadership.



**7 cooperatives** and **1,226 individual entrepreneurs** from the Philippines raised their sales figures thanks to trainings and business coaching.

**238 women** from Honduras took business training. Afterwards, **23 women groups** received basic equipment and start-up capital to expand their economic activities.

Several Ecuadorian partners organized customized trainings for **1,062 members**. Subjects include artisanal textile manufacturing, eco-friendly horticulture or growing potatoes or biological quinoa.



In Peru, **61 young people** from the fair trade's national umbrella organisation took trainings on quality control, certificating, export, innovative production techniques, etc



## Microfinance



More than **40,000 family farmers and small businesses** from Uganda and Tanzania gained access to micro-credits. This leverage effect enables them to grow.

In the Philippines, **426 women** and **55 men** raised 12 new savings banks, and together they collected **21,673 euros**. This ensures their access to microcredits.



At Trias' suggestion, **five microcredit banks** in the rural area of Guinea launched innovative formulas for savings and credits, customized to the needs of female entrepreneurs.

*Besides the loan provided by Trias, I also got business trainings so I can invest the money where I want to invest it."*

Joseph Abbanga from Ghana



## Protecting members' interests

In Uganda and Tanzania, **17 local associations** of farmers, entrepreneurs and semi-nomadic livestock farmers are now able to protect their members' interests in a transparent, effective way.



In Guinea, **598 female shea butter producers** get better sales rates, thanks to the skills they developed with Trias' support, which enables them to negotiate prices with commercial agents on behalf of Coprakam, their cooperative.

Backed by Trias, the national farmer association Conapac raised awareness of the law on public finances among **more than half a million members**, thanks to which more farmers file a complaint if they are victim of corrupt officials collecting illegal taxes.

**Ten potato farmers** from Peru and Ecuador took part in the World Potato Congress of 2018 in Cusco. In this event, Trias demonstrated the added value farmers in the Andes get when processing their home-grown potatoes.





## Entrepreneurship



Across Uganda, **1.2 honey producers improved** their market position by combining forces with Tunado, one of our partners. Tunado opened its own shop as an extra sales channel.

In Burkina Faso, **200 farmers and rice producers** took trainings on market research. They have now a better understanding of their crops' potential and deliberately monitor their expenses and income.

Three cooperatives, combining the forces of **1,250 cocoa farmers**, increased their production gradually. In 2018 they exported **82.5 tons of beans**, nearly doubling 2017 exports.



Philippine cooperative and Trias' partner Labo Progressive Multi-Purpose turn crop residues in to pineapple fibres, which are used by one **thousand family farmers** to manufacture premium products, such as textiles.



## Climate

The Philippine Department of Environment is funding the replanting of **18 hectares of mangrove** by fishermen and small entrepreneurs, which will increase biodiversity and provide with new source of income, as mangroves are perfect nursery grounds for many species of fish.

In El Salvador, **1,064 family farmers** switched to sustainable agricultural practices during 2018. **2,657 family farmers** from Guatemala integrated eco-friendly farming practices in their operations



Guatemalan family farmers planted trees on their coffee plantations, covering **1,936 hectares**. This transition towards agroforestry stimulates CO<sub>2</sub> fixation, protects biodiversity and improves local water resource management.

**261 Congolese cocoa producers** are using their crop residues for composting for the first time in the Mai Ndombe area. This provides them with their own fertilizers in an eco-friendly way. **17 other farmers** started pilot tests on honey production. These beekeepers actively help preserving nature.

Together with German cooperative GIZ, Trias taught **350 family farmers** from 5 different Brazilian states about renewable energy. They learnt about biogas, solar panels and water pumps.



## Inclusion

**13 local associations** of Philippine entrepreneurs drafted a strategy plan for gender equality. They will promote equal rights between men and women as a standard and implement them in their organisation.

**656 men and women** in El Salvador were trained on gender equality and intergenerational solidarity and monitored their behavioural changes.

**28 men and women with disabilities** from Guinea received a customised business training and microcredits. They are fully prepared to start their own horticultural business.

In Guinea, graduated but unemployed young people started their own business after following the necessary training and coaching. Together they have already created **dozens of workplaces**.

Half of the seats in the boards of the **three Congolese cocoa cooperatives** supported by Trias in the remote region of Mai Ndombe is reserved for women.

Trias convinced **72 Congolese young people** from Mai Ndombe to invest in their own cocoa plantation. Because of two developed, women-friendly credit services, female farmers were encouraged to cultivate cocoa.

In Ecuador, **330 women and young people** took a business training. As a result, **35 young people** drafted a total of **11 business plans**, in cooperation with the higher school in Chimborazo.



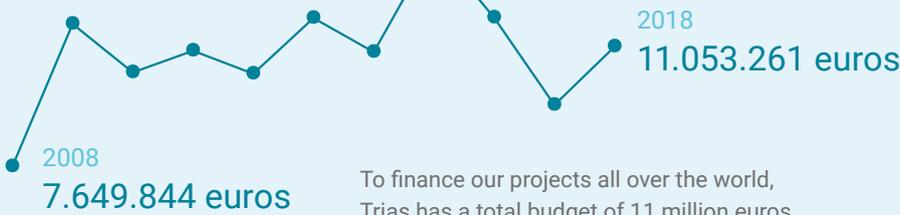
*'The poverty I have seen in areas where Trias is active shocked me. At the same time, I am delighted to see that men - and women as well - try to achieve a better quality of life.'*

**Herman Van Rompuy**, president of Trias' International Advisory Board



**TRIAS**  
TURNING DREAMS INTO OPPORTUNITIES

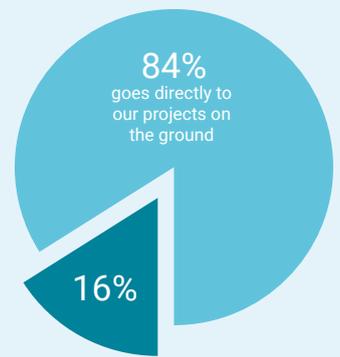
## Funds



To finance our projects all over the world, Trias has a total budget of 11 million euros. Each donation to Trias - no matter the amount - is an extra boost for brave entrepreneurs.

Trias invests 84 percent of its income in local projects. The remaining 16 percent is equally important in order to reach our goals. These resources are invested in:

- ▶ supporting regional offices regarding accounting and human resources
- ▶ quality management in order to enhance our projects' efficiency and effectivity
- ▶ fundraising to support as many farmers and entrepreneurs as possible



**Support Trias**  
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