



# ANNUAL REPORT 2024



# Annual report 2024 Women Of Potential International

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## Introduction and summary

Based in the Netherlands and established in 2018 the Women of Potential International (WOPI) foundation has been active in Sierra Leone in 2024.

WOPI's vision is based on the following principles (See WOPI policy plan 2023):

- Projects and activities are based in the grassroots of Sierra Leone and executed by Sierra Leoneans, primarily under the guidance of Sierra Leonean professionals. Whenever possible resources are purchased locally. Cost incurred in the Netherlands and overhead will be kept at a minimum.
- Connecting people gives energy to all program participants, donors and other interested parties. Direct contact between all persons interested in WOPI is stimulated.
- Children (orphans and underprivileged) are best cared for, educated and trained in their local settings.
- Training and education should primarily lead to employable skills and knowledge in Sierra Leone. WOPI is complementing primary and secondary schooling as provided by the Sierra Leonean government and local authorities.
- Every child has the right to be educated. However no education is possible on an empty stomach or when feeling sick, therefore WOPI supports education with direct care such as school feeding, transport and basic school health care.
- To be beneficiary of WOPI positive openness to monitoring and guidance is required.

In 2024 WOPI increased its local impact:

- We again received substantial support from Contribute Foundation (Contribute) (<https://www.contribute.nl/>) for the New Generation Academy to support its activities in the Makeni area. And again we provided school furniture, basic hygiene and extra-curricular activities as facilitated by the Contribute Foundation.
- Strengthening the local volunteer team in Sierra Leone and self-reliance projects. Maintaining the ANBI status based on the actions as required by the Dutch tax authorities.
- WOPI supported well over 170 beneficiaries in 2024, a sizeable increase from the 125 beneficiaries in 2023. In 2025 WOPI hopes to further strengthen its initiatives with the help of private donations as well as structural support such as we thankfully received from the Contribute Foundation.



# Contribute Foundation and New Generation Academy

WOPI again is extremely proud of the support of the Contribute foundation for the New Generation Academy in Masuba (NGA). In September 2024 a renewal project proposal for the schoolyear 2024-2025 has been approved by the Board of the Contribute Foundation.



## New Generation Academy Project

The NGA community school is located in Masuba, a densely populated community at the outskirts of Makeni Bombali District, which is located in the Northern province of Sierra Leone. In majority women are often widow or single parent with a livelihood of farming and petty trading. Most are challenged by their responsibility to provide daily amenities for their family and therefore will let their children partake in their petty trading or farming. In this community most believe to send their male child to school and not female children.

There are a lot of school aging children in Masuba and the nearest school is too far for children to walk to and from every day. The New Generation Academy was established by the local community in the schoolyear 2020/2021 to help these children with education to become responsible citizens. The school caters for all levels of children both male and female from Kindergarten to Nursery and through Primary level up to Secondary school.

WOPI has supported this school since 2020 and needs continuous financial support for the girls and boys in its program offering them support, guidance and care. School feeding has continued at a lower frequency stimulating the self-reliance.

Thanks to the *Contribute Foundation support* we continue in 2024 able to continue the basic support with

- Biweekly school feeding based on local food and local preparation by local volunteers.
- Basic Hygiene in the form of towels and buckets, soap and chlorine to purify the water.
- School uniforms and school materials for all pupils and for the teaching staff
- Additional school furniture produced by local carpenters for the growing numbers.
- Strengthening attendance and lowering dropout rates based on solid registration.
- Support for extra lessons each Saturday.



- Conclude the schoolyear with a Summer School in 2025 as in we did in 2024.



to  
this



support the attendance at the NGA has grown Also

*School feeding at the NGA: preparation, serving, basic hygiene and consumption*

*(Locally made schoolbags on the wall)*

Partly due to this support the number of pupils has grown from 98 in 2023 to 134 pupils in the school year 2024-2025. Pupils successfully participated in the national primary school exam (NPSE) in 2024 and some entered secondary school. Dropout ratios are negligible.

Pupils NGA 2024-2025	Boys	Girls	Total
Nursery 1	13	22	35
Nursery 2&3	9	9	18
Primary 1	3	10	13
Primary 2	9	7	16
Primary 3	6	14	20
Primary 4	5	5	10
Primary 5	6	7	13
Primary 6	5	4	9
Total	56	78	134

The school building (In fact an unfinished house) is looking like a school and the enthusiasm of pupils, teachers and parents is still heartwarming. For the schoolyear 2025 the school will move to another unfinished building. Means to establish a new school building have not yet been found.

Extracurricular activities: lessons on Saturday are given and sessions for the day of the African child and International Women's Day have taken place in cooperation with representatives of the Ministry of Gender and Children's Affairs. In Summer school pupils have also been taught about Tara Dye and tie.



Frances Sesay, who is also member of the NGA schoolboard manages the project for the NGA and reports on progress to the WOPI Board.



*Celebrating International womens's day at the NGA*

In 2024 we organised training on Gara Tie and Dye during the summer school period.



*Gara tie and Dye training during Summer School period in 2024*



## WOPI beneficiaries in Waterloo and Freetown

- In Freetown WOPI cooperates with other non-profit organisations (Peagie Woobay Scholarships and Mentorship Safe Space) and aims to allow underprivileged to attend school by providing learning materials and school uniforms.
- In Waterloo/Freetown the set-up is still different from the NGA: the 27 WOPI beneficiaries are attending 7 different schools. Also in 2024 we are supporting our beneficiaries during Secondary School.
- 11 of them have been participants in the program for over 4 years, 10 are visiting secondary school, 6 taking their final examination in 2025. 16 are new entrants in the program.

Beneficiaries WOPI Freetown/Waterloo 2024-2025			
Class	Gender		Total
	Boys	Girls	
BECE		1	1
Primary 2	1	2	3
Primary 3	3	2	5
Primary 4	3	1	4
Primary 5	2	1	3
Primary 6 (NPSE)	1	1	2
Secondary 1		1	1
Secondary 2	1		1
Secondary 3 (BECE)		1	1
Secondary 4	1		1
Secondary 6 (WASSCE)	6		6
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>27</b>

Long term volunteer for WOPI **Mohamed Kargbo** supervises the beneficiaries and provides mentoring and coaching to prevent drop-out. He is the Sierra Leonian driving force for this part of the program.



## Women Of Potential International



### Learning materials presentation

On Saturday

19TH OCTOBER 2024 AT 11:00 AM

@ HARVEST INTERNATIONAL  
MINISTRY SAMUEL TOWN  
WATERLOO

Books, pens, pencils,  
backpacks, erasers, sharpeners etc.



*Florence, presentation of learning materials  
and Waterloo WOPI beneficiaries*

## WOPI maintains ANBI status

The ANBI status was maintained in 2024 by fulfilling the required legal actions as advised by the Dutch Tax Authorities. In Sierra Leone the annual certificate of Registration (certificate number 6845) as community based organization was extended to WOPI during 2024.

## Board and Key Members WOPI in NL and Sierra Leone

### *Chairman Florence Sesay*

Being rooted in Sierra Leone our chairman Florence knows the local situation in Sierra Leone. As a professional in hospitality management, she worked in the UK, the USA and is currently working in the Netherlands in the Hospitality Industry. Florence started WOPI in 2014 and registered the foundation in the Netherlands in 2018, guiding it through the Covid 19 period.

### *Secretary Willem Meulenbeld*

Having worked in Africa and elsewhere Willem has experience with developmental aid. At the same time Willem worked at larger commercial organisations in international settings. Willem joined WOPI in 2022.

### *Treasurer Alise de Jong*

Alise joined WOPI in 2022. She was treasurer before. Alise has travelled extensively and she wants to contribute to some basic health care and other activities. Alise has also visited Sierra



Leone and the New Generation Academy. Further information on her visit can be found on the website. Alise met the NGA project team as well as the beneficiaries in the Freetown region. Meanwhile Alise has meanwhile finished her medical studies.

The board consists of volunteers putting in their energy and resources without a remuneration and is supported by others on the same basis. We do everything we can to keep our administrative costs as low as possible so that the money from our donors and sponsors reaches the children in Sierra Leone.

WOPI key members in Sierra Leone are:

**Mohamed Kargbo**

Mohamed is a pastor in Freetown and involved with WOPI for many years. Involved not only with the distribution of school materials to program participants but also with following up and coaching the participating children in Freetown and the Lungi Area. Pastor Mohammed joined the NGA board and is sharing his experience in motivating parents and teachers to jointly stimulate attendance.

**Frances Sesay**

Frances works in the banking and financial sector in Sierra Leone. Frances has been involved in the WOPI activities in the Makeni area since its inception, supervising the learning material distribution and school feeding activities. Frances also manages the increased weekly and extra-curricular activities at the NGA. As mentioned above Frances is also member of the schoolboard of the NGA.



Teacher's training on hygiene



Alise & Frances

## Financials 2024

*Introduction*

This part of the annual report provides an overview of the financial performance and position of Women of Potential International (WOPI) for the fiscal year ending on 31st December 2024. The financial statements, including the Income Statement and Balance Sheet, offer insight into the organisation's financial health and activity during the reporting period. The official results and balance sheet filed with the Dutch Chamber of Commerce (KVK) for 2024 can be found on the following pages.

*Income Statement*

The Income Statement outlines the various income streams and expenditure categories for the year 2024. Social media campaigns and personal gifts brought in a total of €3.884,- in Donations. In particular at the opening of the academic year many people helped Sierra Leonian children via WOPI. Amount of donations received was higher compared to 2023.



WOPI received also a substantial Contribute Foundation subsidy. The largest income component was this subsidy earmarked for the 2024/2025 school year, which was largely received in mid-2024.

Expenses in the Netherlands in 2024 remained very limited compared to income (less than 5%). The costs (over 95%) incurred primarily related to the foundation's educational initiatives in Sierra Leone, including school feeding, teaching materials, and school uniforms. Additional smaller expenditures included bank charges, outsourced services, and reimbursements. Importantly, several major costs for the 2024/2025 school year are expected to be disbursed in 2025, leading to a temporary discrepancy between income and expenses in this fiscal year.

This led to a net positive result of €7,998, which will be utilised in the coming year for programme implementation.

#### *Balance Sheet*

As of 31st December 2024, the Balance Sheet reflects a healthy liquidity position. The organisation held no fixed or receivable assets and had no outstanding debts or payables. The only entry on the asset side concerns liquid funds in the current bank account. The total equity at year-end amounted to **€7,998**, corresponding entirely to this liquidity.

#### *Conclusion*

The financial statements for Women of Potential International for the year ending 31st December 2024 demonstrate a positive financial position. The organisation received a significant portion of funding for future activities already in 2024, while expenditures for those activities will follow in 2025.

WOPI strives to allocate funds as efficiently as possible in support of educational initiatives for children in Sierra Leone, with financial transparency and responsibility as guiding principles.

#### *Recommendations for 2025*

- Continue to secure sufficient funding to support the organisation's mission.
- Maximise the use of received funds for direct educational impact.
- Maintain clear financial transparency and documentation.



## Income statement 2024

Results	31/12/2024	
	Debit	Credit
<b>Income</b>		
Opening balance		€ 4.714
Donations		€ 3.884
Interest		€ -
Sponsorship		€ -
Subsidy		€ 10.878
Sales		€ -
Incomes from previous years		€ -
Unforeseen income		€ -
<b>Total income</b>		<b>€ 19.476</b>

<b>Expenses</b>		
General expenses	€ -	
Bank fees	€ 275	
Purchases	€ -	
Transfers to Sierra Leone*	€ 11.053	
<i>*Materials</i>	€ 3.543	
<i>*Purchases</i>	€ 4.121	
<i>*Training and activities</i>	€ 1.293	
<i>*Transport</i>	€ 642	
<i>*Certificate renewal</i>	€ 13	
<i>*Transfer fees</i>	€ -	
<i>*Teaching support</i>	€ 850	
<i>*Expense reimbursement</i>	€ 340	
<i>*Study costs</i>	€ 185	
<i>*Other</i>	€ 68	
Venue Fundraising diner	€ -	
Transportation	€ -	
Outsourced work	€ 150	
Expenses from previous years	€ -	
Unforeseen expenses	€ -	
<b>Total expenses</b>	<b>€ 11.478</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>€ 11.478</b>	<b>€ 19.476</b>
<b>Profit</b>	<b>€ 7.998</b>	
<b>Loss</b>		



## Balance account 2024

		31/12/2024	
		Debit	Credit
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Inventory	€	-	
<b>Total fixed assets</b>	€	-	
<b>Current assets</b>			
Accounts receivable	€	-	
Amounts receivable	€	-	
<b>Total current assets</b>	€	-	
<b>Cash and cash equivalents</b>			
ING current account	€	7.998	
ING savings account	€	-	
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	€	<b>7.998</b>	
<b>Equity</b>			
Equity		€	7.998
<b>Total equity</b>		€	<b>7.998</b>
<b>Liabilities</b>			
Accounts payable		€	-
Accrued expenses		€	-
<b>Total liabilities</b>		€	-
<b>Total</b>	€	<b>7.998</b>	€ <b>7.998</b>

## WOPI in 2024 and 2025

Thank you for taking the time to read this annual report. Any advice, contribution and support remains welcome! We would again like to extend a warm thank you to the Contribute board for its support in 2024-2025.

The Board and Key members feel excited about 2024 and are looking forward to building and expanding WOPI based on individual as well as structural, institutional support for the initiatives in Sierra Leone based on ANBI status with the following focus points.

- WOPI will explore opportunities for additional funding sources such as monthly donations, fundraising activities, sponsorships of children, and partnerships.
- WOPI would like to help the NGA to establish a proper school building, based on the principles of self-reliance.
- Recommendations on financial management and transparent reporting will be applied.
- Strengthen our relationship with the Contribute Foundation based on successfully executing and concluding the NGA project for the year 2024-2025, extending the project with sustainable development initiatives.
- WOPI would like to extend her activities on the sensitization on subjects as Female Genital Mutilation, early marriage and Menstrual Hygiene, as these practices limit the potential for female education. Florence has been a key figure at the GGD in this area for many years and has followed training courses and workshops so that she can also lead, implement and organize these in Sierra Leone herself based on her background and experience.



*Instruction on menstruation management and sustainable hygiene pads at the NGA*

Tnx to Contribute WOPI organised a successful training on menstruation management at the International Menstrual Hygiene day for both boys and girls in the higher classes of the NGA in 2025.



Florence  
Sesay

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of the letters 'FS' in a stylized, cursive font.

Chairman

Alise  
De Jong

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Alise De Jong' in a cursive script.

Treasurer

Willem  
Meulenbeld

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Willem Meulenbeld' in a cursive script.

Secretary

# Contact and social media

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*Support Isatu, Alpha & others!*

