

2023



ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023



YAKUM ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

In 2023 global temperatures broke records, Chat GPT and other AI tools revolutionized the workplace and conflicts in Palestine and Ukraine caused uproar across the world.

Meanwhile in Ecuador, 2023 began with the assassination of Eduardo Mendua, the leader of the A'í Kofán nation, whilst he harvested plantain in his forest garden— a demonstration that global corporate interests pose a very real threat to indigenous sovereignty and forest conservation. Later, the Siekopai won a legal case to regain their ancestral homelands at the Peruvian border, which they left during the Peru-Ecuador border conflict and was given to the Kichwa when the conflict settled down. This is a huge victory for all Indigenous nations, to show that they can win their land back.

YAKUM has been travelling to these Siekopai ancestral homelands now since 2022 to collect lost heirloom fruit tree seeds not found in Ecuador and has planted thousands of trees of these important cultural foods in their Ecuadorian territory. We have built a payment system and stakeholder group which will support an eco-cultural credits initiative to create conservation & culture-based income for the Siekopai in 2024, in coordination with their national government. We are carrying out interviews with elders, in the Siekopai, Kofán and Kichwa areas, to understand the food culture there and organise our tree planting work so that the plantations grow back foods and medicines lost in the past and have organized events and workshops to celebrate and share traditional foods and process them to develop new products. Our team retreats have different Indigenous nations together to discuss culture, forest conservation, traditional food and how YAKUM can support these initiatives in Ecuador.

YAKUM consolidated its work in 2023 more than ever before. We have a talented, diverse, and committed team in Ecuador, including 3 consolidated project teams managing different projects. Our team have planted almost 80,000 trees to date over 150 hectares, with 250 Indigenous families benefitting from new fruit trees on their land. Our team received groups from Cornell and IKIAM university, who completed their internships here and generated important research for YAKUM. We now have our own office in Tena, and the search has begun for land for YAKUM to develop its own model Food Forest and Seed Bank, where we will plant the highest-priority Amazonian food producing and medicinal trees. This will grow seeds on-site for YAKUM's projects, house our office and nursery, and provide a place where we can experiment with techniques to increase productivity and develop products to stimulate local income. We now have a dedicated project in the Kofán area, a flagship project with Bos+ to reforest an area on the edge of Siekopai territory deforested by land grabbers, and projects begin in 2024 to document traditional Amazonian foods and recipes with tree-based products from our projects. With new digital tools we can carry out data-driven work too – we have an app with which to inventory tree planting plots in the field, an interactive map showing all planting areas, an interface to analyse tree planting data, an accounting report system and databases of Amazonian trees and nutritional properties of Amazonian food plants.

Outside Ecuador, our board has been building a community of supporters through presentations and events at Wang's restaurant in Bristol, the Peace & Love Festival in Kidderminster, the Kew Society in London, and the Explorers Club in New York. Our Director Nick Ovenden's award as EC50 "50 People Changing the World which the World Needs to Know About" is testimony to the growing reputation of our work and the community forming around it in the US and the UK.

Objects and Activities

Summary of objects of the charity set out in its governing document.

The mission and objectives of the CIO are:

- Our Mission - Regenerating Amazonian rainforests, foods and cultures with indigenous communities.
- Community initiatives - Identifying and supporting informed community-led initiatives.
- Tree Planting - Selecting & planting the most useful, nutritious or medicinal tree species and varieties with community partners.
- Growing food forests - Establishing, caring for and monitoring trees to maturity.
- Food sovereignty - Celebrating, harvesting, processing and selling Amazon superfoods.

Summary of the main activities in relation to these objectives

- Reforestation of indigenous territories with important trees producing important medicines, foods and materials, which benefit the community directly through ecosystem services, improved access to food, improved nutrition and health, reinforcing cultural knowledge and identity, and providing livelihood.
- Mapping territories improves forest management and provides communities with insight into economic, educational and cultural opportunities which contribute to conservation.
- Workshops based around soil improvement, to improve food production and sequester carbon.
- Workshops and follow-up on processing food provides a way for Amazonians to conserve their foods out of their short fruit seasons (Amazonian climate makes food rot incredibly fast and outside of fruit season there is little access to important vitamins) and provides alternative livelihoods.

The trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the charity's aims and objectives and in planning future activities.

Policy on Social Investment.

We do not make cash investments, although we consider our field work to be a considerable investment in community development and forest conservation.

Contribution made by volunteers.

Volunteers in Ecuador attending work "minga" days to help bagging up saplings and planting trees in Napo province. Volunteers in Indigenous communities helping to conduct and monitor reforestation in their territory, support from them to accommodate our staff during visits. Volunteer support in communications and artwork from UK and Spanish friends. Some in-person medium-term volunteers have participated in diverse activities.

Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	YAKUM
Registered charity number	1186064
Charity's principal address	2 BARKER CLOSE RICHMOND TW9 4ET
Bank	The Co-operative Bank 6th Floor, 1 Balloon Street, Manchester M60 4EP
Independent Examiner	Best4Business 44-45 Beaufort Court Admirals Way London E14 9XL

Trustees

Alexander McFarlane-Watts

Georgina White

Zygmunt de Goris Jedrzejowski

Corporate trustees

Director name:

Nicholas Ovenden

Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts: Foundation Charitable Incorporated Organisation ("CIO")

Type of governing document: Constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation who's only voting members are its Charity Trustees

Charity constitution: CIO

Trustee selection methods: Personal search and recommendation

Trustee selection policies and procedures.

- Apart from the first Charity Trustees, every Trustee must be appointed by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the Charity Trustees.
- In selecting individuals for appointment as Charity Trustees, the Charity Trustees must have regard to the skills, knowledge and experience needed for the effective administration of the CIO.

Risk Management

The Trustees updated the risk assessment during the year and continue to monitor identified risks and seek appropriate mitigations. The Trustees believe that systems are in place to mitigate the most significant risks.

Policy for Induction and Training of Trustees

New Trustees are taken through an induction process by the Chairman or another Trustee. Information for new Trustees is contained in an Induction Pack containing relevant policy documents. Trustees have access to courses and seminars relevant to their positions and have peer support through regular meetings.

Trustees' Responsibilities in Relation to the Financial Statements

The charity Trustees are responsible for preparing a Trustees' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards.

Company law requires the charity Trustees to prepare financial statements for each year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP.
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charity and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Statement as to disclosure to our Independent Examiners

As far as the Trustees are aware at the time of approving our Trustees' annual report:

- there is no relevant information, being information needed by the auditor in connection with preparing their report, of which the company's external examiner is unaware, and
- The Trustees, having made enquiries of fellow Trustees, have each taken all steps that he/she is obliged to take as a Trustee to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the examiner is aware of that information.

By Order or the Board of

Trustees

Alexander

McFarlane-



Watts

Chair

Dated 2nd April 2024

YAKUM

Independent Examiners Report for the year ended 31st December 2023

To the Trustees of YAKUM

I report on the accounts of the charitable trust, YAKUM (reg. no.: 1186064) for the year ended 31st December 2023.

Respective responsibilities of Trustees and Examiner

As the charity's Trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that an audit is not required for the year ended 31st December 2023 under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 (the "Act"), and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to:

- i) examine the accounts (under section 145 of the Act),
- ii) to follow the procedures laid down in the General Directions given by the Charity Commission (under section 145(5)(b) of the Act), and
- iii) to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of independent examiner's statement

My examination was carried out in accordance with the Charities Act 2011. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from the trustees concerning any such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit, and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair' view, and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement

In the course of my examination, no matter has come to my attention (other than that disclosed below):

- i) which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in, any material respect, the requirements:
 - a. to keep proper accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the Act; and
 - b. to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the Act have not been met; or
- ii) to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.



Nuria Ortega ACCA

The Association of Chartered Certified Accountants
On behalf of Best4business Accountants & Co. Ltd.
44-45 Beaufort Court
Admirals Way
London
E14 9XL

Date: 21st May 2024

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Another year of incredible progress in 2023. Thanks to our partners we generated over £250,000 to fund our communities through grants and donations, an increase of 66% over the previous year.

In 2024 we are looking to maintain the level of fundraising to allow us to maintain our impact.

Combined UK and Ecuador income was £255,420. The increase was achieved by the acquisition of reputable major donors who will continue to support Yakum in the future. There were also substantial private donations which contributed so much to Yakum's survival in previous years and to continued progress in 2023.

Income

To avoid double currency conversions and costs donations received in currencies other than GBP are routed directly to Ecuador where possible. Funds transferred directly to Ecuador are not included in Income in the UK accounts.

Income received in the year	GBP		USD	
	2023	2022	2023	2022
UK				
1. UK Income	£66,630	£28,796	\$82,881	\$ 35,597
Ecuador				
2. Ecuador Income excl. UK transfers	£188,790	£118,674	\$234,836	\$ 146,704
3. Funds transferred to Ecuador from UK were recognized as	£45,244	£38,403	\$55,869	\$ 47,474
Total funds in Ecuador	£234,034	£157,077	\$290,705	\$ 194,178
Total Yakum Income (1 + 2)	£255,420	£185,873	\$317,717	\$ 229,775

Reserves

UK reserves at the end of 2023 were £13,154. Additionally, in early 2024 we will receive a gift aid payment of over £2,300 which, when added to reserves, will cover costs for 18 months which the trustees consider to be more than adequate.

Ecuador reserves were \$88,834 (£69,783) of which \$56,474 (£44,363) was allocated to projects(restricted).

Ecuador unrestricted reserves were \$32,360 (£25,420) which we hope to increase to cover 6 months fixed costs as soon as we can raise core funding.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

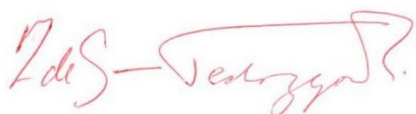
Income and expenditure

	Note	2023			2022		
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Funds
		Funds	Funds	Total	Funds	Funds	Total
Incoming Resources		£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	1	62,630	4,000	66,630	14,096	14,700	28,796
Total income		62,630	4,000	66,630	14,096	14,700	28,796
Expenditure							
Donation to Yakum Ecuador	2	41,244	4,000	45,244	13,934	27,831	41,765
Release of Restricted funds	3	- 2,078	2,078				
<u>Cost of charitable activities</u>							
Annual report		525		525	500		500
Professional fees		598	-	598	480	-	480
Travel		1,485	-	1,485	1,387	-	1,387
Service Fees		134	-	134	84	-	84
Fundraising	4	5,000					
Insurance		-	-	-	-	-	-
Licenses and Internet		2,568	-	2,568	2,964	-	2,964
Total expenditure		49,476	6,078	55,554	19,349	27,831	47,180
Net movement in funds for the year		13,154	- 2,078	11,076	- 5,253	- 13,131	- 18,384
Funds brought forward							
1st January		- 0	2,078	2,078	5,253	15,209	20,462
Funds carried forward							
31st December		13,154	- 0	13,154	- 0	2,078	2,078

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2023

Balance Sheet

		<u>2023</u>		<u>2022</u>	
	<u>Note</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>	<u>£</u>
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>					
Debtors	5	34		0	
Cash at Bank	6	14,423		4,254	
Total Current Assets		<u>14,457</u>		<u>4,254</u>	
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>					
Creditors- amounts falling due within 1 year	7	253		1,696	
Accruals	8	1,050		480	
		<u>1,303</u>		<u>2,176</u>	
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u>			<u>13,154</u>		<u>2,078</u>
<u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u>			<u>13,154</u>		<u>2,078</u>
Represented by:					
Unrestricted funds			13,154		
Restricted funds			0		2,078
			<u>13,154</u>		<u>2,078</u>


Z de Goris-Jedrzejowski

Treasurer

1. Donations received in the year.

Donor	Project	Unrestricted	Restricted
Drift		44939.12	
HMRC Gift Aid		5181.68	
Pam & Zygmunt de Goris		6650.00	
Andrew Gould	Peace and Love	1586.55	
Itzhak Beery		1000.00	
Jessica Savva	Peace and Love	500.00	
Lush			4000.00
Other		2772.28	
		62,629.63	4,000.00
		66,629.63	

Drift	20% of proceeds of sale of Schema a collaborative and generative NFT digital artwork in collaboration with Jeff Davis
Pam & Zygmunt de Goris	Personal donations from income to support Core Costs in UK and Ecuador
Peace and Love	Ticket Receipts and share of Bar takings Peace and Love Festival 2023
Lush Donations	Follow up to spring prize 2021

2. Donations Made

Donations were transferred to Fundación Yakum timed to maximize exchange rates where possible.

3. Release of Restricted Reserve

The £2,078 balance of restricted funds brought forward from 2022 was in respect of the Lush Spring prize. Cash was allocated in Ecuador such that this activity was funded in full and hence the restriction conditions have been met and the funds have been released in the UK accounts.

4. Fund Raising

The Not for Profit Group (NPG) have been commissioned to write proposals and research donors in the UK. Five projects have been submitted to NPG to be prepared and submitted.

So far one proposal has been submitted to a donor and it is expected to progress the others in the first quarter of 2024.

NPG offer a money back guarantee if donations raised are less than the £5,000 cost.

5. Cash at Bank

Cash at bank and in hand		Currency	GBP
Bank	Currency	amount	amount
Cooperative	GBP	13,393.69	13,393.69
Cashplus	GBP	84.14	84.14
Equals	USD	0.00	0.00
PayPal	GBP	944.70	944.70
Total Cash at bank and in hand			<u>14,422.53</u>

6. Accruals

Independent Examiner	550.00
Impact Report 2023	500.00

7. Trustee Remuneration and benefits.

None of the trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from employment with the charity or a related entity.