



2024



**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024**

YAKUM ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

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CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman's Letter – YAKUM 2024 Annual Report

2024 was a year of extremes. In Ecuador, we felt climate change firsthand — droughts, record heat, and power cuts hit the Amazon hard, disrupting ecosystems and communities. Yet amid these challenges, Indigenous nations stood strong, leading the way in defending biodiversity, culture, and food sovereignty.

YAKUM grew its mission this year, surpassing 125,000 trees planted across over 400 hectares and 390+ culturally significant species. These trees aren't just reforestation — they are medicine, memory, and food, rooted in Indigenous knowledge.

In Archidona, our Global Grant project planted 13,500 trees, integrating traditional foods into every workday. In Siekopai territory, 22,000 trees went into the ground, a community house was built to supervise the reforested area (previously logged by land invaders), and we laid plans for a Food Product Lab in 2025. In the north, we partnered with The Nature Conservancy in Kofán Sinangue and launched a biocultural credit system with Naturatech, based on jaguar monitoring as a biodiversity indicator.

We also hosted a major gathering in Cotundo, where dozens of communities and local businesses came together to celebrate ancestral foods, exchange seeds, and form new alliances. These “food diplomacy” spaces are vital to scaling our impact beyond direct planting.

Our Superfoods Guide research is now complete, showing the power of Amazonian plants like açai to replace deforestation-linked imports like milk. The guide will be published in 2025 — funding permitted — to support our growing work in food sovereignty and community nutrition.

It wasn't all smooth. Delays in two major grants impacted our ability to hire key administrative and communications staff. This stretched our team and slowed internal systems. But the fieldwork was delivered — and we've laid a clear path to reinforce our foundations in 2025.

Most importantly, we're entering a new phase: a transition toward Indigenous governance — of our land, our leadership, and our future. It's a natural next step after years of co-creation and trust-building.

To everyone who stood with us in 2024 — thank you. In 2025, we'll plant fewer trees and focus on building YAKUM's Restoration Centre and long-term structure. Your continued support will be key.

With gratitude and motivation to make 2025 the strongest year ever for YAKUM,

Chairman, YAKUM

Objects and Activities

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

The mission and objectives of the CIO are:

Mission - Regenerating Amazonian rainforests, foods and cultures with indigenous communities.

Objectives:

- Food Sovereignty – Understanding local food systems through literature review and field time spent with local communities to build a collaborative idea for restoration projects
- Amazon Seed Network – Building a network where local communities, local businesses and authorities, NGOs and permaculture farmers can come together to exchange seeds and knowledge
- Cultural Food Forests – Restoring soil through composting, bokashi and biochar and replanting forests with fruit, nut and medicinal trees corresponding to community cultural objectives
- Forest Harvests & Finance – Harvesting wild and forest-garden-grown forest food and medicines and processing these products for commercialisation and community consumption. Finance mechanisms to incentivise conservation and reforestation

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. YAKUM has an Ambassador team in the UK and abroad which sets up events and fundraisers to support YAKUM which has been set up this year (December) and will be active in 2025.

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 30 June 2025

YAKUM

Independent Examiners Report for the year ended 31st December 2024

To the Trustees of YAKUM

I report on the accounts of the charitable trust, YAKUM (reg. no.: 1186064) for the year ended 31st December 2024.

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 2024 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: 19th September 2025

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Thanks to our partners we generated over £189,215 to fund projects through grants and donations, although we received \$80k less funds than the previous year, we were able to surpass previous tree planting achievements to almost 50,000 (after planting 35,000 in 2023).

In 2025 we are looking to maintain our highest level of fundraising ever to allow us to plan to scale our impact.

Combined UK and Ecuador income was £189,215. YAKUM UK generated £7608, transferring £4745 to Ecuador.

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	
	2024	2023	2024	2023
UK				
1.UK Income	£7608	£66,630	\$9,722	\$ 82,881
Ecuador				
2. Ecuador Income excl. UK transfers	£181,607	£186,352	\$232,058	\$ 234,836
3. <i>Funds transferred to Ecuador from UK were recognized as</i>	<i>£4,745</i>	<i>£45,244</i>	<i>\$5,931</i>	<i>\$ 55,869</i>
Total funds in Ecuador	£186,352	£234,034	\$237,989	\$ 290,705
Total Yakum Income (1 + 2)	£189,215	£255,420	\$241,780	\$ 317,717

Reserves

UK reserves at the end of 2024 were £9,577

Ecuador reserves were \$45,771 (£57,287).

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

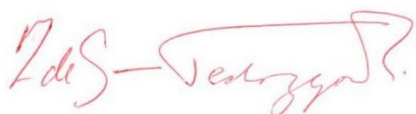
Income and expenditure

	Note	2024			2023		
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Funds
		Funds	Funds	Total	Funds	Funds	Total
Incoming Resources		£	£	£	£	£	£
Donations	1	7,608	-	7,608	62,630	4,000	66,630
Total income		7,608	-	7,608	62,630	4,000	66,630
Expenditure							
Donation to Yakum Ecuador	2	2,500	-	2,500	41,244	4,000	45,244
Donated Equipment and Supplies	3	2,245	-	2,245			
Release of Restricted funds	3	-	-	-	- 2,078	2,078	
<u>Cost of charitable activities</u>							
Annual report		300		300	525		525
Professional fees		576	-	576	598	-	598
Travel		1,259	-	1,259	1,485	-	1,485
Service Fees		758	-	758	134	-	134
Fundraising	4	-	-	-	5,000	-	5,000
Insurance		-	-	-	-	-	-
Licenses and Internet		3,548	-	3,548	2,568	-	2,568
Total expenditure		11,185	-	11,185	49,476	6,078	55,554
Net movement in funds for the year		- 3,577	-	- 3,577	13,154	- 2,078	11,076
Funds brought forward							
1st January		13,154	-	13,154	- 0	2,078	2,078
Funds carried forward							
31st December		9,577	-	9,577	13,154	- 0	13,154

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2024

Balance Sheet

		2024		2023	
	Note	£	£	£	£
<u>CURRENT ASSETS</u>					
Debtors	5	0		34	
Cash at Bank	6	11,136		14,423	
Total Current Assets		<u>11,136</u>		<u>14,457</u>	
<u>CURRENT LIABILITIES</u>					
Creditors- amounts falling due within 1 year	7	209		253	
Accruals	8	1,350		1,050	
		<u>1,559</u>		<u>1,303</u>	
<u>NET CURRENT ASSETS</u>			<u>9,577</u>		<u>13,154</u>
<u>TOTAL NET ASSETS</u>			<u>9,577</u>		<u>13,154</u>
Represented by:					
Unrestricted funds			9,577		13,154
Restricted funds			0		0
			<u>9,577</u>		<u>13,154</u>


Z de Goris Jedrzejowski

Treasurer

1. Donations received in the year.

Donor	Unrestricted	Restricted
HMRC Gift Aid	2,323.50	
Celebrate Planet Earth	1,900.00	
Itzhak Beery	1,200.00	
Hamza Aynashe	550.00	
FOOD42MORROW Juma	366.39	
Other	1,268.57	
	7,608.46	- 7,608.46

2. Donations Made

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

3. Donated Equipment and Supplies

£2,245 Equipment climbing was purchased in the UK and donated to Fundación Yakum in Ecuador

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. NPG offer a money back guarantee if donations raised are less than the £5,000 cost and if they do not submit and write 24 proposals during the 24 month agreement.

So far one proposal has been submitted to a donor and a batch of new proposals has been sent in early 2025 for review. We hope this will come through with donations. In June Yakum attended 3 events in Bristol, a festival in Kidderminster to build our UK network. In 2025 we plan to do the same to build contacts that wish to get behind YAKUM to find more funds.

5. Cash at Bank

Cash at bank and in hand		Currency	GBP
Bank	Currency	amount	amount
Cooperative	GBP	5,955.91	5,955.91
Cashplus	GBP	84.14	84.14
Equals	USD	0.00	0.00
PayPal	GBP	5,095.71	5,095.71
Total Cash at bank and in hand			<u><u>11,135.76</u></u>

6. Accruals

Independent Examiner	550.00
Impact Report 2024	800.00

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.