



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

Working together for a brighter future



The Java Village Foundation focusses on a better future for the most vulnerable inhabitants of the village of Cisarua on West Java in Indonesia

These vulnerable residents are mostly women and children. We encourage and support local initiatives to break through the poverty cycle and work with them for a better future.

In Cisarua, a bit less than forty percent of the nearly 8,000 inhabitants live below the poverty line. Female bread-winners in particular have a hard time, usually working long days at the tea plantation or in vegetable fields, and barely earning enough to be able to afford rice and a little fish. In order to support their families, often as the main income providers, they have to borrow from their employer, or worse from commercial money lenders, and thus end up in a vicious cycle of indebtedness. This also affects their children, since there is often not enough money to cover school fees. The mortality rate among new-borns and their mothers, who are sometimes very young, is also unacceptably high. Some of the women and children from families where the father is present to help with household expenses still experience similar problems with education and health. Children and young people from poor families thus already start their lives at a significant disadvantage. Our goal is to support these vulnerable families and this is why we focus on them with our activities. An important requirement for the support offered is that it will improve self-reliance and solidarity.

Foreword

This year the village seemed to do well. Although at first it felt as a bad start, when in January 2023 there was another earthquake. Not so bad as the previous earthquakes at the end of 2022, but bad enough to severely damage houses and buildings in the village. The good point was that the village could help with repairing some houses and we added funds for a mitigation project among school teachers.

Looking back at our activities, teachers and posyandu workers (integrated health service post) are the most important people. The teachers teach and support youngsters to get a better life. This is especially the case for girls. Without a proper school education they often end up at home or get married at a young age. The posyandu workers, mostly women, work with youth and health. They receive training to help (young) mothers how to keep their children healthy and help to support children with disabilities.

We have been working now as a foundation for sixteen years, which formally started on May 25, 2007. Originally, we had already been working for the first five years to help people in the village to get out of trouble when the economy had deteriorated dramatically since 1998. What we mainly did was to help the elderly who could not buy medicine, poor households with a shortage of rice and young people who could no longer go to school due to a lack of money.

In recent years we have increasingly focused on capacity building, self-reliance and sustainability together with the villagers. It requires a lot of patience. But we have seen some beautiful results. An example is Riana, one of our first students of our Sponsor a Student programme. A clever and hardworking man focussed on a good job for his future. And now we are so proud of him, now that he has become a teacher himself!

Every year we look with pleasure and gratitude at the generous donations that support these students. Financial support for Sponsor a Student (SaS) at junior secondary school, and for the Maria Peters Scholarship for senior secondary school, has been gladly accepted by the selected students in the village.

We hope you will enjoy the stories and pictures in this 2023 Annual Report.

Mies Grijns

Chairperson of Java Village

THE ORGANISATION

The year 2023 was a steady year for the Java Village Foundation. On May 25 2007, sixteen years ago, the foundation was founded. Mies Grijns, chairperson of the Foundation, together with her Indonesian colleague Titi Setiawati, had already initiated projects in the village to support the needs of the poorer inhabitants. These activities, more or less on an ad hoc basis, had been taking place from 2002 onwards. Five years later, after founding the foundation it became possible to organise the projects on a more professional base, with transparency and with full commitment of a board and volunteers.

We can state that the initial emergency assistance from 2002, has now been replaced by a focus on capacity building, self-reliance and sustainability. Since October 10, 2008, Java Village Foundation has been acknowledged as an Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling, ANBI (institution serving public interest) by the Dutch tax authorities.

Board

In 2023 the Foundation was run by the following five Board members:

- Mies Grijns chair and projects coordination
- Sonja Abrahams treasurer
- Ties Molhoek secretary
- Kristel Hoogstad vice-secretary & administration
- Huguette Mackay marketing & communication

In 2023 the Foundation focussed on the existing and new projects regarding health, education and economic independence for women.

The Covid-19 restrictions, which we had to follow the years before, were no more in place. As a board we could meet again in person and organise public events. However, as the board members live in different cities in the Netherlands and we've got used to these efficient on-line meetings, we've had less person to person meetings. But we did meet and see each other regularly at several meetings and on our board outing to The Hague. Also there were several external events which the board members attended.

Our fieldworker, Titi Setiawati, who lives in Bandung, continued to visit the village on a very regular base. Through her visits and reports the board in The Netherlands was kept regularly informed on the ins and outs of the village.

The board members conducted their input on a voluntary basis and did not receive financial compensation for their activities. The board follows the guidelines of officially recognised fund raising institutions as a minimum requirement to itself. Overhead costs are kept to a minimum and therefore the donations were, just as in the other years, fully used for the projects.

To achieve our goals, the Java Village Foundation develops a new strategic policy plan every three years. This policy plan is published on the website and is accessible to everyone. The Board also holds policy days to evaluate the effectiveness of our policy and whether we can continue in the same way or need to change our course. Our recent policy plan (2023-2025) is available on our website.

Audit committee

Our audit committee consist of the following members: Mr Christiaan Ruitenbeek and Mr Tim Toussaint. Our annual financial account, compiled by our treasurer, has been checked and approved of by the audit committee.

Volunteers

We are in a privileged position to be assisted by a number of volunteers, also in Indonesia, with specific qualities. In 2023 the following people committed themselves to the Foundation: Sita van Bemmelen, Katja Dold, John and Evelien Hurst-Buis (Newsletter), Tineke Mook, Sandrijn Myjer, Silvy Puntowati, Digna Ruitenbeek, Christiaan Ruitenbeek (audit committee), Anindita Sitepu, Tim Toussaint (audit committee), Gerard de Winter (website, ICT), members of the Indonesian Angkringan circle in Leiden. Photographers: Hans Kleijn (our events in The Netherlands), Naufal Arkam and Titi Setiawati (in the village.)

FRIENDS AND SPONSORS OF JAVA VILLAGE

The foundation is grateful it can count on a steady group of sponsors that make the work of Java Village possible. Sponsors donate to a specific project such as the Sponsor a Student project or the Maria Peters Scholarship. In the reporting year the number of sponsors was stable and we were again able to support ten new SaS students. The Maria Peters Scholarship, which started to support three students in 2022, was able to give support to two new students in 2023. With more sponsors we could support even more students. We therefore welcome new sponsors who are willing to donate on a stable base to the Foundation. We are also sponsored by funds and private organisations. It is also possible to become a Friend of Java Village. It is our sincere wish that the number of sponsors, funds and friends will not only remain stable but hopefully grow in the coming year to maintain and extend our support.

NEWSLETTERS

In 2023 we published our digital English Newsletter on a quarterly base. It is sent to our sponsors, friends and others that are interested in our work. The Newsletter is also published on our website and on Facebook.

EVENTS AND FUNDSRAISING ACTIVITIES

In 2023 Java Village took part in the following events:

- Zilpa's exhibition and sale of unique necklaces. Java Village attended with a stall with Indonesian products and pashmina's;
- The fundraising event #Giving Tuesday. Our special request in 2023 was the learning centre in the village. #Giving Tuesday is the global day of action for doing good on the first Tuesday after Black Friday and Cyber Monday, every year in November. A time for charities and social organisations to bring their work and goals to the attention of as many people as possible. It marks the beginning of a traditional period of giving.



It is always a pleasure to be able to sell our products at Zilpa

Money was donated towards the damages caused by the earthquakes in Cisarua at the end of 2022 and the beginning of 2023. As the major damages in the village were covered by the Indonesian government the amount was allocated towards a mitigation project among school teachers in the village and a nearby village that was closer to the epi centre and therefore more severely hit by the earthquake. With this project we hope that school teachers are better prepared to cope with the effect of earthquakes.



School children in Cisarua receiving instruction on how to handle when an earthquake takes place

A very special donation came from a ten year old girl in Leiden with bad eyesight. She saved money for a fifteen year old girl in Cisarua in need of good eyeglasses.



Hani looks very pleased with her new spectacles

THE VILLAGE IN 2023

The village seems to have come well out of the Covid-19 crisis. The schools were able to be fully open again. Unfortunately there was another earthquake in January 2023. It was much less severe than the one in 2022, but still leaving damages to the village.



Part of the ceiling came down in the school during the earthquake. Luckily no children were around when it happened

PROJECTS

Java Village supports projects in the following fields:

- Children and Health,
- Youth and Education,
- Women and Empowerment



Children and Health

Java Village follows developments in the local health centres and supports them where necessary. (Puskesmas, Pustu en Posyandu). The local health centres play a very important role in detecting mental and physical disabilities. Java Village is searching for funds to give training to teachers at the primary schools with which they can detect different forms of impairments (physical and mental impairments as well as specific learning disabilities). With this the pupils can get adequate support and help with possible learning problems caused by an impairment.

Java Village is also still in contact with Odi and her family. In 2021, with support from Java Village, she got a new wheelchair which makes her life a lot easier and more comfortable. Odi is now fifteen years old. She suffers from a severe form of cerebral palsy. The regular maintenance of the wheelchair, which has to be done in Bandung, is also carried out with support of Java Village.

Youth and Education

Sponsor a Student project (SaS)

Through our ongoing Sponsor a Student project ten new students were admitted again for this programme in the reporting year. Students were happy that school was back to normal in the schoolyear 2022-2023 after the severe restrictions during the Covid-19 years.



The new SaS students with some of their parents

Maria Peters Scholarship

The MPS is now supporting five students. Three started in 2022 and in 2023 another two students were admitted. With support of this scholarship the students can follow the second phase of their secondary school education. Our goal is to support at least two new students every year and if funds permit it three or more.

The scholarship was founded in 2019 in memory of Maria Peters, one of the first supporters of Java Village, who sadly passed away in 2016. In honour of her, her family took the initiative, together with Java Village, to establish this special grant for excellent students.

Learning Centre: Rumah Belajar Cisago

The Learning Centre in the village has proved to be a safe place for the students where they can follow computer courses, improve their skills in the English language, receive help with their school work and have social gatherings. Former SaS students are active in the learning centre who founded it in 2017 specifically to help the youngsters of the village. Java Village has been able to donate several laptops to the centre over the years.



A social and creative activity organised by the learning centre: decoupage, all kinds of material are used to create a piece of art. On the left our fieldworker Titi

Women and Empowerment

The savings- and micro-credit groups are functioning more or less independently. This doesn't mean that Java Village has taken its hands off them completely. It follows the three groups (Anggrek, Bugenvil and Bunga.) at a responsible distance and keeps in touch with the leaders of the groups. Bugenvil became an official cooperation in 2020. There is a forum, formed by the leaders of the saving groups called Cut Nyak Dien (named after the famous female Acehnese resistance fighter), which meets regularly. When needed they can still ask for advice from the Indonesian women's organisation PPSW Pasoendan (Pusat Pengembangan Sumberdaya Wanita, centre for the development of sources for women),

which trained the groups when the project started. The Java Village Foundation is proud to be able to say that the three mentioned savings and microcredit groups have become independent and self-supporting groups.

PLANS FOR 2024

Java Village plans to continue with its projects in the village which have become imbedded in the village society. They have found a steady base. Especially our education projects are meaningful and make a difference. Without the support of our SaS project, since 2008, and more recently our Maria Peters Scholarship, since 2022, many pupils would not have been able to successfully complete their secondary school education. Without the help of our sponsors this would not have been possible. We're very grateful for their ongoing support. We therefore hope that our sponsors, some who have been with us from the start, will continue their support. We will of course be active in finding new sponsors and new ways to support our projects.

The Maria Peters Scholarship is a wonderful asset to our activities as it gives the opportunity for motivated and talented pupils to continue their secondary school education. We are very happy that in 2022 the scholarship started with its first three students. In 2023 another two students got a scholarship. Good education, as we all know, is so important and it can make a world of difference for these pupils (often girls), from a poor background to make a good start in life.

The activities of the Learning Centre, an offspring of the SaS programme, as it was initiated by former SaS students, also demonstrates that many in the village realise how important education is. It is wonderful to witness the input from these young people.

In 2024 we hope that we can make a start with the project to train teachers from the primary school to detect different forms of impairment at an early age. With this early detection pupils with an impairment will be able to get adequately support from the teachers.

However, we are a small foundation with limited funds. But even with our limited funds we manage to realise important projects that are part of the village community. It would be wonderful if some of the projects would be able to become even more independent and keep doing their good work with less support from Java Village as is already the case with the savings and microcredit groups. Java Village is also focussing on this more independent strategy. In the mean time we also keep focussing to maintain and possible to extend our funds and hope that our number of supporters and friends will grow. We're an optimistic team full of good spirit, here in the Netherlands as well as in Indonesia.

Income and expenses financial year 2023

Stichting Java Village 2023

| | Realisatie 2023 | | Begroting 2023 | | Realisatie 2022 | | Begroting 2022 | |
|---|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| | € | % | € | % | € | % | € | % |
| Baten | | | | | | | | |
| Bijdrage overige particuliere donateurs | 1.410 | | 2.000 | | 2.384 | | 2.000 | |
| Bijdrage SaS donateurs | 3.041 | | 3.600 | | 4.561 | | 4.100 | |
| Bijdrage Maria Peters Beurs | 1.225 | | 1.000 | | 560 | | 1.000 | |
| Bijdrage evenementen | 0 | | 0 | | 2.258 | | 500 | |
| Baten uit eigen fondsenwerving: | 5.676 | 100,00% | 6.600 | 92,96% | 9.763 | 93,15% | 7.600 | 91,02% |
| Bijdrage overige projecten | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | | 0 | |
| Bijdrage overige projectfondsen | 0 | 0,00% | 0 | 0,00% | 0 | 0,00% | 0 | 0,00% |
| Overige baten | 0 | 0,00% | 500 | 7,04% | 718 | 6,85% | 750 | 8,98% |
| Totaal | 5.676 | 100,00% | 7.100 | 100,00% | 10.480 | 100,00% | 8.350 | 100,00% |
| Lasten | | | | | | | | |
| SAS | 3.298 | 44,71% | 2.100 | 29,58% | 3.465 | 36,59% | 1.500 | 17,96% |
| Maria Peters Beurs | 1.224 | 16,59% | 1.500 | 21,13% | 756 | 7,98% | 2.100 | 25,15% |
| Microkrediet | 0 | 0,00% | 0 | 0,00% | 564 | 5,96% | 750 | 8,98% |
| Learning Center | 398 | 5,40% | 500 | 7,04% | 1.236 | 13,05% | 1.000 | 11,98% |
| Overig | 1.335 | 18,09% | 1.400 | 19,72% | 1.421 | 15,01% | 1.500 | 17,96% |
| Totaal | 6.255 | 84,79% | 5.500 | 77,46% | 7.443 | 78,59% | 6.850 | 82,04% |
| Lasten Werving Baten | | | | | | | | |
| Kosten fondsenwerving | 0 | 0,00% | 250 | 3,52% | 280 | 2,95% | 400 | 4,79% |
| Kosten beheer en administratie | 751 | 10,18% | 850 | 11,97% | 861 | 9,09% | 760 | 14,43% |
| Overige kosten | 371 | 5,03% | 500 | 7,04% | 887 | 9,36% | 340 | 2,44% |
| Totaal | 1.122 | 15,21% | 1.600 | 22,54% | 2.028 | 21,41% | 1.500 | 21,66% |
| Som der Lasten | 7.377 | 100,00% | 7.100 | 100,00% | 9.471 | 100,00% | 8.350 | 100,00% |
| Resultaat | -1.701 | -29,97% | 0 | 0,00% | 1.009 | 9,63% | 0 | 0,00% |