

# Foundation Letter

HORIZONTE 07



**“Kulturgut Ost”:  
Urban development and  
promotion of training in  
the craft trades**





## Dear Readers,

A new year also means new projects and a new edition of our newsletter! We devoted 2023 to strengthening existing partnerships, but also, and perhaps especially, to meeting various new partners, with a view to promoting the priority issue of education on all fronts. You will find the following sentence in the description of one of our projects, but it is of such profound significance that we have also included it here as well: promoting young talent and fresh ideas and acting as both a pioneer and a mentor is one of our Foundation's main fields of action. It is this very objective that we bear in mind each time we make a decision on funding. What is also very important to us - and something we would like to step up - is the involvement of Hager Group employees. This also includes trainees and apprentices, for they provide us with active support for the Christmas Party, for instance, as well as undertaking their own charity projects. We would therefore like to appeal to all Hager Group employees: if you want to take on a public utility project with your colleagues, tell us about your ideas and we will look into it.

We hope you enjoy reading this latest edition of our newsletter. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or suggestions. Your feedback is always welcome!

The Management Board  
Evi Hager, Susanne Trockle (photo) & Dr Udo Götschel

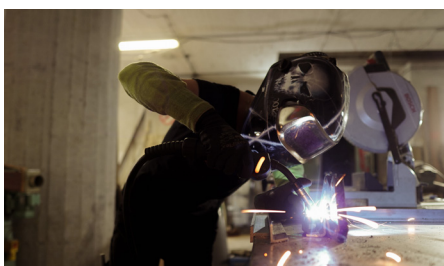
### Headline: “Kulturgut Ost” – urban development and promotion of training in the craft trades

## Saarbrücken's East Harbour to be transformed by Sektor Heimat e. V.

Over the summer of 2021, the capital of the Saarland issued a call for tenders for work on the Rhenania building located in Saarbrücken. The contract was awarded to the Saarbrücken company, Greencells, and the cultural organisation, Sektor Heimat, at the end of 2022. The building consists of nine floors and a rooftop. In the future, the East Harbour is not only to become a meeting place for renowned creatives and consumers in the culture sector, but also, and more especially, a home for the free alternative cultural scene, as well as startups, associations, foundations and other innovative initiatives. Work is scheduled to begin in mid/late 2024 and the building is to be inaugurated in early 2027 (planned design: first row of pictures right).

In the meantime, various workshops and urban projects are

expected to get off the ground in the free spaces and in digital form under the slogan “Culture instead of Construction”. As part of the renovation process, the organisation wants to highlight music, traditional crafts and culture, as well as other related fields covering the topics of inclusion, integration and collective interest, and promote interaction between the various disciplines. This transitional project will benefit from our help over three years. Funding will support two rounds of training workshops. The first one will endeavour to spark interest in training in the craft trades through easy-access offers. The second one will revolve around an inclusive long-term training and employment offer, together with Lebenshilfe Obere Saar e.V. and/or other social players, with one aim being to help the participants to take their first steps in the job market.





# New projects 2023

## Language support for children in Saarbrücken

### German for the little ones

Starting this year, we are supporting the “Deutsch für kleine Leute” (German for the little ones) programme initiated by the Catholic family education centre in Neunkirchen (Saarland). This course is aimed at children from three to five years of age, mainly of Arab origin. Over the years, it has become increasingly difficult to find a place at a childcare centre. As a result, many children start school with insufficient knowledge of the German language. Devised by a Syrian woman, this project aims to introduce children to the German language through play. Furthermore, classes enable isolated families to meet each other and integrate into the wider community. Ulrich Holzer, a member of the Foundation Board, acts as project mentor and maintains contact with the family education centre.



## Film festival for young talent in St. Ingbert

### “Bundesfestival junger Film”

Promoting young talent and fresh ideas and acting as both a pioneer and a mentor is one of our Foundation's main fields of action. The "Bundesfestival junger Film" is the largest short film festival for young German-speaking filmmakers. It showcases the year's best films directed by filmmakers under the age of 30. In addition to general organisation, our contribution is used to fund the new best screenplay prize. Taking advantage of the ideal weather conditions, St. Ingbert's market square was converted into an open-air cinema of a very special kind. From 15<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> June, on the premises of the neighbouring town hall and at various other venues, filmmakers, actors, screenwriters, technicians, representatives of the world of culture, and interested audiences had a number of opportunities to meet up and chat with each other and renew old acquaintances, something they had eagerly looked forward to after the years of the pandemic.



## Jazz takes centre stage in Saarbrücken

### A new jazz festival in the Saarland



For its first edition in Saarbrücken in July 2023, fill in, the Saarland international jazz festival, extended invitations to both world-famous stars and a new generation of emerging talent from the world of jazz. The event was organised by Professor Oliver Strauch from the University of Music Saarland (HfM Saar) and his team. The open-air stage in the Franco-German Gardens welcomed international stars such as Kenny Garrett, Dorantes and John Scofield, as well as talented musicians from neighbouring France and Luxembourg. People of all ages enjoyed musical performances combined with light shows and the colours of the gardens in a laid-back atmosphere. This main event was preceded by young musicians from HfM Saar giving free performances in the city centre of Saarbrücken and, on the final day, a children's concert rounded the event off in the Franco-German Gardens. Our decision to fund the event was driven, among other things, by the fact that this festival provided an opportunity for the jazz scene and young performers to rub shoulders with some great names and artists from the Greater Region.

## Plastic recycling programme in Uganda

### International Collaboration Society e. V.



Founded in Germany, the association initiates international cooperation, provides social start-up help and supports local initiatives. Built on four pillars – education, individual responsibility, sustainable projects, and consulting – its aim is to develop skills at a global and intercultural level. In order to alleviate the pressing waste problem in Uganda, the association has devised a plastic recycling programme for the local population. At the beginning of the project, a building materials shop was set up and hygiene products were sold. This enabled the purchase of plastic recycling machinery and the start of production in 2023. Next, recycling containers and a circular economy centre will be built. The local population is involved at each stage of the project, which has also created new jobs.

# What else is important to mention?

## Trainees get involved

Three Hager Group trainees in Blieskastel set themselves the task of carrying out a charity project and chose to redesign the garden of the Lebenshilfe association's home in Homburg. The residential home for people with disabilities was reopened in May 2022 and the home's residents asked for additional cosmetic work in the garden. Following their request our colleagues from Hager Group built and planted a raised vegetable plot with their help in August. To commemorate this joint project a "Hager tree" was planted.



## "Rounding up the cents" - a small gesture for a good cause

Hager Group employees in Germany and France have the possibility of donating the cent amounts of their monthly salary to a good cause. At the end of every year, the Foundation triples this sum and donates the proceeds to charitable organisations close to the company sites involved. In Germany donations went to the food banks in Homburg, St. Ingbert and Pirmasens, as well as to the hospice for children and teenagers in Olpe over the last years. In France, these associations are chosen yearly in collaboration with the social partners. Those not yet involved in this campaign and willing to help can sign up via the Hager Group live app. A huge thank you to everyone who already supports us!

## Christmas Party

Every year, for the Christmas celebrations for the Hager Group employees in Blieskastel, we hold a fundraising event with the strong support of volunteers. In 2022, three charity organisations in the Saarland benefited from the generated funds: CBF Charity e.V., Liebe im Karton e.V., and the intergenerational home run by SOS Children's Villages in Merzig.

## Upcoming: Master Founder Award

Every two years, we award the "Meister-Gründerpreis" to three founders in the German electrical trade. The award recognises master craftsmen and women in the electrical trade for their courage, their personal business concept and the success associated with it. Award-winners each receive € 10,000. The next call for applications begins in spring 2024 at the Light + Building fair.



## A forest garden for all ages in Saverne

The organisation "Jardin Forêt de la Licorne Saverne", chaired by Peter Caldwell, a former Hager Group employee, in tandem with a team of passionate enthusiasts, has created a permanent forest garden in the town of Saverne that offers an entire range of products and benefits. Its main objectives are to promote education on environmental issues and intergenerational interaction. Everyone is welcome here, whether simply to wander around, learn something or lend a helping hand. Over the summer, we were able to visit this oasis of greenery and we were completely won over.



## Follow us online for more updates

Go to [hagerstiftung.de](https://hagerstiftung.de) to learn all about the Foundation and our projects in the areas of education and training, art and culture, social action, environment, as well as science and research. On our website you can also download this letter. Follow us on our Facebook and Instagram pages for regular updates: @hagerstiftung.

## Latest figures

Ongoing projects in 2023: 43

Total aid in 2023: € 515,000



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