

SPROUT ENTERPRISE®

2023 Impact Report

Funding Business Development



/// 2023 HIGHLIGHTS ///

Since inception, we have provided:

More than \$1.63 million in sustainable development grants internationally.

Generated more than \$765,000 in international sales augmenting the growth of our partners.

Promoted more than 40 artisan enterprises generating livelihoods for more than 6,200 artisans and farmers.

Created economic opportunities for women and girls in rural India.

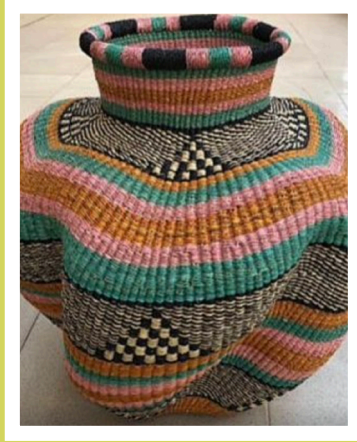
This year, we provided funding to support:

The Kaliyachak Girls School in rural Bihar, India providing education and vocational training to more than 142 girls.

Twelve design workshops with 26 weavers of San Bartolo Yautepec in Oaxaca, Mexico, culminating in two exhibitions and sales.

Sales and marketing support for 40 artisan enterprises creating livelihoods in rural communities in nine countries.

Presentation of impact opportunities with 22 early stage artisan enterprises to impact investors and charitable funders.



Savanna Baskets is one of the seven artisan enterprises awarded R.I.S.E. Artisan Fund market development grants. Based in northern Ghana, the enterprise works with over 700 weavers who produce baskets from the veta vera grass that grows in the West African savanna. www.savannabaskets.com

Market Development Grants

R.I.S.E Artisan Fund partners with ByHand Consulting, Powered by People, and Trade+Impact in implementing our market development grant program. Initial funding for the program has been provided by the Rucker/Gibbs Family Charitable Fund.

/// KARGHEWALE ///



Creating sustainable livelihoods for rural communities with few economic alternatives.

Created in partnership with Realize Impact, the R.I.S.E. Artisan Fund invests in early stage artisan enterprises addressing three key impact investment themes:

- women's empowerment,
- sustainability, and
- climate change.

This year, we invested in Karghewale and ECHALE and funded 2024 market development initiatives of seven companies from seven countries.

Karghewale enhances the creative agency of young weavers from traditional weaving communities of India, and helps them transition from underpaid production workers, with very little creative control, to entrepreneurs creating their own designs and building a product line marketed directly to their customers. The enterprise works with more than 150 weavers.
www.karghewale.com

/// ÉCHALE ///

R.I.S.E. Artisan Fund ///

The R.I.S.E Artisan Fund deploys capital using a range of investment vehicles from grants to revenue-based equity investments while seeking a return of capital for further investment, creating a reinvestment cycle that multiplies the catalytic impact of philanthropic capital.



Échale boosts sustainable community development through social inclusion in the planning and self-construction of housing and community infrastructure in rural México for marginalized and disadvantaged communities. Through the use of appropriate technology, access to financing and participatory processes, Échale has delivered more than 250,000 housing solutions in 28 states in México, benefiting more than one million people.

www.echale.mx

/// 2023 GRANTS ///

Micro, small and early-stage artisan enterprises typically lack the capital resources necessary to grow successfully. Catalytic capital supports artisan enterprises in building more effective sales distribution, more efficient operations and more timely financial reporting. Only with appropriate capital and support will these artisan enterprises be able to grow.

R.I.S.E Artisan Fund invests in artisan enterprises that are redesigning business models based on:

- Sustainable and ethical business practices
- Skills development and training to increase sales and profitability
- Revenue or profit sharing with producers
- Revitalization, revaluation and representation of heritage craft
- Shared ownership structures around brand, design and stories.

These artisan enterprises deliver:

- Increased income for marginalized communities in remote areas
- Better economic and education opportunities for women and girls
- Less waste and environmental damage than industrialized production
- Cleaner air and water
- More efficient use of resources.



We expect these enterprises to have defined and track impact metrics aligned with one or more of the UN Sustainable Development Goals. The enterprises in our portfolio have a clear mission to increase incomes to underserved communities, preserve heritage craft, and address the environmental impact of their production.

/// BIBI HANUM ///



Uzbekistan

Bibi Hanum is a fashion and textile design studio based in Uzbekistan creating its own, handwoven, tie-dyed silk and velvet ikat fabrics to make its apparel and accessories collections. www.bibihanum.com

/// DU ANYAM ///



Indonesia

Du Anyam promotes and preserves traditional wicker craft, while improving the livelihoods and maternal health of 400 women artisans in rural Indonesia.

www.duanyam.com

/// CHILOTE SHOES ///



Chile

Chilote Shoes creates livelihoods for more than 50 rural women in Patagonia in southern Chile, who craft wool slippers with locally sourced, natural fibers.

www.chiloteshoes.com

/// FAIR WEAVE ///



Cambodia

Fair Weave works with 60 women weavers based in northern Cambodia to offer handwoven textiles made with natural fibers and dyes for home furnishings and apparel.
www.fairweave.com

/// SAVANNA BASKETS ///



Ghana

Savanna Baskets works with over 700 weavers from Bolgatanga in northern Ghana who produce baskets from the veta vera grass that grows in the West African savanna. www.savannabaskets.com

/// STUDIO COPPRE ///



India

Studio Coppre impacts the lives of more than 550 skilled, traditional artisans in seven states in India working with metals, basketry, weaving and bamboo to create artisanal wares for conscious living.

www.studiocoppre.com

/// XAQUIXE ///



Mexico

Xaquixe creates blown glassware using recycled glass collected locally, and using waste vegetable oil collected from local restaurants, to fire its glassblowing furnaces.
www.xaquixe.mx

Du Xhil

San Bartolo Yautepec
Oaxaca, Mexico

In 2022, the Marvin and Sylvia Rubin Family Foundation awarded a grant to R.I.S.E. Artisan Fund to fund a textile project led by Maddalena Forcella and Ana Paula Fuentes, social designers based in southern Mexico. For the past two years, these designers have collaborated with 24 weavers in the Zapotec community of San Bartolo Yautepec, in the highlands of Oaxaca to develop an elevated, handwoven textile collection using natural fibers and natural dyes.

Using back-strap looms that predate the arrival of Spanish colonialists, the Zapotec weavers produce fabric with intricate brocade motifs. The fabric is then used to create *huipiles*, traditional Mexican garments.

As a social design project, the aim was for more than the transformation of traditional textiles into contemporary textile collections, but also to have a positive impact for the weavers and community. The goal was to enable the weavers to establish their own enterprise and build their own market relationships.

The first step in the process toward their own business autonomy was the launch of the Du Xhil – San Bartolo Yautepec collection in 2023.

Workshop reports and a catalog are available on www.riseartisan.fund.





DU XHIL
Grupo de tejedoras
zapotecas de
San Bartolo Yautepec
Oaxaca

Make an Impact.

Our portfolio of impact opportunities includes artisan enterprises:

- **empowering women** by creating local and home-based income opportunities, valuing their skills and knowledge, and improving the quality of life for their families,
- **operating sustainably** by reusing and recycling waste materials, sourcing local, natural materials, and honoring local traditions and cultures,
- **fighting climate change** through innovations in clean energy, reforestation and biodiversity.

We make it easy for you to become an impact investor by using your philanthropic capital to support the enterprises in our portfolio.

Learn more about these impact opportunities and join us in making an impact.

Visit www.riseartisan.fund.



2023

Sprout Enterprise® is an initiative of **Friends of Tilonia, Inc.** building the business capacity and entrepreneurial skills of artisan enterprises in rural India, Mexico, Guatemala, Cambodia, Indonesia, Pakistan, Chile, Ghana and Uzbekistan.
www.sproutenterprise.net

Created by **Realize Impact** and **Sprout Enterprise, R.I.S.E. Artisan Fund** invests in early-stage artisan enterprises that create sustainable livelihoods in rural communities with few economic alternatives.
www.riseartisan.fund

Tilonia® is a mission-driven enterprise creating opportunities for women and girls in rural India. It is a joint initiative of the **Barefoot College Tilonia** and **Friends of Tilonia, Inc.**
www.tilonia.com

Friends of Tilonia, Inc. • 134 Lincoln Place No 2 • Brooklyn, NY 11217