

Mobility with Perspectives

Velafrica connects work and integration in Switzerland with development in Africa. Since 1993 the Non-Profit Organisation has collected old, worn-out bicycles, refurbishing them with social institutions and exporting them to its partners in Africa.



Switzerland



Collection

There are 479 permanent and free collection points for bicycles across the country. Every year, an additional 50 collection events are organized.



Recycling

Thanks to functional recycling of our bikes, 350 tonnes of old metal is saved from the shredder each year.



Integration

360 unemployed and physically challenged people refurbish the donated bicycles and prepare them for transport to Africa.

Africa



Export

In 2015, Velafrica sent 38 shipping containers with 17'455 donated and reworked bicycles from Switzerland to Africa.



Mobility

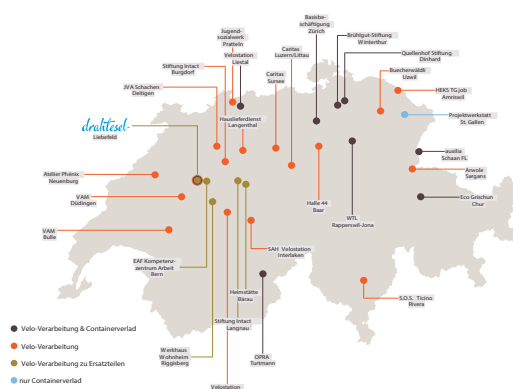
Since 1993 over 140'000 donated Swiss bikes have found a new owner. On average, four people benefit from the use of a bicycle.



Vocational Training & Jobs

By 2015, 106 youth completed an apprenticeship in bicycle mechanics. Bicycle workshops create jobs in repair and sales.

Our Partners



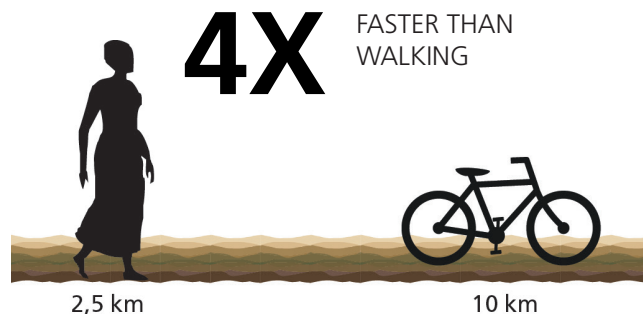
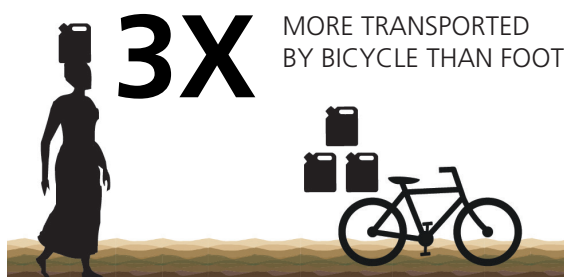
Velafrica has the support of 30 partners across Switzerland. Between Liestal and Brig, Bulle and Chur, a dense network of social enterprises work towards integrational work. In 2015, Velafrica started an export workshop in Liebefeld, Berne as an integrational project for refugees and migrants.

Velafrica works with 13 regional partners in Gambia, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Burkina Faso, Tanzania, Madagascar, and Eritrea. This partnership is done with non-profit and selected small businesses. We foster a relationship based on economic collaboration to promote social entrepreneurship.

Bicycles reduce Poverty



The bicycle is an affordable alternative that spares people from walking. In cellars across Switzerland there are many bicycles that remain unused. In the developing regions of Africa however, cheap forms of transport are scarce. The recycled bicycles from Switzerland improve local access to education, health care and economic opportunities. After research done by Velafrica in Burkina Faso and Tanzania, mobility was found to be the most important factor in overcoming poverty.



Awards

2016

Velafrica is chosen as Swiss Re's Charity of the Year.

Velafrica was also awarded the Seif label for excellence in innovation and promotion of social enterprise.

2015

Velafrica partners with Ashoka, an organization that promotes social entrepreneurs worldwide.

2009

Founder and Director of Velafrica Paola Richter, receives the Schwab Foundation Swiss Social Entrepreneur of the Year.

Donations

Disused bicycles can be brought in free at any of the **500 collection points** across Switzerland. Collection points can be found at: www.velafrica.ch/Sammelstellen

Postkonto 30-7391-3

IBAN CH27 0900 0000 3000 7391 3

BIC POFICHBEXXX

Stiftung Sinnovativ / Velafrica / 3007 Bern

Velafrica

Waldeggstrasse 27

3097 Liebefeld

T +41 (0)31 979 70 50

info@velafrica.ch

velafrica.ch



facebook.com/Velafrica1

