Your legacy for environmental and climate protection
Bequest for ADES

Do you want your legacy to have a lasting effect? Then you have come to the right place: by making a bequest to ADES you can ensure that future generations partake in your generosity. Our lean organisation structure ensures that your contribution is deployed where it is most needed.

Help us spread solar and energy saving cookers in Madagascar and thereby protect the endangered forest heritage of the country, contribute to improving the carbon footprint and create sustainable jobs with fair pay and good social benefits.

All that is required is a valid will. Without a will, your estate will be split in line with legal stipulations. And where there are no legal heirs, your estate will fall to the state.

An ADES-cooker saves circa three tonnes of CO₂ per year.

A ton of CO₂ approximately equals to a car drive of over 4,900 km or to the heating of a 100 sqm Minergie-Apartment in Switzerland over one year.

Each cooker preserves an area of over 3,000 sqm of forest on a yearly basis.

By the end of 2017, ADES has helped conserve 1,500 square km of forest – which represents an area roughly the size of the Luzern canton.

Over 900,000 people in Madagascar use wood saving cookers through ADES.

They save on energy costs and protect themselves from toxic smoke. Each year, an additional 200,000 people start using ADES-cookers.
A bequest allows you to leave instructions on whom you want to benefit. The bequest will be honoured before the separation of the inheritance; the freely available quota may not be circumvented.

In your bequest you may make out to ADES either a fixed sum or defined assets. ADES then receives the bequeathed amount in its entirety, as the association is exempt from both inheritance and gift tax.

You can provide for ADES as a charitable organisation in your will or bequest within the freely available quota.

1. The will: Tips for drawing up and storing

Anyone who is at least 18 years of age and of sound judgement can draw up a will. There are 3 types of will: the holographic, the public and the oral last will and testament.

The holographic will

The easiest option is the handwritten will. Generally speaking, it is sufficient as long as assets and family circumstances are straightforward. Compliance with the formal legal requirements is essential – e.g., the will must be fully handwritten and signed (first and last name); date and location must be indicated.

In order for the will to take effect when required, it must be stored in such manner that it can be found.

The will may be stored at home or entrusted to a public official like a notary public for safekeeping for a fee.
At home, it is useful to maintain a folder where important documents are kept for your surviving dependents.

It is highly recommended to inform a trusted person where the will is kept.

Prior wills must be revoked. Amendments must be clearly identifiable as such. Any amendment must be handwritten, dated and signed. Should you wish to revise your will, the following legal wording is suggested: “My prior provisions are revoked”.

A handwritten will need to include the following:

- **Title**: Will
- **Personal information of the testator or testatrix**: First name, family name, date of birth, residence, place of citizenship
- **Revocation of earlier provisions**
- **Testamentary arrangements**: you can choose to leave individual beneficiaries more or less than stipulated by inheritance law. However, the mandatory portion (= minimum share of the inheritance) for the lawful heirs must be observed.
- **You may also choose to bequeath individual assets (jewellery, art collections or financial assets – cash or property) to selected individuals or institutions and you may include specific requirements and conditions. You may also choose to use your wealth for a particular purpose by setting up a foundation.**
- **Executor, if preferred**
- **Date and place**
- **Signature**
The public will
You inform a public official or notary public of your wishes in the presence of two witnesses. The public official summarises your last will and testament into a document and is entrusted to keep the signed copy. The two witnesses need to sign the will to confirm that they have sighted the will and its provisions as well as to testify that you as testator or testatrix were mentally competent at the time of signing.

The oral will
The oral will only comes into effect when it is not possible to drawn up another form of will, for example in case of imminent danger to life or during wartime. You must declare your will in the presence of two witnesses. The witnesses must record your will immediately in writing stating place, year, month and date as well as mentioning the special circumstances under which the will was made. Finally, the witnesses must forward the signed will to the competent authority.

2. Suggested bequest wording
Suggested wording for including a gift to ADES are outlined below:

«I bequeath the sum of CHF 50,000 to ADES.»

«I bequeath 10 percent of the residue of my estate to ADES.»

«I bequeath my property on Waldstrasse in Grunstadt to ADES.»

3. ZEWO certification
Since 2013 ADES has been certified by the ZEWO foundation (the Swiss certification body for charitable organisations which collect donations). The foundation provides Swiss trustworthy charities with an independent quality seal. Swiss charities only receive the quality seal following an audit by the ZEWO foundation. Certified organisations are audited on a regular basis regarding the scrupulous handling of donation monies.

4. Sustainability
ADES is expected to be involved in Madagascar for an unlimited period of time and has built up a sustainable production and distribution structure for solar cookers employing local staff members. The ADES program is based on a collaborative partnership between North and South and is now inseparably linked to the Malagasy economy.

ADES employee in the production of clay combustion chambers for energy saving cookstoves.
5. Your opinions are important to us

Do you have questions about our work, the bequest or need help to draft your last will? We would be pleased to support you – and of course any conversation will be treated strictly confidentially.

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