



**Vision & mission**

## **Vision**

Emmaus Björkå's vision is to eradicate the root causes of suffering and need.

## **Mission (Constitution §2)**

Emmaus Björkå's goal is to create the resources necessary for development cooperation, aid and influence on public opinion, through collection campaigns and recycling. We cooperate with organizations whose goals are to alleviate suffering and/or who are committed to the struggle against oppression and poverty.

## **Core Values**

Emmaus Björkå has no affiliations to any political party or religious faith. We take a stand for- and base our activities upon:

- human rights
- solidarity
- democracy and popular rule
- anti-imperialism
- sustainable development
- human dignity

## **Commission**

Emmaus Björkå works within the following areas:

- international support and development cooperation
- influencing public opinion
- recycling and resource management
- collection campaigns
- rehabilitation; personal growth through work training

## Our core values in more detail

Emmaus Björkå takes a stand for- and bases its activities on the following principles:

**Human rights** – the Universal Declaration of Human Rights exists in order to ensure all people a basic measure of security. These rights must be independent of time and place, inviolable and encompass everyone. Emmaus Björkå supports groups of people whose human rights are not provided for.

**Solidarity** – solidarity is a mutual give-and-take for the benefit of all. Emmaus Björkå endeavours to create a society where everyone shares with others – from each according to ability, to each according to need. Emmaus Björkå bases all its cooperation and support on equality and solidarity.

**Democracy and popular rule** – democracy is the only right way of governing a country and of eradicating the causes of poverty and suffering. Democracy is based on participation, responsibility and respect for the opinions of others. Emmaus Björkå believes that democratic development is driven by the individual person's commitment and contributions.

**Anti-imperialism** – by way of imperialism, the powerful economies can take advantage of other's resources for their own profit. This unequal economic world order cannot be altered without political decisions to that effect. Therefore, Emmaus Björkå does not merely tackle humanitarian issues in order to alleviate suffering, but also works politically in order to eradicate the causes of that suffering.

**Sustainable development** – every generation has a duty to the next one to hand over a world in harmony. This responsibility lies with states, businesses, organizations and individuals. Emmaus Björkå works with recycling as one way to decrease resource waste and environmental effects on society.

**Human dignity** – humans are the most important entity on this earth. Each individual can take responsibility and grow, and all are equally valuable. Everyone can contribute to development. Emmaus Björkå takes a positive view of its surroundings and future. Commitment, multitude and transparency characterize our way of working.

**Unaffiliated to political parties or religious faiths** – Emmaus Björkå takes a political stand, but does not align itself with a party political line. Our political viewpoints derive from our vision, mission and core values. Our opinions emerge in dialogue with our members and trustees and is grounded in the experiences of our work.

### **The commission in more detail**

#### **International support and development cooperation**

Emmaus Björkå has international ties to organizations with similar core values to our own, and whose work has goals to which we can lend support. Our international work consists of:

- development cooperation
- aid
- emergency support after catastrophes

### **Influencing public opinion**

Emmaus Björkå seeks to influence public opinion in order to create support for the goals of our partner organizations, as well as for our own work and values. We direct our efforts at politicians and other powerbrokers, but also wish to be a part of everyday conversations between people. Our public opinion work consists of:

- own public opinion influencing
- support via other organizations
- work in networks

### **Recycling**

Emmaus Björkå uses society's abundance in order to support our non-profit work. We wish to be a significant force in decreasing resource waste and refuse bulk in society through:

- receiving clothes, shoes, gadgets and furniture for recycling
- operating second-hand shops in Southern and Western Sweden
- sending clothes for recycling abroad

### **Collection**

Emmaus Björkå's greatest resources are its members' voluntary work and public support. We also require financial resources. We create those through:

- operating second-hand sales
- collecting money and receiving gifts
- cooperating with external financiers

### **Rehabilitation, personal growth through work training**

We offer job-training positions for people who stand outside of the

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