

their families a better life.

earn income to give

in developing countries

HELPS ARTISANS

FAIR TRADE GIFT

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long-term, fair trading relationships.

and stories to our markets through

to earn income by bringing their products

in developing countries

We create opportunities for artisans

OUR MISSION

TEN THOUSAND
VILLAGES®



ABOUT THE ARTISANS

Sapia, formerly Piel Acida, was originally conceived in 1995 by Ana Piedrahita, an entrepreneur in Colombia's capital city of Bogota. Piedrahita had seen a box from Uruguay that was produced from dried orange peel, and recognized the potential for producing a wide array of unique and intriguing items from this material. She decided to pursue a business specializing in the design and production of the products. The organization was formally registered in 2000.



Sapia has incorporated fair trade principles in its operation, as it seeks to develop the artisan-based handicraft sector in Colombia. While Colombia has recently achieved a relatively good macroeconomic climate, people in the lower income brackets continue to face serious challenges. They have used their sales growth as an opportunity to reach out to other artisan groups in rural areas of the country.

ABOUT YOUR HANDCRAFTED TREASURE

Magic Forest Necklace 6301290

Celebrate the magic of the forest with tagua nut necklace. Tagua slice is dyed and laser engraved with a stylized tree. Also known as "vegetable ivory," tagua is produced by a palm-like tree in South America. The nuts fall to the ground when mature, thus harvesting does not damage the trees. With close, hard grain, tagua nut resembles fine ivory. Cultural tradition and forest preservation combine in the use of this renewable resource.



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