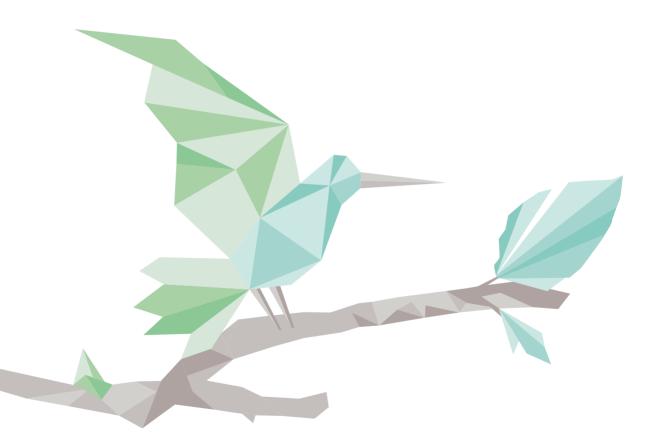
# Annual report **2017** SWISS PHILANTHROPY FOUNDATION

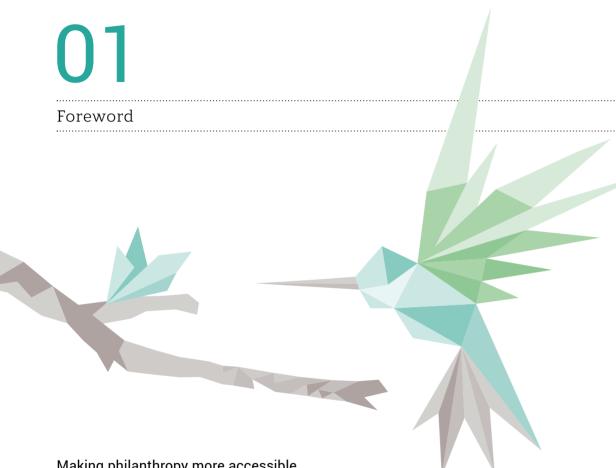


Times are changing and we now encourage philanthropists who wish to get more involved either on an individual basis or with their families, following and directly experiencing the impact of their grants.

Vision

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## Making philanthropy more accessible

Every day, we have the pleasure of meeting individuals and families who are keen to do something for a good cause, who aspire to make a lasting impact on society, or who are starting a new phase of life and want to share some of their wealth.

As donors gradually become more involved in philanthropy, they are often led to reflect deeply on what they are owed versus what they owe to others, and to explore the distinction between 'legal' and 'moral' property.

The notion of moral property can be summed up as: 'I retain for myself and my family what we need to live comfortably, even very comfortably. Anything beyond that I dedicate to that which enabled me to arrive at where I am today.' Each person finds their own answer to this question.

With that in mind, we see the role of the Foundation as facilitating the relationship between donors and beneficiaries. The two are inextricably linked - their collaboration is life, and it changes lives. We believe that our mission is also to make philanthropy more accessible for people who would like to give more, or to give more effectively, while striking the right balance of rigour and simplicity, ambition and humility, professionalism and emotion.

We are delighted to bring you our 2016-2017 Annual Report, in the knowledge that you can also stay upto-date about our activities through several other channels. Our website has been completely redesigned, we are active on social media, and we recently organised a series of events in French-speaking Switzerland to explain why philanthropy is relevant to each of us.

To inspire confidence in others we need to lead by example. The donors we have accompanied over the past 11 years have entrusted us with CHF 174 million in assets of which CHE 60 million have been allocated to projects around the world, something that we will continue to do the years to come. In 2016-2017, the Foundation's running costs totalled 4.1% of donations, while 8% of assets on average were distributed as grants each year.

We hope you will enjoy reading about the Foundation as much as we do running it, with the help and support of our stellar staff and deeply committed Board.



Etienne Eichenberger Chairman

**Didier Cherpite** Secretary

# The Foundation

Swiss Philanthropy Foundation was created in 2006 as a non-profit hosting foundation to provide philanthropists with a simple, cost-effective way to achieve their charitable objectives.

## Mission

Our mission is to facilitate access to philanthropy by creating and managing philanthropic funds, through lightweight, flexible, low-cost solutions that help philanthropists simplify their giving and increase its impact.

### Values

#### Independence

We are independent from any banking institution and public or private company.

#### Professionalism

Our Board Members serve on a voluntary basis and have extensive experience in running foundations and implementing philanthropic projects. Our highly skilled management team oversees the Foundation's operations and finances.

### Simplicity

Our solutions are quick and easy to set up and can be adapted to meet philanthropists' specific needs and requirements.

#### Governance

**21** personal philanthropic fund steering committees. Each of the 21 personal philanthropic funds hosted by the Foundation has a steering committee responsible for grant allocation decisions. Around 50 people are actively involved in these committees, which typically include the fund's founder, one or more people of his or her choice, and a member of the Foundation Board.

**1 Operations Team.** In charge of the everyday administration of the Foundation, our operations team ensures that our processes run smoothly and efficiently, with the help of our Board's expertise.

**1 Finance Committee.** This important governing body advises the Board on all matters relating to investment policy and asset management.

**1** Foundation Board. Comprised of seven members, the Board is responsible for the overall supervision of the Foundation. It meets at least twice a year. The Board has adopted a Good Governance Charter guaranteeing the transparency and professionalism of all relationships between Swiss Philanthropy Foundation and individuals or institutions.

The members of the Foundation's governing bodies are listed at the end of this report.

# Activities

In 2017, Swiss Philanthropy Foundation celebrated its 10th anniversary under the sign of growth and development, proof that the Foundation has established a solid footing since its creation, and gained both recognition and visibility.

## Growth in philanthropic funds

In the two years reviewed by this annual report, 2016 and 2017, the number of donors who chose to host funds with us, as well as the amounts contributed, increased markedly. This is testimony to the trust placed in the Foundation. Assets under management grew to CHF 109 million in 2016 (+5.4%) and CHF 113 million in 2017 (+4%), and 14 new funds were created. Through its hosted funds, the Foundation allocated more than CHF 8 million in grants each year to numerous projects around the world.

### Presence across Europe

As the only representative in Switzerland of the Transnational Giving Europe network, comprising 19 member countries, Swiss Philanthropy Foundation facilitated donations worth €1.2 million to Swiss non-profits in 2017, placing Switzerland third behind the UK and France. This remarkable achievement is a welcome sign of the recent growth in philanthropic giving, which the Foundation has played an active role in fostering.

### Philanthropy for everyone

Reinforcing its position as a key actor in the Swiss philanthropy sector, the Foundation organised a series of events in cities across French-speaking Switzerland called 'SPF on Tour' to raise awareness of the new forms of philanthropy among a wider audience. This initiative included panels and presentations by leading experts on a range of relevant issues, from collaborative philanthropy and the taxation of foundations to sustainable finance and cultural patronage. The Foundation's collaboration with the Verbier Music Festival was particularly successful.

Additionally, Swiss Philanthropy Foundation celebrated its 10th anniversary by honouring 10 outstanding initiatives that illustrate the diversity of philanthropy today. The awards ceremony was attended by over 300 guests, including donors, philanthropy professionals, academics, political figures and the media. The publication 'Great!' recounts these 10 journeys in philanthropy, in the hope that their example will inspire others.

### Reinforcing our human resources

The Foundation is justifiably proud of the increase in the number of hosted funds as well as the diversification of its activities. However, we also realise that to support our continued growth we need additional resources.

We therefore reinforced our operational team with the hiring of Marie Dolla as Project Manager. We also enhanced our communications and established relationships with new banking, legal and tax partners. Despite the increase in staff, the Foundation's operating costs remain at 4.1% of assets.

The governance of the Foundation is overseen by a Board comprised of the following members, all of whom serve on a voluntary basis: Etienne Eichenberger (Chairman), Xavier Isaac (Treasurer), Didier Cherpitel (Secretary), Maurice Machenbaum, François Marti, Laurent Douek and Bernard Vischer. The Finance Committee comprises two members of the Board as well as an external member, Anne-Cathrine Frogg.

The Foundation is pleased with the results achieved in 2016 and 2017 – and more broadly over its 11 first years of existence – and is determined to pursue its mission in line with our core values of independence, professionalism and simplicity.



# Key Figures



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funds

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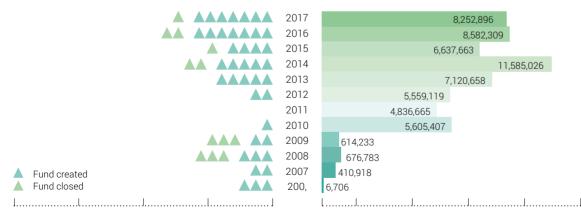
8 average lifespan of a fund



8 partner banks

#### Numbers of hosted funds created and closed

Annual donations (CHF)



## CHF at 31 December

	2014	2015	2016	2017
Assets under management	103.4 millions	103.2 millions	108.8 millions	113.1 millions
Donations per year	11.6 millions	6.6 millions	8.6 millions	8.3 millions
Total assets received	141.7 millions	148.2 millions	164.4 millions	174 millions
Total donations disbursed	36.4 millions	43.1 millions	51.6 millions	59.9 millions

Milestones			

### Celebrating the diversity of philanthropy

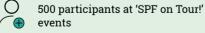
Swiss Philanthropy Foundation worked closely with local partners to organise four conferences in French-speaking Switzerland (in Sion, Lausanne, Geneva and Verbier) on the topic of governance, taxation, impact and collaboration. These 'SPF on Tour!' events offered audiences an opportunity to learn from experts in their respective fields, and take an active part in the discussion. The series concluded in September 2017 with the 'Great!' Gala, honouring 10 highly successful philanthropy initiatives that deserve to be better known.

Swiss Philanthropy Foundation also co-funded the 'Spring of Philanthropy' conference in Brussels on European Philanthropy Day.



'Ten faces of Philanthropy' publication 750 printed copies 2,500 downloads

2 videos on hosted funds viewed over 1,000 times



# 2





The Sounouyergon fund supports Reprieve (UK), which defends human rights around the world, and Training for Life (Tanzania), which supports disadvantaged youth in Tanzania by teaching leadership skills.

### The 40th hosted fund

In 2017, Swiss Philanthropy Foundation welcomed its 40th fund. Named 'Sounouyergon' after a Senegalese song, it was created by an expat couple who wanted to give in a more structured way.

The fund enables these two donors to tap into the Foundation for expert advice and administrative support, freeing them up to focus on their impact on projects they care about deeply, especially in the area of human rights and access to education.

Ailestones		

### Working together for greater impact

Donors who want to support a cause rather than a specific project can join forces with similar-minded philanthropists by donating to one of Swiss Philanthropy Foundation's three thematic funds: Education and Employment, Social Impact, and Health.

Pooling resources in this manner enables donors to multiply the impact of their giving. They benefit from professional management of their donations at a lower cost while gaining experience in philanthropy and learning more about their chosen theme.



3

9 new projects supported in Brazil, Colombia, Cambodia and India with total grants of CHF 2.7 million

> 27.4% on average of projects were co-funded by foundations and private donors

27.255 beneficiaries reached at end of 2017 by projects supported by the thematic funds, accounting for 59.4% of 45.846 final beneficiaries

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TMPACTFUL Empathy NDNESS SELFLESSNESS UNITING



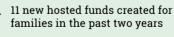
12 days of NewGen Council workshops in Geneva, London and New York

 $\cap$ 



90% of participants state they are

now 'better equipped to manage their philanthropy'



#### Multigenerational philanthropy

Swiss Philanthropy Foundation is working closely with a new generation of philanthropists (NewGen) via the 'NewGen Council', a series of peer-learning modules. Attended by young people aged 20 to 35 from 11 countries, these workshops aim to help participants develop their vision and define their role within their family's philanthropy.

This initiative is led jointly with WISE - philanthropy advisors and is supported by the FBN International network and its Polaris Initiative.

The Foundation also accompanies families who decide to set up a hosted fund as a way of uniting several generations around a cause, and instilling younger family members with a shared sense of ethics and values.

## Solutions: Personal Philanthropic Funds

# Three questions for Sabrina Grassi, Director of Operations, Swiss Philanthropy Foundation

# How many funds does the Foundation currently host?

At end of 2017, the Foundation manages 40 hosted funds with total assets of 174 million francs on a historical basis. Both numbers are growing steadily.

#### What are the advantages of a hosted fund?

It is much more cost-effective and less time-consuming to manage a hosted fund than a foundation. Donors can benefit from Swiss Philanthropy Foundation's expertise and administrative support, while retaining considerable autonomy to determine how their donations are allocated.

#### How involved are donors in managing the fund?

Donors who opt for this type of fund can get involved to the degree they want to. The fund's steering committee works with them to identify the projects they wish to support and decide how to allocate grants.

#### Illustration | the ella fund

The ella fund is a personal philanthropic fund hosted by Swiss Philanthropy Foundation, which aims to support women around the world through grants to well-established organisations and innovative new projects alike.

The fund was created in 2016 by Dr Erin Gainer, a renowned biologist and entrepreneur in women's health and endocrinology. One of the fund's first beneficiaries was Geneva-based EspeRare Foundation, which supports medical research, the development of innovative therapies, and improved treatment protocols for patients with rare diseases.

The ella fund also cofinanced another project with Swiss Philanthropy Foundation to provide access to treatment and rehabilitation for women fistula sufferers in Tanzania. Going forward, it plans to support the JNK inhibitor ERO02 project, which is developing treatments for rare paediatric cancers.

'The hosted fund solution enables me to support a cause I care about deeply in a more efficient way. I can rely on Swiss Philanthropy Foundation's professional organisation and expertise while remaining personally involved in the selected projects.'

Erin Gainer



- More than 50 people sit on steering committees of personal philanthropic funds
- > 36 personal philanthropic funds have been hosted by Swiss Philanthropy Foundation

# Solutions: Thematic Funds

# Three questions for Laurent Douek, Member of the Board of Swiss Philanthropy Foundation.

# What are the main characteristics of a thematic fund?

The thematic funds were created as a way of bringing together several donors who preferred to donate, sometimes anonymously, to an existing project rather than create their own fund.

Pooling resources enables donors to share costs and multiply the impact of the philanthropy.

#### How do you measure the funds' impact?

Swiss Philanthropy Foundation works hand in hand with WISE - philanthropy advisors, who specialise in high-impact philanthropy. Before supporting a project, we define key indicators based on best practices. Using these indicators, we are able to measure and compare each project's performance while taking into account their unique characteristics. Donors who contribute to the Education and Employment fund, for example, can easily measure the number of young people without job prospects who find stable employment, and thus determine the sustainable impact of their grants on their young beneficiaries on the medium term.

We ensure that the project continues to develop by monitoring it on a twice-yearly basis (providing the beneficiaries remain employed).

#### What are the advantages of a thematic fund?

The experience we have gained by funding projects in a variety of different contexts and countries helps us achieve a higher level of excellence and boost the impact for beneficiaries. In the case of our most recent partner foundation, cofinancing projects with Swiss Philanthropy Fund has turned out to be a great way for them to learn about best practices, through the high standards and requirements established by the Foundation. Pooling resources achieves a multiplier effect regardless of the amount of the donation.

## Illustration | Education & Employment Fund

More than 75 million young people around the world are out of work today, and over 200 million earn less than 2 dollars a day. This thematic fund enables private donors to identify and facilitate innovative, entrepreneurial models focusing on three objectives:

- 1. Vocational training for disadvantaged youth
- 2. Work placement and coaching for disadvantaged youth
- 3. Funding high social-impact vocational training models

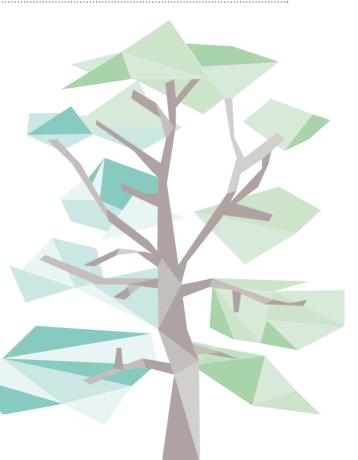
- > 10 organisations supported
- > 6 countries (Brazil, Cambodia, India, Vietnam, Tanzania, Uganda)
- > At end of 2017, CHF 2.8 million in grants promised, of which 33.7% cofinanced with foundations and individual donors
- > 13 organisations and 26 participants met in Hanoi in 2017 to share experiences and good practices



# Solutions: European Cross-border Donations Fund

The European Cross-border Donations Fund structures Transnational Giving Europe (TGE), the European network for transborder donations. It is a simple, effective solution for donors who want to support philanthropic organisations based elsewhere in Europe while claiming a charitable tax deduction in Switzerland. Partners in this network of 19 member countries are responsible for carrying out due diligence on beneficiary organisations and handling donations, relieving donors of doing the paperwork themselves.

Swiss Philanthropy Foundation joined TGE in 2008. The Foundation's Board supports cross-border philanthropy while ensuring compliance with Swiss law and tax regulations, as well as with the principles of the Foundation's Good Governance Charter.



### Illustration | Transnational Giving Europe (TGE)

Established in 1999, Transnational Giving Europe (TGE) comprises 19 member countries at end of 2017: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, France, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland and the United Kingdom. TGE held its annual meeting in Bulgaria in 2016 and in Italy the following year.

In 2017, 4,844 donations totalling €10.5 million were made across the 19 member countries, an increase of 66% year on year.

Education is the number one theme of donations made through TGE.

## What donors say

'As an expat living in Switzerland, I wanted to make tax-deductible donations to projects in Germany. The team at Swiss Philanthropy Foundation convinced me to donate through Transnational Giving Europe. They carried out the necessary due diligence with a high level of integrity, which I sincerely hope they will continue to uphold in the future.'

Kai-Uwe Ricke

'For me, TGE is an efficient way of donating to my old school and encouraging other alumni in Switzerland to do the same.'

Seong Jiun Chen

#### On 31 December 2017

#### **Board Members**

Etienne Eichenberger, Chairman Xavier Isaac, Treasurer Didier Cherpitel, Secretary Maurice Machenbaum François Marti Laurent Douek Bernard Vischer

#### **Finance Committee Members**

Xavier Isaac Didier Cherpitel Anne-Cathrine Frogg

#### **Operations Team**

Sabrina Grassi, Director of Operations Marie Dolla, Project Manager Ameidie Terumalai, Intern

#### Auditors

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA

#### Author Brigitte Sion

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Creating and Managing Philanthropic Funds

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