

By creating, hosting and managing philanthropic funds, Swiss Philanthropy Foundation enables philanthropists to realise their long-term commitments.

Mission

Independence
Professionalism
Responsibility
Simplicity

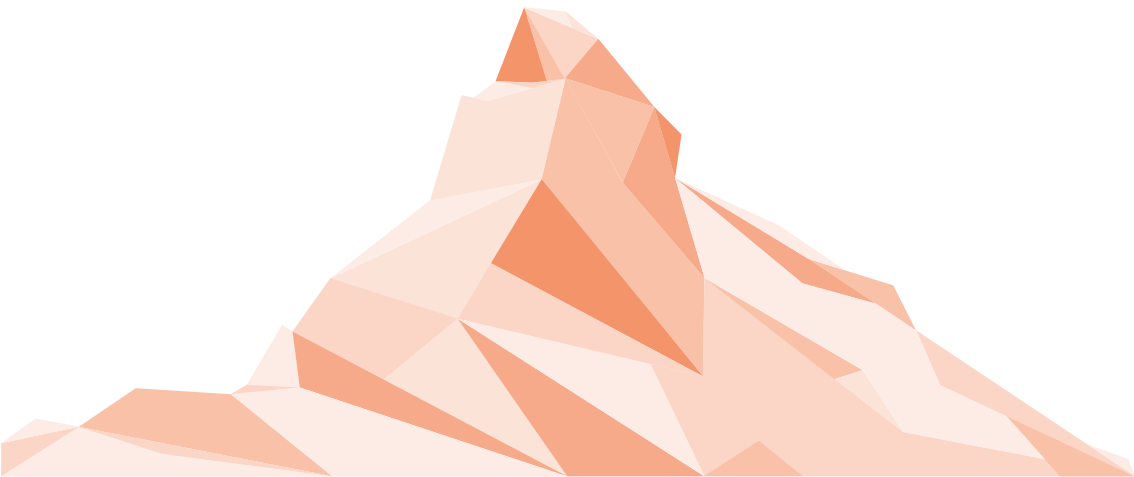
Values

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Foreword



As this biannual report goes to press, the world is still in the grip of the COVID-19 crisis, and slowly coming to terms with what a 'new normal' might look like. The remarkable outpouring of solidarity and generosity we witnessed over the past months echoes the mission that has guided Swiss Philanthropy Foundation from the very start. The present report offers an in-depth look at the Foundation's activities in 2018 and 2019.

Philanthropy rhymes with personal commitment

Whether motivated by a sense of responsibility in the face of suffering, the desire to support a favourite cause, a significant life event, or a vision for a better world, philanthropy is first and foremost a personal journey – one that deserves to be guided and supported by a well-organised and structured process. With more than 56 hosted funds and 78 individuals

active in their governing bodies (end of 2019), Swiss Philanthropy Foundation is uniquely positioned to guide donors on that journey. In the second part of this report, we share snapshots of six individuals who exemplify the spirit of philanthropy and collaboration that has informed our work over the past two years.

Philanthropy rhymes with collaboration

Philanthropists make a personal commitment to advance the common good. Each project is a relationship first, before becoming a true collaboration. The support donors provide, complemented by rigorous monitoring, improves the chances that the project will have a real impact. This report presents examples of collaborations and partnerships within the Foundation. Also, for the first time, we include a list of grant recipients in Switzerland over the past two years, as well as a breakdown of grants by region worldwide.

Philanthropy rhymes with responsibility

In 2019, the Board adopted 'responsibility' as one of the Foundation's central values. It is our responsibility to ensure we meet three criteria: all projects supported by the Foundation are in the public interest; they achieve a high level of quality and impact in meeting beneficiaries' needs; and the Foundation's assets are invested primarily according to the principles of sustainable finance. 'Independence' and 'responsibility' describe how we make decisions; 'simplicity'

and 'professionalism' guide us in implementing them. Additionally, we grew our team in order to deliver the experience, skills and service you deserve.

The final section of the report presents the Foundation's financial statement for 2018–2019. To date, the Foundation has received cumulative donations of CHF 199 million and disbursed slightly over CHF 91 million around the globe. Grant-making doubled between 2017 and 2019, exceeding CHF 17 million in the latter year. Lastly, over the past three years, the portion of the Foundation's total assets disbursed as grants averaged 16.3%, demonstrating our donors' commitment to give here and now.

We hope you will enjoy discovering, or rediscovering, the work of the Foundation, which continues to be driven with unflagging enthusiasm by a dynamic team and a committed Board. We take this opportunity to sincerely thank you for your faithful and generous support, and wish you a good reading.

Etienne Eichenberger
Chairman

Didier Cherpitel
Secretary

02

Activity report

A look back at the past 24 months with Sabrina Grassi, Director General of Swiss Philanthropy Foundation

What did the Foundation achieve in 2018 and 2019?

The past two years confirmed the relevance of our independent hosting foundation model and its effectiveness in helping philanthropists to achieve their goals, by accessing our expertise while delegating many tasks to us. We welcomed 16 new hosted funds – nine in 2018 and seven in 2019 – bringing the total hosted funds to more than 50, a new milestone. We reached another milestone when we passed the CHF 200 million mark in cumulative assets since our founding. This reflects a clear trend: increasingly, donors view philanthropy as a way of achieving their goals, but don't feel the need to set up a foundation of their own.



“ We welcomed 16 new funds over this period – nine in 2018 and seven in 2019 – bringing the total hosted funds to more than 50, a new milestone. ”

What is special about some of these more recent hosted funds?

The creation of our 50th hosted fund was a particularly symbolic moment for us. It was launched by Oak Foundation, a highly respected Geneva-based organisation. We were touched by this mark of trust from such a prestigious institution. Other hosted funds created in the past two years reflect new aspirations, as illustrated by the significant growth in collaborative funds, set up by a group of individuals working together towards a common cause rather than by an individual or a family. Also noteworthy are several funds established during the donor's lifetime, which become active only after his or her death.

Have you made any changes to the way you operate?

We have reinforced our commitment to sustainable finance. For a long time, we viewed this as an ideal that would be hard to put into practice. As a result, like many other foundations, we approached sustainable finance separately from our philanthropic activities. However, we reached a turning point in 2018 that made it possible for us to reconcile the two, and now 70% of our assets are invested according to ESG principles. We also participated in a first public-private partnership with the non-profit Association 1951 and the Canton of Vaud's Office for Integration, supporting career training and labour force integration of migrants.

How has SPF positioned itself in the philanthropy universe?

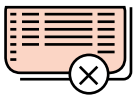
We continue to invest in education and training, in collaboration with philanthropy research centres at the Universities of Basel and Geneva. We are an active member of the Transnational Giving Europe network, which we chaired in 2018. We took this opportunity to organise a conference bringing together key European institutions, including the Fondation de France, King Baudouin Foundation (Belgium), Fondation de Luxembourg and Charities Aid Foundation (United Kingdom).

How are you managing your growth?

We strengthened our governing bodies in 2018 and 2019 by expanding the Foundation Board from seven to nine members. Anne-Cathrine Frogg and Elisabeth Tripod-Fatio joined the board alongside Etienne Eichenberger (Chairman), Xavier Isaac (Treasurer), Didier Cherpitel (Secretary), Maurice Machenbaum, François Marti, Laurent Douek and Bernard Vischer. The finance committee grew from two to three members, plus one external member. The management team hired one new employee. And 78 individuals were active on the steering committee of hosted funds at end of 2019.

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Key figures



56
funds (2019)



8
years – average
lifespan of a fund

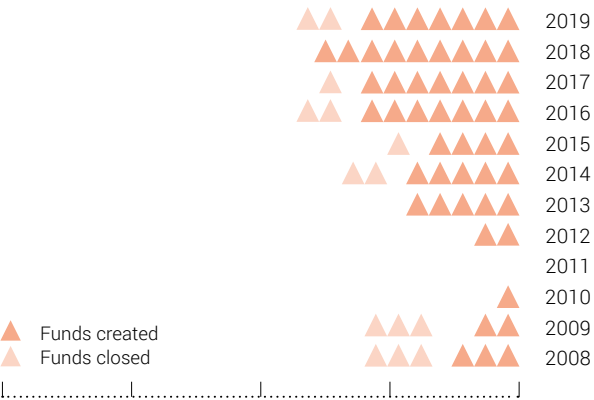


170
donors (2019)

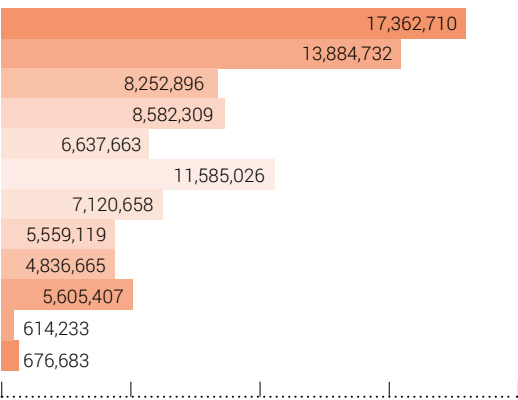


70%
of assets managed according
to ESG criteria (2019)

Number of hosted funds created/closed



Grants disbursed annually (CHF)



Assets, grants and donations at 31 December (million CHF)

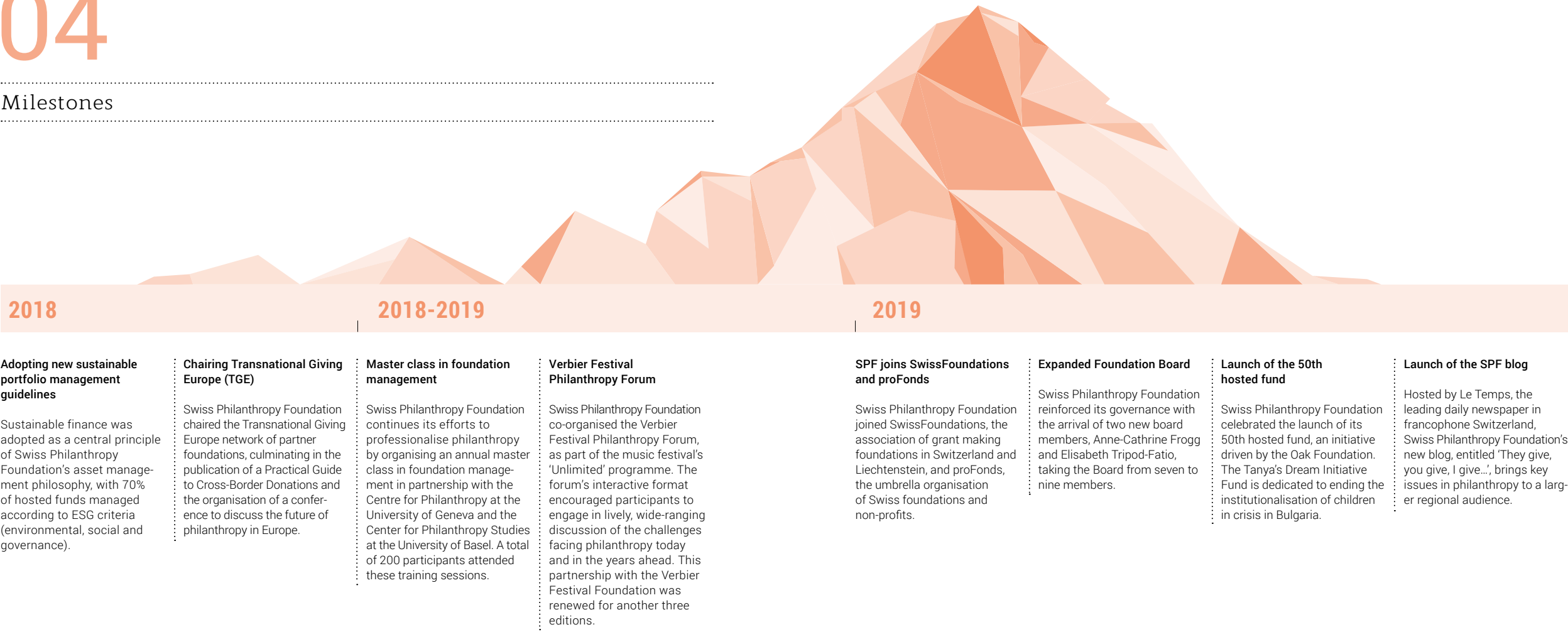
	2016	2017	2018	2019
Assets under management	109.1 million	113.5 million	100.6 million	106.4 million
Grants disbursed, per year	8.6 million	8.2 million	13.9 million	17.3 million
Donations received, cumulative	164.4 million	174 million	184 million	199 million
Grants disbursed, cumulative	51.6 million	59.9 million	73.8 million	91.1 million

Human resources at 31 December 2019

Management team and intern: **4**
Fund Steering Committee members: **78**
Board & Financial Committee members: **9 + 1**

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Milestones



05

Spotlight on the Foundation: collaborations

Philanthropy is often a personal journey first, a more organised project second. The impulse to give is fundamentally other-directed. Step by step, the idea becomes a reality. Sometimes, it evolves into collaborative initiatives of various shapes and types.

Marie Dolla, project manager at SPF, explains how these collaborations have evolved.

Can you give us some examples of recent collaborations?

We have facilitated collaborations between individuals, as well as between institutions. A good example is a fund hosted by SPF that supports an international coalition of NGOs working on banning lethal autonomous weapons, also known as killer robots. Thanks to the financial support of this group of donors, an international campaign targeting both the general public and governments has been rolled out to raise awareness of the need for an international treaty. Foundations, too, can use collaborative funds to join forces and multiply their impact. A good example is the Partners for a New Economy Fund created by four foundations to promote the

emergence of an economic system that generates positive environmental and social outcomes.

Swiss Philanthropy Foundation also actively promotes philanthropy. Can you give us some examples?

One of the most important things we do is to partner with other public-interest institutions to promote philanthropy. In Switzerland, we co-organise an annual master class in foundation management with the Center for Philanthropy Studies at the University of Basel and the Centre for Philanthropy at the University of Geneva. Now in its eighth year, the course is highly sought after for the combination of academic rigour and practical, hands-on approach it offers.

At the European level, SPF is the Swiss representative of Transnational Giving Europe, a European network that facilitates cross-border giving. Our 20 partners across the continent help ensure the proper use of donations and make it easier to give abroad. The network is used both by Swiss residents to donate to organisations based in the 21 participating states and by people living in these countries to donate to organisations in Switzerland.

06

Focus on our partners

Philanthropy Forum

'The Verbier Festival and the Swiss Philanthropy Foundation share many values, including a belief in the importance of listening, sharing and giving. Our partnership evolved very organically into the Verbier Festival Philanthropy Forum, a weekend of discussions, debates and workshops on the theme of philanthropy. Among others, we were honoured to welcome Human Rights Watch executive director Kenneth Roth as a speaker in 2019.

'We are delighted to be working with Swiss Philanthropy Foundation on this event. For SPF, it's an opportunity to reach new audiences who might be interested in what they have to offer. For the Verbier Festival, it's an occasion to complement its musical and artistic programme with moments of reflection and discussion.'

Partnership with SPF

- Co-organisers of the Verbier Festival Philanthropy Forum since 2017
- More than 200 participants in each edition

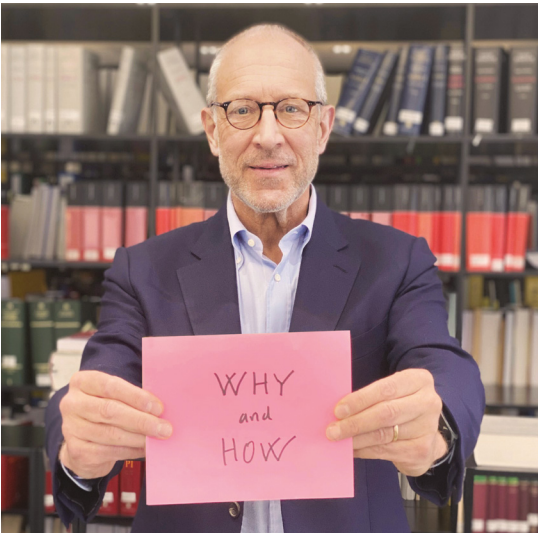


Câline Yamakawa

Head of Operations
Verbier Festival Foundation

06

Focus on our partners



Prof. Henry Peter
Director
Centre for Philanthropy,
University of Geneva

Where theory meets practice

'I spent 30 years teaching corporate law at university. That got me interested in the issue of corporate governance, more particularly what its objectives are. Should a company's primary objective be to maximise its profit, or should it also work towards the common good? To what extent? Over what time horizon? Ultimately, the university asked me to set up and lead a multidisciplinary research centre for the study of philanthropy.

'The study of philanthropy has an important practical element. I got in touch with Swiss Philanthropy Foundation and suggested that we complement the centre's more theoretical approach with their on-the-ground experience. Our collaboration has been very fruitful: we have been able to make valuable new contacts in the industry, learn from each other and test the validity of our models.'

Partnership with SPF

- Co-organisers of the Master Class with CEPS
- 50 participants in 2018–2019

Giving together to multiply our impact

'We are one of four foundations who came together to create Partners for a New Economy, with the aim of facilitating the emergence of an economic system that is good for people and good for the planet. Our approach consists in supporting new models we think have the potential to change our behaviour. For example, we help central banks to "green" their practices, and encourage companies to define objectives that go beyond maximising profit.

'We could have designated one of the four foundations as the manager of the project. But that would have created an imbalance in the partnership. We were delighted to delegate this task to Swiss Philanthropy Foundation, as they offered all the services we needed.'

Partnership with SPF

- Hosted fund created jointly by four foundations (P4NE.org), supporting 30+ organisations
- All strategy and funding decisions coordinated amongst the four foundations



Lynda Mansson
Director
MAVA Foundation
Member of the Steering Committee
Partners for a New Economy Fund

06

Focus on our partners



Rachel Boubet

Co-director
Agro Companies International SA
Member of the Steering Committee
Agro Companies for Africa Fund

Simplifying the management of our philanthropy

'My father built a successful business trading grain in Africa, and wanted to give something back to a continent that had given him so much. When my husband and I joined the company, he asked us to bring this vision to life. That is what we are doing today through the Agro Companies for Africa Fund. We support a number of African non-profits, such as the NGO Terre Verte, which is fighting desertification in Burkina Faso.

'Swiss Philanthropy Foundation provides hosted funds like ours with a unique legal structure and administrative support. This has many advantages: it keeps our running costs low, and by delegating many of the less rewarding aspects of managing the fund to SPF, we get to focus on the pleasure of giving.'

Partnership with SPF

- Creation of the Agro-Companies For Africa Fund
- Focus on the environment, social development, health and education

Give with confidence

'Our law office works with many wealthy families who are keen to set aside a portion of their assets for philanthropy. But becoming a philanthropist doesn't happen overnight – it's a real profession. Giving money in an amateurish way can do more harm than good.

'Swiss Philanthropy Foundation is an invaluable resource for people who want to do more than write a check to an established organisation, but don't want to go to the trouble of creating their own foundation. Swiss Philanthropy Foundation, thanks to its expertise and network, enables them to reach their objectives with total confidence. It also offers a fiscal advantage: in Geneva, donations to third parties are taxed at a top rate of 54.6%, whereas donations to foundations incur no tax, and are even tax-deductible.'

Partnership with SPF

- Advise clients on setting up a foundation
- Advise clients on the choice of a hosted fund or a foundation



Frédéric Vuilleumier

Lawyer, certified tax expert
Oberson Abels SA

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Focus on our partners



Stephan Steiner
President
Association 1951

Local impact and sustainability

‘The mission of Association 1951 is to integrate refugees into the labour force through skill-building and increased independence. Until recently the association was entirely funded by public grants. To support its current growth, however, we need to identify new sources of funding, much of which is likely to come from private donors.

‘Swiss Philanthropy Foundation has been a massive help in this regard. They have supported us in several ways, from fundraising to helping us acquire new tools to manage our strategy, both of which are essential at a time when we are looking to expand our activities. In addition to our everyday work on behalf of refugees, we are compiling a study on good practices for use by other organisations working with refugees.’

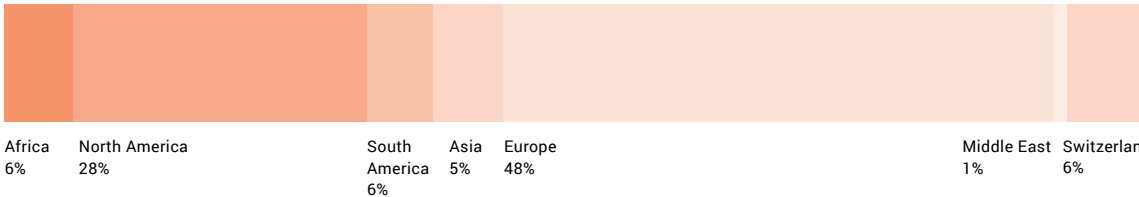
Collaboration avec SPF

- 3-year grant from the Education & Employment thematic fund
- 153 refugees integrated into the labour force

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Grants 2018–2019

Grants by region, 2018–2019



Swiss organisations supported by Swiss Philanthropy Foundation hosted funds

Association 1951
Council on Economic Policies
EspeRare Foundation
Fondation Au Coeur des Grottes
Geneva Foundation for Medical Education and Research
International Committee of the Red Cross
Lycée Technique de Bienne
Médecins du Monde Suisse
SOS Femmes
Swiss Aid for Mother and Child (SAMC)
The Womanity Foundation
Women in Data Science

Swiss organisations supported by European donors through Transnational Giving Europe

100 Lives Foundation
ADED Suisse
Aiducation International
Association François Xavier Bagnoud – FXB International
Association J’aime ma Planète
Audrey Jacobs Foundation
Blackswan Foundation
CERN & Society Foundation
Child’s Dream Association
Children in the Cloud Foundation
ClimbAID
European Biostasis Foundation
Eyes Open Stiftung
Fondation Aide aux Enfants Foyers ‘Bambi’
Fondation pour la Garde Suisse
Pontificale au Vatican

Foundation for Hand Surgery
Hirondelle Foundation – Media for Peace and Human Dignity
Institut Suisse des Sciences noétiques
International Bridges to Justice
Interpeace
Kinderhilfswerk NOAH
Little Dreams Foundation
Solid International
The Dariu Foundation
The Friends Association of the Verbier Festival
The Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria
The Red Pencil International
Traumfänger Stiftung
United Nations Watch
Verbier Festival Foundation
WPC Foundation (World Policy Conference)

08

Three solutions for worry-free giving

Personal Philanthropic Funds

A personal philanthropic fund is a smart alternative to a foundation, enabling donors to focus their energy on supporting their favourite cause, without the burden of managing an organisation. Structured as an independent entity within the Swiss Philanthropy Foundation, it can be set up with an initial capital donation or funded through an annual contribution. Each fund has its own steering committee, tasked with making recommendations on grant allocation, which are then approved by the Foundation.

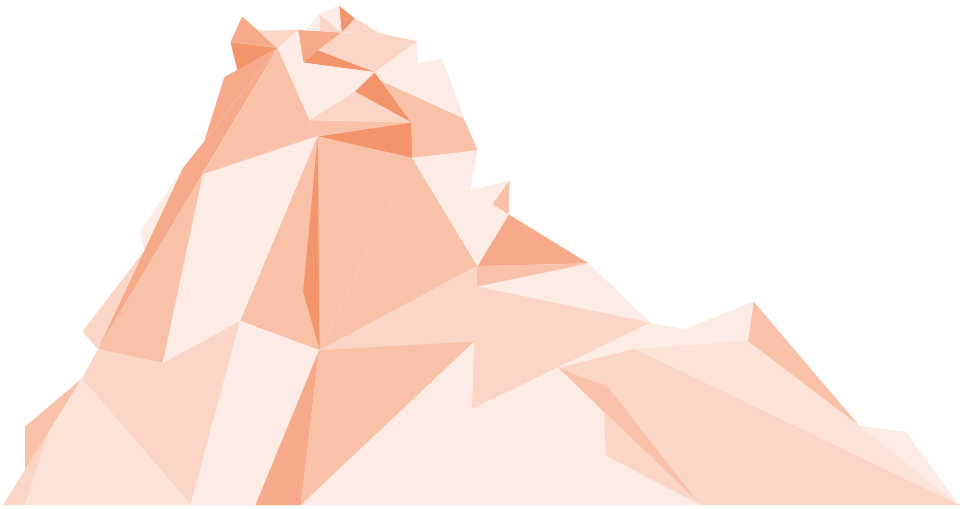
Thematic Philanthropic Funds

Thematic funds are jointly funded by several donors and managed by the Board of Swiss Philanthropy Foundation. These donors typically want to support an existing philanthropic project rather than develop their own. Moreover, by pooling their financial resources, they can increase the impact of their philanthropy. The Board selects grantees according to a rigorous process. Each of Swiss Philanthropy Foundation's five funds focuses on a specific theme:

access to education and employment for youth, health, social impact, and promoting philanthropy.

European Cross-Border Donations Fund

The European Cross-Border Donations Fund is a simple, effective way for donors to support non-profit organisations across Europe, while benefiting from a charitable tax deduction in Switzerland. With partners in 21 member countries, Transnational Giving Europe (TGE) promotes philanthropic giving by handling all administrative tasks on behalf of donors, including due diligence on recipients and the processing of donations.



What is a hosting foundation?

A hosting foundation is an independent, public-interest foundation that assists donors who are keen to achieve a particular charitable objective, but do not want to set up their own foundation. It does so by hosting and administering philanthropic funds on their behalf.

Opting for a hosted fund has many advantages. Donors gain access to an established, professionally managed structure and an experienced team, freeing them up to focus on their charitable giving without the fuss of managing an organisation. The Foundation ensures that the fund is well governed, and carries out all necessary due diligence on grantees. This solution also saves on

administrative costs, and helps donors by putting them in touch with outside partners when needed, to increase the impact of their giving, for example. It ensures they achieve their philanthropic objectives safely, more effectively and at lower cost.

The charitable purpose of the Foundation is broadly defined, enabling it to host funds pursuing a range of different objectives, provided they are in the public interest. In other words, it facilitates access to philanthropy.

At 31 December 2019

Foundation Board

Etienne Eichenberger, Chairman
Xavier Isaac, Treasurer
Didier Cherpitel, Secretary
Laurent Douek
Anne-Cathrine Frogg
Maurice Machenbaum
François Marti
Elisabeth Tripod-Fatio
Bernard Vischer

Finance Committee

Xavier Isaac, Chairman
Didier Cherpitel
Anne-Cathrine Frogg

Operations team

Sabrina Grassi, Director General
Marie Dolla, Project Manager
Sonia Perrenoud, Project Manager

Interns

Ameidie Terumalai (2017–2018)
Jérémie Gilliéron (2018–2019)
Nicolas Haralabopoulos (2019)

Auditor

PricewaterhouseCoopers SA

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Copywriter Etienne Dubuis

Translator Viviane Lowe

Graphic designer Melissa Luchetti

Printer Coprint, Genève

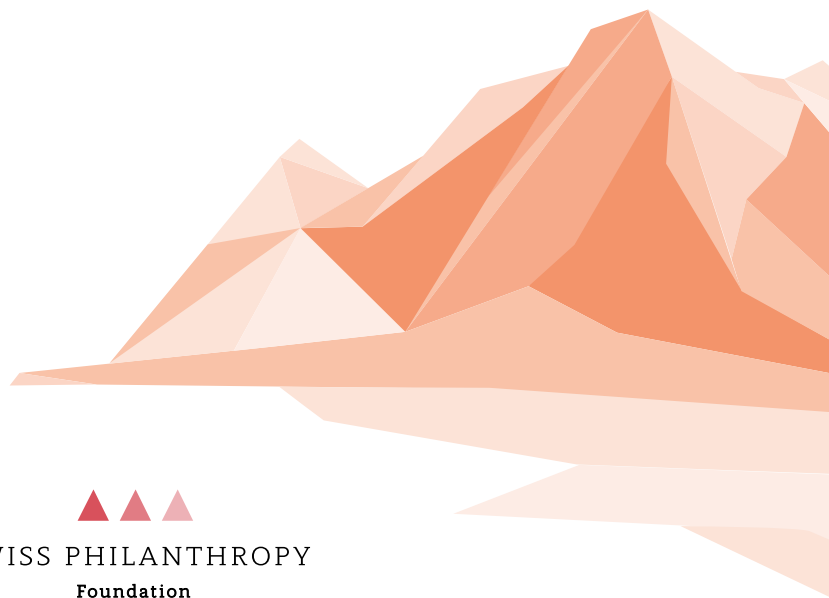
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Printed on FSC-certified recycled paper
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