

Overview

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Condensed Report 2024



SWISS PHILANTHROPY
Foundation

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Creating and Managing Philanthropic Funds
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In a few words

Amid the turbulence and disruption all around us, it can be difficult to decide how to contribute to building a better world, whether by giving one's time or one's money. In early 2024, the Foundation explored these questions at a conference focusing on innovative approaches to a world in crisis, attended by 300 participants. The experience of the Foundation attests to the fact that solutions exist, and that they deserve to be explored, no matter how daring or overlooked they may seem.

Illustrating our commitment to this approach, this year we created a Rapid Response Fund dedicated to providing rapid financial support to local organizations working directly with the populations most affected by humanitarian emergencies, based on a co-financing model. This fund was activated in late 2024 in response to the crisis in Lebanon. Moreover, we renewed funding for our Demaimpact initiative, which empowers a group of ten young people from diverse backgrounds to make key funding decisions. This fund aims to explore the ways in which beneficiaries are best equipped to identify their own needs and to select projects that meet them in a relevant and effective manner.

In August 2024, the Foundation achieved a new landmark, welcoming its hundredth hosted fund. Since it was established 18 years ago, the Foundation has received a total of 432 million francs in donations, three-quarters of which

have been distributed in grants to projects in Switzerland and abroad. We are also proud to have expanded our reach nationally: three out of five donors now come from beyond Geneva. To us, this is proof that our services meet the needs of philanthropists across Switzerland.

This year, we strengthened our operations by welcoming two new colleagues to the team. Two new members were appointed to the Foundation Board to replace planned departures. Our executive director, Sabrina Grassi, stepped down to pursue new opportunities after nine years with us. We are deeply grateful to Sabrina for her dedication and thank the entire Swiss Philanthropy Foundation team for their outstanding work.

Lastly, we extend our heartfelt thanks to you for your long-standing support for, or recent interest in, the Foundation. We hope you will enjoy reading this brief overview of our activities and look forward to meeting you soon at our offices on Place Cornavin in Geneva.



Etienne Eichenberger
President



Bernard Vischer
Vice-President

Key figures 2024



432 million

francs hosted since the creation of Swiss Philanthropy Foundation, of which 71.2% have been distributed as grants



39.4 million

francs in grants distributed, 36 million francs on average annually over the past 3 years



249

donors to hosted funds and via the Transnational Giving Europe network



509

non-profit and charitable organisations supported in Switzerland and abroad



1.5 million

operating expenses



Visit our website

Hosted funds



106

hosted funds created

Through 106 hosted funds created since 2006, the Foundation empowers philanthropy:

- for individuals, couples and families;
- for legacy donors;
- for companies;
- for foundations in Switzerland and abroad, either alone or in collaboration with like-minded organizations.

Lastly, our **six thematic funds** focusing on Health, Education and Employment, Social Impact, the Environment, Peace, and Promotion of Philanthropy offer further options for collaborative funding.



16

new funds in 2024

In 2024, the Foundation created 16 new funds, including eight donor-advised funds, one testamentary fund, six funds for foundations, and one fund resulting from a merger. In addition to establishing a **new Peace thematic fund**, the Foundation also officially activated its Footprint thematic fund (focusing on the environment), by making its first allocation to a project focusing on the protection of native farm animal breeds in Switzerland.

View testimonials from our donors



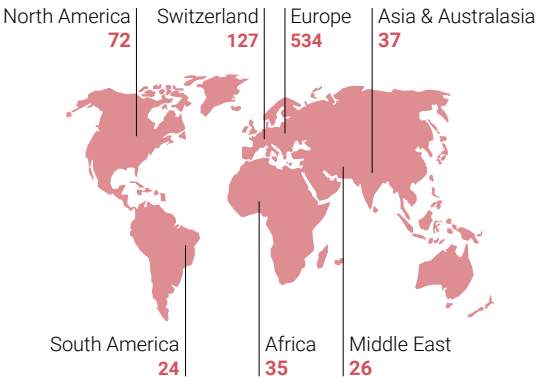
Distribution of grants



855

grants in 8 focus areas

- 243 Social inclusion
- 232 Education and training
- 160 Environment and sustainability
- 65 Arts and culture
- 54 International cooperation
- 43 Peace
- 40 Health and research
- 18 Promotion of philanthropy



Governance and team

The Foundation is governed by a Board whose members serve on a volunteer basis. A team of nine employees runs its day-to-day operations.

Hosted funds are overseen by steering committees whose members are also volunteers. Several funds also employ dedicated staff to manage their activities.

8 volunteer members

of the Foundation Board

9 team members

including one Young Talent Program participant

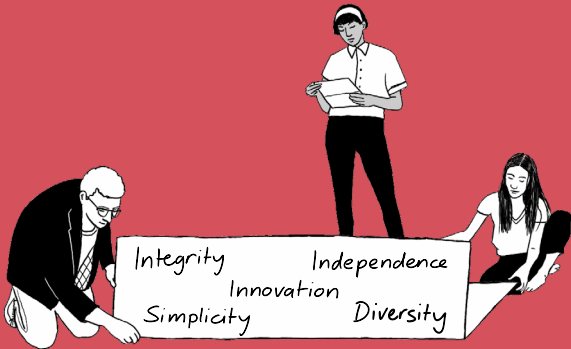
- 52.6% women
- 47.4% men
- 8 nationalities
- 10 languages spoken
- 54 years difference between the oldest and youngest team member

14 employees

of hosted funds

140 volunteer members

of fund steering committees



Solutions for a world in crisis

In response to the challenges of a fast-changing world, in which multiple crises make philanthropic giving ever more complex, emerging needs require tangible and accessible solutions. In this context, on 15 April 2024, Swiss Philanthropy Foundation organized a **conference on the topic of “Philanthropy: Inspiring Solutions for a World in Crisis”**. Attended by 300 participants, the conference created a space for dialogue and experience-sharing amongst philanthropists, foundations, and project leaders.

The aim of the conference was to highlight innovative, accessible and high-impact approaches through four panel discussions focusing on youth participation,

co-financing, use of capital, and systemic change. These sessions yielded many inspiring testimonials on how to **reinforce synergies to achieve greater social impact**.

View videos
of the conference



Our solutions in focus

Rapid Response Fund

Building on a first successful experience in 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic, in 2024 the Foundation Board decided to create a Rapide Response Fund based on a co-financing model. The fund aims to ensure that **donations achieve quick and tangible impact**. The funds raised are allocated to known and carefully vetted local organizations to enable them to meet urgent needs. The Foundation activated this fund for the first time in late 2024 in response to the humanitarian crisis in Lebanon.

Demaimpact.ch

The Demaimpact initiative empowers a group of 10 young people between the ages of 18 and 30, from diverse backgrounds, **to direct the grant-making process** in support of organizations working for children and youth in French-speaking Switzerland. Now in its third year, the initiative is based on the principle that beneficiaries have the greatest insight into their own needs and are thus often best placed to identify projects that meet them.

Assets

The mission of the Foundation is to promote philanthropy. Of the 432 million francs in donations received by the Foundation from 2006 to 2024, 71.2% have already been distributed to non-profit organizations and public-interest projects in the form of grants. At the end of 2024, the Foundation's assets totalled **110 million francs**, of which **94% are earmarked for specific projects**.

The Foundation is committed to sustainable finance as laid out in its Financial Management Charter. The Foundation is a member of Swiss Sustainable Finance and Sustainable Finance Geneva and encourages its hosted funds to follow a sustainable investment approach. **As of the end of 2024, 62% of hosted funds are invested**, of which **82% according to ESG criteria**.

Communication

The Foundation has been quoted in or authored the following articles and publications:

Philanthropie par les jeunes pour les jeunes et Les crises et les autres raisons pour lesquelles nous faisons des dons

Rapport sur les fondations en Suisse 2024
& The Philanthropist (June 2024)

Philanthropy: A Strong and Evolving Sector
Citywealth (November 2024)

Entretien sur la facilitation des dons des Suisses de l'étranger
Swiss Embassy in France Newsletter
(December 2024)



5 articles
published on our blog



9,600
visitors and 36,000 page views
on our website



7,752
subscribers on LinkedIn

The Foundation is affiliated with the following networks:





We offer personalized support to bring
philanthropic initiatives to life and help
build a better world.

Swiss Philanthropy Foundation
Place de Cornavin 2 – case postale 2097
CH-1211 Genève 1

www.swissphilanthropy.ch