

*f o n d a t i o n*  
**BOTNAR**




# Performance Report

2017

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# 1. Portrait: Fondation Botnar

## Overview

Fondation Botnar is a philanthropic foundation founded in Basel in 2003 to continue the philanthropic work of the Botnar family.

Fondation Botnar's vision is a world where every child's right to good health, balanced nutrition and quality education is met, enabling them to lead lives of dignity and make positive contributions to society. To advance this vision, Fondation Botnar's goal is to sustainably support children's development and wellbeing, especially in the fields of health, nutrition and education, in urban environments.

As a matter of principle, Fondation Botnar is committed to aiding children from birth up until 18 years. Special attention, however, is focused on young people from around 10 to 14 years as this period is considered critical in child development. Additionally, the foundation invests in skills and knowledge-building for youth and young adults to support their further academic studies or help them implement entrepreneurial ideas.

Fondation Botnar is a member of SwissFoundations, the association of grant-making foundations in Switzerland, and is committed to best practice governance in line with the principles and recommendations of the Swiss Foundation Code. Accounting follows the guidelines of Swiss GAAP FER 21 for charitable, social non-profit organisations. The financial statements of the foundation present a true and fair view of the foundation's assets, financial position and earnings. The appointed statutory auditor is: Wirtschafts-Treuhand AG, Arnold Böcklin-Strasse 25, 4051 Basel, Switzerland. The foundation's activities are supervised by the Supervisory Authority for Foundations, Swiss Federal Department of Home Affairs, Bern, Switzerland.

## Foundation Board

Foundation Botnar is governed by its Board, comprised as follows:

| Foundation Board                     | Function  | Office Term | Signature Type |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|-------------|----------------|
| Dr. Peter Lenz, Binningen            | President | 2015 - 2018 | JS             |
| Dr. Otto Bruderer, Uitikon-Waldegg   | Member    | 2015 - 2018 | JS             |
| Dr. Martin Lenz, Basel               | Member    | 2015 - 2018 | JS             |
| Elsbeth Müller, Zug                  | Member    | 2015 - 2018 | JS             |
| Camil Alexandru Perian, Bucharest RO | Member    | 2015 - 2017 | JS             |
| Prof. Dr. Joachim Seelig, Riehen     | Member    | 2015 - 2018 | JS             |

Camil Perian departed the Foundation Board at 31 December 2017. The successor will be elected at the meeting of 24 April 2018.

## Organisation

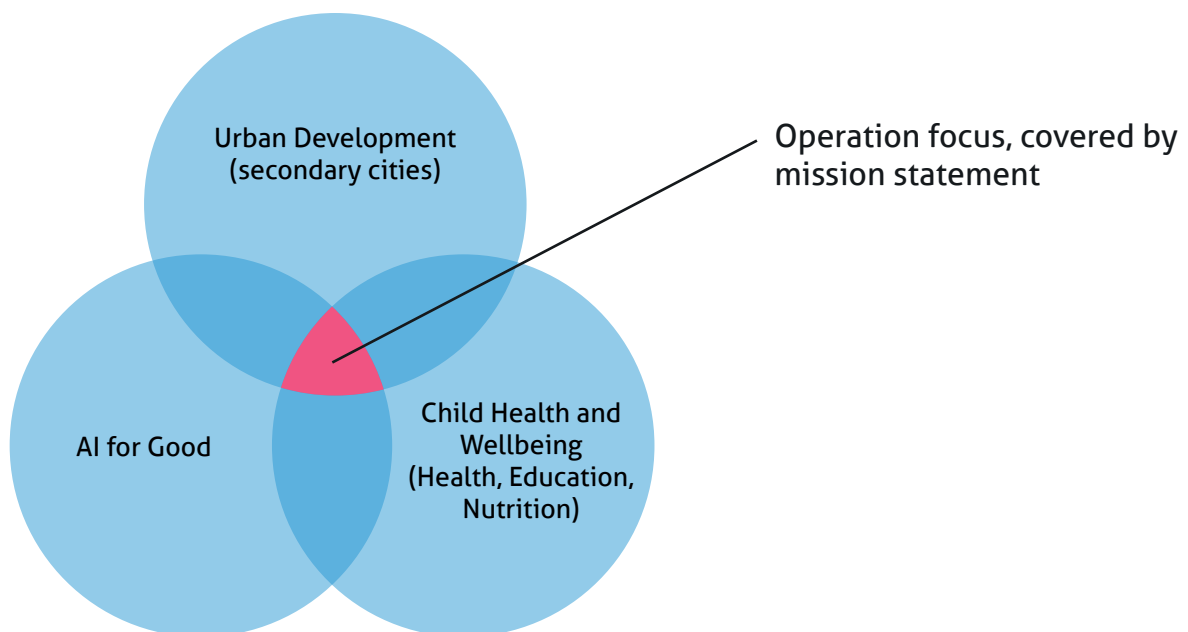
Since 2015 Fondation Botnar has benefited from a significant boost to its capital base, resulting in greater funding potential and commensurate increase in demand over time. In 2016 the foundation board committed to building organisational capacity to support the implementation of its mandate. This included appointing a dedicated team to effectively manage the foundation's future strategic direction, including the evaluation and roll-out of relevant projects and programs.

To lead the management team, Dr. Stefan Germann was appointed Chief Executive Officer in December 2016 following an externally-organised search and selection procedure. He took up his position in February 2017 and, over the course of the year, recruited additional experts to a total of 6.7 FTE by year-end as follows:

| Team Member                | Function                    | Date of Entry |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Dr. Stefan Germann         | Chief Executive Officer     | 1st February  |
| Eva Moldovanyi             | Junior Program Officer      | 6th February  |
| Dr. Aline Cossy-Gantner    | Chief Learning Officer      | 1st April     |
| Karin Schumacher           | Chief Operation Officer     | 1st June      |
| David Suhr                 | Junior Professional Officer | 25th August   |
| Dr. Susanna Hausmann-Muela | Chief Program Officer       | 1st September |
| Szandra McCrory            | Executive Assistant         | 1st November  |

## 2. Strategic Focus

In 2017, the board of the foundation and management office worked tirelessly on strategy development, involving deepening and elaborating the focus areas already pursued in previous years.



Within the scope of its strategic direction, the foundation concentrates its investment on the following areas:

### Promoting Child Development, Ensuring Wellbeing

Fondation Botnar supports projects which demonstrably improve children's health, nutrition and education outcomes. These activities can take place at different levels of society: directly with children themselves or with their families, via local community networks (e.g. municipal healthcare and social workers) or at higher jurisdictions (cities, regions, countries). Fondation Botnar invests in innovative products and processes that are sustainable and scalable in order to positively impact children's wellbeing. In this context, there is high potential to sensitively use new technologies and artificial intelligence to improve local access to relevant information.



## Entrepreneurship and “Rebels with a Good Cause”

Fondation Botnar supports social and youth entrepreneurship by giving young and socially-engaged people across the globe the opportunity to implement their ideas. Funding platforms for start-ups as well as those that bring innovators together (such as Impact Hubs and Learning Hubs) are targeted, so too individual ideas-merchants (“rebels with a good cause”). Fondation Botnar recognises that the digital revolution offers the ideal meeting-space especially for youth, young adults and entrepreneurs.

## Research and Innovation

Fondation Botnar supports research and innovation which positively impacts children’s development and wellbeing. In particular, investment is aimed at research which problem-solves in countries with limited resources, by directly supporting research at universities in such countries. Fondation Botnar also invests in the implementation of artificial intelligence-based solutions and digital platforms and tools to improve children’s wellbeing.

The pre-selection of research projects is supported by the foundation’s scientific committee.

Within the scope of developing and refining its strategy, Fondation Botnar defined funding criteria in 2017 for institutions and projects which apply for support:

- \* Fondation Botnar is committed to “Help for Self-Help”.
- \* As well as undertaking its own projects and programs, Fondation Botnar assists partners in the development of their own, collaborating with multilateral organisations (such as UNICEF), local and national governments, non-governmental organisations, scientific institutions as well as the private sector as necessary. Implementing projects and programs is the preserve of well-organised locally active institutions. This guarantees appropriate on-the-ground implementation and support, monitoring and evaluation, as well as the successful continuation of projects and programs.
- \* Fondation Botnar invests in projects and programs with sustainable potential. As a guideline, its financial commitment is limited to seven years.
- \* Fondation Botnar is committed to fully-engaged, dialogue-rich and equal partnering relationships with recipient institutions, in which goals are jointly defined and projects jointly implemented.
- \* In realising projects, Fondation Botnar strives to go beyond traditional project and program support to effect social change in line with its goal: “From grant maker to change maker”.
- \* Fondation Botnar is able to employ innovative financing tools (such as social impact loans).



Fondation Botnar currently focuses on four priority countries:

**Switzerland**

Foundation domicile (research as main focus)

**Israel**

Statute requirement

**Romania**

Statute requirement

**Tanzania**

Close relationship with existing local network; regionally important for research, policy and implementation

By maintaining a tight initial focus, Fondation Botnar's intent is to build experience over time in order to strategically assess future priority countries for outreach at a latter date.

From 2019, Fondation Botnar will annually offer CHF 60 million in funding as follows:

- \* CHF 48 million for projects and programs undertaken by Fondation Botnar in partnership with organisations with well-developed local networks.

- \* CHF 9 million for research projects in key focus areas.

CHF 3 million for general donations up to CHF 300,000. Here, innovative or

- \* otherwise outstanding projects with smaller funding volumes are targeted.

### 3. Performance Monitoring and Evaluation

Fondation Botnar is committed to continuous project monitoring and systematic performance controls. In collaboration with FSG (Geneva), an integrated learning and impact measurement system will be implemented by early 2019.

To evaluate the impact of projects and programs, Fondation Botnar sets guidelines as follows:

- \* Funding volume > CHF 1 million/year: Annual reporting, with triennial evaluations at a minimum and intermediate evaluations as necessary
- \* Funding volume > CHF 5 million/year: Triennial evaluations at a minimum, including at least one third-party evaluation
- \* Pilot projects always require evaluation (at the latest after three years).

## 4. Funding Activity

In 2017, the Foundation Board approved 51 projects and programs for a total of circa CHF 41.5 million:

| Team Member           | Project Title  | Organisation                                       | Country | Funding Contribution (CHF) |
|-----------------------|--|--|---------|----------------------------|
| Research              | Developing Strategies to Identify, Prevent and treat Child Obesity                         | University of Cambridge                            | GB      | 2,449,396.80               |
| Research              | Special Program for Paediatric Research at UKBB  | University of Basel                                | CH      | 800,000.00                 |
| Research              | Antibiotic Discovery for Children with Cystic Fibrosis                                     | MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology                | GB      | 2,449,255.89               |
| Research              | Developing Prototype Assistive Listening Technology for Remediating Developmental Dyslexia | University of Cambridge                            | GB      | 2,235,879.19               |
| Research              | Transylvanian Experimental Neuroscience Summer School                                      | Asociatia Transylvanian Institute of Neuroscience  | RO      | 105,235.20                 |
| Research              | The Digital Environment, GraphoLearn, for Supporting Reading                               | University of Jyväskylä                            | FI      | 1,714,585.42               |
| Projects and programs | Support for Health, Education and Social Infrastructure in Bacău County, Romania           | Terre des Hommes                                   | RO      | 1,454,314.50               |
| Projects and programs | Community Nurses and Integrated Services   | UNICEF   | RO      | 3,136,755.31               |
| General donations     | Hubbasel: Bringing Impact Hub to Basel   | Hubbasel   | CH      | 202,000.00                 |
| Research              | Physical Activity and Multi-Micronutrient Supplementation                                  | University of Basel                                | ZA      | 2,463,369.00               |
| Research              | Implementation of Robotic Surgery Paediatric Patients                                      | "Victor Babeş" University of Medicine and Pharmacy | RO      | 3,507,840.00               |

| Team Member           | Project Title   | Organisation                                       | Country | Funding Contribution (CHF) |
|-----------------------|---|--|---------|----------------------------|
| Research              | Diagnosis of Pneumonia by Breath Analysis                       | University Children's Hospital Basel (UKBB)        | CH      | 260,000.00                 |
| Projects and programs | A Nurturing Care Framework for Early Childhood Development      | Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health | xx      | 954,040.07                 |
| General donations     | Workshop for Bakery in Lima                                     | Asociacion Peru Austria Internacional              | PE      | 12,170.00                  |
| General donations     | Las Hormiguitas – School Instead of Child Labour                | Equal Education Fund                               | NI      | 25,000.00                  |
| General donations     | Do Sport, Live Well!  | Stiftung Kindernothilfe Schweiz                    | BR      | 30,000.00                  |
| General donations     | Social Integration through Music                                | Stiftung Arpeggio Schweiz                          | PE      | 195,210.00                 |
| General donations     | Purchasing Medical Equipment for Children with DMD/ BMD         | Little Steps                                       | IL      | 16,329.32                  |
| General donations     | "A Better Future Is Possible"                                   | ISS  | BF      | 126,861.00                 |
| General donations     | Re-editing of Primary Surgery – Volume 2                        | German Society for Tropical Surgery                | xx      | 253,733.76                 |
| General donations     | Aid in Romania  | Baselland hilft (association)                      | RO      | 20,000.00                  |
| General donations     | Equipment for Class for Children with Severe Speech Disorder    | Sulam special education centres in Israel          | IL      | 7,808.40                   |
| General donations     | Kick for Your Future  | Stiftung Cooperaxion                               | LR      | 80,000.00                  |
| General donations     | Caloriesharing. No Need to Go Hungry. No Need to Be Overweight. | caloriesharing                                     | CH      | 270,000.00                 |
| Projects and programs | Upscaling Young Coach Education Programs                        | Scort Foundation                                   | xx      | 1,668,600.00               |
| General donations     | Purchasing Equipment for Adventure Rope Therapy                 | Etgarim  | IL      | 19,521.00                  |

| Team Member           | Project Title   | Organisation                                   | Country | Funding Contribution (CHF) |
|-----------------------|---|--|---------|----------------------------|
| General donations     | herakles.cloud  | SEIO GmbH                                      | xx      | 50,000.00                  |
| Projects and programs | Catch Them Young  | Roger Federer Foundation                       | CH      | 490,000.00                 |
| Research              | Day Care Management of Severe Pneumonia in Children                                   | UNICEF   | BD      | 647,013.78                 |
| General donations     | New Facilities for Blind and Visually Impaired Children                               | Zollikofen School for the Blind                | CH      | 300,000.00                 |
| General donations     | Dental Aid Project Athens 2017  | University clinics for dental medicine         | GR      | 20,000.00                  |
| Research              | "Research Hub" Project Planning – Research & Translation for Child Health & Wellbeing | University of Basel and ETH Zurich             | CH      | 390,000.00                 |
| Research              | DX IN A BX: Improving Lives through Mobile Diagnosis                                  | FIND   | TZ      | 1,746,390.00               |
| General donations     | Kwa Wazee - TatuTano  | Kwa Wazee - TatuTano                           | TZ      | 138,400.00                 |
| General donations     | Group Therapy to Youth Experiencing Emotional Problems                                | Enosh – The Israeli Mental Health Association  | IL      | 10,000.00                  |
| General donations     | Early Childhood Development   | Plan International Switzerland                 | SV      | 130,000.00                 |
| General donations     | Food Sovereignty through Education  | Centre Ecologique Albert Schweitzer            | BF      | 12,800.00                  |
| General donations     | Sproochschatz   | Basel Dialect Association                      | CH      | 120,000.00                 |
| General donations     | Sustainable Scaling of Child Social & Financial Education                             | Aflatoun International                         | xx      | 339,091.20                 |
| General donations     | WHO App to Reduce Depression and Anxiety in Adolescents                               | World Health Organization                      | xx      | 291,350.93                 |
| General donations     | INTENSAÚDE: A Mass Media Health Behaviour Change Campaign                             | Development Media International Associates CIC | MZ      | 164,610.00                 |

| Team Member           | Project Title  | Organisation   | Country | Funding Contribution (CHF) |
|-----------------------|--|--|---------|----------------------------|
| General donations     | Youth Work in the Library                                    | GGG City Library Basel   | CH      | 298,000.00                 |
| General donations     | Global Status Report on Preventing Violence against Children | World Health Organization  | xx      | 287,866.43                 |
| General donations     | Laudinella KidsCamps for Schools                             | Laudinella Cooperative   | CH      | 300,000.00                 |
| General donations     | Financial Times Social Innovation Hub Proposal               | Financial Times  | GB      | 273,294.00                 |
| General donations     | Empowering HIV/AIDS-affected Children and Youth in Zimbabwe  | Terre des Hommes Switzerland   | ZW      | 100,000.00                 |
| General donations     | GORILLA – Program Promoting Health and Education             | Schtifti Foundation  | CH      | 300,000.00                 |
| Research              | Evidence for Better Lives Study – Data Innovation Pilot      | University of Cambridge  | xx      | 695,421.09                 |
| Research              | Early Intensive Intervention for Children with ASD           | FIAS – Child and Youth Psychiatric Hospital Basel (FIAS-KJPK)        | CH      | 162,860.00                 |
| General donations     | CAS Global Social Entrepreneurship                           | University of Basel  | CH      | 192,000.00                 |
| Projects and programs | Botnar Child Road Safety Challenge                           | The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies | xx      | 9,635,656.00               |

**Project Examples:** Following are brief descriptions of three projects.

### UNICEF, Bacău Social Inclusion Project, Romania

Romania's Bacău region rates amongst the poorest in Europe, where children, especially from Roma families, live in extreme poverty. In 45 villages, Foundation Botnar supports a pilot project in integrated child support (healthcare, education, social services) in close collaboration with UNICEF, Romanian government agencies, and others. The objective is to develop a scalable package of support measures to redress social imbalance. An innovative, tablet-based, digital platform is used to identify children's needs and systematically provide services.

### Victor Babeş University, da Vinci Surgical Robot Project, Romania

Foundation Botnar supports the development of a unique Central and Eastern European competence centre in paediatric robotic surgery at Louis Țurcanu Children's Hospital, Timișoara, Romania. The CHF 3 million funding commitment was undertaken within the framework of a co-financing plan with Victor Babeş University, Timișoara (EUR 1.45 million), over a period of five years.

The objectives of the project are to:

- \* Implement paediatric robotic surgery in Romania and Eastern Europe through purchase and installation of the da Vinci robot at the hospital
- \* Develop robotic surgical techniques in children
- \* Identify solutions to optimise usage costs
- \* Establish Timișoara as a regional centre of excellence in paediatric robotic surgery, focusing on the fields of medicine, research and education

The delivery of the robot in December 2017 and its launch in January 2018 were the subject of great interest by the Romanian press. Since February 2018, two specially-trained surgeon and assistant teams have alternated weekly to operate on paediatric patients. By 2020, 150-200 operations annually are set to be performed. Concurrently, the research project has been tabled at a conference with university president, Prof. Raica, and a scientific publication documenting the project is in preparation.



**Project Examples:** Following are brief descriptions of three projects.

### University Children's Hospital Basel (UKBB), Botnar Chair, Switzerland

This research professorship in environmental medicine, specifically focused on children's health, began in 2012 with Fondation Botnar's financial backing. In June 2017, Prof. Dr. Pablo Sinues took up the role at University Children's Hospital Basel (UKBB), and until 2022 will conduct research into paediatric respiratory conditions and paediatric systems biology. The foundation also participated in the purchase of a high-definition mass spectrometer for Prof. Dr. Sinues, to support his work on non-invasive diagnostic methodologies for lung diseases – for example pneumonia, where a lack of efficient diagnosis can be a contributing factor in morbidity and mortality. The project aims to develop a non-invasive breath test to provide results of bacterial pneumonia within 15 minutes, as well as identify the pathogen's relevant subgroup. Offering a significant improvement on existing practices, this would: (i) enable a pathogen-specific antibiotics (thus reducing antibiotic resistance), (ii) improve patient outcomes, and (iii) save costs by means of evidence-based decisions as to whether in- or out-patient therapy required.

## 5. Outlook 2018 - 2020

In 2018, Fondation Botnar will continue implementing and consolidating its strategic direction, with Romania, together with Tanzania, remaining geographic focal points. In these locations, Fondation Botnar will further develop and test its Learning Hubs framework which aims, through feedback and learning mechanisms, to connect innovation and technology transfer with projects and programs in the field.

Internally, the foundation will maintain its focus on implementing defined funding processes as well as optimising procedures together with partners. In 2018, the organisational team will grow to a total of 15.4 FTE to cover the strategy period 2018 – 2023, with funding volume set at CHF 51 million for the year (CHF 39 million for projects and programs, CHF 9 million for research, and CHF 3 million for general donations).