I am a firm believer in the combined potential of digital solutions and thriving local ecosystems to foster the best possible future for young people around the world. It has therefore been an honour to be appointed the Chair of the Fondation Botnar Board as of September 2019. On behalf of Fondation Botnar and its partners, I would like to thank Dr Peter Lenz for his 16 years of Board leadership, which culminated in the completion of our organisational setup at the end of 2019.

I have long been motivated by the ways in which philanthropy can lead and contribute to the transformation of local and global systems. In my first few months on the Fondation Botnar Board and working with the Management Office, I have been energised by the vision and dedication of the people who have worked to establish our organisation, bringing external experts on board, strengthening our governance and transparency, and taking a focused, sustainable approach to the investments we make and the partnerships we build.

Among the key developments for Fondation Botnar in 2019 were the appointment to the Board of Florian Schweitzer, a widely respected figure in tech finance and a champion of young tech entrepreneurs, and the establishment of an Expert Advisory Group consisting of members of our Board, Management Office, and experts from academia, business, and NGOs with expertise in our focus areas. This group, which replaces Fondation Botnar’s former Scientific Commission, has provided substantial support in examining and advising us on funding applications to ensure we make high-impact investments to improve young people’s health.

In addition, this past year saw the Management Office fully staffed by experienced team players with the networks and know-how that Fondation Botnar needs to implement its strategy in the areas of city engagement, AI and digital innovation, and meaningful youth participation.

I look forward to presiding over Fondation Botnar’s next phase of development as it works to make the world’s growing cities into healthier, more liveable places for young people to thrive in.
Our milestones

Fondation Botnar reached important milestones in 2019, entered into new partnerships, and participated in key events.

**New Board member**
Florian Schweitzer joins the Board of Fondation Botnar as a business specialist focused on startups.

**Partnership with Unisanté**
Fondation Botnar announces a partnership with Unisanté to support the implementation of clinical algorithms to improve the health of febrile children and reduce unnecessary antibiotic prescriptions in Tanzania.

**International Youth Day 2019**
To learn more about what today’s young people think about the intersection of technology with global health, Devex, working with Fondation Botnar and others, asks more than 1,500 young people for their views.

**Afya-Tek announced**

**Dialogue around health data governance**
Fondation Botnar hosts sessions on health data governance at the Intelligence Health Summit in Basel and at the World Health Summit in Berlin.

**Healthy Cities for Adolescents program**
Fondation Botnar announces its “Healthy Cities for Adolescents” program, an initiative to foster multi-stakeholder, community-led consortia to address the health and wellbeing of young people in cities around the world.

**Dialogue on mental health**
Fondation Botnar, Vitol Foundation, and the Belgian Embassy host a dialogue event in London, bringing global innovators together to share experiences of digital solutions to improve adolescent mental health.

**Ada Health App in Swahili and Romanian**
Ada Health, a free health guidance app, launches in Swahili, a language spoken by more than 100 million people across East Africa. The implementation of the app in Swahili is funded by Fondation Botnar, along with the Romanian version.

**New Board Chair**
Thomas A. Gutzwiller assumes office as Chair of Fondation Botnar. He succeeds Dr Peter Lenz who had helped establish and definitively shape Fondation Botnar since 2003.

**Briefing during UNGA**
Fondation Botnar organises a high-level briefing during UNGA, New York, on the upcoming joint The Lancet & Financial Times Commission “Governing Health Futures 2050”. The briefing is cohosted with the permanent missions to the United Nations of Switzerland, Germany, and India.

**Specialists for Expert Commission**
Fondation Botnar appoints five external specialists to its Expert Commission: Ramesh Raskar (AI & Digital Health), Max Price (Global Research and Solutions), Kelechi Vera Olawoyin (Changemakers & Capacity Building), Alice Gugelev (Entrepreneurship & Innovative Financing), and Michele Acuto (Cities).

**Dialogue on AI in low- and middle-income countries**
Together with partners, Fondation Botnar cohosts a dialogue event on Next-generation public health: AI and big data. More than 80 practitioners, academics, and policy makers contribute to the insightful discussion in London.

**Partnership with Women Deliver**
Fondation Botnar announces a partnership with Women Deliver, a global advocacy organisation that champions the health and rights of girls and women, to promote meaningful youth participation. At the Women Deliver Conference 2019 in Vancouver, Fondation Botnar organises sessions and workshops on youth leadership to harness digital innovation for universal health coverage by 2030.

**Ramesh Raskar**
Alice Gugelev
Max Price
Michele Acuto
Kelechi Vera Olawoyin
(Left to right and top-down)
Making cities more liveable

In 2050 nearly 70 per cent of the world’s population will be urban dwellers. Amongst young people the share will be even higher. For them especially, Fondation Botnar aims to make cities more liveable and lovable places to grow and flourish in. We promote the wellbeing of young people by championing the use of artificial intelligence and digital technologies.
Expanding partnerships and programs

2019 saw Fondation Botnar step up its support of interdisciplinary collaboration and youth-centred design.

Organisational setup complete
By the year-end, our organisational setup was complete, and our investments and partnerships were aligned with the new strategic direction that Fondation Botnar embarked upon after the establishment of our Management Office in 2017. Highlights included the welcoming of the new Chair of the Board, the inauguration of a new Expert Commission of external leading experts included the welcoming of the new Chair of the Board, the inauguration of a new Expert Commission of external leading experts in our five core areas of interest – AI & Digital Health, Global Research & Solutions, Changemaker & Capacity Building, Entrepreneurship & Innovative Financing, and Cities – and the completion of our staff hiring, which has strengthened our policy expertise in data governance.

We have increased our commitment to international, interdisciplinary joint action on topics that impact on young people’s wellbeing. In this vein I would highlight Fondation Botnar’s support of two ventures that began operations in 2019. One is a joint The Lancet & Financial Times Commission to discover ways in which digital health, AI, and other frontier technologies can benefit the health of young people. The other – the Botnar Research Centre for Child Health (BRCCH) – aspires to be the leading institution in research on digital and next-generation solutions that show potential to improve the health and well-being of children and adolescents worldwide. Its four inaugural research projects were selected in 2019, with implementation to start in 2020.

I am proud of our progress so far and excited about the opportunities ahead.

Fondation Botnar sees multilateral institutions such as the UN and WHO as best placed and equipped both to facilitate the scale up of promising approaches that emerge from such work and to lead the development of a global framework for health data governance that takes account of ethical and human rights concerns. For this reason, in 2019 we began to support the WHO’s new Department of Digital Health and Innovation, which aims to help countries accelerate the expansion of health coverage by leveraging technologies that improve global public health, and to formulate Fondation Botnar’s position on data governance with a focus on young people’s interests.

Another key milestone was the further development of activities in our first two selected cities – Tanga, Tanzania, and Cluj-Napoca, Romania – to cocreate the Fondation Botnar “OurCity” Initiative, in which selected cities around the world implement coordinated, technology-supported city-wide programs that improve young people’s lives. This gave us a prime opportunity to apply AI technology in the conceptualisation and planning of our own projects. Our team used an AI-enabled tool created by The Stakeholder Company to conduct stakeholder mapping and management in Cluj-Napoca. We also continued to digitise Fondation Botnar’s office processes, for instance, by adopting tools to manage all contracting electronically, and began exploring the possibility of using AI to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of some core activities as well.

Key elements now in place
Fondation Botnar’s day-to-day operations began with my appointment as CEO in early 2017. Three years on, we have grown into a 17-strong team of professionals committed to building partnerships and programs that put frontier technologies like AI to work for the young people at the heart of our mission. I am proud of our progress so far and excited about the opportunities ahead.
Transforming cities from within

In 2019 Fondation Botnar began putting its ideas to the test with the launch of five “Healthy Cities for Adolescents” projects and by selecting the first two cities to be part of the “OurCity” initiative.

Numbering 1.8 billion today, young people aged from 10 to 24 account for about one-quarter of the world’s population. How can urban planning and development support the needs of the young people who will shape the future of their cities? How can these young city dwellers contribute to creating environments where they will thrive? What tools do we need to get there faster – and with a scalable impact?

Cities where young people matter
For Fondation Botnar, the place to look for answers to these questions is where innovation, collaboration, and digital technology meet. To provide healthy, safe, and dynamic environments for future generations, we unite key players with young people, working collaboratively with them on policies and initiatives that transform fast-growing cities, and investing in the skills development of urban youth.

Our “Healthy Cities for Adolescents” program, a multi-year initiative developed with the International Society for Urban Health, takes just such a multipronged approach. In 2019 we chose five projects that aim to work hands-on alongside local partners to identify obstacles to the health, safety, and overall wellbeing of adolescents in the respective cities and to devise ways to address them. The projects employ different designs and tackle different issues – from sexual and reproductive health to road safety – but they all provide space for young people to participate, integrate technology where appropriate, leverage formal and informal partnerships, and have committed to monitoring and evaluating results.

In 2019 we were pleased to announce the kickoff of five of these projects: one each in Ghana and Senegal, and three in Colombia. Since then, the teams have begun adapting their activities in light of on-the-ground realities, as well as feedback from their partners and communities – including adolescents themselves. In some cases, this has led them to expand partnerships to strengthen core areas. In others, it has spurred them to sharpen their focus to increase impact.

Prioritising the risks adolescents face
Managed by Nutrition International, “Fort pour le futur” is a multistakeholder model for supporting adolescent nutrition, and sexual and reproductive health empowerment in Thies, Senegal. It plans to build the capacity of local civil society actors to advocate and participate in the design of interventions and policies and to hold people of influence accountable for results. Taking a more targeted approach, “Innovative Adolescent Health Interventions” is identifying gaps and collaborating in the provision of sexual reproductive health services for adolescents and young people in Tamale, Ghana. Led by the Regional Institute of Population Studies at the University of Ghana, the project aims to influence municipal health planning.

In 2019 we chose five projects that aim to work hands-on alongside local partners to identify obstacles to the health, safety, and overall wellbeing of adolescents in the respective cities and to devise ways to address them. The projects employ different designs and tackle different issues – from sexual and reproductive health to road safety – but they all provide space for young people to participate, integrate technology where appropriate, leverage formal and informal partnerships, and have committed to monitoring and evaluating results.

The three “Healthy Cities for Adolescents” projects in Colombia are also diverse. Impact Hub’s “Gambetiando” initiative engages young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods of Medellín in football activities whilst also fostering their socio-emotional skills development, values formation, and entrepreneurship through activities at the Impact Hub. The local organisation Coschool in Cali, in contrast, launched the “Comvos” project to improve adolescents’ wellbeing by creating, exercising, and scaling up a model that equips them to tell the story of their own experiences of living in the city, for instance by making a short film about how they get to school. Coschool will scale the initiative by training city officials and school leaders to replicate the methodology through an e-learning platform and local networks.

Finally, Fundacion Despacio’s “Vivo Mi Calle” project sees the roadways in Cali not only as a potential threat to young people’s safety due to the risk of traffic accidents, but also as an opportunity to promote healthy behaviours such as walking and biking. It plans to design safe intersections, increase road safety, and strengthen municipal mobility initiatives, as well as increasing knowledge and data collection around safe, sustainable mobility in Cali.
In 2020 all five projects will continue with their implementation and be joined by two more in India and Vietnam, respectively. Consistent with Fondation Botnar’s commitment to enabling and promoting collaborative learning, a knowledge management platform will be established to deepen learning and best-practice sharing among all the partners as the consortium develops.

As part of our global city engagement strategy, Fondation Botnar plans to establish several cities under the “OurCity” initiative to help cities around the world implement coordinated programs and leverage AI and digital technologies to transform themselves into places where young people’s voices and needs are heard and prioritised. A defining characteristic is the involvement of multiple stakeholders, including young people, local authorities, businesses, and civil society organisations.

After selecting Tanga in Tanzania as the first “OurCity” city, in 2019 we continued to work together with the local authorities to create the enabling environment for implementation in 2020. In 2019 we also selected our second city, Cluj-Napoca (Romania), where implementation will begin in 2020, with hands-on involvement from the Fondation Botnar team in designing a city-wide systemic approach. Over the next 10 years we plan to support the establishment of around six to seven cities around the world as part of the “OurCity” initiative.

Jhoiner Andrés Quiñones, age 10, participant in “Healthy Cities for Adolescents” initiative “Vivo Mi Calle” in Cali, Colombia

“What I like most about Cali is the green areas, like the parks and the football field. I feel unsafe when cars go too fast or when motorcycles use the pavements and could run us over.”

Fondation Botnar’s “Healthy Cities for Adolescents” initiative started supporting projects in Ghana, Senegal, and Colombia in 2019. One of the projects in Colombia is based in Medellín (pictured to the right).
Making AI and digital work for the public good

Aligning healthcare capacity with need requires dramatic, scalable change that Fondation Botnar believes can be achieved only by integrating artificial intelligence and digital technology into health and wellbeing at every level.

The third Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) for 2030 is to ensure healthy lives and to promote wellbeing for people of all ages. Fondation Botnar wants to help realise this goal by supporting efforts to hold the global community to its promise of bringing quality healthcare to the billions who still lack it. With the global population set to reach 8.5 billion by 2050, tackling the shortage of health workers who can provide that care – a gap expected to grow to 18 million, with the proportionally largest shortfalls in Africa and Asia – will be especially daunting.

Opening doors with digital

Artificial intelligence (AI) and digital technology can help fill that void and make health care more predictive of, and responsive to, young people’s specific needs by harnessing big data and clearing barriers to equitable access. Data-informed insights can guide the efforts of governments, local authorities, and healthcare providers to adapt to changing demographics and health needs, from predicting diseases and outbreaks to improving overall quality of life. For the good of individuals as well as societies, data collection and use must be approached with caution and sensitivity to the concerns of digital natives and older generations alike.

Research activities in Tanzania and Switzerland

Digital technology harbours great potential too as a means of democratising access to health-related knowledge and advice. In 2019 Fondation Botnar began supporting researchers from Unisante, the newly created Swiss-based University Centre for Primary Care and Public Health, along with the Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute, and two research institutes in Tanzania: Ifakara Health Institute (IHI) and the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR), who have developed mobile-based algorithms that connect to dynamic clinical and point-of-care tests to guide and train health workers in the management of sick children and adolescents. The project could avoid millions of clinical failures and tens of millions of unnecessary prescriptions of antibiotics every year. To be deployed over five years in 70 health facilities across Tanzania, the team’s DYNAMIC platform presents an opportunity to validate new diagnostics from other initiatives, which could strengthen the uptake and integration of future digital tools in Africa and beyond.

Integrating digital technologies into a new health initiative

In another Tanzania-focused initiative, we and our partners began setting up “Afya-Tek”, a demonstration project that aims to integrate digital technologies into a new health initiative in Kilkahe, capital of the Pwani region. “Afya-Tek” works to link community health workers, health facilities, and private drug dispensaries to improve decision-making and quality of care along the continuum of care, helping to ensure prompt access and reduce unnecessary referrals. The initiative is the first of its kind to use emerging digital tools to better connect health system actors, including predictive analytics and biomeric identification. It will also assess the feasibility of integrating AI-enabled health tools.

With Fondation Botnar’s support, in 2019 Ada Health – an AI-based app that gives users health information and advice based on an assessment of their symptoms – was made available in Swahili, and adapted to the linguistic, cultural, and medical context in the East Africa region. The app is now thus accessible to about 100 million Swahili speakers, helping to significantly improve access to quality health information and advice, particularly for young people and families. Fondation Botnar also funded the app’s adaptation to Romania and is supporting its validation.

Tapping into opportunities with a close eye on risks

While digital technologies are already changing how we approach health promotion and the design of health systems, governance models have not kept pace with this stream of innovation. Fondation Botnar is concerned that the lack of clarity and guidance around data ownership and privacy limit the potential of innovative technologies to support progress towards achieving the SDGs, particularly quality healthcare for all by 2030. We also aim to ensure that digital technologies aid rather than hinder health equity, accelerating access to health promotion and democratizing care and coverage.

In response to these challenges, Fondation Botnar is supporting a joint The Lancet & Financial Times Commission called “Governing Health Futures 2030: Growing up in a digital world”, which will examine the convergence of digital health, AI, and other frontier technologies with a focus on how they can benefit the health of children and young people.

Recognising the urgency of catalysing cross-sector action around the shared goal of leveraging digital technology, in 2019 we also convened a new “Digital Transformation for Universal Health Coverage 2030” coalition, with partners including Partnership for Maternal, Newborn & Child Health (PMNCH), PATH, and Women Deliver, that will cocreate a series of campaigns and advocacy initiatives for implementation by 2030.

Prof. Ilona Kickbusch, Co-Chair of The Lancet & FT Commission: Governing Health Futures 2030

“When creating innovative solutions to health problems, we must make sure the benefits can be experienced by everyone. Meaningful youth engagement must therefore be integrated into long-term strategies.”

Dialogue event on adolescent mental health

In October 2019, Fondation Botnar hosted an event in London that brought together leading figures who run digital health programs addressing the relationship between digital technologies and adolescent mental health. Many of the 10 to 20 per cent of young people experiencing mental health conditions today remain untreated, a gap that is particularly large in low- and middle-income countries. The diverse panelists shared insights into the potential for digital innovation to achieve equitable progress, from peer- and community-led support forums to digitised cognitive behavioural therapy, as well as the challenges it presents.
Meaningful youth participation

Engaging young people for positive change

In 2019, Fondation Botnar started teaming up with experienced changemakers not only to create spaces in which young people can express their needs and ideas but also to get the world to listen.

By 2030 there will be 2 billion young people in the world, making up an increasingly large proportion of the global population. With only 1.9 per cent of legislators aged below 30 and less than 2 per cent of global health funding allocated to their specific health issues, however, young people continue to lack a voice and representation in policymaking and programs.

Adolescents are vulnerable

Though usually seen as a healthy period of life, adolescence sets the stage for health risks in the long term. Relative to young children, adolescents are more likely to try harmful substances, to be exposed to violence, to be involved in road traffic accidents, to experience anxiety, eating disorders and addictions, or to develop sexual and reproductive health issues. Their degree of vulnerability depends strongly on where they grow up. Those in sub-Saharan Africa, for example, account for about 37 per cent of all new global HIV infections, and 3 million teenage girls in emerging economies lack access to modern contraception.

Without proper support, these issues are likely to lead to lasting health problems and disadvantages in life. Engaging with today’s young people to address them is critical, as they are well placed not only to understand their own needs but, as digital natives, also to use AI and digital technologies to take health improvement efforts into their own hands. Technology can and does empower them—whether it be to educate themselves about sexual health, to increase their physical fitness, or to access mental health support. Although there are challenges that warrant attention, such as inclusion and data privacy concerns, we must recognise the benefits of investing in such innovations and platforms.

Encouraging youth participation

Encouraging youth participation requires the right listening and feedback tools. At Fondation Botnar we are strongly committed to tackling the prevailing underinvestment in youth participation through our partnerships. One effort to promote meaningful youth engagement in gender equality efforts and initiatives that we launched in 2019 is a partnership with Women Deliver, a global advocacy organisation that champions the health and rights of girls and women. Our support will fund the expansion of the Women Deliver Young Leaders Program, which equips outstanding young changemakers with the knowledge, skills, and resources to amplify their influence on a global scale. Women Deliver boasts 700 Young Leaders and alumni from 138 countries who are advancing gender equality in their communities, in their countries, and around the globe.

New opportunities to be heard

Together with several partners from the “Digital Transformation for Universal Health Coverage 2030” coalition (see page 15), Fondation Botnar conducted a global survey in 2019 that gives a snapshot of young people’s perspectives on the role of technology in accelerating progress on their health. When it comes to integrating technology into health practices, respondents’ key concerns included the high costs of care as a barrier to access, anxieties around personal data security, and a desire to be involved in key decision-making.

To address the lack of opportunities for young people to provide their insights on how we can ensure everyone has access to quality healthcare, we and our coalition partners are also setting up a youth council called “Young Experts: Tech 4 Health” to give young people a platform to shape the agenda around digital innovation for greater healthcare access. To be appointed from January 2020 until September 2021, the council will be comprised of twelve members representing each of the WHO’s six regions and will be hosted by Plan International Canada.

In 2020 and beyond, Fondation Botnar looks forward to engaging young people more extensively in our discussions and the development of initiatives to promote their health and wellbeing across our areas of work.
Harnessing benefits, heeding risks

Digitalisation offers enormous opportunities to improve the wellbeing of young people worldwide. However, at the same time, technologies like AI carry the risk of the misuse of personal data. Health data governance is therefore a key issue, says Ulla Jasper, Policy Officer at Fondation Botnar.

Fondation Botnar believes that data-driven digitalisation will be integral to transforming healthcare systems, health services, and medical practices for the good of young people everywhere. At the same time, we are keenly aware that artificial intelligence (AI) and other frontier technologies harbour potential to undermine privacy and autonomy and to introduce new forms of health-care inequality and bias. In 2019 we began defining our views on how to ensure that digital health technologies evolve within a global governance framework guided by ethics and human rights – a prerequisite for AI and digital solutions to live up to their promise in every area of our work.

Yet a lack of comprehensive political, legal, and regulatory frameworks is leaving digital health research and development to unfold in a largely autonomous landscape where health data is almost continuously extracted and appropriated from individuals and even societies. The most vulnerable in society are increasingly subject to demands and forms of intrusion without accountability, with citizens’ information becoming ever more accessible to private companies and governments, while the benefits are rarely shared.

Preventing discrimination and bias

People may not know how their data is being collected, processed, or repurposed, or that the results could potentially discriminate against the individuals and communities concerned. A lack of transparency in the creation and deployment of algorithms can result in built-in discrimination and bias on the basis of characteristics such as gender, health, or economic status. In fact, bias may be introduced by the sheer fact that much data is generated in high-income settings, creating skewed or inadequate datasets. People also may not understand that technologies rely on, even outside the medical realm, may be used to predict, detect, or influence health-relevant behaviours.

While digital technology and big data are central to Fondation Botnar’s mission and activities, we realise that many of these problems are at their root socio-political. To keep health inequalities from growing even larger, technology developers need to guarantee that the algorithms embodying the core of AI and machine learning are based on representative, fair, and non-biased data sets and that the benefits brought about by the new technologies are shared fairly. The vast divide in internet connectivity that still prevails in many resource-poor settings must also be closed.

Health data to serve the global public good

Fondation Botnar advocates the establishment of national and global governance mechanisms to balance ethical concerns and rights with the opportunities offered by big data in health. For example, as CEO Stefan Germann explained on the Power Stage at Women Deliver 2019, we want to see health data used to serve the global public good. This means that everyone can, and should, benefit from the promises of digitalisation and AI, without any infringement of human rights. We are also convinced that organisations such as the WHO, the UN with its High-level Panel on Digital Co-operation, and national governments must lead the development of policy and initiatives that help to balance healthcare digitalisation with key requirements such as accountability, quality, security, and access. Through our partnership with the International Digital Health & Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative (I-DAIR), we are already supporting research to identify gaps in existing policy and to gather evidence that can inform the necessary adaptations and reforms (see box).

Reflecting our commitment to enable and promote collaborative learning about issues that impact young people’s lives, Fondation Botnar facilitates and contributes to discussions about the guidelines, regulations, and laws that may be needed to manage the risks of digitalisation and to ensure that the right stakeholders are at the table. In 2019, for example, we set up the youth council “Young Experts: Tech & Health” (see page 17), a platform where young people can contribute to public dialogue about topics including health data governance. We also advocate scaled-up, systemic approaches that are tailored to existing infrastructure and to the needs of local populations and healthcare workers, rather than more vertical, top-down projects and pilots.

As innovations move from pilot to scale, Fondation Botnar believes that digital health stakeholders must work to reduce the fragmentation of data, collaborate more to avoid the unnecessary duplication of technological capabilities, and improve the sharing of valuable, anonymised data that might benefit the public good. Here, as throughout our work, we urge giving a prominent role to the young people who, as the next generation of digital natives, have an unprecedented opportunity to participate in shaping a more equitable digital future.

International Digital Health & AI Research Collaborative (I-DAIR)

The International Digital Health & Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative (I-DAIR) seeks to advance the UN’s High-level Panel on Digital Cooperation’s recommendations related to digital health, as well as targets set at the WHO on universal and quality health coverage. Its proposed pathway for effecting change is to cocreate with diverse stakeholders a neutral international platform that promotes responsible, inclusive AI research and digital technology development for health, for instance by moving towards health data as a global public good, addressing key governance, benchmarking, promoting responsible ecosystems, bridging different research and practice communities, building capacity, and addressing collaboration challenges such as data interoperability. The incubation effort based at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, was initially convened by Fondation Botnar and is now also supported by Geneva Science & Diplomacy Anticipator Foundation (GESDA).
Fondation Botnar is a foundation established in Basel in 2003 to carry on the philanthropic work of the Botnar family. It is a member of SwissFoundations, an umbrella organisation of charitable foundations in Switzerland, and applies the guidelines and recommendations of the Swiss Foundation Code (2015). The Swiss Foundation Code originated from the foundation sector as a self-regulatory and application-oriented tool to provide a framework for good foundation governance. It defines the normative orientation for all foundation activity according to three principles.

- The foundation shall implement its purpose in the most efficient, effective, and timely manner.
- Through appropriate organisational measures, the foundation shall ensure a balance between leadership and control for all important decisions and processes.
- The foundation shall maintain the greatest possible transparency in terms of its principles, goals, structures, and activities.

Foundation Board
The Board of Fondation Botnar comprises at least five members. Board members are elected for three-year terms and can be reelected (as of 2015) for a maximum of nine years’ service on the Foundation Board.

Accounting
Accounting is based on the Swiss GAAP FER 21 standard for charitable social non-profit organisations in accordance with the provisions of Swiss law, in particular Articles 957 to 962 of the Swiss Code of Obligations on commercial bookkeeping and accounting. The annual financial statements of the foundation present a true and fair view of the foundation’s assets, as well as its financial and earnings position.

Audit and supervision
Wirtschafts-Treuhand AG, Arnold Böcklin-Strasse 25, 4051 Basel, Switzerland, is appointed as Fondation Botnar’s statutory auditor. It conducted the audit of the foundation’s 2019 annual financial statements and recommends their approval. The supervisory authority of Fondation Botnar is the Federal Department of Home Affairs, Foundation Supervision, Bern, Switzerland.

Asset management
The assets of Fondation Botnar are invested in accordance with the guidelines of sustainable institutional asset management. These are published on our website in the form of investment beliefs and principles. Fondation Botnar’s asset management strategy was reviewed in 2018 by external specialists, who confirmed that the investment structure and risk profile of the investments were suitable for the goals of the foundation.

Annual Report 2019
Fondation Botnar | Governance

Foundation team
Board
Otto Bruderer, finance expert (since 2004)
Flavía Bustreo, children’s health and rights expert (since 2018)
Thomas A. Gutzwiller, Chair (since 20 September 2019)
Martin Lenz, legal expert (since 2004)
Peter Lenz, Chair (until 19 September 2019), Honorary Founding President (since 19 September 2019)
Amalie Mohlant Proost, Botnar family representative (since 2018)
Elisbeth Müller, child development expert (since 2015)
Florian Schwieter, business and startup expert (since 22 February 2019)
Marcel Tanner, research expert (since 2018)

External Experts on Expert Commission
Michele Acuto, cities expert
Alice Guglev, entrepreneurship & innovative financing expert
Keeleigh Vera Olawoyin, changemakers & capacity building expert
Max Price, global research & solutions expert
Ramesh Raskar, AI & digital health expert

Investment Commission
Otto Bruderer, Chair
Urs Ernst
Susanne Haury von Siebenthal, Deputy Chair

Management Office
Heike Albrecht, Risk & Compliance Manager
Aline Cossy-Gantner, Chief Learning Officer
Stefan Germann, Chief Executive Officer
Susanna Haussmann-Muela, Chief Program Officer
Thuy Anh Huynh-Le, Grants Administrator
Ursula Jasper, Policy Officer
Siddhartha Jha, AI/Digital Program Manager
Klára Marvuglio, Engagement & Communications Manager
Sandra McCrory, Executive Assistant
Eva Moldovanyi, Grant Manager
Zur Oren, Learning Hub & Partnerships Program Manager
Beatrice Schillier, Research Project Manager
Karlin Schumacher, Chief Operating Officer
Sushant Sharma, Chief Investment Officer
David Suhr, Strategic Learning & Evaluation Manager
Antoine Veyrassat, Senior Portfolio Manager
Bea Weibel, Office Administrator

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Amalie Mohlant Proost, Botnar family representative (since 2018)
Elisbeth Müller, child development expert (since 2015)
Florian Schwieter, business and startup expert (since 22 February 2019)
Marcel Tanner, research expert (since 2018)

External Experts on Expert Commission
Michele Acuto, cities expert
Alice Guglev, entrepreneurship & innovative financing expert
Keeleigh Vera Olawoyin, changemakers & capacity building expert
Max Price, global research & solutions expert
Ramesh Raskar, AI & digital health expert

Investment Commission
Otto Bruderer, Chair
Urs Ernst
Susanne Haury von Siebenthal, Deputy Chair

Management Office
Heike Albrecht, Risk & Compliance Manager
Aline Cossy-Gantner, Chief Learning Officer
Stefan Germann, Chief Executive Officer
Susanna Haussmann-Muela, Chief Program Officer
Thuy Anh Huynh-Le, Grants Administrator
Ursula Jasper, Policy Officer
Siddhartha Jha, AI/Digital Program Manager
Klára Marvuglio, Engagement & Communications Manager
Sandra McCrory, Executive Assistant
Eva Moldovanyi, Grant Manager
Zur Oren, Learning Hub & Partnerships Program Manager
Beatrice Schillier, Research Project Manager
Karlin Schumacher, Chief Operating Officer
Sushant Sharma, Chief Investment Officer
David Suhr, Strategic Learning & Evaluation Manager
Antoine Veyrassat, Senior Portfolio Manager
Bea Weibel, Office Administrator
## Balance Sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>31.12.19 mCHF</th>
<th>31.12.18 mCHF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash</td>
<td>92.65</td>
<td>139.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other current receivables</td>
<td>15.08</td>
<td>16.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current assets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securities</td>
<td>3,678.62</td>
<td>3,179.97</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture, office equipment</td>
<td>0.37</td>
<td>0.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property</td>
<td>5.28</td>
<td>5.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td>3,792.00</td>
<td>3,342.02</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current liabilities from grants</td>
<td>47.95</td>
<td>32.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other current liabilities</td>
<td>2.49</td>
<td>2.01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-current liabilities from grants</td>
<td>113.10</td>
<td>126.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation capital</td>
<td>3,628.47</td>
<td>3,180.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td>3,792.00</td>
<td>3,342.02</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Income Statement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>1.1. - 31.12.19 mCHF</th>
<th>1.1. - 31.12.18 mCHF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Financial income</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Securities income incl. fees</td>
<td>498.89</td>
<td>-168.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-0.18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net income</strong></td>
<td>498.89</td>
<td>-168.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct project costs according to the foundation’s deed</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant contributions</td>
<td>-42.29</td>
<td>-157.48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Gross profit</strong></td>
<td>456.60</td>
<td>-326.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operational expenses</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Personnel expenses incl. remuneration</td>
<td>-4.06</td>
<td>-2.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other operational expenses</td>
<td>-4.74</td>
<td>-4.59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Depreciation and amortisation</td>
<td>-0.21</td>
<td>-0.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net profit/loss</strong></td>
<td>447.59</td>
<td>-333.98</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Grants awarded

In 2019, the Foundation Board approved the following projects and programs with a total funding amount of CHF 42.29m.

### Implementation grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Global Road Safety Partnership (GRSP)</td>
<td>India, Romania, Tanzania, Vietnam, Mexico, South Africa, Tunisia</td>
<td>CHF 6,010,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Last Mile Health</td>
<td>Global / Liberia, United States of America</td>
<td>USD 4,000,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Health Organization (WHO)</td>
<td>Global, Switzerland</td>
<td>USD 3,948,536</td>
<td>2019 - 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women Deliver Inc.</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>USD 2,500,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>CHF 2,001,880</td>
<td>2019 - 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ilakara Health Institute (IHI)</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>USD 1,997,696</td>
<td>2019 - 2012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European &amp; Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP)</td>
<td>Sub-Saharan Africa</td>
<td>EUR 1,615,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Development Incubator, Inc.</td>
<td>Kenya, Tanzania</td>
<td>USD 1,500,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Health Organization (WHO)</td>
<td>Global, Switzerland</td>
<td>USD 300,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interteam</td>
<td>Namibia</td>
<td>USD 300,000</td>
<td>2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MagicCAMP Association</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>CHF 299,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romanian Health Observatory</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>EUR 208,800</td>
<td>2019 - 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wello Association</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>EUR 194,650</td>
<td>2019 - 2021</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Research grants

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organisation</th>
<th>Countries</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Timeline</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Danish Institute against Torture (DIGINITY)</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>CHF 2,000,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Health Organization (WHO)</td>
<td>Ghana, India, Morocco, Jamaica</td>
<td>USD 1,730,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computer Simulation &amp; Advanced Research Technologies (CSART)</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>CHF 1,404,564</td>
<td>2019 - 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI)</td>
<td>Ghana, Vietnam</td>
<td>USD 1,125,950</td>
<td>2019 - 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Université Psychiatrique Kliniken (UPK) Basel</td>
<td>Tanzania, Chile, Kosovo, Switzerland</td>
<td>CHF 768,751</td>
<td>2019 - 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The New York Academy of Sciences</td>
<td>Colombia, Morocco, United States of America</td>
<td>USD 715,785</td>
<td>2019 - 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Hospital Basel</td>
<td>Tanzania, Lesotho, Switzerland, Tanzania</td>
<td>CHF 700,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Claraspital Research Ltd (at St. Claraspital Basel)</td>
<td>Switzerland, Russia, Norway</td>
<td>CHF 272,065</td>
<td>2019 - 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Basel</td>
<td>Sierra Leone, Tanzania</td>
<td>CHF 232,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2022</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)</td>
<td>Switzerland, Iran</td>
<td>CHF 473,852</td>
<td>2019 - 2023</td>
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<tr>
<td>Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>CHF 335,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health</td>
<td>India, Vietnam</td>
<td>USD 300,000</td>
<td>2019 - 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>World Health Organization (WHO)</td>
<td>Ghana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe</td>
<td>USD 299,770</td>
<td>2019 - 2020</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Zurich</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>CHF 238,200</td>
<td>2019 - 2024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-off grants</td>
<td>Organisation</td>
<td>Countries</td>
<td>Amount</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child social &amp; financial education – innovative sustainable scaling</td>
<td>Aflatoun International</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>EUR 266,800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rehabilitation 2.0 - digital technologies serving quality, transition, and</td>
<td>Humanity &amp; Inclusion / Handicap International</td>
<td>Vietnam</td>
<td>USD 300,051</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>continuum of rehabilitation care, health, participation, and well-being of</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>children with disabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Adolescent Health PhD Fellowship program (CAH)</td>
<td>Swiss School of Public Health (SSPH+)</td>
<td>Nigeria, Peru, Sierra Leone, Somalia, Switzerland, Uganda</td>
<td>CHF 300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Let’s recycle together (reciclamos juntos)</td>
<td>Julius Baer Foundation</td>
<td>Colombia</td>
<td>CHF 300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Makers and coders: public schools coding and making communities</td>
<td>Tanzania Bora Initiative</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>CHF 300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Digitising the Research Fairness Initiative (RFI)</td>
<td>COHRED</td>
<td>Brazil, South Africa, Switzerland</td>
<td>CHF 300,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Samasource digital literacy and online work hubs – phase I</td>
<td>Samasource</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>USD 297,545</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analysing, mapping and engaging Swiss stakeholders of digital components in</td>
<td>foraus – Swiss Forum on Foreign Policy</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>CHF 299,096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Swiss Health Foreign Policy (GAP)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-creation of learning hub Cluj-Napoca to improve wellbeing of young people</td>
<td>SDC Colab</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>CHF 298,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and build local capabilities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Smartphone-based anthropometry technology</td>
<td>Wadhwani Institute for Artificial</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>USD 292,215</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Intelligence</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DayOne acceleration program 2019/2020</td>
<td>BaselArea.swiss</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>CHF 290,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Birth and health registration initiative</td>
<td>Plan International Switzerland</td>
<td>Senegal</td>
<td>CHF 280,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tanzanian-Swiss innovation and entrepreneurship initiative</td>
<td>EssentialMed Foundation</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>CHF 280,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Focus group on artificial intelligence for health</td>
<td>International Telecommunication Union</td>
<td>Global</td>
<td>CHF 274,125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics Park – STEM Park Tanga City</td>
<td>Project Inspire</td>
<td>Tanzania</td>
<td>CHF 257,655</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of a snake bite app for the Indian subcontinent</td>
<td>Swiss Tropical and Public Health Institute (Swiss TPH)</td>
<td>India</td>
<td>CHF 218,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interdisciplinary study on young people’s needs and opportunities assessment</td>
<td>Babes-Bolyai University</td>
<td>Romania</td>
<td>CHF 189,532</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in Cluj-Napoca, Romania</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protecting our future: promoting the health and wellbeing of adolescents in</td>
<td>Pan American Health Organization (PAHO)</td>
<td>Caribbean</td>
<td>USD 165,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>the Caribbean</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lecturers without borders: distributed network of travelling scientists for</td>
<td>Centre de Recherches Interdisciplinaires – CII Paris</td>
<td>Indonisia,</td>
<td>CHF 160,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>free outreach lectures in low- and middle-income countries</td>
<td></td>
<td>Senegal, Tanzania, France, Germany, Nepal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAS global social entrepreneurship 2020/2021 – pioneer stipends</td>
<td>Center for Philanthropy Studies (CEPS)</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>CHF 60,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Hospital Basel</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>CHF 57,865</td>
<td>2019 - 2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cycling for children</td>
<td>Committee for UNICEF</td>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>CHF 16,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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