

OUR YEAR

Annual Report 2020



fondation
BOTNAR

2020 AT A GLANCE

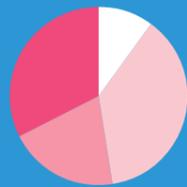
Total funding awarded

CHF
64.8_m

New grants awarded

58

Funding by grant type



- One-off grants: 10.2%
- Implementation grants: 37.5%
- Research grants: 19.9%
- COVID-19 response grants: 32.4%

Fondation Botnar

Fondation Botnar is a Swiss foundation based in Basel and established in 2003 to continue the philanthropic legacy of Marcela and Octav Botnar. The purpose of the foundation is to improve the health and wellbeing of children and young people in fast-growing urban environments around the world. Fondation Botnar acts as a catalyst, connecting diverse partners and investing in scalable artificial intelligence and digital innovations.



Marcela and Octav Botnar

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EDITORIAL

Message from the Chair of the Board



Thomas A. Gutzwiller

2020 was a year of tumult and transformation for countries throughout the world. COVID-19 flooded health systems, closed schools and businesses and brought uncertainty and upheaval to nearly every aspect of people's lives.

Yet the pandemic has also underscored the importance of our mission at Fondation Botnar: to foster the wellbeing of young people in an increasingly complex, interconnected world. Thanks to the digitalisation of our operations and our partners' unflagging commitment, in 2020 we continued, without interruption, to engage young people in the project of shaping their cities and their futures.

As we evolve, so too do our governance and [our strategy](#). On the Board, we welcomed Flavia Bustreo, our children's health and rights expert, as our [first Vice Chair](#) and are now supported by [governance bodies](#) in the areas of Audit & Risk, HR & Organisation, Investment and Philanthropy. The last of these oversees our grant strategy and reviews grant applications. In addition, a larger, generationally diverse group of experts, including many members of the former Expert Commission, will continue to provide high-level guidance on grant-making in our areas of focus.



As we evolve, so too do our governance and our strategy.

With the alliances we are building and the lessons we are learning, we are confident that Fondation Botnar will keep contributing to a future world where all young people can realise their rights, lead lives of good health and dignity and participate as thriving, productive citizens.

Thomas A. Gutzwiller
Fondation Botnar
Chair of the Board

OUR MILESTONES

Fondation Botnar in 2020

In 2020 Fondation Botnar reached important milestones, entered into new partnerships and participated in key events.

January



10th World Urban Forum and partnership with UN-Habitat
Fondation Botnar went to the world's largest gathering on city development to facilitate debate on how we can create inclusive, safe and thriving cities for and with young people. We helped city citizens from around the world take centre stage in the discussion, promoted digital technologies as a way to advance young people's wellbeing and signed a joint letter of intent with UN-Habitat to bring forward a collaborative agenda for the transformation of cities for young people.

Tech 4 Health council kicks off
Together with several of our partners in **Transform Health**, we also launched the **Young Experts: Tech 4 Health Council**. Its goal is to provide independent insight and advice on how to leverage digital innovation in key areas, including financing health products, training health workers, destigmatising sexual and reproductive health issues and ensuring quality and accessible care. The Young Experts will be the cornerstone of a ten-year effort that will strengthen advocacy, communication and accountability for artificial intelligence, digital and frontier technologies as catalysts for the 2030 Universal Health Coverage agenda.

February

Key developments for the OurCity initiative
In 2020 we took important steps toward our key goal of supporting cities around the world — the OurCity initiative. The initiative works to implement coordinated programs that leverage digital technologies to transform cities into places where young people's voices and needs are heard and prioritised.

An important development for OurTanga was the building of a collaborative city platform together with the City of Tanga. OurTanga made partnerships with **ProjektInspire** to set up Tanga's first science centre, **Robotec Labs**, offering fabrication training and other support to young innovators, and **Tanzania Data Lab**, where young people and other city stakeholders will use technologies such as drones to collect data that will inform city development.

The highlight for OurCluj in Romania was the **LEAP study**, a cross-sector, interdisciplinary assessment of young people's needs and opportunities that will serve as a powerful baseline for future interventions.



April



African Youth Digital Innovation Platform kicks off
Fondation Botnar and UNICEF started collaborating on the African Youth Digital Innovation Platform, which aims to catalyse young people's creativity and ideas on how to create economically viable business models and employment opportunities for young people across Africa. The partnership focuses on designing programs not just for but with young people.

May



Healthy Cities for Adolescents expands its reach
In 2020, new Healthy Cities for Adolescents (HCA) projects were launched in Vietnam and India. Managed by UNICEF, the initiative in the city of Da Nang, Vietnam is a strategic partnership of diverse actors who support the city government's plan to implement the HCA approach. In India, landscape analysis and city assessment led to the selection of Jaipur and Bhubaneswar as locations and identified potential collaborations that could address critical gaps in young people's health and wellbeing.

September



Dialogue: AI for Good
We hosted a session at the virtual AI for Good Summit, where diverse voices came together in a discussion about youth participation for digital rights. Young people called to be engaged in policy-making on digital issues and involved in finding solutions to current issues with data governance.

Refining our strategy for greater impact
To become more efficient in delivering on our mission, we refined our strategic approach in 2020 by focusing on three areas: how we understand the concept of wellbeing, our funding instruments and our governance mechanisms. With stronger governance, a holistic approach to financing and a deeper understanding of wellbeing, we will continue to work with our partners to create impact for years to come.



October

Dialogue: A call to action for health data governance
We took the opportunity of the first virtual World Health Summit, held in October, to put a spotlight on health data governance by **hosting a session on the topic** with a diverse panel of renowned experts. The discussion provided insight on the ways in which the global community can move forward together in creating a data governance framework that respects human rights.



Future Cities Challenge launch with UN-Habitat
Together with UN-Habitat, we launched the Future Cities Challenge campaign and competition, encouraging young people to make their voices heard and share their visions for the future of their cities. Seventy young people and children from around the world participated in the competition, and we reached over 3 million people.

I-DAIR incubation phase kicks off
In October 2020, we supported the new **International Digital Health & Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative (I-DAIR)** as it launched its incubation phase at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.

INTERVIEW WITH THE CEO

The future of collaboration is digital

Since becoming the first CEO of Fondation Botnar in 2017, Stefan Germann has led us through a period of rapid growth and change. Here he reflects on how challenges in 2020 further shaped our work and our organisation.



Stefan Germann, CEO of Fondation Botnar, in a conversation with young people about the Basel Youth Initiative.

“At Fondation Botnar, strategy is a fluid, iterative process of adaptation and discovery.”

Q1

* How has Fondation Botnar responded to COVID-19?

The pandemic has only sharpened the urgency of nurturing young people’s wellbeing and potential using digital tools and platforms.

In response, we committed CHF 20 million to support international research to understand better and respond faster to COVID-19. Three-quarters of that sum went to the Botnar Research Centre for Child Health’s **11 research consortia** in the areas of diagnostics, immunology

and interventions. The rest will fund the development of new privacy-preserving technologies for disease prevention and control, with a focus on implementation in low-resource settings, at the **Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne**.

We also gave our partners flexibility to adapt their activities and timelines to unexpected new realities and extended the submission deadline for our flagship Fit for the Future grant program.

Q2

* What would you like people to know about the recent development of your funding strategy?

You won’t hear us talking about three-year strategies or five-year plans at Fondation Botnar. We see strategy as a fluid, iterative process of adaptation and discovery.

With strong engagement from social scientists, we went through a strategic re-evaluation in 2020 that has moved us toward a more relational definition of wellbeing. Now more than ever, we aim to understand how young people see the world in terms as close to their own as possible.

Both in our **refined strategy** and in our program design and delivery, we’re focusing on young people’s relationships with other people, their natural environment and the wider culture, politics and economy. Practically, this means finding more ways for them to give us their vital input throughout the cycle of projects we fund and to grow their own capacities.

Q3

* How has Fondation Botnar evolved as an organisation in 2020?

Just as we see our strategy as continuously unfolding, we see Fondation Botnar as an organism that’s always changing. Our team motto could be “Let go, let be and let in”. We accept that things won’t go perfectly, we welcome critical feedback and we’re flexible in how we think and work.

In 2020 we made progress toward a goal that’s been at the heart of my vision for our organisation since I took the role of CEO: becoming a more agile and efficient and less centralised team. In addition to digitalising our operations, we now structure our work around “Teal” organisational principles such as self-management and empowerment. These principles are aligned with a clear sense of our purpose, not with any hierarchy.

Always looking for innovative new ways to fulfil our mission, we’ve teamed up with cinfo to establish a Young Professionals Program that brings young people on our staff for two-year stints. The benefits go both ways: while they gain experience as up-and-coming changemakers, we’re enriched by their perspectives, ideas and expertise.

Q4

* What would you personally mention as a key takeaway of 2020?

Young people are not only resilient but innovative and creative. Their first-hand experiences and input are more than a crucial source of intelligence for any effort to create a healthy future where they can thrive. They are a wellspring of ideas and action that we are just beginning to tap. To spur exploration of new ways of coping with challenges presented by COVID-19, which in Africa has hit people under 35 particularly hard, the African Youth Digital Innovation Platform’s skill-building marketplace YOMA invited young people to submit ideas for protecting themselves and their communities from the virus. More than 80 000 contenders aged 14 to 35 took part in this COVID-19 Design Innovation Challenge, submitting around 8 000 prototypes of solutions, the best of which are now being incubated.

Q5

* And a key takeaway for Fondation Botnar as an organisation?

Our partners are determined, resourceful and simply remarkable. Their initial shock at COVID-19 quickly gave way to agile action. One of the 20 grants we awarded to cover COVID “contingencies” went toward our partner D-tree’s initiative to support Zanzibar’s national response to the virus. Together with the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, we are supporting a strong community-based COVID-19 response in Zanzibar by integrating response activities into the country’s established, digitally-enabled community health program, swiftly reacting to the critical need for rapid data transmission and remote health worker training and communication.

Q6

* Coming full circle, has COVID-19 changed the way Fondation Botnar works?

The future of collaboration is digital – for us and for our partners. If 2020 taught us anything, it is that digital technologies will be increasingly central to learning and collaboration in the 21st century. COVID-19-related restrictions on travel and face-to-face contact accelerated our integration of digital tools and platforms into the way we work with one another and with our partners.

Our partners have found ingenious ways to adapt their programs for young people as well as their own operations to a suddenly more virtual world. The pandemic has also got us thinking about building relationships with local consultancies who could be our eyes and ears on the ground and carry our activities forward when we cannot do so ourselves. In this sense, the COVID-19 crisis has helped us all become more resilient, even as it has reminded us how important face-to-face interaction is to our relationships and activities.

CITIES FIT FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

Young people shape cities for the better

In 2020 we continued to support the development of medium-sized, fast-growing cities into healthy, safe places for children, working with communities, households and young people themselves.



Vivo Mi Calle promotes active mobility in Cali and is led by Fundacion Despacio.



Artwork from ArtViStory, an art students' collective taking part in documenting and co-creating OurCluj.

OurCity envisions young people-centred cities

OurCity aims to advance young people's wellbeing and opportunities by implementing coordinated programs that engage young people, civil society, policymakers, innovators and other city champions to strengthen existing city systems and to drive change where it's needed most. We found our first OurCity partners in Tanga, Tanzania and Cluj-Napoca, Romania – fast-growing cities with a desire for thriving, inclusive futures and with the right mix of engaged local stakeholders.

In 2020 the key development for OurTanga was the building of a collaborative city platform together with the City of Tanga to ensure local ownership of the effort. With their support, The OurTanga team partnered with [ProjektInspire](#) to set up Tanga's first science centre, [Robotec Labs](#), to offer fabrication training and other support to young innovators, and [Tanzania Data Lab](#), where young people and other city stakeholders will use technologies such as drones to collect data that can inform city planning and development for young people's wellbeing.

The highlight for OurCluj in Romania was the [LEAP study](#), a cross-sector, interdisciplinary assessment of young people's needs and opportunities that will serve as a baseline for future interventions. In 2021, we will set up a new fund co-funded by the City of Cluj and the business sector to support a pipeline of social enterprises led by youth aged 16 – 24 and will co-create new programs with our local partners.

[Read about OurCity](#)

“ In Tanga we have many highly talented young people, but few have access to the employment opportunities needed to secure not only their own future but the future of society at large. We want to find ways to use information and communication technologies to enable these promising young minds to fully develop their skills and potential. ”

Daudi Mayeji, Tanga City Council Director



Early in 2020, the OurCity initiative partners met in Romania to discuss and share their visions.

Healthy Cities for Adolescents expands reach

Our Healthy Cities for Adolescents (HCA) program seeks to empower young people to be change agents who promote healthy cities for all. By facilitating partnerships with local government, civil society and businesses, the approach actively engages adolescents in design and decision-making.

The HCA projects launched in 2019 in the cities of Thiès, Senegal; Tamale, Ghana; and Medellin and Cali, Colombia address physical wellbeing, including nutrition, exercise and sexual and reproductive health, as well as social and mental wellbeing. Applying digital technologies and featuring the formation of youth groups, in 2020 the projects invested in strategies to foster social cohesion, transform built environments and influence city planning for healthy outcomes. Activities include youth leadership and mentoring, social and emotional skill workshops and sports and recreation.

In 2020, new HCA projects were initiated in Vietnam and India. Managed by UNICEF, the initiative in the city of Da Nang, Vietnam is a strategic partnership of diverse actors who support the city government's plan to implement the HCA approach. In India, a landscape analysis and city assessment led to the selection of Jaipur and Bhubaneswar and the identification of potential collaborations to address critical gaps in young people's health and wellbeing. The resulting projects will begin in 2021.

[Read about the HCA Program](#)
[Watch: HCA Program and WUF10](#)

New partnerships at 10th World Urban Forum

Before COVID-19 made long-haul travel untenable, Fondation Botnar attended the 10th World Urban Forum in Abu Dhabi with the aim of catalysing discussions around how we can create inclusive, safe, liveable and healthy cities for and with young people. Today 55% of the world's people reside in urban areas. That share is set to rise to 70% by 2050, which will create new problems while worsening old ones.

At the same time, growing urbanisation presents opportunities to promote young people's wellbeing as digital technologies and artificial intelligence become more developed and widely available. At the World Urban Forum, we signed a letter of intent with UN-Habitat to explore these opportunities through initiatives such as the Future Cities Challenge. Such engagement is a part of our long-term strategy to build more locally-anchored approaches in collaboration with young people themselves.

AI AND DIGITAL FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Making technology work for children and youth

From harnessing big data to making access to care more equitable, digital technologies promise to transform health. Both caution and public-private collaboration are needed to ensure the benefits are equally shared.

Services for children at risk

Against the backdrop of COVID-19, the benefits of digitally-enabled services as a complement to hands-on health and social care stand out more clearly than ever. In an ongoing project with UNICEF in Bacău, Romania, we supported testing and implementation of a minimum package of services (MPS) model in 45 communities using the digital platform [Aurora](#). Designed for use by social and community health workers, Aurora is a real-time monitoring and evaluation tool that assists in selecting an appropriate MPS for each child and family.

In the pilot, local authorities, including social workers, community nurses and school counsellors, deployed 500 000 services on the basis of Aurora-enabled recommendations. These mostly preventive services included vaccinations, prenatal care and support for children at risk of dropping out of school. The program also improved access to these services for vulnerable groups, who might not be familiar with their rights.

UNICEF Romania deemed the pilot successful both in spotting children whose needs had previously been overlooked and in addressing their vulnerabilities. UNICEF's country office has mobilised forces in the Romanian parliament to promote a legislative change that would introduce the MPS model at the national level in a total of 2 000 communities.

“Global collaboration will be critical to the success of any effort to bring AI and digital to bear on public health. A big part of our role at I-DAIR is to bring together excellent people from emerging and established geographies of innovation who will ask questions that reveal new digital approaches to solving old problems in health.

Amandeep Singh Gill, CEO of I-DAIR



After March 2020 most of our interactions with partners were digital.

Health data and human rights

As our thinking about human rights in the context of digital technologies and artificial intelligence continued to evolve in 2020, Fondation Botnar took part in several events and dialogues on issues such as data privacy and data-sharing to help ensure that health data works for the public good. In September, for example, we hosted a virtual session on digital rights at the UN's [AI for Good Global Summit](#), together with young experts, with a focus on safeguarding the wellbeing of future generations.

We took the opportunity of the first virtual World Health Summit, held in October, to put a spotlight on health data governance, [hosting a session on the topic](#) with a diverse panel of renowned experts. We were also excited to see our partnership with [Transform Health](#) further evolve. This coalition aims to build a global movement of organisations and institutions across different sectors that are committed to achieving universal health coverage within the next ten years by expanding the responsible use of digital technology in health care.

[Watch: Our Data, Our Future](#)

New collaboration for the digital age

With our support, the new [International Digital Health & Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative \(I-DAIR\)](#), which calls itself “a distributed CERN for digital health”, entered its incubation phase in October 2020 in preparation for a full launch in 2022. As the experience of the COVID-19 pandemic highlights the potential of large datasets to help identify public health threats, I-DAIR's aim of defining and developing global public goods and other enablers for research on and development of digital health solutions could not be timelier.

I-DAIR has forged partnerships with global organisations including the WHO and the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine. Now it is rolling out [demonstration projects](#) in ten areas to develop digital health tools and enablers such as real-time epidemiology models and dashboards and a global research map. The projects' hubs-and-spokes architecture will help bring emerging geographies of innovation into cutting-edge R&D, democratise AI and align health data collection with its use.

[Read more about I-DAIR](#)

[Visit I-DAIR website](#)

MEANINGFUL YOUTH PARTICIPATION

Young innovators lead the way to change

Young people understand their own needs and bring a unique perspective to the planning, design and implementation of programs and policies. In 2020 we included their voices in more ways than ever.

Global youth council kicks off

People aged 10 – 24 make up one-quarter of the world’s population. Yet too many of them, especially young women and girls, face structural barriers to accessing health services and information – which are prerequisites for realising universal health coverage (UHC). Together with several of our partners in [Transform Health](#), we established the [Young Experts: Tech 4 Health](#) council to provide independent insight and advice on how to leverage digital innovation to address these barriers, for example, by financing health products, training health workers, destigmatising sexual and reproductive health issues and ensuring quality and accessibility of care. Launched in January 2020 and currently hosted by [Plan International Canada](#), the global council is the cornerstone of a ten-year effort to strengthen advocacy, communication and accountability for artificial intelligence, digital and frontier technologies as catalysts for the 2030 UHC agenda.

[Read about Young Experts: Tech 4 Health](#)



Young people should be able to see their cities as their own.



It is important that more young people in the world take initiatives that seek the transformation of their environment. They need to stop fearing the city and start seeing it as theirs.

Michel Tatiana Zuluaga (24) and Valentina Restrepo (25), Winners of the 2020 Future Cities Challenge in Cali, Colombia

Young minds tackle youth unemployment

While Africa’s youth under 25 – whose share of the continent’s population is 60% and rising – harbour huge potential, they are largely excluded from political, social and economic opportunities, especially employment. Together with UNICEF, we established the African Youth Digital Innovation Platform, which aims to catalyse young people’s ideas on how to create economically viable business models and employment opportunities across Africa.

The platform’s key project, the Youth Agency Marketplace (YOMA), engages young people online and offline to build their digital and other skills. Enrollees are encouraged to complete tasks for social impact or to enrol in learning and growth opportunities that enhance their learning-to-earning journey. As they do, they earn digital tokens that can be redeemed in a physical market (for instance, to buy basic commodities) or in a digital market (for instance, to buy airtime or coaching). They are also urged to document their experiences in a “credential wallet” akin to a digital CV.

[Read about the African Youth Digital Innovation Platform](#)

Youth creativity for future cities

Urban areas have suffered most as a result of COVID-19, underscoring the need both to rethink how our cities are created and to include young voices in urban planning. In a joint campaign with UN-Habitat to engage young people aged 10 –24 in this topic, we launched the [#FutureCitiesChallenge](#) in September 2020. It encompassed a gamified educational component in which children and young people identified what makes cities healthy as well as a competitive component that invited them to imagine a better future for their cities with respect to public spaces, transport, environment, technology or education.

In the competition, more than 70 submissions from across the globe proposed creative ways to address key issues facing urban youth today, many related to sustainability. The winning ideas included proposals for constructing parkour circuits in abandoned spaces, using smartphones to improve data collection in favelas and designing pavements with a focus on children’s mobility. Each winner received credits for online education courses. In 2021 we plan to incorporate the [#FutureCitiesChallenge](#) into our other programmatic activities with UN-Habitat.



GOVERNANCE

Accountable to our stakeholders

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 up to twelve years' service.

Committees and commissions

In 2020, Fondation Botnar revised its governance structure in the area of committees and commissions. The Audit & Risk Committee, the HR & Organisational Committee, the Philanthropy Committee and the Investment Commission now hold responsibility for specific tasks described on Fondation Botnar's website. The Expert Commission was dissolved at the end of 2020, and its role was taken over by the newly-formed Philanthropy Committee.

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.

Funds are recognised when the Foundation Board decides on the expenditure. In each case, the entire amount is recognised as an expense. Future payment obligations are recognised as current or non-current liabilities. Payments to funding recipients are recognised as a reduction in liabilities.

Audit and supervision

KPMG AG, Viaduktstrasse 42, 4002 Basel, Switzerland, is appointed as Fondation Botnar's statutory auditor. It conducted the audit of the foundation's 2020 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.

FOUNDATION TEAM

Committed to our vision

Board

Chair
Thomas A. Gutzwiller

Vice Chair
Flavia Bustreo

Board Members
Otto Bruderer
Martin Lenz
Amalie Molhant Proost
Elsbeth Müller
Florian Schweitzer
Marcel Tanner

Honorary Chair
Peter Lenz (Chair until 2019)

Audit & Risk Committee

Flavia Bustreo
Martin Lenz (Chair)
Amalie Molhant Proost

HR & Organisational Committee

Otto Bruderer
Martin Lenz
Elsbeth Müller (Chair)

Philanthropy Committee

Amalie Molhant Proost
Elsbeth Müller
Florian Schweitzer
Marcel Tanner (Chair)

Investment Commission

Otto Bruderer (Chair)
Urs Ernst
Thomas Gutzwiller
Susanne Haurly von Siebenthal (Deputy Chair)

Expert Commission

Michele Acuto
Alice Gugelev
Elsbeth Müller (Co-Chair)
Kelechi Vera Olowoyin
Max Price
Ramesh Raskar
Marcel Tanner (Co-Chair)

Management Office

Heike Albrecht, Risk & Compliance Manager
Aline Cossy-Gantner, Chief Learning Officer
Stefan Germann, Chief Executive Officer
Susanna Hausmann-Muela, Chief Program Officer
Thuy Anh Huynh-Le, Grants Administrator
Ursula Jasper, Policy Officer
Siddhartha Jha, AI/Digital Program Manager
Kiara Marvuglio, Engagement & Communications Manager
Szandra McCrory, Executive Assistant
Namrata Mehta, Young Professionals Program
Eva Moldovanyi, Grant Manager
Zur Oren, Learning Hub & Partnerships Coordinator
Beatrice Schibler, Research Project Manager
Karin Schumacher, Chief Operating Officer
Sushant Sharma, Chief Investment Officer
Samira Stauffiger, Administration Trainee
David Suhr, Strategic Learning & Evaluation Manager
Antoine Veyrassat, Senior Portfolio Manager
Daniela Weber, Young Professionals Program
Bea Weibel, Office Administrator

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Annual Report 2020

BALANCE SHEET	31.12.20 mCHF	31.12.19 mCHF
ASSETS		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	74.68	92.65
Other current receivables	13.89	15.08
Non-current assets		
Securities	3,768.95	3,678.62
Furniture, office equipment	0.30	0.37
Property	5.22	5.28
TOTAL ASSETS	3,863.04	3,792.00
LIABILITIES		
Other short-term liabilities	1.23	0.79
Short-term provisions for funding contributions	63.34	47.95
Deferred income and accrued expenses	2.03	1.70
Long-term provisions for funding contributions	105.57	113.10
Organisational capital	3,690.88	3,628.47
TOTAL LIABILITIES	3,863.05	3,792.00

INCOME STATEMENT	1.1. - 31.12.20 mCHF	1.1. - 31.12.19 mCHF
Financial result		
Securities income incl. fees	137.83	498.89
NET INCOME	137.83	498.89
Direct project costs according to the foundation's deed		
Funding contributions	-64.80	-42.29
GROSS PROFIT	73.03	456.60
Operational expenses		
Personnel expenses incl. remuneration	-4.52	-4.06
Material expenses	-6.04	-4.74
Depreciation and valuation adjustments on fixed asset items		
	-0.18	-0.21
NET PROFIT (before allocation to organisation capital)	62.29	447.59

GRANTS AWARDED

Projects and programs 2020

In 2020 the Foundation Board approved the following projects and programs with a total funding amount of CHF 64.8m. This amount includes grant increases and extensions, mainly due to the COVID-19 pandemic, not included in the list below.

COVID-19 response grants	Organisation	Countries	Amount	Timeline
EPFL COVID-19 Real Time Epidemiology I-DAIR Pathfinder	École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL)	Switzerland	CHF 5,000,000	2021 - 2023
Information Campaign Swiss Covid App	Stiftung Risiko-Dialog	Switzerland	CHF 50,000	2020
Technology Tools for COVID-19 Response	CSIR Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology	India	CHF 300,000	2020 - 2021
Fast Track Call for Acute Global Health Challenge	ETH Zurich / University of Basel	Switzerland	CHF 15,000,000	2020 - 2022
Support for the the rapid scale-up of COVID-19 testing in Tanzania and Zanzibar	Ifakara Health Institute (IHI)	Tanzania	CHF 500,000	2020
Support for the Provision of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)	UNICEF Romania	Romania	CHF 400,000	2020

Research grants	Organisation	Countries	Amount	Timeline
Chair and Program in Child and Youth Rights at the Minerva Center for Human Rights, Faculty of Law	The Hebrew University of Jerusalem	Israel	USD 4,350,000	2021 - 2026
International Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative (I-DAIR)	Foundation for the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies	Switzerland	CHF 7,000,000	2020 - 2022
ARISE Adolescent Health Survey: harnessing longitudinal data and digital technologies to improve adolescent health across sub-Saharan Africa	Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health	Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda	USD 329,673	2021 - 2022
Feasibility Study for a Social Impact Bond preventing health problems among children and adolescents	Social Finance Israel	Israel	USD 294,119	2021
Addressing the mental health needs of adolescents in schools, in the community and at institutional level in Tanzania and Vietnam through the co-creation and application of digital technologies	Overseas Development Institute (ODI)	Tanzania, Vietnam	GBP 850,381	2020 - 2022
Transylvanian Experimental Neuroscience Summer School (TENSS)	Asociatia Transylvanian Institute of Neuroscience	Romania	EUR 120,000	2020 - 2024

Implementation grants	Organisation	Countries	Amount	Timeline
Ghana Science and Tech Explorer Prize	DreamOval Foundation	Ghana	USD 2,326,758	2021 - 2024
Engaging Youth, Advancing Technology and Changing Culture with a Community-Developed Wiki for Sustained Urban Wellbeing and Livability	BASAbali	Indonesia	USD 563,368	2021 - 2024
AI&Me: Empowering youth for safer roads	AIP Foundation	Vietnam	CHF 659,620	2021 - 2024
4IR Youth Workforce Marketplace for Bogotá	Fundación Corona	Colombia	USD 851,684	2021 - 2024
Food Investigator Game	Global Alliance for Improved Nutrition (GAIN)	Indonesia	USD 2,214,500	2021 - 2023
Food System Resilience Lab: Strengthening sustainability education and innovation in Colombia through the co-creation of solutions for urban food risk mitigation	Universidad Ean	Colombia	USD 459,244	2021 - 2024
Let's break the cycle - scaling a sensitisation program on menstruation with digital innovation	It4life	Senegal	EUR 676,875	2021 - 2024
Fit for the future: Leveraging data and frontier technologies to build an NCD program for youth, with youth	PATH	Vietnam	USD 985,486	2021 - 2023
Empowering Colombian adolescents and youths in Soacha and Pereira to take charge of their emotional and mental wellbeing	Fundación Centro Internacional de Educación y Desarrollo Humano (CINDE)	Colombia	USD 600,126	2021 - 2023
Cities for You(th): Digital tools to enable youth leadership for urban well-being	Active Learning Solutions Pvt. Ltd	India	EUR 879,191	2021 - 2024
Technology-enabled Quality Learning Initiative in Urban Odisha	ThinkZone	India	CHF 412,530	2021 - 2024
Open Skies Fellows: African Tech for African Data	OpenMap Development Tanzania, Inc.	Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Tanzania	USD 406,700	2021 - 2023
Cyber-based intervention to combat gender-based violence among Indonesian youth	Perkumpulan Lintas Feminis Jakarta	Indonesia	CHF 292,796	2021 - 2023
Fly for the Future	WeRobotics	Ecuador, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Morocco, Senegal, Tanzania	CHF 660,682	2021 - 2023
OurTanga Secretariat Backbone Organisation	Economic and Social Research Foundation (ESRF)	Tanzania	USD 400,000	2021 - 2023
Fund Manager for Tanga Adolescent Health and Wellbeing Programme	INNOVEX Development Consulting Ltd.	Tanzania	USD 3,380,100	2021 - 2022
Tanzania Open Innovation Lab	Robotech Labs LTD	Tanzania	CHF 361,000	2020 - 2023
Learning Qub	Centrul Cultural Clujean	Romania	CHF 832,227	2020 - 2023
Transformation of Tanga City Environment for Healthy and Productive Development of Children and Adolescents	Tanzania Data Lab	Tanzania	CHF 300,000	2020 - 2023
Transform Health - Health for all in the digital age	Transform Health	Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Senegal	USD 4,998,500	2021 - 2023
Improving health, social and economic outcomes for adolescents aged 10-19	World Health Organization (WHO)	Cameroon, Ghana, India, Kenya, Liberia, Malawi, Mexico, Nigeria, Sierra Leone, Zambia, Zimbabwe	USD 3,000,000	2020 - 2023

One-off grants	Organisation	Countries	Amount	Timeline
Ongoing Support for the Transform Health Coalition	PATH	India, Kenya, Senegal	USD 375,778	2021
Digital Rights Training Programme	Thomson Reuters Foundation	Global / not country-specific	GBP 228,402	2021 - 2023
ARISE Adolescent Health Survey: Harnessing longitudinal data and digital technologies to improve adolescent health across sub-Saharan Africa - Tanga, Tanzania Supplement	Africa Academy for Public Health (AAPH)	Tanzania	USD 210,547	2021 - 2022
Kick Fund (support for initial phase)	Kick Foundation	Switzerland	CHF 20,000	2020
Mayoral Initiative	Big Win Philanthropy	Senegal	USD 65,000	2020 - 2021
Innovative Finance for ECD in Namibia - Design Phase	COMUNDO	Namibia	CHF 279,000	2021
Talent Kick - a value creation pipeline for boosting entrepreneurial excellence	ETH Zurich	Switzerland	CHF 380,000	2020 - 2022
Digital health and rights: A participatory action research project	Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies	Ghana, Kenya, Vietnam	CHF 378,895	2021 - 2022
Landscaping of Youth Mental Health Policies, Programs and Stakeholders in India	PATH	India	USD 329,794	2021 - 2022
Lancet Commission on Gender-based Violence and Maltreatment of Young People	University of Miami	Brazil, Mexico, South Africa, Tanzania	USD 292,600	2021 - 2022
Enabling environment for ECD investment in Namibia	COMUNDO	Namibia	CHF 300,000	2020 - 2021
The future of education - Digital Platform	Spark Innovation Ltd.	Israel	USD 387,500	2020 - 2021
Artificial Intelligence Initiative within Tanzania's Centre for Digital Health	PATH	Tanzania	CHF 299,513	2020 - 2021
Support for the Resource & Investment Circle combined with the development of a "Tanga Connected" model as a living lab in Tanzania	Joep Lange Institute	Switzerland	CHF 300,000	2020 - 2022
Evidence to Action Implementation Partnership	University of Melbourne	Australia, Kenya	CHF 275,200	2020
Child-Centered Approach in Israel: Theory put to Practice	National Council for the Child	Israel	CHF 298,577	2020 - 2021
START Fellowship Pilot	START Global	Switzerland	CHF 298,900	2020 - 2021
Bridge Funding to design the Basel Pillar of the Global Entrepreneurship Platform in Digital Health	BaselArea	Switzerland	CHF 98,750	2020 - 2021
Principles for Digital Development - Sustainability Business Model Guide & Toolkit (Phase II)	United Nations Foundation	Global / not country-specific	USD 299,024	2021
AI for Good activation in communities	AI Commons	India, Tanzania	USD 300,000	2020
Developing the national policy framework for Digital Health in Romania	Committee for UNICEF Switzerland & Liechtenstein	Romania	USD 283,250	2020 - 2021
(in)VISIBLE: Creative documentation & process evaluation in support of E2A Framework and community engagement for Learning Hub Cluj	Asociatia UniversitArt	Romania	CHF 291,540	2020 - 2021
Frontline Health XPRIZE Prize Design Phase	XPRIZE Foundation, Inc.	United States	USD 250,000	2020
Digital Health within Switzerland's International Health Cooperation	Medicus Mundi Switzerland	Switzerland	CHF 220,740	2020
Communal volunteerism catalysing attitudinal and behavioural changes in disengaged youth in Israel	Nochah - Giving as a Way of Life	Israel	USD 300,000	2020 - 2022

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