

foundation
BOTNAR

Our Year

Annual Report 2021



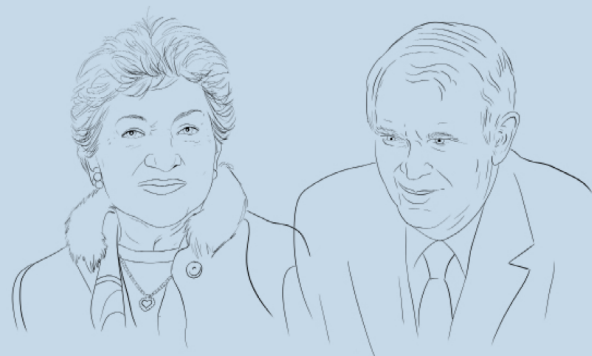
2021 at a glance

Total funding awarded
CHF 69.9m

New grants awarded
30

About Fondation Botnar

Fondation Botnar is a Swiss philanthropic foundation based in Basel and established in 2003 to continue the philanthropic legacy of Marcela and Octav Botnar. The foundation works to improve the health and wellbeing of young people living in cities around the world. Advocating for the inclusion of youth voices and the equitable use of AI and digital technology, the foundation invests in and supports innovative programs and research and brings together actors from across sectors to create dialogue and partnerships.



Marcela and Octav Botnar

Contents

02	2021 at a glance
03	Message from the Chair of the Board
04	Our milestones
06	Cities fit for young people
08	AI and digital for an equitable future
10	Meaningful youth participation
12	Reflections from the CEO
14	Governance
15	Team
16	Finances
18	Grants awarded



Experience the
interactive version
of this report **here!**

Message from the Chair of the Board

"As the global pandemic continued last year, countries, cities, and people around the world have been forced to come to terms with an uneasy reality — the reality of living with COVID-19. In such a difficult moment, the pandemic has reinforced for us the importance of our partners and grantees' work, the people we're here to support, and shown us how much impact we can make together.

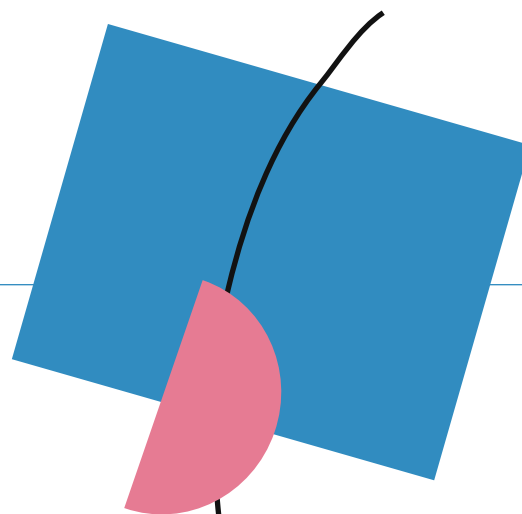
People have found new value in discovering ways to work together and support each other in a way we haven't seen before, particularly when it comes to the health and wellbeing of young people. It has been a wakeup call for the importance of creating inclusive, sustainable systems that form the foundations of our cities, and highlighted the vast importance of the responsible use of technology to create those systems. This work has never been more relevant or more valuable than right now.

And, as the world has adapted,
so have we. Over the year, we've
continued to bring our strategy
to life across the foundation and
throughout our projects.

Our new governance structures have already begun to show us the value that strengthened collaboration can bring, letting committees and working groups across the organisation focus more closely on the topics that drive our work forward.

Working with each other and our partners, we're continuing to learn, develop, and grow; to make new progress every day. Together, we can be confident that Fondation Botnar will help create a world where young people can thrive, no matter who or where they are. I want to thank each of you for engaging so positively in our mission and helping us to advance our work collectively."

Thomas A. Gutzwiller
Fondation Botnar
Chair of the Board



Celebrating milestones

Last year, together with our partners, we continued to make important progress towards our goals — celebrating new ideas, new projects, and new partnerships. Here are a few of our highlights.



New publication: Uniting for adolescents in COVID-19 and beyond

As part of an unprecedented coalition of governments, United Nations agencies, NGOs, and academic institutions, we added our support to an important call for unity and renewed focus on health and wellbeing for young people. The open letter was published in The BMJ.

Opening the first science centre in Tanzania

Our close partners at ProjektInspire and Tanga City Council opened STEMpark as part of the OurTanga initiative, providing opportunities for young people to learn science through practice.



Reaching new records with Afya-Tek

Afya-Tek is using exciting digital tools to address long-standing fragmentation in Tanzania's health system. This year, the project reached new heights, reaching 280,000 people, making 160,000 home visits, and led to a 3x increase in patient referrals.



Achieving stellar results with DYNAMIC pilot

A key pilot study that used new algorithmic support tools was a huge success, cutting down unnecessary antibiotic prescriptions for children by as much as four times. The pilot goes to show the positive impact that digital tools and data can have when used in the right way.

Launching 14 new projects with Fit4Future

We announced our support of 14 important projects as part of our new Fit4Future portfolio. Driven by young people, the projects are focused on building skills fit for the future, technological solutions to health challenges, and young action for thriving cities.



Unveiling recommendations for a healthier digital future for young people

We're proud to have supported the work of the *Lancet and Financial Times Commission* on its landmark *Governing Health Futures 2030: Growing up in a digital world* report, exploring why we need a value-based approach to health and wellbeing for young people.



Digital Health & AI



I-DAIR's global map of R&D for digital health and AI

Our partners at I-DAIR launched an important new tool to explore digital health and AI research, track current trends, and identify gaps in research and innovation worldwide: the Global Research Map of Digital Health & AI.

Welcoming a new cohort of Young Professionals

We're delighted to be joined by our next pair of young change-makers at our Basel HQ, Manuel and Illan, focusing on Cities and Human Rights in the Digital Age respectively.



Sparking conversations at Intelligent Health

We were pleased to return to the Intelligent Health summit in Amsterdam to take part in important discussions on leveraging the vast potential of AI and digital to improve health outcomes worldwide. This year we hosted a panel on community health initiatives.

SEPTEMBER

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

Introducing our Digital Health Week commitment

We joined dozens of other organisations celebrating the first Digital Health Week, by Transform Health, with a series of discussions and events — and announced our own CHF 25M commitment to programs, advocacy, and partnerships at the intersection of human rights and digital health.



Imagining safer cities with S2Cities launch

S2Cities focuses on working directly with young people to improve their urban safety and wellbeing. Led by our partners at Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation, this represents youth participation in action, co-creating inclusive structures for tackling challenges.

Cities fit for young people

Throughout 2021, we've continued to work side-by-side with young people, to create urban environments that are truly ready to support **them**.

Within the next few decades, more than two-thirds of people will live in urban areas and millions more young people will be growing up in cities that are full of challenges — but also opportunities for a better life. We've only begun to scratch the surface of just how deep the relationship is between young people's wellbeing and the many interconnected influences of the world around them that can have positive or negative effects on them.

Nowhere is this more important than in growing cities. The systems they're built on must be sustainable, liveable, and safe for young people. It is vital that they have inclusive and enabling environments that can support their needs and set them up to succeed in the ways they deserve.

In 2021, we took that approach to heart, with increasing success. We've seen our existing programs go from strength to strength and expand into important new areas, as well as supporting the launch of exciting new collaborations, working directly with young people as key decision makers and contributors.

With our partners, we're creating cities that offer young people the opportunities to take control of their lives, from education to employment. In May the **STEMpark** opened in Tanga, (the very first city in Tanzania to have a science centre). The centre provides opportunities for young people to learn science through practice.

"We enable environments for young people to have a better future — and the important chance to bring their ideas to life through platforms created in their cities."

Susanna Hausmann
Chief Program Officer, Fondation Botnar



Meanwhile, in Cluj-Napoca, as part of **OurCluj**, a new cross-sector Innovation and Experiment Fund, co-funded and supported by the city council and business sector, is supporting new social initiatives and enterprises led by young people.

We've also been working closely with young people themselves. Collaborative work on the **Healthy Cities for Adolescents** initiative has continued to grow stronger, with discussions, workshops and round-tables taking place with young people around the world — from Vietnam, India and Colombia, to Senegal and Ghana. New partnerships are being created at a rapid rate across the board to drive city-wide, inclusive action — in Da Nang, for example, important new connections were made with both the private sector and youth organisations.

Meanwhile, projects like **S2Cities** are offering collaborative ways to address safety and security concerns in urban environments, led by young voices. Through innovation workshops and connecting them with key decision makers in their cities, S2Cities is providing a chance to give young people a voice on how to address safety challenges well into the future.



"We want to see the democratisation of technology. Better digital infrastructure for young people in cities is crucial to ensure their meaningful participation as citizens."

Joyati Das
Director, Healthy Cities for Adolescents



AI and digital for an equitable future

2021 showed us clearer than ever the potential of technology to help us overcome global challenges — but also why it must always be based in human rights.

The disruption caused by the global pandemic has shown us how transformative the power of technology can be on the lives of us all.

COVID-19 has transformed the way we connect and live out our lives. This has been especially true for young people, with unprecedented millions switching to virtual means for their education and social interaction. Across sectors, technology has become a lifeline, and its potential is vast.

But that sudden shift has also showed how vital it is that technological potential is brought to life in a way which keeps equity, human rights, and sustainability at its core. Digital solutions must be safe and reliable, decision-making transparent, and algorithms and human interfaces fair to all. In October, we were proud to support the launch of *The Lancet and Financial Times Commission* report on this topic, **‘Governing Health Futures 2030: Growing up in a digital world’**. It outlines how — and why — we need to adopt a value-based approach to the governance of digital technologies that focuses on the health and wellbeing of children and young people in an increasingly digital and data-driven world.

In 2021, we’ve continued to put these principles at the core of our own approach, and worked to put equity and humanity even further at the centre of how we collaborate in this space and unlock the possibilities of AI and digital for good.

Through projects like **DYNAMIC**, **I-DAIR**, **Afya-Tek** and **Fit4Future**, we’ve seen how AI and digital solutions, when used responsibly, can have a hugely positive impact on the lives of young people worldwide, while **Transform Health** has established itself as a multi-partner advocacy coalition that calls for a rights-based digital transformation of global health.

“Our biggest learning has been flexibility and keeping in mind that young people have different ways of working and approaching issues. We must be innovative and open in the way we want to deliver knowledge.”

Kalpana Viswanath
CEO Safetipin

*Safetipin is part of Fondation Botnar’s Fit4Future Program



“The incredible potential of digital technology could transform the health and wellbeing of young people across the world — but it must be responsible and equitable. Championing that equity is both our opportunity and our duty.”

Siddhartha Jha
AI/Digital Program Manager, Fondation Botnar



Meaningful youth participation

When they have the tools to join in and participate, young people can play a crucial role in shaping our collective future.

By 2030, almost 40% of the global population will be below 25 years of age, according to UN estimates. And yet, despite being the largest generation of young people in history, too many youth voices around the world are being left out of the decision-making process, denied their basic right to participate — especially in growing cities and low- and middle-income countries.

When they're included as equal partners, young people can take the lead as drivers of social, economic, and environmental change in the 21st century.

This year, we expanded our work supporting platforms that keep young people and their needs at their centre, to give them the space to contribute to work that affects them and be treated as equal partners at every stage of the process.

Through programs like **YOMA (the Youth Agency Marketplace)**, young people have been able to access opportunities to both build up skills and make a meaningful impact on their community in both digital and physical environments. 2021 has been an important year

“Engaging young people from the very beginning of a partnership with a city and its ecosystem is an exciting process, which provides a unique learning experience for all parties involved.”

Zur Oren,
Partnerships Coordinator, Fondation Botnar



for the project, becoming an independent organisation and setting a new record of reaching 300,000 young people across sub-Saharan Africa. By the end of 2022, they aim to increase this to 3 million young people.

We've been proud to continue supporting **Young Experts: Tech 4 Health**, a platform for young people to shape and drive the global agenda of Universal Health Coverage through data and digital technology. In 2021, they took an important step, moving under the wing of our partners at Transform Health, where they can continue to use their voices and guide the coalition to include youth perspectives on the future of global health.

We've also continued with our **Young Professionals Program**, inviting young voices into the heart of the foundation. This year two new up-and-coming changemakers have joined us at our Basel headquarters: Manual Crain (Cities), and Illan Acher (Human Rights in the Digital Age). We've already seen the benefits of the program, while they gain experience, they enrich our perspectives, ideas, and expertise.



“We need to expand our thinking and actively employ young people to be the ones poking and prodding, looking for vulnerabilities before we launch a digital product or framework.”

Kate Pundyk
Young Experts: Tech 4 Health



Reflections from the CEO

Young people building partnerships across generations and taking a leading role in their own future has never been more important than it is right now.

The last year has been a vital exercise in living the values that we've built our foundations on. As we go forward, we'll continue to embrace and adopt a more relational, holistic approach to young people's wellbeing; proud to be shaping our work based on how young people truly experience and interact with their world — not just in our own strategy, but as champions for them in the design and delivery of everything we work on.

For me, working closely with young people has been important and inspiring. Their strength in the face of vast, global events like the COVID-19 pandemic and the climate crisis have shown us once again the resilience, innovation, and optimism that young people represent.

Moments like these are a valuable chance for us to stop, take a look back, and reflect on everything we've achieved together, before we set our sights back on the horizon and move forward into the future.

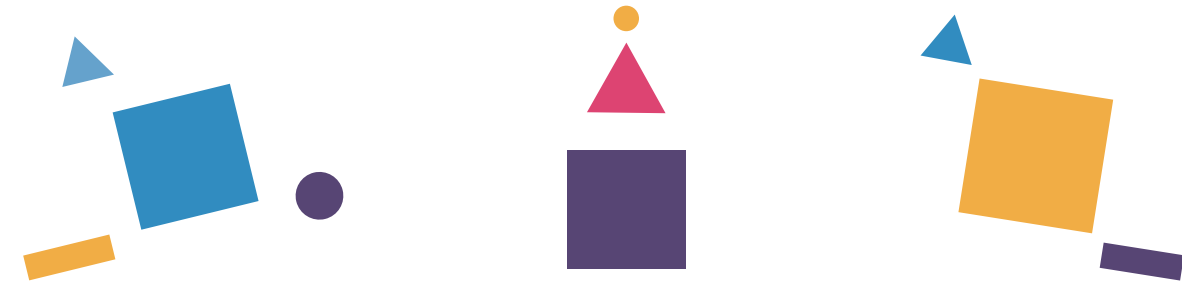
I want to thank all our new and existing partners and supporters for your innovation and collaboration in 2021. We look forward to carrying on improving the wellbeing of young people around the world, together.

"Creating a fairer, brighter future for young people has never been more important than it is right now."

Stefan Germann
CEO of Fondation Botnar



Things we learned in 2021



The deeper our understanding, the greater our impact

Learning must be a continual process. To have the greatest impact, we need to continually and effectively monitor and evaluate our work, right from the very beginning. Only then are we able to overcome issues long into the future, make deep systematic changes, preempt challenges, and avoid leaving anyone behind.

Inspiring local young ownership is vital to real change

Ensuring people feel seen and respected isn't just valuable for projects, it is a moral imperative. We've seen that the most effective projects are those in which local communities, and young people in particular, have a direct voice and stake in them. We cannot transform wellbeing if the people we're working with aren't being embraced as part of it.

Digital health momentum is building

Events like Digital Health Week and major publications like Governing Health Futures 2030 commission report are demonstrating to leaders everywhere the importance of digital health for young people worldwide. As technology advances, we must be ready to harness that awareness and sense of urgency to ensure that technology is being used responsibly.

Governance

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

The Audit & Risk Committee, HR & Organisational Committee, Philanthropy Committee, and Investment Commission hold responsibility for specific tasks described on Fondation Botnar's website.

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 2021 by external specialists, who confirmed that the investment structure and risk profile of the investments were suitable for the goals of the foundation. The Strategic Asset Allocation was further evolved, with slight changes.

Foundation team

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 Haury von Siebenthal (Deputy Chair)

Management Office

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

Financial statements

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.

BALANCE SHEET

	2021 mCHF	2020 mCHF
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	82.97	74.68
Other current receivables	13.33	13.89
Non-current Assets		
Securities	4,110.68	3,768.95
Furniture, office equipment	0.20	0.30
Property	4.86	5.22
TOTAL ASSETS	4,212.04	3,863.04
LIABILITIES		
Short-term liabilities	1.28	1.23
Short-term provisions for funding contributions	75.03	63.34
Deferred income and accrued expenses	1.06	2.02
Long-term provisions for funding contributions	106.36	105.57
Organisationl capital	4,028.31	3,690.88
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,212.04	3,863.04

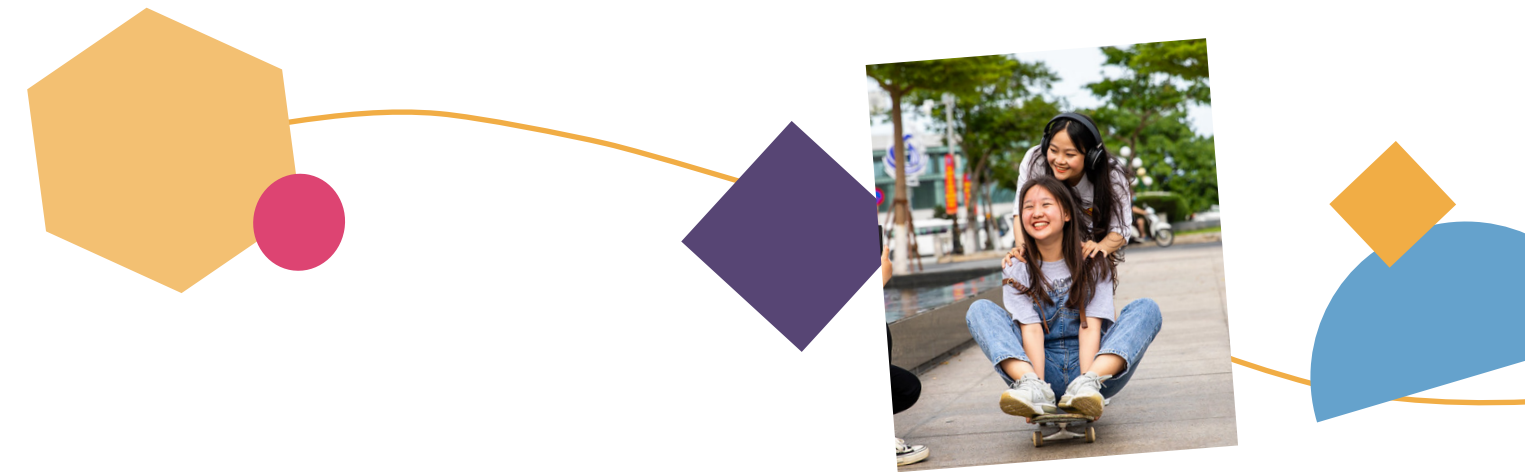
INCOME STATEMENT

	1.1. - 31.12.2021 mCHF	1.1. - 31.12.2020 mCHF
Financial result		
Securities income incl. fees	419.84	137.83
NET INCOME	419.84	137.83
Direct project costs according to the foundation's deed		
Funding contributions	-69.87	-64.80
GROSS PROFIT	349.97	73.03
Operational expenses		
Personnel expenses incl. remuneration	-4.90	-4.52
Material expenses	-6.80	-6.04
Depreciation and valuation adjustments on fixed asset items	-0.60	-0.18
Extraordinary result	-0.24	0.00
NET PROFIT (before allocation to organisation capital)	337.43	62.29

Grants awarded

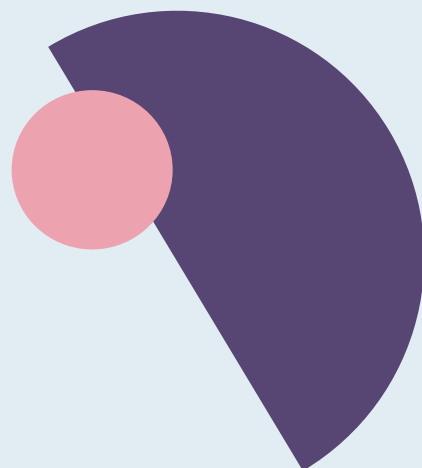
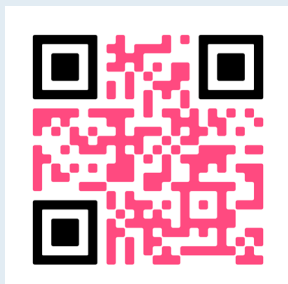
In 2021 the Foundation Board approved grants for the following new projects and programs, with a total funding amount of CHF 69.9m.

Project	Organisation	Countries	Amount	Timeline
Program Management for the Healthy Cities for Adolescents Phase 2	Ecorys UK Ltd.	Colombia, Ecuador, Ghana, India, Senegal, Vietnam	GBP 15,942,010	2021-2026
Children and Young People's Digital Rights, Health and Wellbeing	Amnesty International	Argentina, Kenya, Philippines, Ukraine, United Kingdom	GBP 8,500,000	2022-2028
Yoma (youth agency marketplace)	GenU Multi-Purpose Trust Fund	Burundi, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania	USD 5,319,494	2022-2024
Adolescent Health Learning, Action and Benchmarking (ADLAB)	The World Bank	Global	USD 5,000,000	2022-2024
START Fellowship Program	START Global	Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Switzerland	CHF 4,892,205	2021-2026
Safe and Sound City Program (S²Cities)	Global Infrastructure Basel Foundation	Global	CHF 4,053,641	2021-2024
Youth Gamechangers Initiative (YGI)	United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)	Colombia, India, Senegal	USD 3,990,380	2022-2025
Y-Check: The Effectiveness and Cost-Effectiveness of Adolescent Health and Well-being Check-ups in Three African Cities	World Health Organization (WHO)	Ghana, Tanzania, Zimbabwe	USD 3,558,564	2022-2024
"For every child, access to a minimum package of services (MPS) – support to the national scaling-up of MPS in Romania"	Committee for UNICEF Switzerland & Liechtenstein	Romania	USD 3,192,703	2021-2024
Adolescent Well-being in a Digital Age: A Global Advocacy Initiative, 2020 to 2024	Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH)	Global	USD 3,000,000	2022-2025
Streets for Kids	Rockefeller Philanthropy Advisors (RPA)	Global	USD 800,000	2022-2023
Facilitating Co-Investments in Colombia	New Ventures Group (NVG)	Colombia	USD 399,682	2021-2023
MESH - Unlocking value for Africa's informal sector micro-entrepreneurs	Player First Ltd.	Kenya	USD 399,517	2021-2022
Promoting Youth and Community Innovation for City Sustainable Development	United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat)	Vietnam	CHF 380,000	2022-2025



Project	Organisation	Countries	Amount	Timeline
Edgelands Institute in Colombia: Towards a resilient and inclusive urban social contract for Medellín and Cúcuta's youth in a digital age	Edgelands Institute	Colombia	CHF 379,782	2021-2023
Co-creating OurCluj, a values-based urban living laboratory, to improve the wellbeing of young people and build local capabilities	SDG CoLab	Romania	CHF 373,950	2021-2022
Young Experts Tech4Health	Transform Health Association	Global	CHF 371,900	2021-2023
Conceptual Framework for an Investment Case for the Digital Transformation of Health Systems	Joep Lange Institute	Global	CHF 370,000	2021-2022
Strengthening the Startup Ecosystems in Tanzania Mainland and Zanzibar	Tanzania Startup Association	Tanzania	CHF 370,000	2022-2024
Digital systems	Smart Africa Secretariat	Smart Africa Member Countries	CHF 350,000	2022-2023
Cluj Innovation and Experiment Fund (CIEF) - First Iteration	Asociatia Cluster de Educatie C-EDU	Romania	EUR 345,000	2021-2022
Yoma (youth agency marketplace)	Committee for UNICEF Switzerland & Liechtenstein	Burundi, Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, South Africa, Tanzania	CHF 339,900	2021-2022
Enabling digital health promotion in LMICs: ethics and policy guidance for three sub-Saharan African countries	ETH Zurich	Ghana, Kenya, South Africa, Switzerland	CHF 338,210	2021-2023
LSHTM's Triple C Project: Climate Change, Cities, Child and Adolescent Health	London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)	United Kingdom	GBP 299,668	2021-2022
OncoGenomics & Paediatric Health	European Alliance for Personalised Medicine (EAPM)	Slovenia	EUR 249,385	2021
Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) Framework for OurCity initiatives	Rural Senses LTD	Romania	USD 131,230	2021-2022
Small Grants for Learning Journey Changemaker Programme	cinfo	Switzerland	CHF 90,000	2021-2023
Grant Development Support	Learning for Well-being Foundation	Netherlands	CHF 50,000	2021
Grant Development Support	Amnesty International	United Kingdom	CHF 50,000	2021
NextGen Programm für junge Stiftungsrätinnen und Stiftungsräte	Board4Good Program Foundation	Switzerland	CHF 30,000	2021-2023

Read the
interactive report
here!



Imprint

© Fondation Botnar, Basel, Switzerland
Editorial office & Design: Shape History,
social impact communications agency, London UK

Thank you for reading. Please email us at
info@fondationbotnar.org if you would like
to provide feedback on this Annual Report.

Fondation Botnar
St. Alban-Vorstadt 56
4052 Basel
Switzerland

+41 61 201 04 74

info@fondationbotnar.org
www.fondationbotnar.org

Follow us!

[@FondationBotnar](https://twitter.com/FondationBotnar)

[LinkedIn.com/company/fondationbotnar](https://www.linkedin.com/company/fondationbotnar)

[Facebook.com/fondationbotnar](https://www.facebook.com/fondationbotnar)