



Annual Report 2015

Foundation Goals

The Hirschmann Foundation is based in Zug, Switzerland, and has been operating in its present form since 2001. It aims at supporting basic and advanced education, scientific research, and the accomplishment of social goals.

Main Focus

In the reporting year 2015, the Hirschmann Foundation mainly focused on the following goals:

1. *Support of Scientific Research*

Project ETH Zurich Foundation since 2014

Since 2014, the foundation has been supporting the research project "The Swiss Vocational Education System and its Social Status" with an annual fund of CHF 50,000.–. The project is expected to run for three years. The Hirschmann Foundation has therefore partnered with the ETH Zurich Foundation that is responsible for the project organization.

The project aims at determining decisive factors and their impact on the social status of vocational education. Furthermore, the importance of these factors is to be presented – on national and international level.

Project Brain and Trauma Foundation since 2014

Since 2014, the foundation has been supporting the research project "Biomarker oriented diagnosis and therapy in case of ADHD and comorbidity" with an annual fund of CHF 166,666.–. The project is expected to run for three years. The Hirschmann Foundation has therefore partnered with the Brain and Trauma Foundation Grisons that is responsible for the project organization.

Diagnosis and therapy in today's ADHD treatment are heavily marked by subjective elements. The research project aims at contributing to an objective diagnosis and therapy in order to reduce **today's risk of (medicinal and non-medicinal) mistreatment.**

PSI Paul Scherrer Institute / novatlantis

In the reporting year, the foundation board decided to support the research project "Success factors of energy accounting and energy/CO₂ balancing of municipal buildings" during two years with an annual fund of CHF 105,000.–. The foundation has therefore partnered with the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) that is responsible for the project organization. Affiliated with the PSI is Novatlantis, the sustainability/energy initiative of the ETH Domain.

The project aims at clarifying the conditions for a more efficient and CO₂ reduced use of energy in municipal buildings.

Garden Organic

In the reporting year, the foundation board decided to support the project "London – Food Poverty" during three years with a total fund of CHF 190,000.–. The foundation has therefore partnered with the Henry Doubleday Research Association (Garden Organic) that is responsible for the project organization.

In London's city district of Southwark, Garden Organic is going to conduct information events promoting a healthy diet in the specific context of urban areas. The events are going to take place from July 2016 to June 2018 and are going to be held in cooperation with qualified instructors.

The pilot project aims at leading people with low income to a healthy and autonomous diet and at preventing them from unhealthy eating habits that can cause obesity and alcoholism.

2. Support of Integration Projects at Swiss Vocational Colleges since 2008

Since 2008, the foundation has been supporting integration projects at Swiss vocational colleges with an annual fund of approximately CHF 350,000.–. The goal is to overcome cultural and linguistic barriers, prejudices and mentality differences among students of various origins.

The foundation has therefore partnered with the Swiss conference of vocational school directors (SDK-CSD), which has mandated a project group. The foundation board would like to thank all project group members, Francesco Franchini, Roberto Valaperta, Werner Roggenkemper, Claude-Alain Vuille, and Maja Zehnder for their excellent cooperation.

In the reporting year, the foundation board staged 30 projects upon request of the SDK-CSD project group, providing funds of approximately CHF 451,900.–.

3. Hirschmann Scholarships for University of Applied Sciences Students since 2008

Since 2008, the Hirschmann Foundation has been awarding scholarships to university of applied sciences students, providing an annual amount of approximately CHF 300,000.–. In the reporting year, the foundation board decided to prolong this commitment for two more years. The foundation has therefore partnered with swissuniversities (chamber of universities of applied sciences).

The Hirschmann Foundation provides information about the scholarship program on its website www.hirschmann-stipendium.ch, as well as through flyers and posters at the universities. swissuniversities all administrative work to Alexandra Richter, Head of University Services, Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.

The goal of the Hirschmann scholarship program is to sponsor promising students with extraordinary performances in their **Bachelor's program** who are about to enter a **Master's program at one of the universities of applied sciences that are recognized by the Rectors' Conference of the Universities of Applied Sciences (KFH)**. Not only the **applicants' performances, but also their social** commitment is considered when awarding a scholarship. Applicants must be recommended by two professors of a Swiss university of applied sciences in order to be granted a scholarship.

In 2015, 52 applicants qualified for a scholarship. The scholarships range between CHF 5,000.– and CHF 10,000.–. The Hirschmann Foundation introduces its scholarship holders on its website (www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch).

4. *Supporting Small Businesses in Mali since 2010*

Since 2010, the Hirschmann Foundation has been supporting the savings and micro credit project in Mali. The foundation has therefore partnered with Swisscontact that is responsible for the project organization. Swisscontact has assigned Maud Krafft with the project leadership. In the reporting year, the foundation board decided to prolong its commitment for two more years.

Proactive men and women in Mali (mainly in the Sikasso region) who are qualified craftsmen or farmers are given the opportunity to make a living for themselves and their families by establishing their own businesses.

The project has successfully evolved. Since it started in 2010, over 270 WASA-savings groups have formed. Approximately 80% of members are women. For the third project phase, the **project's** system and sustainability is going to be tested in another region with new instructors.

5. *Swiss Youth Music Contest since 2012*

Since 2012, the foundation has been supporting the Swiss Youth Music Contest with an annual fund of CHF 50,000.–. The Hirschmann Foundation has therefore partnered with the Swiss Youth Music Contest Foundation (SJMW).

The Youth Music Contest offers young talented musicians the opportunity to perform publicly and to participate in national and international contests.

In the reporting year, the 'Classics' contest was conducted for the 40th time and the finals took place in Lugano from May 7 to May 10, 2015. **The 'Jazz, Rock&Pop' contest** was conducted for the 4th time. The regional contests (Entrada) were carried out in different Swiss locations from March 20 to March 22, 2015.

On September 13, 2015, the SJMW played a concert in Zurich to celebrate its 40 year anniversary.

Furthermore, the Hirschmann Master Course was conducted for the first time in August 2015 in Arosa. The Master Course is a cooperation project by the SJMW, Arosa Kultur, and the Hirschmann Foundation. It aims at providing fresh impulses to SJMW award recipients and at inspiring their artistic work. During one week, they obtained private lessons by university professors. Additional workshops and chamber music performances rounded off the program.

In the reporting year, the foundation board decided to fund the Hirschmann Master Course with an additional amount of CHF 20,000.–.

6. *Hirschmann-Scholarships for Apprentices since 2013*

Since 2013, the Hirschmann Foundation has been sponsoring a scholarship program for apprentices. The program aims at providing individual support to committed apprentices in completing their apprenticeship, if they have difficulties in finding employment or finishing their program due to their school performance or their socio-economic background.

The foundation has therefore partnered with '**The Chance**', a foundation for professional practice that is based in Rheineck, St. Gallen (annual fund of CHF 50,000.-), as well as with the Association '**Lernwerk**' that is based in Vogelsang, Aargau (annual fund of CHF 58,000.-).

Vocational training advisors who work for 'The Chance' and 'Lernwerk' have been providing individual support to ten apprentices each.

The foundation board decided to **prolong the agreement with 'The Chance' for three more years (2016-2018)**. The agreement with '**Lernwerk**' is **terminating by the end of 2016**.

Smaller Projects

In order to meet the foundation goals, the foundation board decided to fund several social and educational projects, such as:

- a non-profit-organization that enables students to complete their training as clothing designers;
- a university of applied sciences that organizes a contest to give secondary school students an understanding of occupations in the field of business administration/information systems;
- an organization that helps female immigrants to become economically independent by means of a learning, counseling and coaching program.

Website

The Hirschmann Foundation provides regularly updated information about its work on its website www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch.

Foundation Organization

In the reporting year, the foundation board comprised the following members:

Dr. Eugen David, St. Gallen, President
Carl M. Hirschmann, Zurich
Prof. Dr. Ursula Renold, Brugg
Dr. Barbara Rigassi, Zurich
Dr. Ulrich Siegrist, Lenzburg

The foundation's legal framework consists of the deed of foundation, dated November 20, 2001; the organizational regulations, dated April 21, 2010; the asset regulations, dated November 12, 2014; and the procurement directives, dated March 25, 2014.

The annual financial statement and the annual report 2015 were approved on March 16, 2015 by the foundation board, after the acknowledgement of the audit report by the auditors, dated February 16, 2016.

In the reporting year 2015, the office was managed by Martina Weber and Silke Chung, Marktgasse 20, 9000 St. Gallen. Auditors of the foundation were Trösch Partner AG, St.Gallen, the responsible regulating authority was the Pensions and Trusts Supervisory Authority for Central Switzerland, Lucerne.

Zürich, March 16, 2016

For the Foundation Board:

Dr. E. David
President of the Foundation Board

Dr. B. Rigassi
Member of the Foundation Board