



## Annual Report 2013

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### Foundation Goals

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

### Main Goals

In the reporting year 2013, the Hirschmann Foundation has mainly focused on the following:

#### **1. *Support of Scientific Research***

In the reporting year 2013, the foundation board has decided to fund the research project "Biomarker oriented diagnosis and therapy in case of ADHD and comorbidity" for three years with an annual amount of CHF 166,666.–. The Brain and Trauma Foundation Grisons is partnering with the Hirschmann Foundation and has taken over the project organization.

The research project is aiming at contributing to an objective diagnosis and therapy in order to reduce today's risk of (medical) mistreatment through the testing of new methods of measurement and the application of biomarkers.

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

The Foundation has been supporting integration projects at Swiss vocational colleges since 2008 by donating a yearly amount of approximately CHF 350,000.–. The foundation has therefore partnered with the Swiss conference of vocational school directors (SDK-CSD), which in turn 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.

The Hirschmann Foundation has been supporting specific integration projects at Swiss vocational colleges since 2008. The goal is to overcome cultural and linguistic barriers, prejudices and mentality differences among students of various origins.

In 2013, the foundation board has staged 25 projects upon request of the SDK-CSD project group, providing funds of approximately CHF 365,150.–. The idea has increasingly started to establish itself at Swiss vocational colleges. Projects that had been successful in former years are being repeated at the same or at different schools. The goal of all projects is to make students experience mutual respect and tolerance and teach them that these values help them in achieving a common goal with their team.

At the information event on March 14, 2013 in Olten, the SDK-CDS looked back on five years of conducting integration projects and introduced the website [www.integration-bfs.ch](http://www.integration-bfs.ch). The website serves to document former integration projects in order to help schools with their future planning.

One of the highlights was Federal Councilor Simonetta Sommaruga's visit during an integration project at the Vocational School Schaffhausen on August 22, 2013.

She directly entered a dialogue with the students. The latter in turn took the opportunity to tell the Federal Councilor about their experiences and to ask her questions.

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

Since 2008, the foundation has been granting scholarships to university of applied sciences students providing a total amount of around CHF 300,000 yearly. Project partner is the KFH, the Rector's Conference of the Swiss Universities of Applied Sciences.

The Hirschmann Foundation has informed about their scholarships on their website [www.hirschmann-stipendium.ch](http://www.hirschmann-stipendium.ch), as well as at the universities through flyers and posters. The KFH has assigned all administrative work to Peter Wieser. Ms. Prof. Wohler and her team at the University of Applied Sciences in St. Gallen are responsible for the website and the electronic mailbox. The foundation board would like to thank the KFH and everyone that has been involved for their excellent cooperation.

The objective 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 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 2013, 173 students applied for a scholarship. 166 applications were submitted to the foundation board, 48 of which qualified for a scholarship. The scholarships range between CHF 5,000.- and CHF 10,000.-.

The students who have been granted a Hirschmann scholarship are being introduced on the Hirschmann Foundation website ([www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch](http://www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch)).

### **4. *Supporting Small Businesses in Mali since 2010***

The Hirschmann Foundation has been supporting the savings and micro credit project in Mali since 2010, committing with approximately CHF 100,000.- per year. The Hirschmann Foundation's partner is Swisscontact. Until fall 2013, Ulrich Stucki was leader of the project. On October 1st, 2013, Ulrich Stucki assumed his new position as regional director for Swisscontact Northern and Western Africa. Ms. Maud Krafft took over the project leadership in Mali. The foundation board would like to thank Mr. Stucki and Ms. Krafft for their professional work in Mali.

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 and the 2013 goals have been reached. 53 new groups have been created in two new communities and 13 new villages involving 1,176 members (1,011 women = 86%). The political situation in Mali and the war in the North of the country have still considerably limited Swisscontact's mobility in 2013, however have never influenced or jeopardized the project conducted in the South.

The foundation board asked Swisscontact to compile a handbook about the project. The handbook provides an instrument to the alphabetized instructors of the WASA groups about how to independently create new groups and thus make a living. As agreed, the handbook written in French was finished at the end of 2013. The version written in the local language Bamanankann is to be finished by June, 2014.

## **5. *Swiss Youth Music Contest since 2012***

The foundation board has been supporting the Swiss Youth Music Contest for three years from 2012 on with an annual amount of CHF 50,000.–. For this purpose, the Hirschmann Foundation has formed a partnership with the Swiss Youth Music Contest Foundation.

The Youth Music Contest offers young talented musicians the opportunity to perform publicly, and to participate in national international contests. In the reporting year, the the 'Classics' contest was conducted for the 38<sup>th</sup> time and the the 'Jazz, Rock&Pop' contest was conducted for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time.

The regional contests (Entrada) were conducted in different Swiss locations from Friday, March 15 to Sunday, March 17, 2013. The 'Classics' finals took place from Thursday, May 2, to Sunday, May 5, 2013 at the Conservatory Bern. On August 31, 2013, the 'Jazz, Rock&Pop' award recipient's concert took place at the Jazzclub Moods in Zurich.

The members of the foundation board who attended the contests were pleased with the young musicians' extraordinary musical performances.

## **6. *SAD Swiss Academy for Development***

The foundation board has decided to support the SAD project „Move 4 New Horizons“ for three years (2012-2014) with a yearly fund of CHF 30,000.-.

The project aims at a holistic early intervention for disadvantaged children in Nepal. Children between the age of three and five who do not attend school and are thus marginalized, as well as school children between the age of five and seven should be given easier access to elementary education through games, sports and interaction. The project is a successor of the pilot project that the SAD successfully conducted in Nepal from 2008 to 2011.

## **7. Hirschmann-Scholarships for Apprentices**

### **a) Foundation "The Chance"**

The foundation board has decided to fund a scholarship program for apprentices for two years from 2012 on. The foundation is therefore partnering with „The Chance“ that organizes the granting of scholarships amounting to a total of CHF 100,000.-.

Committed apprentices are to be supported individually if they have difficulties in finding employment or finishing their apprenticeship program due to their school performance or their socio-economic background. In 2013, vocational training advisors who work for the foundation "The Chance" have supported ten apprentices individually.

The apprentices who have been granted a Hirschmann scholarship are being introduced on the Hirschmann Foundation website ([www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch](http://www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch)).

### **b) Association Lernwerk**

The foundation board has decided to involve the Association Lernwerk as their second partner for two years (2014 - 2015) and conduct the same program as with "The Chance". The fund amounts to a total of CHF 116,000.-.

The apprentices who have been granted a Hirschmann scholarship are being introduced on the Hirschmann Foundation website ([www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch](http://www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch)).

### **Smaller Projects**

The foundation board has decided to fund several social projects in order to meet the foundation goals, such as:

- Children's Circus - an innovative program for younger and older kids
- A sustainable education and reforestation project in Madagascar
- An education and sports project for children and adolescents
- A project for job-seeking, qualified immigrants and Swiss remigrants
- Scholarships for Musicians with the opportunity to participate in a Master's Class
- A prevention of violence project in St. Gallen and in Wil
- Children's Charity in Mongolia
- An Organization that supports young unemployed people

### **Website**

The Hirschmann Foundation provides regularly updated information about its work on its website [www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch](http://www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch).

**Foundation Organization**

The foundation board has consisted of the following members in the reporting year:

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 March 20, 20012; and the procurement directives, dated April 21, 2010.

The annual financial statement and the annual report 2013 were approved on March 25, 2014 by the foundation board, after the acknowledgement of the audit report by the auditors, dated January 23, 2014.

In the reporting year 2013, the office has been managed by Ms. Martina Schmid, Marktgasse 20, 9000 St. Gallen. Auditors of the foundation have been Trösch Partner AG, St.Gallen. Responsible regulating authority has been the Pensions and Trusts Supervisory Authority for Central Switzerland, Lucerne.

Zürich, March 25, 2014