

## 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 2018, the Hirschmann Foundation mainly focused on the following goals:

### 1. *Support of Scientific Research*

#### *Transfer of Knowledge from Research into Practice since 2018*

On its premises in Duebendorf, Zurich, EMPA (the Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology and Institute of the ETH Domain) constructed a modular research and innovation building (NEST) to test innovative, resource-efficient building and energy technologies.

The Hirschmann Foundation launched a project that aims at transferring knowledge from ETH research into society, especially into schools and small and medium-sized enterprises.

It therefore partnered with EMPA/EAWAG, the University of Education Lucerne, and Suissetec, the Swiss-Liechtensteinian association of building technology. Unfortunately, Suisstec decided to terminate its project partnership by the end of the reporting year.

The two remaining project partners, EMPA and the University of Education Lucerne, are developing three workshop modules for pupils that involve modern communication tools and a visit to the NEST platform.

In the reporting year, the Hirschmann Foundation decided to fund the project with an estimated total amount of CHF 296,000.

#### *Project ETH Zurich Foundation since 2014*

The Hirschmann Foundation is supporting the research project "The Swiss Vocational Education System and its Social Status from the **Employers'** Perspective" with a total fund of CHF 150,000.–. The foundation therefore partnered with the ETH Zurich Foundation that is responsible for the project organization.

In 2017, the project "The Swiss Vocational Education System and its Social Status" was

successfully terminated. The follow-up project is now analyzing the social status of various educational paths from the employers' point of view. To that aim, companies are being surveyed in a quasi-experiment, a so-called vignette study. The project was launched in spring 2018 and is expected to terminate by the end of 2021.

#### *Project Brain and Trauma Foundation since 2014*

From 2014 to 2018, the foundation supported the research project "Biomarker Oriented Diagnosis and Therapy in Case of ADHD and Comorbidity" with a total fund of CHF 500,000.–. The research project aimed at contributing to an objective diagnosis and therapy by applying biomarkers, in order to reduce **today's risk of mistreatment**.

The study was successfully compiled by the Brain and Trauma Foundation Grisons and its cooperation partners, i.a. the Psychiatric University Hospital Zurich.

The Hirschmann Foundation is also supporting the follow-up project with a total fund of CHF 70,000.–. Between 2018 and 2020, workshops are being conducted and a number of communication tools are being created (website, newsletter, brochures) in order to provide research results to potential (clinical) users.

#### *PSI Paul Scherrer Institute / novatlantis 2016 - 2019*

The Hirschmann Foundation is supporting the research project "Success Factors of Energy Accounting and Energy/CO<sub>2</sub> Balancing of Municipal Buildings" with a total fund of CHF 210,000.–. The project started in 2016 and is expected to terminate in spring 2019.

The foundation 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 CO<sub>2</sub> reduced use of energy in municipal buildings.

#### *Garden Organic 2016 - 2018*

From 2016 to 2018, the Hirschmann Foundation supported the pilot project "London – Food Poverty" with a total fund of approximately CHF 200,000.–. The foundation therefore cooperated with its operational partner, the Henry Doubleday Research Association (Garden Organic). The project findings were gathered, analyzed and published.

Garden Organic is conducting **information events and trainings in London's** agglomerations, promoting a healthy diet in the specific context of urban areas. The events are held in cooperation with qualified instructors. The 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. Thus, participants not only gain access to good-quality foods and get into touch with nature, but the cooperative tasks also offer room for social interchange.

#### *Association foraus 2016 - 2018*

From 2016 to 2018, the Hirschmann Foundation supported the association *foraus* and its think tank with a total fund of CHF 60,000.

The project aimed at enabling young academics to make relevant and viable recommendations on Swiss policies and to share their ideas in working papers. In order to

meet this goal, *foraus* conducted two intensive one-day think tanks per year that were led by experts.

*SCHR, Basic and Human Rights of the Elderly – Practical Guidelines 2017 - 2019*

The Hirschmann Foundation is funding the conception and print of the practical guidelines *Basic and Human Rights of the Elderly* with an amount of CHF 78,870.–. The foundation therefore partnered with the Swiss Centre of Expertise in Human Rights (SCHR) in Bern. The project started towards the end of 2017 and the guidelines are to be published at the end of March 2019.

The guidelines illustrate the implications of basic rights in the daily lives of elderly people and how to protect them. They address those concerned, as well as people who are regularly in contact with the elderly, such as relatives, nursing home and hospital staff or members of communal, cantonal or federal authorities, the media and further circles of interested people.

The guidelines help to detect the violation of basic rights and present ways to avoid such violations. They present examples/cases and suggest courses of action in comprehensible language.

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

Since 2008, the Hirschmann Foundation has awarded scholarships to university of applied sciences students, providing an annual amount of approximately CHF 300,000.–. The foundation therefore partnered with swissuniversities (chamber of universities of applied sciences). Swissuniversities assigned 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 Swiss universities of applied sciences. Not only the applicants' performances, but also their social commitment is considered when awarding a scholarship.** In 2018, 54 students were granted a scholarship of CHF 5,000.– each.

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

From 2008 to 2017, the Hirschmann Foundation supported over 223 integration projects at Swiss vocational colleges with an annual fund of approximately CHF 350,000.–. The goal was to overcome cultural and linguistic barriers, prejudices and mentality differences among students of various origins.

The foundation therefore partnered with the Swiss conference of vocational school directors (SDK-CSD). In 2018, the Hirschmann Foundation assigned all administrative and organizational work to its **new project partner "Association Integration in Action"**. The foundation is funding the project with a maximum amount of CHF 10,000.– per project, and a maximum total amount of CHF 100,000.- per year.

#### 4. *Hirschmann Scholarships for Apprentices since 2013*

Since 2013, the Hirschmann Foundation has sponsored a scholarship program for apprentices. The foundation therefore partnered with the Association Lernwerk that is based in Vogelsang, Argovia, as well as with the atelier LU Couture in Lucerne. In the reporting year, the foundation board decided to prolong its agreement with the Association Lernwerk for two more years (2019 – 2020).

Lernwerk aims at providing individual support by vocational training advisors to committed apprentices in completing their apprenticeship if they have difficulties in finding employment or in finishing their program due to their school performance or their socio-economic background. The foundation funds the individual support of ten apprentices with an annual amount of CHF 58,000.–.

The atelier LU Couture in Lucerne trains young clothing designers. From 2017 to 2019, the Hirschmann Foundation is granting scholarships of a total of CHF 10,000.– per year, in order to enable trainees to successfully finish their apprenticeship and to establish themselves as committed professionals in the world of fashion.

#### 5. *Vocational Education: Support of Refugees and Provisionally Admitted Foreigners since 2019*

In the reporting year, the foundation board decided on a three-year-fund (2019 to 2021) of CHF 106,000.– for the project "Support of Refugees and Provisionally Admitted Foreigners". The project is conducted by the Association Lernwerk.

Adolescent refugees and provisionally admitted foreigners who want to complete a vocational education program encounter numerous obstacles together with their employers. Although the public authorities are aware of these problems, they do not provide any instruments to overcome them.

With its project, the Hirschmann Foundations aims at developing exemplary instruments which help to lead refugees and provisionally admitted foreigners into dual vocational education and to enter Swiss everyday working life. The foundation is mentoring five apprentices in the academic years of 2019/2020 and 2020/2021.

#### 6. *Swiss Youth Music Contests, 2012 - 2020*

Since 2012, the Hirschmann Foundation has supported the Swiss Youth Music Contest with an annual fund of CHF 50,000.–. The Hirschmann Foundation therefore partnered with the Swiss Youth Music Contest Foundation (SJMWF). The foundation's financial commitment for the regional contests is going to terminate in 2020.

The Youth Music Contest offers young talented musicians the opportunity to perform publicly and to participate in national and international contests. The regional contests (Entrada) were carried out in different Swiss locations from March 16 to March 18, 2018.

The Classics Contest was conducted for the 43<sup>rd</sup> time. The finals took place at the Conservatory of Zurich from May 3 to May 6, 2018. The 5<sup>th</sup> Jazz&Pop Contest was staged at the Jazzcampus in Basel on April 7, 2018.

## 7. *Hirschmann Master Course since 2015*

In addition to the contests, the SJMW has been conducting the annual Hirschmann Master Course since 2015. The foundation is supporting the Hirschmann Master Course with an annual fund of CHF 20,000.–.

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. The 4<sup>th</sup> Hirschmann Master Course took place from October 13 to October 20, 2018 at the conservatory of Winterthur. The 17 participants were able to benefit from a great course week and gave proof of their abilities during the final concert.

## 8. *Supporting Small Businesses in Burkina Faso since 2018*

From 2010 to 2017, the Hirschmann Foundation and its partner Swisscontact supported a development cooperation project in Mali. According to the Malian model, savings and credit groups (SUMAN groups) have now been established in several villages of Burkina Faso. The project in Burkina Faso is expected to last from 2018 to 2020 and is **part of the project "Employment and Income for Young Adults Through Local Economic Promotion"**.

By creating employment and income for young adults, Swisscontact is contributing to reduce poverty in seven rural areas of Burkina Faso. On the one hand, the project supports existing small businesses, business initiatives, and trainings for farmers in the surrounding villages. On the other hand, it provides access to financial services and strengthens local structures.

## 9. *Syrian Refugee Children in Lebanon, Integration into the School System since 2018*

In the reporting year, the foundation board decided on a two-year-fund of CHF 100,000.– in order to support an educational program that is conducted by the UBS Optimus Foundation in Lebanon.

Lebanon is currently hosting 1.5 million displaced Syrians, including 250,000 out-of-school-children. With its partners, the Ana Aqra Association and the Luminos Fonds, the UBS Optimus Foundation aims at integrating 470 Syrian refugee children into the regular Lebanese school system per academic year.

During eight weeks, small groups of children are taught the basic skills of reading, writing and mathematics on elementary school level by Lebanese teachers.

### *Smaller Projects*

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

- Vocational education projects in Bangladesh und in Tanzania
- Educational and integration projects for refugees

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- An educational project for young adults in order to facilitate social reintegration
  - An online platform promoting products from sheltered workshops
  - Bedside concerts for hospitalized children
  - An office of ombudsman **for children's rights**
  - Holiday care service for children and adolescents with disabilities

### 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

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

Dr. Eugen David, St. Gallen, President

Carl M. Hirschmann, London U.K.

Prof. Dr. Ursula Renold, Brugg

Dr. Barbara Rigassi, Muri near Berne

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 December 06, 20017; and the procurement directives, dated March 25, 2014.**

The annual financial statement and the annual report 2018 were approved on March 26, 2019 by the foundation board, after the acknowledgement of the audit report by the auditors, dated February 28, 2019.

In the reporting year 2018, the office was managed by Martina Weber, 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.

Zurich, March 26, 2019