



2022 Annual Report

The Foundation's Mission

The Hirschmann Foundation, which has its headquarters in Zug, has existed in its present form since 2001. Its mission is the promotion of training and further education, the promotion of science and research and the promotion of social objectives.

The Focal Points of the Foundation's Activities

In the reporting year 2022 the Hirschmann Foundation's mainly focused its charitable activities was in the following areas:

A. Science and Research

1. EMPA and the Pedagogical University of Lucerne: "Next Evolution in Sustainable Building Technologies (NEST)" Project 2018-2022

The Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology (EMPA), an institution that is part of the Swiss Technical Universities (ETH), has built a test building (NEST) for innovative building technology that makes efficient use of resources on its campus in Dübendorf. The Hirschmann Foundation has launched a project in partnership with the EMPA and the Pedagogical University of Lucerne to find practical ways based on this approach to transfer knowledge from the ETH into society as a whole, and to schools in particular. Despite the easing of COVID-19 restrictions in February it has still not been possible for school classes to visit NEST. Any visits to NEST that have still not taken place will be rearranged as soon as possible.

The Hirschmann Foundation committed CHF 171,000 to this project between 2018 and 2022.

2. ETH Foundation Zürich

The social status of vocational training from the perspective of the companies 2018-2022

The social status of vocational training from the perspective of companies has two meanings in Switzerland, as it impacts both the professional career opportunities of people with a vocational education and training qualification and the provision of apprenticeships by training companies. This research project has therefore been investigating the social status of vocational training from the perspective of companies in Switzerland

The methodology, the outcomes and the publications referenced in the research have been described in the final report, which is available on our website. To summarise, companies in Switzerland value the qualifications awarded following basic vocational training and higher-level professional training when they are recruiting new employees.

The Foundation provided CHF 150,000 of funding for this research project. The project has been run by the training systems research department at the KOF economic research centre at the ETH Zürich.

3. Competence Center for Social Innovation at the University of St. Gallen (CSI-HSG)

Lab of Tomorrow Switzerland

2020-2023

With the Lab of Tomorrow Switzerland, the intention is to create a platform for Switzerland that takes account of the UN Agenda 2030. This was formulated in 2015 to help drive sustainable development and so promote the collaboration of every stakeholder in Switzerland for the purpose of implementing the 17 UN targets for sustainable development.

The LOT Switzerland Pilot reached a successful conclusion in 2022. The second testing and pilot phase took place between November 2021 and June 2022, during which four teams had the opportunity to further develop their business solutions with the help of financial support and coaching. On the Demo Day at the end of March 2022 the remaining 3 teams involved in the project described their LOT visit to Rwanda and gave a presentation on how they have used their solutions to make a contribution towards developing a circular food system. The 3 teams are currently working on developing their businesses and implementing scalable solutions.

The CSI-HSG has gathered a lot of knowledge over the last few years and is currently drafting a report to summarise these experiences. The project is being supported by the Hirschmann Foundation with CHF 100,000 of funding.

4. We.Publish Foundation

Start-Up Funding to Promote Scientific Journalism

2022

The We. Publish Foundation wants to promote diverse media in Switzerland using a new type of approach, to give independent providers of journalistic content publishing tools on an open-source basis and to provide the digital infrastructure this requires.

Four of the most promising new start-ups in journalism in Switzerland are currently using the content management system and around 20 publications are making their content available on the sharing ecosystem. We. Publish is now attracting a great deal of international recognition as a forward-looking media ecosystem with a lot of potential that brings diversity and credibility to the table when democracy is being discussed.

The Hirschmann Foundation has provided CHF 100,000 of funding to support this project.

5. collaboratia helvetica Association

Catalyst Lab 3 – the Laboratory of the Future for Switzerland

2021-2022

The Catalyst Lab run by the collaboratio helvetica charitable association is aimed at people who see themselves as 'catalysts' driving change and who want to use innovative solutions to implement the UN's 17 sustainable development goals in Switzerland. Collaboratio helvetica is running various workshops.

The Hirschmann Foundation is covering the costs of CHF 100,000 for 10 catalysts to take part in the 3rd cycle. The Catalyst Lab 3 was a success with all of the events and modules taking place as planned.

6. Agroscope (Swiss Federal Department of Economic Affairs, Education and Research)

"Biodiversity: mapping the insect population in the region of Nuvilly / Combremont-le-Grand, Canton of Freiburg" 2023 - 2025

In the last few years, multiple studies have reported an alarming decline in the population of insects. The aim is that those with responsibility in this area can use the study to develop recommendations to implement cost-effective and useful initiatives to preserve the insect community and its ecosystems.

The Hirschmann Foundation is providing CHF 300,000 of support for the research project.

B. Training and Further Education

7. swissuniversities

Hirschmann scholarships for students at universities of applied sciences 2008 - 2023

The Foundation has been awarding Hirschmann scholarships for students at universities of applied sciences since 2008. The project's partner is Swiss universities, Chamber of Universities of Applied Sciences. Swiss universities has appointed Ms. Alexandra Richter as the Administrator. She is Head of University Services at the Lucerne University of Applied Sciences and Arts.

The aim of the Hirschmann scholarships is to support students with above average results in their Bachelor's studies who want to study for a Master's degree at a university of applied sciences in Switzerland. When awarding scholarships, an applicant's social commitment outside of their college is also taken into consideration. In 2022 54 students successfully applied for a scholarship and each received CHF 5,000, which is a total of CHF 270,000.

The Hirschmann Foundation has also set up a scholarship for students who have fled from Ukraine. Six Ukrainian students are each receiving a support contribution of CHF 4,000 for a total cost of CHF 24,000 to help them complete their Master's degrees at a university of applied sciences in Switzerland.

8. Verein foraus - Foreign Policy Forum

Policy Kitchen for Hirschmann scholarship holders 2020 -2023

This project offers those who have been awarded Hirschmann scholarships a platform for social engagement, networking, and collaboration with each other. The project partner is the think tank foraus. The foraus association has developed a structured platform for discussing the issues of the future that goes by the name of the Policy Kitchen. The project has been developed in partnership with the office of the Hirschmann Scholarship (Swissuniversities/Lucern University of Applied Sciences and Art) for its duration.

In 2022, the scholarship holders collaborated in two interactive workshops on the topics of activism and political participation, one of which was a virtual event due to COVID, with the other being run in person. Foraus has highlighted the high level of commitment shown by the last two cohorts, which exceeded all expectations.

The Hirschmann Foundation is contributing CHF 150,000 of funding for cohorts III to VI.

9. KASA Swiss Humanitarian Foundation

Hirschmann scholarships for students at universities of applied sciences in Armenia 2021 - 2023

The Hirschmann Foundation has set up a scholarship programme for Bachelor's degree students at universities of applied sciences in Erewan and Gjumri. The aim of the Hirschmann scholarships is to support students studying for their Bachelor's degrees at a state-recognised university of applied sciences in Armenia. The partner is the KASA Swiss Humanitarian Foundation, which has links to the country's universities. The total amount being contributed to the project is CHF 126,000. 30 scholarship holders received financial support in 2022.

10. *Integration in Action Association*

Integration projects at Swiss Vocational Colleges 2008 - 2024

Between 2008 and 2017 and in partnership with the Swiss Conference of Directors of Vocational Colleges (SDK), the Foundation provided funding for integration projects at vocational colleges in Switzerland totalling around CHF 350,000 per annum. Since 2018 the association Integration in Action has been responsible for administering and supporting the integration project as the new project partner. The aim has been to break down cultural and linguistic barriers and overcome prejudices and mental barriers amongst students at vocational colleges.

In 2022 the Foundation's Board provided total funding of CHF 71,150 for seven integration projects. A contribution of CHF 210,000 is being provided for integration projects at vocational colleges for the years 2022 – 2024.

11. *The Learning Factory association*

Hirschmann scholarships for students at vocational colleges Academic years 2014/2015 - 2024/2025

The Learning Factory association in the canton of Aargau provides funding for young people who find it difficult to find and then complete an apprenticeship due to their results at school or their social circumstances. The aim is to give them individual support to complete their apprenticeship through their own dedication and hard work.

Since 2013 the Hirschmann Foundation has provided grants for apprentices studying at vocational colleges with an annual contribution of CHF 96,000. In the year covered by this report, the Foundation Board decided to extend the cooperation for the academic years 2023/2024 - 2024/2025 with a support contribution of CHF 99,000 per academic year.

12. *The Learning Factory association*

Basic vocational training with support for young people who are recent immigrants Academic years 2019/2020 – 2024/2025

In another collaboration with the Learning Factory Association, since 2019 the Hirschmann Foundation has been running a scholarship programme for young people and young adults who are recent immigrants and want to complete an EBA apprenticeship. They must live in the canton of Aargau and also have an apprenticeship there. These learners often only have a modest command of German, they have gaps in their education and no network of contacts with access to apprenticeships or any social environment in the labour market in Switzerland. The Learning Factory Association's trained teams of experienced specialists support the young people, their parents, and their employers in their vocational training as they go through their apprenticeships.

In the year covered by this report, the Foundation Board decided to extend the cooperation with the Learning Factory Association for the academic years

2023/2024 - 2024/2025. The Hirschmann Foundation is providing annual funding of CHF 49,500 for five apprentices.

13. LU Couture Workshop

***Hirschmann scholarships for the training of apprentices
2017 - 2022***

The Hirschmann Foundation has been funding the training of apprentices at the LU Couture Workshop in Lucerne since 2017 with scholarships of CHF 2,000 each for five apprentices, which is a total of CHF 10,000 per training year. The aim is to help the learners successfully complete their apprenticeship as clothes designers and become dedicated and motivated professionals.

The Hirschmann Foundation is extending the scholarship to include the years 2023 – 2025. The Foundation's Board has also decided to provide CHF 52,000 of support to the Red-Carpet learners' project and also to the jubilee show in September 2023.

14. Swiss Youth Music Competition (SJMW) Foundation

***Hirschmann Masterclasses
2015 - 2023***

The Swiss Youth Music Competition (SJMW) Foundation has been organising the Hirschmann Masterclass every year since 2015. The Hirschmann Foundation is helping the masterclasses run by covering the annual costs of CHF 30,000. The course is aimed at the winners of the Swiss youth music competitions with the intention of giving them new backing for their artistic work.

The 8th Hirschmann Masterclass was held between 7th - 14th August 2022 in the Music Academy of Basel.

15. Swiss Youth Music Competition (SJMW) Foundation

***Hirschmann Masterclass Europe
2021 - 2024***

In collaboration with the European sister organisations such as prima la musica (Austria) and Jugend musiziert (Germany) as well as the European Union of Music Competitions for Youth (emcy), the Swiss Youth Music Competition Foundation is organising Hirschmann Master Classes with international participants under the name of "Hirschmann Europe". Hirschmann Europe is aimed at the winners aged between 15 and 22 of the finals in the category of chamber music of the following national competitions: prima la musica, Jugend musiziert, emcy and the Swiss Youth Music Competition.

Following the successful pilot event in 2021 in Linz in Austria, early in 2022 the Foundation's Board decided to provide additional annual funding of CHF 32,000 for the Hirschmann Masterclass Europe in the years 2022 – 2024. The second event was held at the Saline Royale d'Arc-et-Senans in France between 9th – 16th September 2022.

16. HSG Foundation

***Artist in residence at the SQUARE at the University of St. Gallen
2022 - 2024***

The new HSG Learning Center was opened in spring 2022. In the year covered by this report, the Foundation's Board decided to allocate CHF 150,000 of support for the Artists in Residence project for three years and so provide funding for artists at the SQUARE.

The aim is for the presence of the artists to complement the theoretical basis of the normal work of the university and to broaden the students' horizons. Artists in particular offer other strategies, approaches and reflections as different themes or questions are explored.

17. Association Equilibre

Education and Integration Programmes for Refugee Women 2022 - 2025

With its JLT/KoKoTé project, the Association Equilibre (A.E.) is successfully supporting adult refugees (over the age of 26) to get started with leading an independent life. This gives opportunities for the future to people who would otherwise fall through the cracks of Switzerland's migration policy in terms of education. This is because the state bodies continue to concentrate their integration efforts on young adults up to the age of 26. Over the last couple of years, the project has had a particular focus on refugees over the age of 26 and increasingly on women who have family responsibilities.

The aim is for refugee women to be able to make up for gaps in their education on an individual learning programme. At the end of the training - whenever possible - they should receive a vocational training certificate (EBA certificate or similar), which should provide access to employment in the primary labour market. At the start of 2022, the Foundation's Board initially decided to provide a total of CHF 213,000 to support six refugee women in the years 2022 – 2025.

18. Fondation IPT

Programm Jeunes@Work 2022 2023

In the year covered by this report, the Foundation's Board decided to provide the Programm Jeunes@work run by the Fondation IPT with a total of CHF 100,000 of support for the period 2022 - 2023.

The aim of Jeunes@Work is to enable young people with a diploma in Switzerland to enter the labour market quickly, to combat youth unemployment and to improve their chances of long-term integration into the labour market. As a bridge between the apprenticeship and the first job, Jeunes@Work gives recently qualified apprentices effective preparation so they can enter the labour market.

19. Startfeld Association- Smartfeld Training Lab

New course available - "Using new technologies to tackle the challenges of the future" 2023

Smartfeld is an interdisciplinary initiative being run the Startfeld Innovation Network, the Empa, the GBS St. Gallen, the University of Applied Sciences of Eastern Switzerland (OST), the Pedagogical University of St. Gallen (PHSG) and the University of St. Gallen. Its aim is to promote creativity and skills for the future and also to get children and young people ready to tackle the challenges of the digital age. Smartfeld would like to work closely with innovative partner schools to develop learning opportunities that focus on the SDGs and so motivate both students and active teachers to acquire and apply creativity to obtain usable technical and digital skills and support their integration into their skills toolkit in the future.

The Hirschmann Foundation is providing CHF 100,000 to support the pilot project being run by the Startfeld Association –Smartfeld Training Lab. Smartfeld will use the funding provided by the Hirschmann Foundation to define two challenges based on the SDGs (Sustainable Development Goals of the United Nations), and the concept will be developed and tested in partnership with teaching staff at the Workshop.

C. *Development cooperation and social objectives*

20. *Swisscontact*

Support for small businesses in Burkina Faso 2018 - 2023

Between 2010 and 2017 the Hirschmann Foundation sponsored a project with the title Swiss contact to promote development cooperation in Mali. With the experience obtained and the tools available, the savings and credit group model was first rolled out in villages in Burkina Faso in 2018. The Hirschmann Foundation has been providing CHF 150,000 of annual funding for the project.

The savings and credit groups (SUMAN groups) are a part of the "work and income for young adults thanks to local economic development" project. With the project to promote local economic development, Swiss contact is creating jobs and a source of income for young adults and is contributing to reducing poverty in seven rural communities in Burkina Faso. One part of this is being achieved by promoting existing small businesses and entrepreneurial initiatives by young adults. Another focus is improving access to financial services and strengthening local structures.

21. *The Swiss Academy for Development Foundation*

Supporting young entrepreneurs with environmentally friendly alternatives in Myanmar 2020 - 2022

The Hirschmann Foundation supported the project run by the Swiss Academy for Development (SA4D) for three years with total funding of CHF 80,000.

SA4D's aim with this project has been to use opportunities for training and further education to enable 200 young people in the areas of Shan and Kachin in Myanmar to market agricultural produce and finished products and services in their region and beyond more effectively. There was a focus on environmental sustainability, especially with regard to sustainable cultivation methods and value creation chains. The aim was to show young people that there are realistic alternative ways of earning a living that do not include the trade in opioids or emigrating to China or Thailand. In addition, young people were shown how to access the networks that are essential for successful employment more easily, whether these are run by the state or by private companies.

Against the background of some extreme events (COVID-19 pandemic, military coup), the partners saw this as a successful project. More than 260 young people attended training session that included interactive role-plays to develop their entrepreneurial and/or agricultural skills; and they can apply what they have learnt successfully in their existing businesses or in new start-ups.

22. *UBS Optimus Foundation*

Integrating Syrian refugee children into the Lebanese education system 2018-2023

The Hirschmann Foundation has been supporting the training programme run by the UBS Optimus Foundation in Lebanon since 2018 to the tune of CHF 100,000 per annum. With the support of its contract partners, the Ana Aqra Association and the Luminos Fund, the aim is to help 470 Syrian refugee children make the transition into the mainstream school system in Lebanon every school year. There are currently 1.5 million Syrian refugees living in Lebanon. This includes 250,000 children of school age, who are not going to school or who can no longer attend.

860 children enrolled in the programme in the academic year 2021/22.

D. Smaller Projects

To fulfil the Foundation's objectives, the Foundation Board also decided to support the following projects with a one-off award in the year covered by this report:

- BildungsNetz Zug (Zug EducationNetwork): individual coaching for those taking the Swiss Certificate of Competence (EFZ)
- Chance Winterthur: equal opportunities for children from families who have been alienated from the education system to make the transition from primary to secondary school
- Swiss Youth Parliament Umbrella Organisation: young people + politics training programme, easyvote school and engagement workshop
- Demenzworld (Dementiaworld): social franchising "dementiameets", physical meetings involving = sufferers, family members and experts
- denkfit.ch: "Ready for an apprenticeship" workshop
- Dock Group AG: Digitising job integration
- Dôme Seniors, Geneva: support for the elderly provided by social welfare service, domestic support, help with isolation
- Fondazione Ticino Musica, TICINO MUSICA Festival 2022
- Korn.House Cooperative: market vehicle for hire
- Hopiclowns, Geneva: clown visits for children in hospital in Geneva
- Institute for Global Negotiation: developing electronic open-access teaching resources for negotiating and conflict resolution
- Jazzaar Festival: Bandstand Learning with Role Models (BLRM)
- Kiwix Association, Online training platform "kiwis goes interactive"
- Le CausE, Collectif d'associations pour l'urgence sociale : emergency accommodation system + social support for homeless families
- myAbility: event to launch the B2B network "DisAbility Confidence Day"
- nafasi sawa children's foundation: school project in Kenya
- #NetzCourage (Courage Network): #NetzAmbulanz (Outpatient Network)
- Profile - Work & Handicap: advice for employers on the issue of inclusion in the workplace
- Singa Switzerland: Singa Incubator
- Stiftung Elternsein (Parenthood Foundation): special edition on "choosing a career"
- Märtpplatz Foundation: Üeins "moving from school to a job, a motivational year for young people who need support"
- Sustainability Week Switzerland: embedding sustainability at Swiss Universities and in society
- Swiss School of Public Governance (SSPG): scholarships for the ETH CAS in Public Governance and Administration
- Università della Svizzera italiana: MEM Summer Summit, a seminar for young people driving change
- Crescenda Association: Fit4Care: support and labour integration in the care sector
- Wärbrogg Lucerne: jobs and apprenticeships for people with mental disabilities
- YoungPreneurs Association: entrepreneurial support programme for learners at vocational colleges + grammar schools: new location in Interlaken

Website

The Hirschmann Foundation's website at the address www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch has information about its current activities.

How the Foundation is Organised

The Foundation's Board was made up of the following members in the year of this report:

Dr. Barbara Rigassi, Muri bei Bern, President
Carl M. Hirschmann, Küsnacht
Raymond Loretan, Geneva
Prof. Dr. Ursula Renold, Brugges
Valentin Vogt, Hombrechtikon

The legal framework for the Foundation's activities is set out in the Foundation's charter dated 20.11.2001, the organisational regulations dated 21.04.2010, the investment guidelines dated 27.05.2020 and also the awarding guidelines dated 25.03.2014.

The annual accounts and the annual report for 2021 were accepted by the Foundation's Board on 7th March 2023.

The Office Administrator in the year of the report was Martina Weber [c/o Fondation des Fondateurs, Breitingenstrasse 35, 8002 Zürich]. The Foundation was audited by Trösch Partner AG, St. Gallen in the year of the report. The competent supervisory authority in the year of the report was the Central Swiss BVG and Foundation Supervisory Authority (ZBSA), Lucerne.

Zürich, 7th March 2023