



# HIRSCHMANN STIFTUNG

## ANNUAL REPORT 2024



# THE FOUNDATION



## FOUNDATION BOARD

Dr. Barbara Rigassi,  
President, Muri b. Bern

Carl M. Hirschmann,  
Küschnacht

Raymond Loretan,  
Geneva

Prof. Dr. Ursula Renold,  
Brugg

Valentin Vogt,  
Hombrechtikon

## HEAD OFFICE

Martina Weber, Manager,  
c/o Fondation des  
Fondateurs, Zurich

## AUDITOR

Audit Suisse AG, St. Gallen

## SUPERVISION

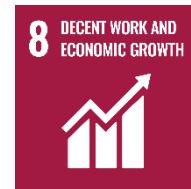
Zentralschweizer BVG- und  
Stiftungsaufsicht, Lucerne



The Hirschmann Foundation, based in Zug, has existed in its current form since 2001 and aims to promote education and training, research and science, as well as social causes. In addition to the foundation's statutes from November 20, 2001, the legal framework for its activities consists of the organizational regulations, the investment guidelines, the grant guidelines and the compensation regulations.

The annual funding volume amounts to around two and a half million Swiss francs. The Foundation Board bases its funding on the following pillars of the funding policy:

- The project must fit into the foundation's purpose.
- The project must contribute to at least one of the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) SDG 3, SDG 4 and SDG 8



- Within the the funding areas of vocational education and training and scientific research, priority is given to specific topics :
  - ✓ Education and training in business and culture
  - ✓ Promotion of entrepreneurship
  - ✓ Environment/climate
  - ✓ Political education/future of democracy

The foundation provides regular updates on its projects and activities on its website <https://www.hirschmann-stiftung.ch/en/>.

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND ANNUAL REPORT

The annual financial statements and the 2024 annual report were approved by the Board of Trustees on April 2, 2025. The annual report portrays selected individual projects and contains a list of all projects funded in the reporting year. The images used in the report are the property of the Hirschmann Foundation.

# HIRSCHMANN MASTERCLASS



## EDUCATION

Hirschmann Masterclass



## PARTNER

Swiss Youth Music  
Competition Foundation  
(SJMW)



## IMPLEMENTATION

Once a year since 2015



## FUNDING AMOUNT

CHF 52'000 per year

## MASTERCLASS TOUR – CREATION

The Masterclass is mainly aimed at outstanding first prize winners of the finals of the Swiss Youth Music Competition and other European youth music competitions in the chamber music category aged between 17 and 25. The Swiss Youth Music Competition Foundation (Stiftung Schweizerischer Jugendmusikwettbewerb, SJMW) has held the Hirschmann Masterclass once a year since 2015.

The annual Hirschmann Masterclass was originally comprised of two distinct events: Hirschmann Switzerland since 2015 and Hirschmann Europe since 2021. In 2021 and 2022 the Masterclasses were held in Switzerland, Austria (Linz) and France (Arc-et-Senans). In 2023 both Masterclasses were integrated for the first time into one single, international event. This aimed to strengthen the cross-border character of the project and to anchor the Hirschmann Masterclasses within the landscape of European youth music promotion.

## A CAREER-DEFINING MASTERCLASS

The Hirschmann Masterclass aims to offer young participants the opportunity to engage with their instrument on a daily basis, prompting them to contemplate their impressions, experiences and their connection to music-making. Participants are also encouraged to discover new creative aspects of their personality, develop artistic maturity, and acquire practical experience in concert settings. The highlight of the Hirschmann Masterclass is the concert tour through Switzerland and neighboring countries.

The Hirschmann Masterclass is built on four pillars :

- Individual lessons with distinguished instructors
- Chamber music sessions with all instructors
- Workshops on various topics
- Participation in the inaugural performance of a contemporary piece

# TRAINING AS T&O\* SURGEON IN AFRICA



## SOCIAL Development cooperation

Women in training as T&O surgeons, 2024 - 2026



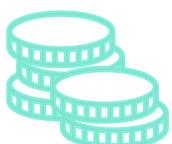
## PARTNER

AO Alliance Stiftung



## IMPLEMENTATION

2024 - 2026



## FUNDING AMOUNT

CHF 125'000

Every year, 4.4 million people die from injuries, which is 30% more deaths than from the three best-funded communicable diseases (HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis) combined. In low- and middle-income countries, 30 million people are left with permanent musculoskeletal disabilities each year. 90% of deaths and disabilities from injuries occur in these countries, with children and economically active adults being particularly affected.

In trauma and orthopaedic surgery (T&O), there exists a significant gender disparity: women make up only 6% of the field. This imbalance is even more pronounced in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs) in Africa. In these regions, women are 40% less likely to consider a surgical career due to a range of additional barriers, including limited financial support for training, a lack of mentors and female role models, and prevailing gender biases. One such bias assumes that female surgical residents will eventually abandon their careers to focus on motherhood after completing their training.

## A LOCALLY EMBEDDED TRAINING PROGRAM

The AO Alliance and the College of Surgeons of East, Central and Southern Africa (COSECSA) have developed and launched a scholarship program to train women in T&O surgery across the 14 COSECSA member countries in Africa. The program aims to improve access to professional training opportunities for female surgeons in trauma and orthopaedic surgery in sub-Saharan Africa and trains women from COSECSA member countries to become T&O surgeons. In doing so, it contributes to increasing the number of specialized surgical personnel.

The Hirschmann foundation supports the program of five women who are completing the final year of their surgical training. Malawi, Kenya, and Zimbabwe are among the participating member countries. The scholarship partially covers tuition fees and the cost of learning materials, and also serves as a contribution towards living expenses. Upon completion of the program and passing the exams, all five T&O residents will be awarded the title "Fellow of the College of Surgeons of East Central and Southern Africa (FCS Orth ECSA)." The training meets European standards but is only recognized in Africa. The goal is to ensure that all candidates can practice as certified T&O surgeons in their home countries in Africa.

\* T&O = Trauma and Orthopaedic Surgery

# STEM\* MOOD BAROMETER



## RESEARCH

STEM Mood Barometer



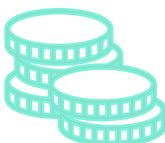
## PARTNER

ETH Zürich und  
ETH Zürich Foundation



## IMPLEMENTATION

2024 - 2027



## FUNDING AMOUNT

CHF 150'000

There is already a significant shortage of skilled professionals in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). PISA studies from recent years have shown a declining or stagnating trend in mathematics and science performance among Swiss pupils. The Hirschmann foundation is supporting the funding of the STEM Mood Barometer, a cooperative program designed to promote STEM competencies in children and to raise public awareness of the importance of STEM.

## RAISING AWARENESS OF STEM SKILLS

The STEM Mood Barometer aims to measure how the topic of STEM is perceived by the Swiss population. Starting in 2025, a representative long-term study will systematically collect recurring data and publish the corresponding analyses.

The study will address questions such as:

- whether there is any awareness of STEM as a concept,
- whether the relevance of STEM skills is recognized,
- how the quality of STEM education is perceived,
- what gender-specific perceptions are associated with STEM, and
- where respondents see potential for action to get more people interested in STEM.

This long-term study will provide insights into how the perception of STEM develops over time across different segments of the population. The study is being developed based on its German counterpart of the same name, in order to enable cross-country comparisons.

## A GUIDE TO PROMOTING STEM

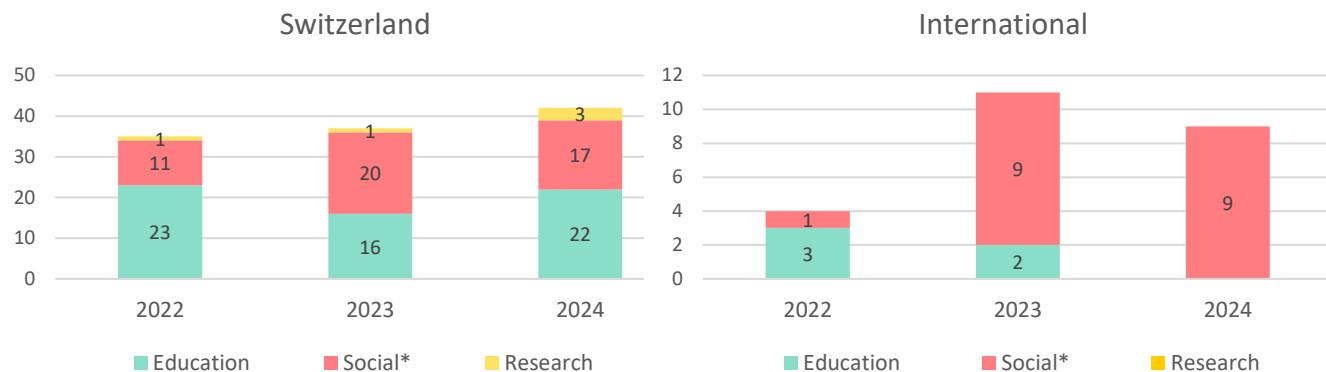
The STEM Mood Barometer aims to support politicians and other decision-makers in defining measures for promoting STEM. The results are meant to both measure the impact and optimize activities, while also serving as a foundation for communication campaigns aimed at the general public. Additionally, the data from the long-term study will be made freely available to as many researchers as possible for further analysis. The first publication of analyses and results is planned for the end of 2025, and a second survey is scheduled to take place in 2027.

\* STEM = Science,  
Technology, Engineering  
and Mathematics

# FACTS AND FIGURES

The Hirschmann Foundation's grant allocation amounted to **CHF 2.4 millions** in 2024.

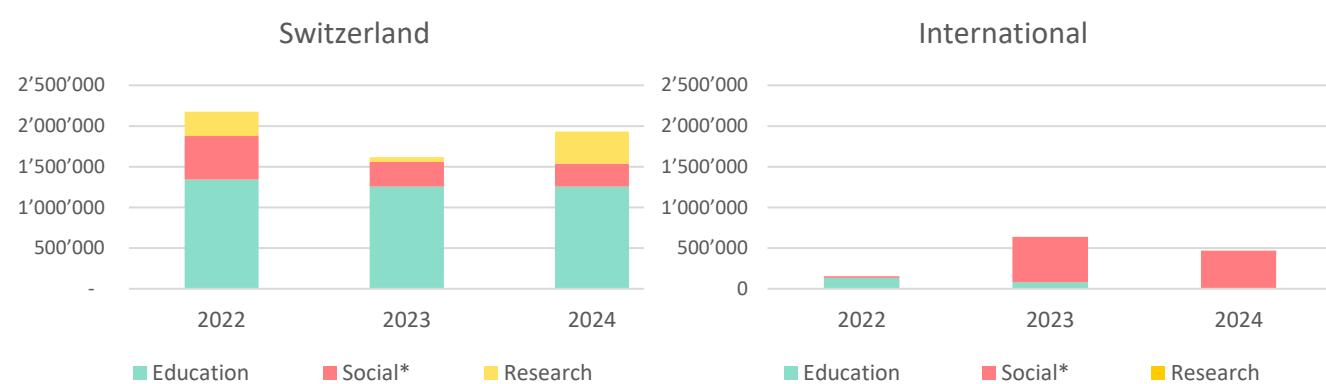
## PROJECTS BY SECTOR/REGION



\*including development cooperation

## FUNDING BY SECTOR/REGION

in CHF



\*including development cooperation

## STIFTUNG SCHWEIZ PLATFORM

In 2024, the Hirschmann Foundation supported the development of the StiftungSchweiz platform with a CHF 300'000 contribution as part of a consortium of foundations. This Swiss online portal promotes charitable engagement and aims to harness the potential of digitalization to make philanthropy more effective. It provides the necessary information, digital tools, and suitable services for impactful, well-connected, and transparent philanthropic efforts.

The Foundation Board views this contribution as an investment that will help make the foundation's operations more efficient. The applications and services provided by StiftungSchweiz will make it easier to assess projects and to collaborate with other foundations.

[www.stiftungschweiz.ch/en/](http://www.stiftungschweiz.ch/en/)

# PROJECTS

In 2024, the Hirschmann Foundation approved the following grants:

## EDUCATION

Asia Society Switzerland Foundation	Gen A – Young Leadership Program 2025 - 2027
Bevel ON Association	Capacity Building Program for Refugees - Empowering Humans to Move ON 2024/25
Capacity	Access Fast Track 2024
Fondation IPT	Jeunes@Work 2024 - 2026
Interkulturelles Foyer Bildung und Beruf IFBB	Integration von jungen Frauen und Müttern aus unterschiedlichen Kulturen ohne Erstausbildung in den ersten Arbeitsmarkt: Mitfinanzierung von 3 Betreuungsplätzen im 2025
Lernwerk Betriebe AG	Berufliche Grundbildung mit Support für Spätausgewanderte (BGmS), Verlängerung 2025 - 2027
Lernwerk Betriebe AG	Berufliche Grundbildung mit Support im Rahmen des Lernwerk Lehrbetriebsverbunds (LBV), Verlängerung 2025 – 2027
LU Couture AG	Lernendenprojekt Fashion Day 2025 'Future'
Musée Visionnaire	Vermittlung 2024/25
Netzwerk Schweizer Pärke	Food for Future – Ein Bildungsangebot der Schweizer Pärke zu nachhaltiger Ernährung
NZZ Connect	SEF.NextGen-Camp 2025 - 2027
Stiftung Elternsein	Sonderbeilage „Berufswahl - Was will ich werden“ 2024 - 25
Stiftung für angepasste Technologie und Sozialökologie (Ökozentrum)	Klima-Energie-Erlebnistage für Berufsfachschulen. Implementation und Entwicklung neuer Inhalte 2024/25
Swiss Food Academy	Programme Gaia, projet éducatif de sensibilisation à l'alimentation saine et durable 2025-2026
Swiss Science Center Technorama	MINTegration 2024 Kanton Zug
Ticino Musica	28. Festival TICINO MUSICA - 2024
Università della Svizzera italiana USI	MEM Summit 2024
Verein Crescenda	Fit4Care2.0: Ausbildungsprogramm im Care-Bereich für Frauen mit Migrationserfahrung 2025 - 2027

Verein Loc.Artium / SJMW	Hirschmann-Meisterkurs 2025, Worlds Beyond Orchestra: „Klingende Seidenstrasse“
Verein Smartfeld	Weiterentwicklung Kursangebot FuturePitch 2024-2025
Young Enterprise Switzerland (YES)	Jugend debattiert: Förderung des Programms in Berufsschulen mit neuen Ansätzen (2024 - 2027)

## S O C I A L

Aladdin-Stiftung	Aladdin-Ferienwoche 2025
Ange de noël	Christmas Angel 2025
Check Your Chance	Überbrückungsfinanzierung für Geschäftsführung von Check Your Chance 2. Semester 2024
Chindernetz Kanton Bern	Wochenplattzbörse Region Thun 2025 - 2026
CléA digital gemeinnützige GmbH	CléA Assistenzplattform – Weiterentwicklung 2024
Dôme Seniors	Formation pour les bénévoles 2025 - 2027
Fondation internationale pour la population et le développement (IFPD)	Alter Start / Alter Start Food 2024 - 2025
Kafi Klick	Bewerbungsunterstützung im Kafi Klick 2024/25
Make-A-Wish Foundation de Suisse et du Liechtenstein	Erfüllung von Herzenswünschen schwerkranker Kinder 2025
Schweizerische Multiple Sklerose Gesellschaft	MS-Gruppenaufenthalte 2024
Schweizerisches Rotes Kreuz (SRK) Kanton Zürich	„Lehrbegleitung SR“ 2024
SOS Ticino	Coaching Transfair 2 (CT2) 2025
Stiftung Kinderhilfe Sternschnuppe	Freizeitsterne 2024
Stiftung MyHandicap	EnableMe Lehrstellenbörsen 2024
Verein Femmes-Tische und Männer-Tische	Junge und ältere Menschen mit Migrationserfahrung lernen mit Geld umgehen und Sparen 2024/2025
Verein Höhenzug - Büro für Bildung und Soziales	Abenteuerwagen - mobiles Spielangebot für Kinder- und Jugendliche in der Region GL und Umgebung 2025
Verein Schlafguet Olten	Notschlafstelle Olten 2025

## SOCIAL – DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

Burkina Women's Education Fund (Genève) c/o Kofi Annan Foundation	Financing Higher Education for Girls 2024 - 2026
KIRA – Förderverein für Bildung in Westafrika	Ausbildungszentrum in Conakry, Guinea 2024
Sangira - Freunde von Ruanda	Berufsschule Hotellerie in Nyamasheke, Ruanda 2024 - 2026
Skat Foundation	Nepal: Promoting Social Entrepreneurship for Safe Drinking Water - Phase 2, 2024/2025
Solafrica	Solar Learning Youth Centers in Kenia 2024 - 2026
Stiftung BPN (Business Professionals Network)	23 Kleinunternehmen in der Mongolei fördern und damit über 160 neue Arbeitsplätze schaffen 2024 - 2025
Stiftung Solidarität mit der Welt (SDW)	Life Choices Academy - Programmierausbildung für Jugendliche in Kapstadt, Südafrika 2024
UBS Optimus Foundation	Integration syrischer Flüchtlingskinder in das libanesische Bildungssystem 2024-2025
Verein Smiling Gecko	beruflich Ausbildung von Jugendlichen in Metallbauwerkstatt in Kambodscha 2024/2026

## RESEARCH

Demenz Forschung Schweiz - Stiftung Synapsis	Stipendium für Nachwuchsforschende ab 2025
ETH Zürich + ETH Zürich Foundation	MINT-Stimmungsbarometer: Repräsentative, biennale CH-Langzeitstudie und Implementation der Ergebnisse in die Weiterentwicklung der MINT-Nachwuchsförderung sowie für mehr MINT-Wahrnehmung in der Bevölkerung 2024 - 2027
FAN (Fonds zur Förderung des akademischen Nachwuchses) - UZH Alumni	Förderung der Nachwuchsforschenden Dr. Elif Askin (Öffentlichkeitsinformation: Eine rechtliche Analyse staatlicher Verhaltenssteuerung durch Information) 2025