



**HEAR
THE WORLD
FOUNDATION**

a Sonova Group initiative



ACTIVITY REPORT 2020/21

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Cover picture: The first minutes after Richmond's successful hearing aid fitting, the happy smile says it all.

Project: #HearKenya – We have been supporting the Jabali Kindergarten and Pre-School in Nairobi since 2019, focusing on programs for children involving parents and families.

Photographer: Ora Buerkli, Hear the World Foundation

OUR

ENGAGEMENT



VISION

Our vision is a world in which:

- every person has the chance to experience good hearing;
- a hearing aid is not seen as taboo;
- hearing is cherished and protected; and
- people with hearing loss enjoy equal opportunities.



MISSION

The Hear the World Foundation has set itself the goal of improving the quality of life of children with hearing loss from low- to middle-income countries by giving them access to audiological care and hearing solutions.



EFFECTIVENESS

Our overriding principles when it comes to project support are that our resources should be utilized in the most effective way and have a long-lasting, positive effect on the lives of people with hearing loss.

That is why we mainly support projects that benefit **children** with hearing loss, because they have their whole lives ahead of them. Our support enables them to hear, to learn to speak, to develop according to their age, to enjoy better opportunities at school and in their future occupations, and to live a life without limitations.

We also support **parents and families**, as they play a significant role in their children's development.

In addition, we invest in the **education and training of local professionals**, so that they will be able to provide quality audiological care to their local community without our help in the future.

Preventing hearing loss is another of our major aims. We make people aware of the importance of good hearing and protecting their hearing through public awareness campaigns.

INTRODUCTION

SUSTAINABLE SUPPORT FOR CHILDREN WITH HEARING LOSS



DEAR READERS,

The pandemic has radically changed all of our lives. It has brought severe restrictions to everyday life and painful limitations in social contact. But it has also spotlighted how important our health is. For numerous

project partners, the past year added to their existing challenge. Health services in many of our program countries were already suboptimal. When Covid-19 hit, healthcare workers and hospitals found themselves frequently stretched to their limits.

However, it is crucial that people with hearing loss continue to receive care, particularly during a global crisis like this. In these times of social distancing, it is even more important to build close relationships through communication with others. And it's also essential to invest in reliable healthcare infrastructure. Determined to overcome these hurdles, often using creative solutions, the Hear the World Foundation has continued to be fully involved with 18 projects in 16 countries (p. 4).

Our new five-year strategy has served as a roadmap in this. Our focus is on scalable and sustainable programs in selected regions, which serve as a model for audiological care in low- to middle-income countries. We are concentrating on key countries, in which we collaborate with local partners with a long-term focus. We want the results of our work to be clearly measurable and, in the best case scenario, replicable in other regions. Our ultimate goal is to empower local teams to continue their work independently, without our support (p. 17).

In line with our new requirements and holistic approach, we invited external experts to join our Foundation Board in March 2021. Dr. Katrin Imhof is helping us sharpen our focus on the sustainable implementation

of our project work. She has over 20 years' experience working for international aid organizations in more than 25 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Middle East. Our second expert, Beate Eckhardt, brings extensive experience in foundation management, philanthropic partnerships, and collaborations. She gives some fascinating insights into what motivates her in an interview for this Activity Report (p. 18).

Every year, Sonova employees make a valuable contribution to our work and help teams around the world to do their work professionally and to the latest standards. Although volunteering assignments on site were not possible during the whole of the last business year, there has been no shortage of support. Initial volunteers have already started dedicated online support (p. 24). Last but not least, we have increased the opportunities for project partners to share their experiences, allowing them to benefit greatly from common solutions to the challenges posed by Covid-19.

I am convinced that the impact of our Foundation's work will reach far beyond the success of individual projects, and that whole regions will benefit from our efforts to give children with hearing loss the chance to shape their own future.

We hope that you will accompany us on this journey and thank you for your support and appreciation.

Warmest regards

Arnd Kaldowski
President of the Hear the World Foundation

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) represent the global agenda for sustainable development up to the year 2030. With its work, the Hear the World Foundation makes a valuable contribution toward two of the SDGs: 3 (good health and well-being) and 4 (quality education).



REVIEW

The Covid-19 pandemic has turned all our lives upside down. The last year was marked by intense societal, social, and economic change. The Hear the World Foundation and the work of our project partners around the world have also been affected.

With the outbreak of the pandemic and the associated travel restrictions, our ability to travel to our partners and to actively support them on the ground was curtailed overnight. Fortunately, our strategy of engaging in sustainable projects and years of investment in developing local resources paid off. We support our project partners financially and with technology, and teach them audiological and business skills. This empowers their teams to work independently and to advance audiological care in their own countries.

Experience shows that every change offers an opportunity for new creative solutions. Patients were looked after by telephone or via WhatsApp, hearing screenings were carried out using specially developed online questionnaires, and experts provided speech therapy advice in short videos. Project employees were equipped to carry out newborn screenings in hospitals in a coronavirus-compliant manner.

The Foundation also adapted its usual mode of operation by offering training courses, meetings, and volunteer placements virtually – with great success! Over the last year, we have learned that with a little goodwill, commitment, and creativity, there is always a way to provide care for children with hearing loss.



More than 8,140 children screened for hearing loss.



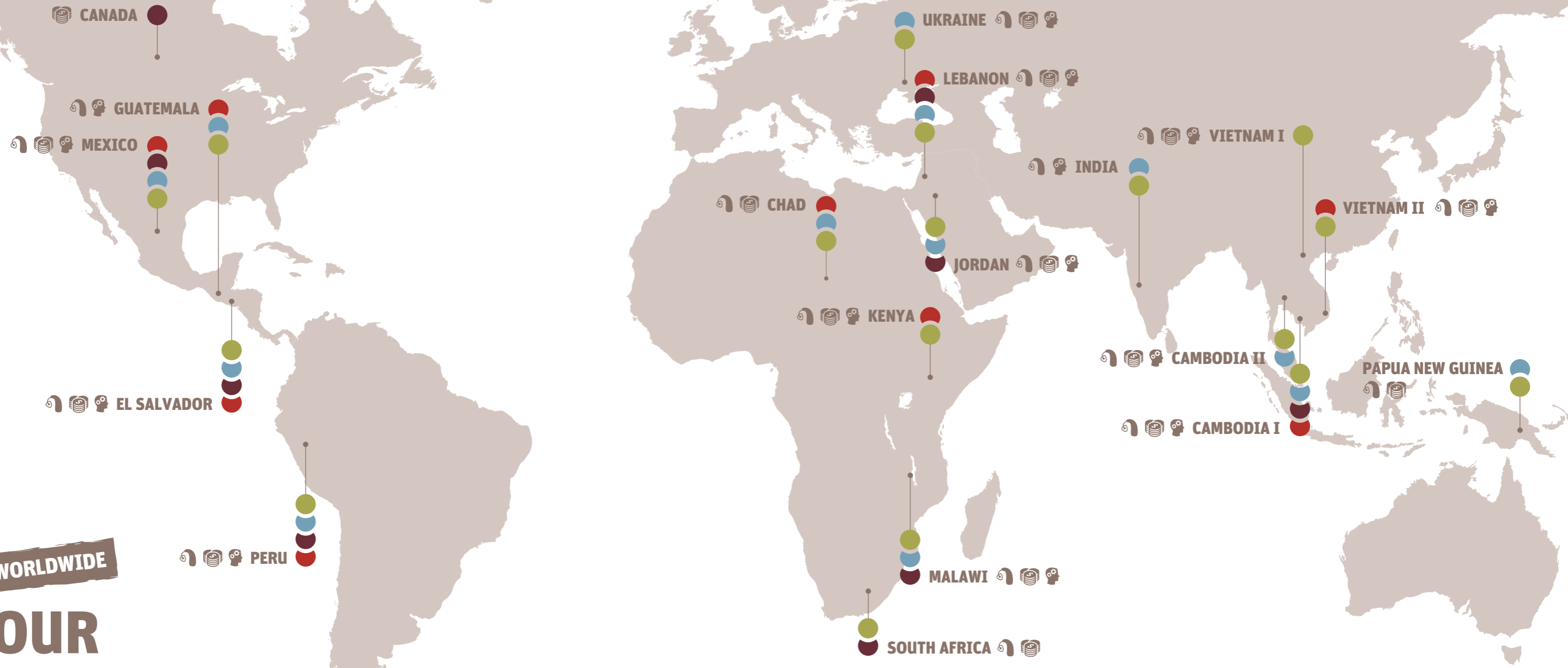
More than 640 professionals reached with training.



More than 900 parents of children with hearing loss supported.



Three-year-old Sarah from Malawi has had hearing loss since birth. She was fitted with hearing aids and is now a communicative, happy little girl.



WORLDWIDE

OUR PROJECTS 2020/21

18 projects in 16 countries

 hear-the-world.com/en/projects

OUR SUPPORT:

-  **Technology**
Provision of hearing solutions
-  **Funding**
Financial support
-  **Expertise**
Training for project partners

OUR FOCUS:

-  **PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN**
-  **PREVENTION OF HEARING LOSS**
-  **PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**
-  **PROGRAMS FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES**



Samuel's permanent bilateral hearing loss was identified during a hearing screening campaign at his school in Peru. He can hear better now thanks to his two hearing aids.

UPDATE

LATIN AMERICA

Many countries in Latin America have been hard hit by the Covid-19 pandemic. Our project partners in Peru, Mexico, Guatemala, and El Salvador experienced considerable restrictions to their day-to-day work, triggered by lockdowns, school closures, and a drastic loss of work and income among the population.

In Peru, we work together with Oír Para Crecer and World Wide Hearing. Our joint objective was to conduct hearing screenings on 30,000 schoolchildren between the ages of 5 and 18. However, schools have been closed since spring 2020, and mass screenings are no longer taking place.

Our partner developed online questionnaires relating to hearing health. Thanks to their collaboration with the Peruvian government, the team was able to meet more than 7,200 parents at over 50 schools in a coronavirus-compliant manner in fall 2020. Here, families picked up food parcels issued by the state, and Oír Para Crecer asked them about their children's hearing health at the same time. If necessary, they recommended a free hearing test for a professional diagnosis and a hearing aid fitting.

>981,000

**FOUR PROJECTS SUPPORTED
WITH OVER CHF 981,000**

UPDATE

AFRICA

The Hear the World Foundation is active in Africa, with local project partners in Kenya, Malawi, South Africa and Chad. The pandemic has had severe consequences, especially for South Africa, where more than 15 million inhabitants tested positive for Covid-19*.

We have been supporting the work of the hearX Foundation in Cape Town since 2017. They developed an easy-to-use app for hearing screenings and, together, our aim was to check the hearing of 27,000 school-children by the end of 2021. However, South Africa also had to go into lockdown, and mass screenings in schools were no longer feasible.

The hearX team used this time creatively and developed a digital training program. Screening teams were able to deepen their basic knowledge of audiology. Teachers learned to identify students with hearing loss and to refer them to audiologists, when needed. Communication was interactive and low tech via WhatsApp.

>735,000

**FOUR PROJECTS SUPPORTED
WITH OVER CHF 735,000**

Community workers screened this girl's hearing with the hearX Foundation app at her school in Cape Town, South Africa.

**<https://covid19.who.int/region/afro/country/za>, as at 03/31/2021.*



Ralph on the day his Cochlear implant was activated. He was able to hear initial sounds immediately and is now receiving speech therapy.

UPDATE

EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

Lebanon, Jordan, and Ukraine are our focus countries in Europe and the Middle East. Besides the coronavirus pandemic, these countries are struggling with political instability and an extremely tense economic situation. Furthermore, explosions in the Beirut port district in August 2020 had serious consequences for the local inhabitants.

We have been working with the Institut de Rééducation Audio-Phonétique (IRAP) and Houry Hearing in Beirut since 2017. Together, we fitted 100 Lebanese and Syrian children with hearing aids. One of these children was Ralph, who was diagnosed with hearing loss shortly after birth. Unfortunately, his hearing loss has continued to worsen over the past few years.

The only solution for effective sound amplification was a Cochlear implant. Last November, the youngster underwent successful surgery in Beirut. Activation of the implant the following month also went well, and the six-year-old was immediately able to hear the audiologist's taps. He now attends speech therapy, is learning to differentiate sounds, and is practicing speaking.

> 420,000

**THREE PROJECTS SUPPORTED
WITH OVER CHF 420,000**



Daneth from Cambodia is being treated for an external ear canal infection with topical medication.

UPDATE

ASIA-PACIFIC

According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there were 11,025 Covid-19 cases in our project countries, Cambodia, Vietnam, and Papua New Guinea. India, on the other hand, reported over 12 million positive cases of Covid-19 and more than 162,000 deaths.

Despite a low number of cases, people in Cambodia also felt the effects of the global coronavirus crisis. Many small businesses had to cease trading as tourism came to a complete standstill.

Our partner, All Ears Cambodia (AEC), experienced a temporary drop in patient numbers due to school closures. Aside from that, they were able to continue their operations, albeit with a few restrictions. Their resilience was testament to their focus, over the past 16 years, on developing the knowledge of local staff and independent action – a strategy that has proved its worth during the pandemic.

Since January 2021, Sonova employees have been training the team in real ear measurement, a procedure for precise hearing aid fitting which will be used in Cambodia in the future.

>771,000

**SIX PROJECTS SUPPORTED
WITH OVER CHF 771,000**

*<https://covid19.who.int>, as at 03/31/2021.

A focus of the work in Peru is hearing screenings at schools. Last year, they took place via questionnaires to comply with Covid-19 restrictions.



STRATEGY

OUR HOLISTIC APPROACH

Globally, nearly 450 million people live with hearing loss, 34 million of which are children. Moreover, 60% of hearing loss in children could be prevented through public health measures. 80% of people with hearing loss live in low- and middle-income countries and the majority of them do not have access to audiological interventions. The Hear the World Foundation wants to address this challenge and increase affordable access to hearing care for children in these regions. Our programs fill a gap in hearing care delivery in underserved communities, bringing social change and socio-economic benefits.

We have developed a new five-year strategy and detailed plans to maximize the Foundation’s sustainable social impact. It focuses on enhancing the quality and impact of our program portfolio and ensuring sustainable program frameworks.

Impactful Program Portfolio

We strive to develop scalable and sustainable programs in a few key countries, with the potential for replication and scaling up in other regions within the country, serving as a model for hearing health care delivery in low- and middle-income countries. We seek partners that have a concrete vision and ambition to become self-reliant in a defined time frame. Whenever possible, we prefer to partner with local stakeholders and thus also strengthen the local health care system and economy. We have high expectations in terms of professionalism, availability of

local resources, transparency in collaboration, and capacity to measure outcomes and impact.

Sustainable Program Frameworks

We believe in programs that are based on a holistic approach, consisting of the core components of the Hearing Health Value Chain (see chart). These include awareness and prevention campaigns, e.g. in schools, to explain to students, parents, and teachers the most important facts about hearing loss and prevention. A next step would be to perform hearing screenings and to identify children with hearing loss from an early age. The screenings often take place in hospitals, kindergarten, and schools. Once identified, audiological interventions are necessary to confirm the diagnosis and to fit hearing aids. A very important aspect is aftercare, including auditory-verbal therapy, but also checking if the child regularly wears the hearing aids and coaching the family on how to support the rehabilitation process. Our programs aim to improve the hearing, communication, and speaking skills of children with hearing loss, and thus ultimately improve their social integration and quality of life.

To achieve these ambitious goals, we coach our local partners to build their capacities in terms of expertise, training, equipment use, and process-oriented work. This empowers them to achieve the desired social and socio-economic results within their communities.

Hearing Health Value Chain



Steps towards sustainable hearing health care



Institutional readiness to enable sustainable hearing health care

INTERVIEW WITH BEATE ECKHARDT

2021 represents a year of change for the Hear the World Foundation. For the first time, we invited external members to join to complement Sonova's internal expertise. Our new members are Christophe Fond, Group Vice President Audiological Care Sonova, Beate Eckhardt, philanthropy and foundation expert and owner of Eckhardt Consulting, and Dr. Katrin Imhof, expert in sustainable development cooperation. We caught up with Beate Eckhardt for a short interview:

You joined the Hear the World Foundation Board at the beginning of 2021. What was your motivation?

I am very familiar with the Hear the World Foundation through my former position as Managing Director of SwissFoundations, the umbrella organization for Swiss funding foundations. As a relatively young corporate foundation, the Hear the World Foundation has quickly built an excellent reputation through its activities and explicit networking in the foundation sector. The interface between business and philanthropy offers great potential for synergies and mutual inspiration. This is an arrangement I am keen to advocate. Plus, I am moved by the Foundation's strategic focus. We experience the world through our senses – they enable us to communicate with other people. This makes it all the more important that the Hear the World Foundation supports children with hearing loss in low- and middle-income countries, so they can access the same opportunities for development as their peers. I am honored and delighted to be involved with this objective as a member of the Foundation Board.

What core competencies from your previous professional life can you bring to the Foundation in an advisory capacity?

As a foundation and philanthropy expert, I support founders and foundations with the strategic orientation of their social impact. Charitable foundations have limited resources and often face far greater needs than they can meet on their own. Strategic considerations and good networking, therefore, play a pivotal role. This type of networking is offered, for example, by the SwissFoundations Corporate Foundations working group and the European C Summit. I was able to help found

and shape both initiatives. In addition to strategy and networking, modern foundation governance and transparent public relations are key components of good foundation work. Last but not least, I hope that my training as a systemic consultant for organizational transformation and change will enable me to contribute useful knowledge and experience in the design and facilitation of development processes.

Our society is in a state of flux. What role will philanthropy and foundations play in the future?

In a world that is increasingly global, interdisciplinary, digital, and interconnected, the challenges are also becoming more complex and diverse. Macro trends such as demographic developments, migration, digital transformation, and climate change no longer stop at national borders, and demand innovative and integrated solutions. Boundaries between topics and content are also becoming increasingly blurred. Thanks to their freedom and scope, foundations can play a decisive role here. They can act as agile drivers of innovation, promoting systemic change, anticipating and initiating new trends as thought leaders, or act as a supportive and stabilizing force. Foundations take on a wide variety of functions and it is clear to me that we will need to harness all our strengths to overcome the challenges ahead. In terms of voluntary social engagement, the significance of foundations cannot be overestimated.



hear-the-world.com/en/board




GUIDELINE
**PEDIATRIC
STANDARD
OF CARE**

During the last year, the Hear the World Foundation published a key guideline pertaining to the golden standard for providing pediatric hearing health care. We strongly believe that recognized and evidence-based procedures are essential to providing the best possible care for children with hearing loss, irrespective of what country they are undergoing treatment in.

The guideline has been developed by our Advisory Board members Prof. Emeritus Richard Seewald and Prof. Patricia Roush, together with Dr. Jean Anne Schnittker, a research audiologist at Sonova. The document is comprehensive and covers all key aspects of pediatric hearing health care.

To ensure that our project partners had a good understanding of what the guideline entails, we invited them to a series of webinars. In these sessions, we deep-dived into scientific and practical aspects of the topic, and had vivid discussions. To follow up, we asked our project partners to perform a gap analysis. This gave us a transparent overview of the status quo and enabled us to define what steps are required to comply with the golden standard.

The Pediatric Standard of Care guideline is available in English and Spanish.

The Hearing Center team in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine, fitted Maksym with two hearing aids, which he now wears regularly.

SONOVA

ENGAGEMENT

Sonova employees show their commitment to the Foundation through a wide range of activities. By sharing their expertise in audiology, marketing, social media, administration, and IT, they help sharpen the skills and boost the impact of local teams. Due to travel restrictions, volunteering activities have taken place online since the beginning of the pandemic. This has signified a major change for the Foundation, its volunteers, and local partners. However, thanks to adapted job profiles and modern technology, volunteering engagements now take place online.

“Volunteering has greatly enriched my life. South Africa and the people I met there will always have a special place in my heart. I can’t wait to virtually support more project partners soon and help give children with hearing loss access to a life without limitations.”

Nicole Da Rocha, Consumer Specialist at Advanced Bionics in the UK, about her volunteering trip to South Africa prior to Covid-19



> 1,300 SONOVA EMPLOYEES

have supported our projects globally since 2013.



> 53,600 HOURS

have been volunteered to the Foundation by Sonova employees since 2013.



FUNDRAISING

Since 2013, Sonova employees have raised over CHF 180,000 for our projects globally.



hear-the-world.com/en/employees



Sonova employee, Nicole Da Rocha, traveled to Cape Town prior to the Covid-19 pandemic and helped the local team to conduct hearing screenings at schools.

TECHNOLOGY

VALUABLE SUPPORT

The Hear the World Foundation relies on support to enable our project partners to provide high-quality audiological care and to professionally care for disadvantaged children with hearing loss. In addition to the products from the Phonak, Unitron, and

Advanced Bionics brands of Sonova AG, the following companies also kindly provide the Foundation with products at preferential rates, or financial support. We thank them all for their generosity and continued support.



The devices from Path Medical facilitate audiological diagnoses for all age and risk groups. The Foundation has been purchasing these at preferential rates since 2020.



The Inventis product portfolio includes state-of-the-art audiology equipment such as audiometry, tympanometry, and hearing aid fitting solutions. The company has been supporting Hear the World projects by providing devices at preferential rates since 2020.



Vibes manufactures hi-fi earplugs with acoustic filters. The company has been donating a share of its sales to support the work of our Foundation since 2016.



Thanks to VARTA Microbattery, all Hear the World projects globally have been equipped with power one hearing aid batteries for over ten years.

Our longstanding partnership with the Hear The World Foundation is very special to us. We support projects globally with power one hearing aid batteries, giving children and adults the gift of hearing.

*Torsten Schmerer, General Manager Microbatteries
VARTA Microbattery GmbH*



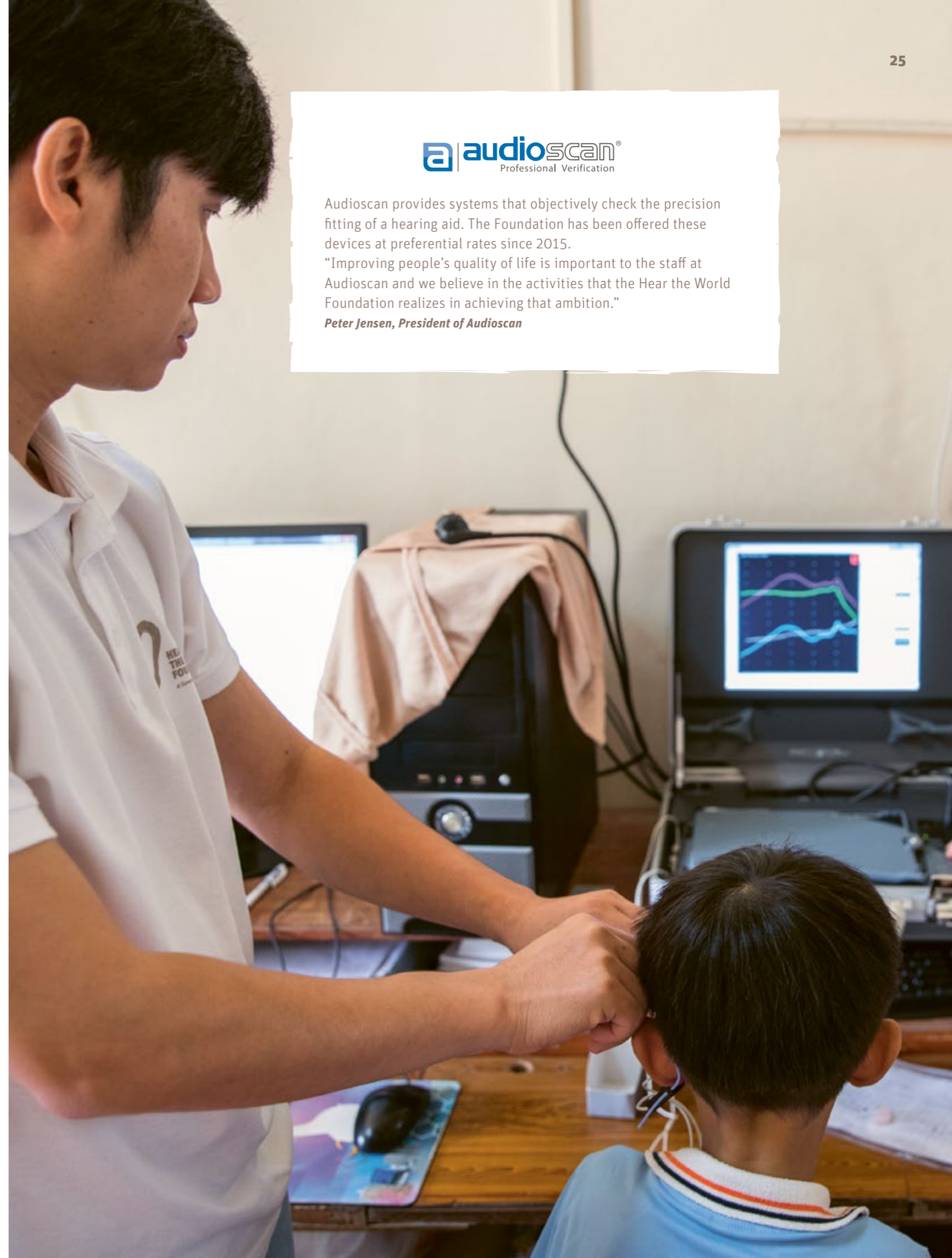
Ear Gear develops spandex sleeves that fit over the hearing aids, holding them in place and protecting them from dirt and moisture. The family-owned company has supported the Foundation through its Giving Back program since 2020.



Audioscan provides systems that objectively check the precision fitting of a hearing aid. The Foundation has been offered these devices at preferential rates since 2015.

“Improving people’s quality of life is important to the staff at Audioscan and we believe in the activities that the Hear the World Foundation realizes in achieving that ambition.”

Peter Jensen, President of Audioscan



ORGANIZATION

The Hear the World Foundation Board is made up of Sonova Group executives and external experts with extensive experience in foundations. It advises the Executive Team on a strategic and operational level. The Advisory Board consists of experts and professors in audiology. It evaluates

suitable projects, which it proposes to the Foundation Board for funding. The Executive Team is responsible for the strategic and operational management of the Foundation.

FOUNDATION BOARD

ARND KALDOWSKI (PRESIDENT)
CEO Sonova

CHRISTOPHE FOND
Group Vice President Audiological Care Sonova

BEATE ECKHARDT
Philanthropy and Foundation Expert

DR. KATRIN IMHOF
Expert in Sustainable Development Cooperation

EXECUTIVE TEAM

DR. JOËLLE PIANZOLA
Director

ORA BUERKLI
Senior Advisor

ELENA TORRESANI
Senior Advisor Portfolio Management

LOUISE SEN
Operations Manager

LINDA DEFLORIN-KARRER
Program Manager

CAROLE WITMER
Program Manager

ROMY SAUER
Communications & Brand Manager

ADVISORY BOARD

PROF. DR. JERRY L. NORTHERN
Professor Emeritus at the University of Colorado School of Medicine (USA)

PROF. DR. BEATRIZ NOVAES
Professor at the Faculty of Human and Health Sciences at the Catholic University of São Paulo (BR)

PROF. DR. PATRICIA ROUSH
Professor Emeritus Otolaryngology at the University of North Carolina Hospitals in Chapel Hill (USA)

DR. MED. DOROTHE VERAGUTH
Chief Physician at the Audiology Clinic for ENT and Facial Surgery at the University Hospital Zurich (CH)

DR. MED. SHUO WANG
Associate Professor Otolaryngology at Beijing Tongren Hospital, Capital Medical University (CHN)



PUBLICATION DETAILS

MAY 2021

CONCEPT AND TEXT

Hear the World Foundation

DESIGN

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Rita Palanikumar
Gilbert Sayde, 5W's Production Studio

The project photographs in this Activity Report were taken before the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic. Exception: The photograph on page 12, which shows the activation of a Cochlear implant in December 2020.



HEAR THE WORLD FOUNDATION

a Sonova Group initiative

Founded in 2006, the Hear the World Foundation supports aid projects benefiting people in need with hearing loss worldwide. The Foundation focuses particularly on projects for children with hearing loss, enabling them to develop to their fullest potential. The non-profit Swiss foundation provides funding, hearing aid technology and on-site expertise with a view to training up local staff. More than 100 high-profile personalities, such as Bryan Adams, Bruce Springsteen, Cindy Crawford, Annie Lennox, and Sting, have supported Hear the World as ambassadors for conscious hearing.



hear-the-world.com

HELP BY MAKING A DONATION!

You, too, can help people hear! As an officially recognized non-profit foundation, the Hear the World Foundation guarantees that 100% of your financial support goes directly to helping children with hearing loss. The Sonova Group bears all the administrative costs of the Foundation.

What's more, donations to the Hear the World Foundation are tax deductible in Switzerland.

Donate online:
hear-the-world.com/en/donation

Donate via bank transfer:
UBS AG, Zürich
Konto: Hear the World Foundation
Kontonummer: 230-477384.01U
IBAN: CH12 0023 0230 4773 8401 U
SWIFT: UBSWCHZH80A





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To the Board of Trustees of
Hear the World Foundation, Steinhausen

Zürich, 21 April 2021

Report of the statutory auditor on the limited statutory examination

As statutory auditor, we have examined the financial statements (balance sheet, operating statement, statement of changes in equity and notes) of Hear the World Foundation for the financial year ended 31 March 2021.

These financial statements prepared in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER, Swiss law and the deed of foundation are the responsibility of the Board of Trustees. Our responsibility is to perform a limited statutory examination on these financial statements. We confirm that we meet the licensing and independence requirements as stipulated by Swiss law.

We conducted our examination in accordance with the Swiss Standard on the limited statutory examination. This standard requires that we plan and perform a limited statutory examination to identify material misstatements in the financial statements. A limited statutory examination consists primarily of inquiries of company personnel and analytical procedures as well as detailed tests of company documents as considered necessary in the circumstances. However, the testing of operational processes and the internal control system, as well as inquiries and further testing procedures to detect fraud or other legal violations, are not within the scope of this examination.


Based on our limited statutory examination, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not give a true and fair view of the financial position, the results of operations and the cash flows in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER. Furthermore, nothing has come to our attention that causes us to believe that the financial statements do not comply with Swiss law and the deed of foundation.

The financial statements of Hear the World Foundation for the year ended 31 March 2020 were examined by another statutory auditor who expressed an unmodified statement on those financial statements on 20 April 2020.

Ernst & Young Ltd

 Martin Mattes
(Qualified
Signature)

Licensed audit expert
(Auditor in charge)

 Pascal Solèr
(Qualified
Signature)

Licensed audit expert

Enclosure

- Financial statements (balance sheet, operating statement, statement of changes in equity and notes)

ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

BALANCE SHEET AS OF MARCH 31

(in Swiss francs)	2020/2021	2019/2020
Assets		
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	445,380	371,278
	445,380	371,278
Total assets	445,380	371,278
Liabilities		
Current liabilities		
Other current liabilities	1,067	7,948
Accrued liabilities	9,693	7,539
	10,760	15,487
Capital of the organization		
Paid-in capital	500,000	500,000
Free capital	(65,380)	(144,210)
	434,620	355,790
Total liabilities	445,380	371,278

OPERATION STATEMENT FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1 TO MARCH 31

(in Swiss francs)	2020/2021	2019/2020
Income		
Income from donations	3,040,140	3,782,033
Total income	3,040,140	3,782,033
Expenses		
Technological support for projects abroad	(2,514,348)	(3,138,830)
Financial support for projects abroad	(304,269)	(468,269)
Professional support for projects abroad	(36,239)	(200,840)
Technological support for projects in Switzerland	(69,493)	(70,425)
Financial support for projects in Switzerland	(26,200)	(76,400)
Administrative expenses	(10,093)	(8,101)
Other operating expenses	(110)	(364)
Total expenses	(2,960,752)	(3,963,228)
Operating profit	79,388	(181,195)
Realized gain/loss on exchange rate differences	(558)	(270)
Result for the year before allocation to the capital of the organization	78,830	(181,466)

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN CAPITAL

(in Swiss francs)	Paid-in capital	Free capital	Capital of the organization
As of 31.03./01.04.2019	500,000	37,256	537,256
Change	0	(181,466)	(181,466)
As of 31.03./01.04.2020	500,000	(144,210)	355,790
Change	0	78,830	78,830
As of 31.03.2021	500,000	(65,380)	434,620

NOTES TO THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AS OF MARCH 31, 2021

1 GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE FOUNDATION

The objective of the Foundation is to provide global education on hearing, with the aim of helping to prevent hearing loss. The Foundation also provides technological, financial and professional support to groups, public facilities and private individuals to prevent hearing loss or to improve the lives of those with hearing loss.

According to the Foundation charter, the initial paid-up capital of CHF 500,000 does not have to be maintained. All capital is available to the Foundation Board for grants.

The Foundation Board consists of the following persons:

- ARND KALDOWSKI
- CHRISTOPHE FOND
- BEATE ECKHARDT
- KATRIN IMHOF

The business operations of the Foundation comply with the articles of association dated December 4, 2006, and the Foundation's rules of procedure dated December 4, 2006.

Ernst & Young AG served as auditor for the fiscal year. Their mandate is based on legal regulations and generally accepted accounting principles.

2 ACCOUNTING AND REPORTING PRINCIPLES

The annual financial statements are prepared in accordance with the accounting principles under the Swiss GAAP FER Framework, core FER and Swiss GAAP FER 21 in order to provide as reliable an assessment as possible of the Foundation's financial position, results of operations and cash flows. The financial statements contain comparatives and have also been prepared in accordance with Swiss Law.

There are no employees.

3 VALUATION PRINCIPLES GOVERNING INDIVIDUAL ITEMS IN THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in an account held with UBS Switzerland AG in Zurich and are valued at nominal value. Accrued liabilities contain the audit fees and are valued at nominal value.

4 FINANCIAL ASSETS AND EXPLANATIONS REGARDING ASSETS AND LIABILITIES

The Foundation does not have any fixed assets. Its assets comprise the Foundation's capital, which is deposited in a current account. The capital was deposited with UBS Switzerland AG at an average interest rate of 0.00% and is available on a daily basis.

5 GRATUITOUS (FREE) SERVICES

All resources required for the governance, management and administration of the Foundation and all of the Foundation's communication activities were provided by Sonova and its group companies free of charge and funded by them where necessary. This included, for example, resources in communications and administration amounting to the value of around CHF 589,000 (previous year CHF 513,000). To determine the expenses, annual expenses are multiplied by times the annual salaries including social security benefits. Additional resources of Sonova AG were provided in accounting and logistics services. These amounts were not recorded in the operation statement.

6 TRANSACTIONS WITH RELATED PARTIES

Technological support was provided mostly by Sonova AG, Advanced Bionics AG and Unitron Hearing GmbH. Technological devices are charged to the Foundation at production cost but are reported in the income statement at the list price for Swiss audiologists. The difference between production cost and list price is reported as a donation.

In total, Sonova Group provided non-cash benefits worth CHF 2,406,431 (previous year CHF 2,993,965).

7 PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

By training project partners, Sonova Group employees conduct professional support for the Foundation. The service hours are multiplied with the median salary of Sonova Headquarter Staefa. They are accounted for as donations, as the foundation is not charged for these donations by Sonova Group.

8 ACTIVITIES OF THE FOUNDATION DURING THE FISCAL YEAR

The Foundation Board determines the resources to be awarded and their allocation during budgeting. These resources were distributed as follows during the financial year:

	2020/2021		2019/2020	
	CHF	in %	CHF	in %
Technological support for projects abroad	2,514,348	85%	3,138,830	79%
Financial support for projects abroad	304,269	10%	468,269	12%
Professional support for projects abroad	36,239	1%	200,840	5%
Technological support for projects in Switzerland	69,493	3%	70,425	2%
Financial support for projects in Switzerland	26,200	1%	76,400	2%
Administrative expenditures	10,093	0%	8,101	0%
Other operating expenditures	110	0%	364	0%
Realized gain/(loss) on exchange rate differences	558	0%	270	0%
	2,961,310	100%	3,963,499	100%

As of the balance sheet date, financial support of CHF 5,700 for project Coral, Mexico, is outstanding.

9 PERFORMANCE REPORT

The performance report, containing information on the purpose, governing bodies and work of the Foundation, forms part of the Foundation's annual Activity Report. The most recent Activity Report was published in May 2020.