

SWISSAID 

No. 2/20

SPIEGEL



**ANNUAL REPORT
2019**

**The valuable harvest
of your support**

Taking a stand for the climate and for gender equality



Ten years. That's how much time we have left to achieve the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The intention is to rid the world of hunger and poverty by 2030 thanks to sustainable, inclusive development. An ambitious mission that is at risk of failing. Nevertheless, 2019 was an encouraging year as far as the SDGs were concerned.

Agenda 2030 has established a new approach: In a nutshell, it is no longer about the rich countries helping the poor to develop. It is about all countries working together to achieve the 17 SDGs – and to support each other in doing so. This is an approach which SWISSAID has been pursuing for years. However, a common understanding of the problem is needed in order to be able to help each other. This was encouraged greatly in the 2019 reporting year in particular: The climate youth and the women's strike are giving SWISSAID issues a boost. In Switzerland, as well as globally. By standing up for climate justice and gender equality, more and more people are raising public awareness and doing their bit to support the sustainability goals. Let's hope that this continues this year despite the corona crisis.

You will be going one step further with your support for SWISSAID. Last year, you helped us to initiate positive developments in nine of the poorest countries in the world. Sustainable farming, strong women, the fair use of raw materials and active civilian societies help to reduce poverty, protect human rights and the climate and thus to create new opportunities. We would like to thank you very much for your support!

Prosperous Switzerland not only has a responsibility to effect change at home, but also in the rest of the world. This is what we stand for. Keeping our eyes and ears open, we will continue to be involved wherever we are needed in 2020.

Fabian Molina and Bastienne Joerchel
Co-Presidents of SWISSAID

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The year of change



Markus Allemann,
Executive Director

The streets were deserted this spring. Eerily silent. Coronavirus virtually paralysed life here in Switzerland and worldwide. How different things looked a year ago! Hundreds of thousands gathered to demonstrate for women. Against climate change. And in doing so, they sent out a clear signal. We can't go on as before.

It's high time: We have barely ten years left to achieve the goals of Agenda 2030. The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) was also looking for new partnerships and strengthened networks with this in mind. Like many others, we therefore went looking for other international NGOs in Switzerland to liaise with and finally decided on the most courageous and exciting of all possible options: We have formed an alliance with Vivamos Mejor, Vétérinaires sans Frontières, Skat Foundation, Aqua Alimenta and Fastenopfer and are now getting ready

to work together for four years. Together, we are promoting sustainable food systems and strong civilian societies in 27 countries.

Our scope of action and experience will be much broader with our new partners. We are hoping for a steep rise in the learning curve, greater impact, innovations and cost savings. We will become an important partner for the SDC – gaining additional visibility and importance in Switzerland. The alliance gives all participating small and medium-sized organisations the advantages that are otherwise only available to the large ones; at the same time we will not lose anything in terms of flexibility. Effective development cooperation in today's world requires an intelligent approach to dealing with its complexity. The loose association of organisations that are similar in their approach and working towards the same goals is a response to the increas-

ingly challenging field of professional development cooperation. A stable network in an unstable world.

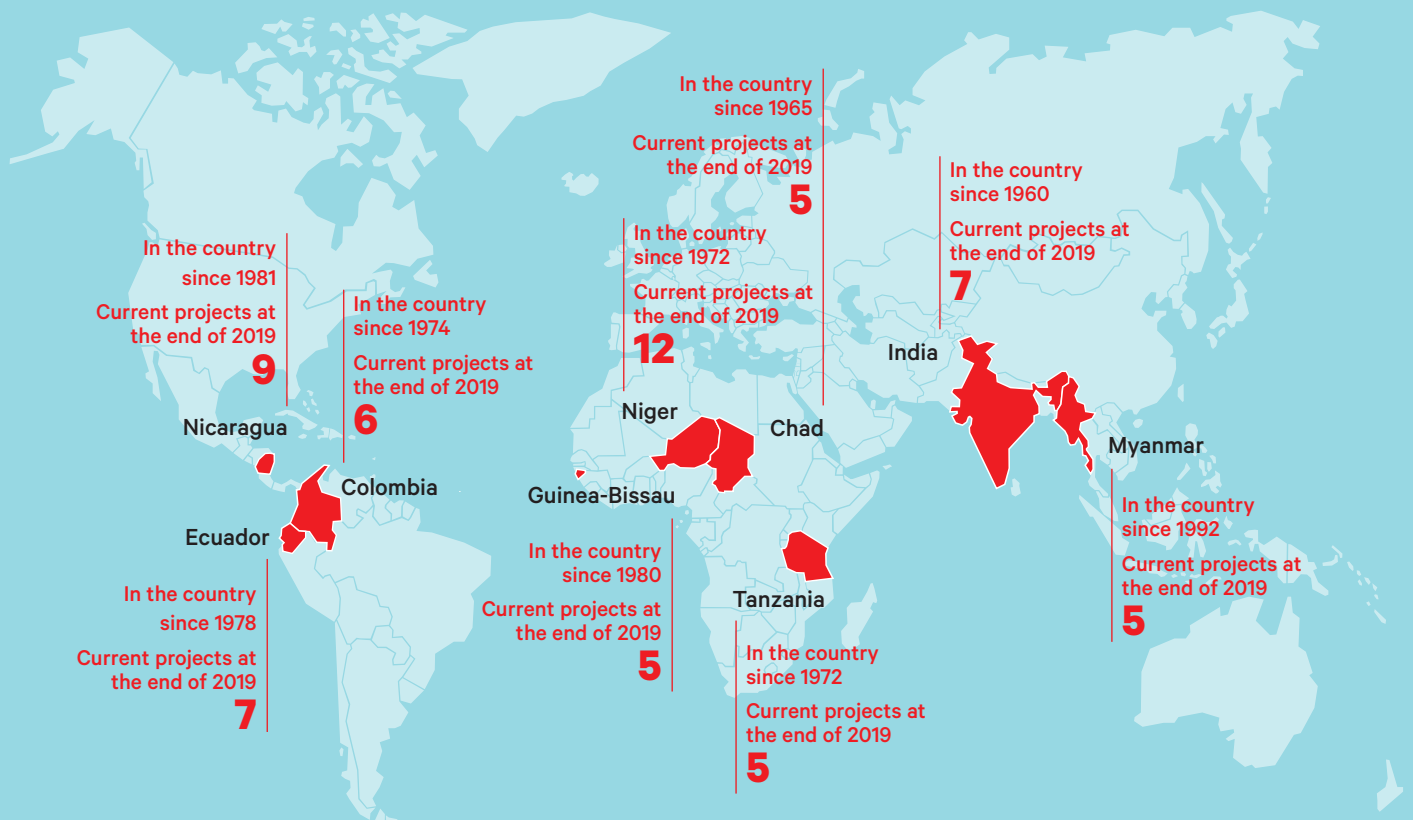
SWISSAID wants to make a big difference and help implement Agenda 2030. Ending poverty, securing food, tackling climate change, achieving gender equality, reducing inequality, creating peace, justice and strong institutions, cultivating global partnerships... We too picked up on the signals from the streets last year. Together with you, our valued donors, we are transforming those signals into actions.

Photos: Eliane Beerhalter, SWISSAID



In these times of the coronavirus not only are the streets empty, so are our offices. We are holding discussions, sharing information and occasionally even having a laugh online, like at this video conference in April 2020.

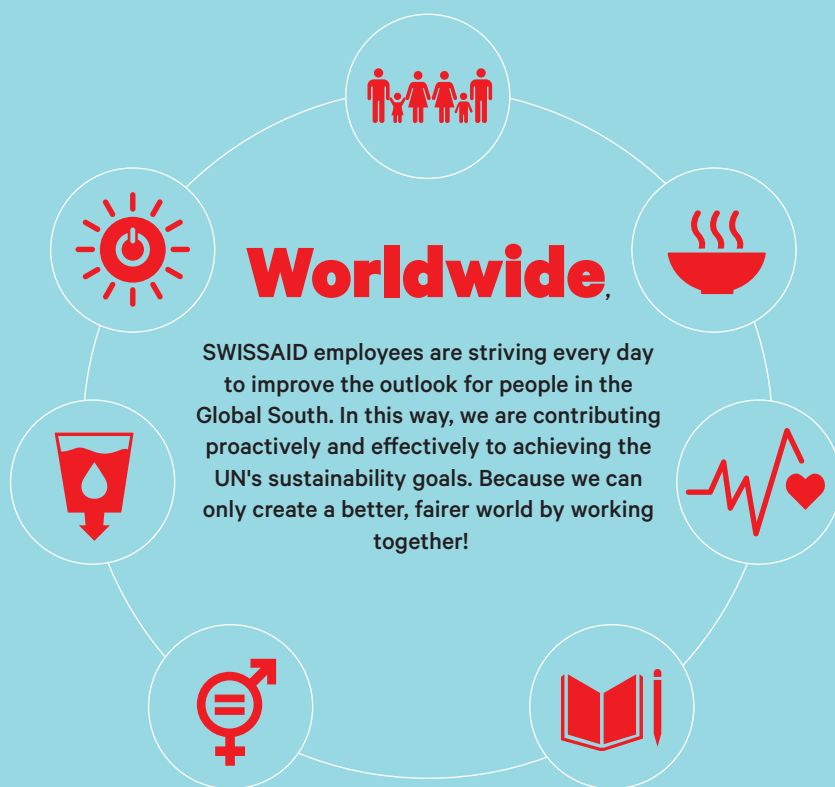
SWISSAID in figures



224,330

men, women and children

That's how many people have benefited from
our projects and your donations in the past year!



155 people

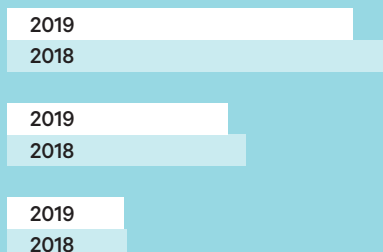
work for SWISSAID in the nine coordination offices on the ground. The vast majority of them are skilled local workers. In this way, SWISSAID has created secure jobs in the Global South. In the Swiss offices in Bern and Lausanne, there are 35 people working.

11,241,546 Swiss francs

This is how much you donated to us in 2019. Thanks to your generosity, together we can fight hunger, provide clean drinking water, fight for equality and support sustainable agriculture.

Project sponsorships

Will you help to make these bars longer again in 2020? Sponsors are the backbone of our project work: We can build on their support in the long term and make a lasting improvement to the living conditions of many people.

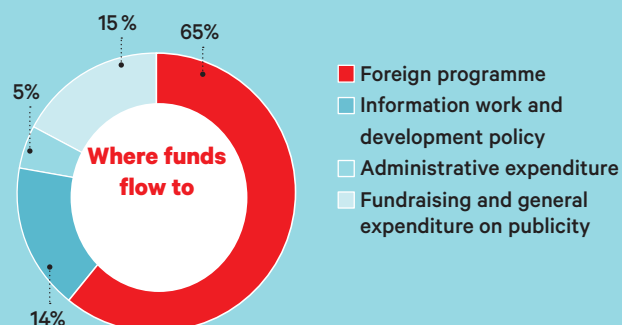
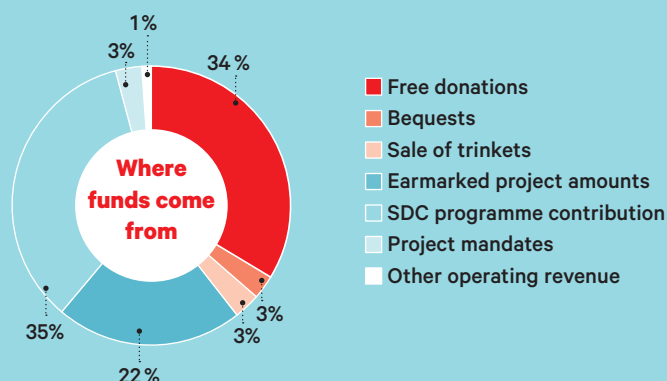


720 sponsors for women's projects

455 sponsors for organic projects

322 sponsors for access to water

Finance and use of resources





NICARAGUA
CENTRAL AMERICA
swissaid.ch/en/nicaragua

Working together to oppose genetic engineering

Smallholders are committed to using local and diverse seeds and are campaigning together to oppose genetic engineering. SWISSAID and its partners are supporting them in their efforts.



Varied seeds secure biodiversity in Nicaragua.

At a glance	
In the country since	1981
Current projects at the end of 2019	9
Funds disbursed CHF	1,513,539
People benefiting directly	36,250
Ranking in the HDI	126 out of 189

"Genetically modified organisms (GMO) are banned in our community. The sowing of transgenic maize violates national and local ordinances and is therefore sanctioned accordingly. GMOs damage biodiversity and endanger local seeds. Let's say no to GMOs!"

This call was heard and read in some regions in Nicaragua last year. Smallholders declared war on genetic engineering on the radio as well as with banners and leaflets. Once again. The "Semillas de Identidad" alliance supported by SWISSAID has been fighting against GMOs for several years now – and is thus working to safeguard biodiversity in Nicaragua.

Large network
Although genetic engineering is prohibited by law in Nicaragua, large agrochemical companies are nevertheless trying to import GMOs. As they did in 2018. Back then the "Semillas de Identidad" alliance suspected that there was genetically modified maize in the north of the country. Thanks to its broad network of agroecologists and smallholders, it was able to quickly identify farms in question.

The illegal cultivation of genetically modified maize then spread to other regions in 2019. "Semillas de Identidad" is taking action again to raise awareness of the risks of GM maize and the associated weed killer glyphosate. But the government has other priorities in the midst of a political and economic crisis. That is why the alliance is addressing communities that describe themselves as "GMO-free". They are mounting a strong re-

sponse. The alliance and farmers' associations are launching a major campaign. Genetically modified maize is being destroyed in the fields. The active communities are playing an important role: They are raising awareness in other areas where the authorities have not taken action against GMOs yet.

At the same time, SWISSAID and its partners are expanding the seed banks. There are currently over 400 banks with more than 6000 members. SWISSAID's objective: The farming families maintain their biodiversity and food security. And they are being given the opportunity to reject GMOs, loud and clear.

Carine Pin, Programme Manager

Photo: Carine Pin, SWISSAID



WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

A commercial can be broadcast on the radio for **10 francs**. The "Semillas de Identidad" alliance will use it to spell out the dangers of GMOs. In this way you can help to raise awareness among the Nicaraguan public.



**ECUADOR
SOUTH AMERICA**
swissaid.ch/en/ecuador

Climate crisis: Response from the Andes

It is too dry in the rainy season – it rains too heavily in the dry season. Weather caprices are on the increase in the Andes as well. This makes it all the more important to protect the sensitive ecosystem.

At a glance

In the country since	1978
Current projects at the end of 2019	7
Funds disbursed CHF	1,252,468
People benefiting directly	23,400
Ranking in the HDI	85 out of 189

Life at an altitude of 2800 to 3500 metres above sea level: The village communities of the Central Sierra in Ecuador are used to adversity. Over the years, they have adapted their living and production conditions to the challenging situation at altitude. But the climate crisis with the increasing water shortage, weather anomalies such as unexpected frosts or heavy rainfall are exacerbating the situation. There is a shortage of water, and harvests are failing. There is an increase in unbalanced

nutrition and deficiency symptoms. Therefore, comprehensive and coordinated measures are needed. The sensitive ecosystem of the so-called Páramo plays an important role in this regard. Páramos are grasslands that exist 3800 to 4700 metres above sea level. They act like an enormous sponge, absorbing and storing a lot of moisture. SWISSAID is working together with the local administrations, the State Secretariat for Water, the environmental agencies and the various village communities to draw up and implement protection plans, regulations and agreements.

Native species of trees

One example is the Páramo Rumichaca in the canton of Cotopaxi. An area of 1138 hectares was successfully put under protection there in 2019, prohibiting grazing or afforestation with tree species that are not suitable for the location. The core zone of 40 hectares is also physically enclosed by a fence. The drinking water supply is located in this zone. From 2020, this will be used to feed the planned small-scale irrigation system for 305 people.

In nearby Páramo Salamalag, the village community has joined forces with SWISSAID to cut down exotic trees with high water consumption, such as eucalyptus or pine trees, and instead planted 15,000 naturally occurring tree and shrub species. Investments are also being

made in firewood-saving stoves, washing and cooking facilities. This not only makes the work of the women who are responsible for the indigenous small-holder farms during the week easier, but the new stoves also reduce the pressure on firewood collection.

Things are also moving forward in the province of Tungurahua. A total of 460 hectares are to be designated as water protection zones here. These zones may not be used in any way whatsoever, and no concessions may be granted to mining companies. However, a great deal of discussion and negotiation work with local authorities, village communities and the state Secretariat for Water is needed before these zones can achieve protection status. The plans were submitted to the Secretariat for Water last year. It is to be hoped that approval will be granted in 2021.

Petra Engelhard, Programme Manager



Not all species of plants are suitable for the Andes.



WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

CHF 100 will pay for a one-day training course in management plans for 30 community members in Páramos, for example.



COLOMBIA
SOUTH AMERICA
swissaid.ch/en/colombia

"We exist, don't erase us!"

**A woman is a victim of violence in Colombia every 23 minutes.
A large-scale campaign has been launched to condemn the abuse –
and is also attracting a lot of attention on social media.**



Invisible through fear: The campaign wants to give women a face and a voice.

At a glance

In the country since	1974
Current projects at the end of 2019	6
Funds disbursed CHF	1,457,976
People benefiting directly	11,240
Ranking in the HDI	79 out of 189

Women without faces, without bodies, consisting only of clothes and traditional work equipment: These provocative photos are used to condemn the violence against women that is so prevalent in Colombia. SWISSAID financed the campaign under the slogan "We exist, don't erase us". Its aim is to make young men, in particular, aware that macho culture not only violates women physically and mentally, it is also hampering the country's social

and economic development. This wake-up call is urgently needed: A woman is a victim of violence just because of her gender every 23 minutes in Colombia. Around 85 per cent of these victims are girls aged between 10 and 13.

Cry of disgust

But the women have had enough of this oppression and are fighting back. They are calling for protection of the victims and for the abusers to be punished. Over 3000 people, together with SWISSAID's partner organisations, actively supported the campaign last year in the Chocó, Boyacá and Sucre departments by joining peace marches, attending events or by listening to local

radio programmes. One of them is 23-year-old Nathalia Aguas. She lives in Sucre and is confronted daily with physical and psychological violence against women as the head of the local youth organisation and as a promoter for a youth project.

"I support the campaign because any abuse of women pains me and because no woman deserves to be raped. I hope that we will encourage all those women to speak out who have not dared to do so until now," says Nathalia Aguas. She adds: "I am not only young, above all I am a woman and I want to express my disgust at any kind of violence." Even though many women have had experience of violent excesses against their mother and against

themselves as children, they do not dare to speak about them. They consider these beatings to be "natural".

The campaign is trying to give a face to these very women and to encourage them to speak out. And with success, it would seem: The posters, events and peace marches have generated a lot of coverage on social media: More than 25,000 "followers", mostly younger people, have been mobilised. This interest, particularly among young people, makes us confident that the vicious circle of misunderstood masculinity and the propensity to violence will be broken in the long term and that women will no longer have to make their faces and bodies symbolically invisible for fear of abuse.

Daniel Ott Fröhlicher, Programme Manager



WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

120 francs will pay for twelve young people to attend a training day on peace culture and non-violence. There they will learn how to communicate without having to resort to violence.



Planting knowledge and harvesting security

SWISSAID and its partner organisations have set up village self-help groups in rural areas. Women are in charge there.



Women have a hard time in Myanmar.

At a glance

In the country since	1992
Current projects at the end of 2019	5
Funds disbursed CHF	1,921,175
People benefiting directly	28,010
Ranking in the HDI	145 out of 189

Daw Khin Swe Oo lives in the hinterland of the Shan state in Myanmar, more precisely in the mountainous region of Pindaya. The 48-year-old has an impressive story to tell. Having grown up in poverty, she lived from farming with her husband and five children. More ill than good. And in constant economic uncertainty. As a woman she carried a double burden: Traditionally, men are seen as the decision makers in the family. Women run the home and work in the fields.

This has changed. Daw Khin Swe Oo is a confident woman today. She leads the village self-help group and manages the finances of the local farmers' group. She has a functioning

network and knows about agroecology. "I have the courage to express my opinion and actively share my knowledge," says the smallholder. The reason for her new self-assurance is the "BRiLSS" project which SWISSAID launched in 35 villages in southern Shan State together with four partner organisations – and is now continuing in a second phase.

In this project, female smallholders in the region are being familiarised with the principles of agroecology, among other things. They learn how to plant in a way that is kind to the soil and become familiar with the use of chemical fertilisers. This helps them to save costs, produce healthy food and, not least of all, to improve the quality of the soil.

Low-interest loans

In addition, women are specifically supported in the village farmers' groups. After courses in accounting and project management, they take on a leading role in the networks. Just like Daw Khin Swe Oo. She manages the funds in the farmers' group and disburses loans within the self-help group. She has also benefited from this herself. She took out a loan when her children needed financial support for their education. At an interest rate of two per cent per month. Unsecured. This would previously have been almost impossible for her family. And if they

did, this would have been at interest rates of eight to ten per cent per month.

Daw Khin Swe Oo still has a lot of plans for the future. Together with the farmers' group, she wants to further improve the quality of the tea planted and market it better. She wants to increase the quantity of tea harvested in order to create a more stable livelihood. And she wants to continue to play a leading role in the "BRiLSS" project. "The knowledge I have gained along the way has changed my life and that of my family! I want to continue along this path."

Claire Light, Country Coordinator



WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

For **58 francs**, a female smallholder can take part in a workshop. There she will learn how to cultivate her fields in accordance with agroecological principles, for example.



INDIA

swissaid.ch/en/india

At last a clear view through the muddle of red tape

The bureaucratic obstacles are particularly difficult in India.

SWISSAID and its partners are helping to get around them. And with success: State funds are flowing into poor and remote regions.

At a glance

In the country since	1960
Current projects at the end of 2019	7
Funds disbursed CHF	1,204,270
People benefiting directly	34,400
Ranking in the HDI	129 out of 189

It takes know-how: This is especially important in India. It is true that both the Indian central government and that of the states have various social, labour, agricultural and infrastructure programmes. However, the administrative apparatus is full of obstacles. This makes it difficult to be included in these programmes.

This is where the support of our partner organisations for the village communities comes in. They provide information about the activities, explain the necessary steps and organise exchange visits with villages. And they organise community meetings. That is the crucial thing. Every single villager

is informed about their rights, and women in particular are encouraged to submit applications. At these meetings, development plans are drawn up in which the needs of the population are taken into account; for example, the construction of a health centre, a school building, a road, the building of fish ponds or a drinking water supply. In addition, the people who should have access to paid work programmes or widows' pensions are also recorded.

Pressure from the villagers

The most difficult part begins with the plans under your arm. Now it's a case of making the pitch to the various departments and sticking at it doggedly. Sometimes it also takes a little pressure from the villagers, who sit down in front of the offices of the authorities and only leave when the services they are entitled to are approved. The results speak for themselves. In 84 villag-

es in a region which is mainly populated by Adivasi (highly marginalised indigenous people in India), SWISSAID and its partners have been able to release over four million francs in government development funds within two years with a project budget of 350,000 francs.

In addition to the undeniably significant achievement of bringing more government money to remote and neglected regions, something else is equally important: The village communities, above all the women, have clearly grown in self-confidence. They now know their rights. And they have the courage to express their opinions to people of a higher social caste.

Petra Engelhard, Programme Manager

Photo: India Office, SWISSAID



SWISSAID and its partner organisations help to ensure that government development funds get to where they are urgently needed.



WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

100 francs will pay for three committed village members to visit a village that has already successfully claimed government support measures.



**TANZANIA
AFRICA**

swissaid.ch/en/tanzania

Strengthening the voice of smallholders

The first national conference on organic and ecological farming took place in Tanzania. Female smallholders held face-to-face discussions with government representatives. A first – and the rewards of years of development work.



The Minister of Agriculture Japhet Hasunga (centre) takes a keen interest in the information stands.

At a glance

In the country since	1972
Current projects at the end of 2019	5
Funds disbursed CHF	1,615,642
People benefiting directly	35,450
Ranking in the HDI	159 out of 189

"I have been farming organically for nine years. But I never thought that one day I would be participating in a national conference – not as a spectator, but as a podium guest," says Amina Salum proudly. The smallholder from the Mtwara region in Tanzania was one of the 304 delegates at the conference on organic and ecological farming.

SWISSAID organised this two-day event in the capital Dodoma together with partner organisations for the first time last November. Farmers, scientists, politicians, government representatives and development partners from all over the country discussed the advantages of organic farming, cultivation

methods, water management and alternatives to artificial fertilisers and pesticides. "It is pleasing to see that the government has recognised the relevance. We make an important contribution to food security in the country," stresses smallholder Abdallah Pazi. Even though more than 80 per cent of the rural population works in agriculture, the harvest in the farming villages, of all places is, often insufficient. Children are malnourished in

some regions. The infant mortality rate is high.

Thanks to the transition to organic farming, farmers are able to cultivate their fields in an environmentally friendly way and collect sufficient harvest to be able to sell surpluses on the market.

Two effective days

Together with its partner organisations, SWISSAID has been working for years to promote sustainable agriculture in the country. It trains smallholders within the context of their farmers' groups, provides them with better access to information about the market, and enables them to exchange information about problems and possible solutions among themselves and with experts using an app developed by ETH Zurich. The work done by SWISSAID and its partners is bearing fruit: Organic farming is gaining in importance.

This has also helped to boost the self-assurance and social standing of smallholders.

This was also reflected at the national conference. The projects were presented with great enthusiasm and self-confidence. And demands were made. "This conference is a very good start, but more needs to be done," says smallholder Kuluthum Mpaluka pointedly. A first step is the call for action that evolved from the event. It sets out demands to the government to promote and protect sustainable agriculture.

Nicholaus Johaness, M&E Officer



WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

With a donation of **100 francs**, you can help scientists, smallholders and politicians to get together for a round table discussion, with a view towards boosting organic farming in the country.



NIGER
WEST AFRICA
swissaid.ch/en/niger

Clean water, healthy living

Women in Falwel often spend the whole day fetching water – which even then is usually dirty. The consequences in the poorest country in the world are devastating. It takes wells and sanitary facilities to relieve the need.

At a glance

In the country since	1972
Current projects at the end of 2019	12
Funds disbursed CHF	1,375,896
People benefiting directly	24,400
Ranking in the HDI	189 out of 189

The sun is blazing in the sky. Dust is being whipped up: The ground hasn't seen water for a long time. A long queue has formed around an old well in the village of Falwel in Niger. Women and girls are waiting. And waiting. And waiting. Sometimes for up to eight hours a day. Then they run back home with the cloudy water in the container. These scenes are part of everyday life in the poorest country in the world.

The region of Falwel is particularly hard hit. The lack of rainfall causes the soil to dry up. The fields cannot be irrigated. Due to the drought, the quality of the water is also getting ever worse. 52 of the 60 water samples taken were of poor quality. 14 of 16 old cement wells inspected do not produce safe drinking water.

More time for education

The situation is similarly precarious for sanitary facilities: Only one in 200 residents has access to a toilet. Having a toilet of their own is a dream shared by many. It goes without saying that a lack of hygiene and dirty water have an impact on health. Diarrhoea quickly has fatal consequences for small children. In adults, it causes high medical bills and loss of work in the fields. And so the long, arduous journey to seek clean drinking water and the lack of latrines are just the start of a chain of unhealthy factors that hinder any improvement.



Valuable resource: Water also for washing your hands.

The key is access to clean water. This is why SWISSAID is working together with the rural community of Falwel to build new water supply systems and carefully thought-out sanitary facilities which are state of the art. This specifically means: Ingenious water supply systems, new cement wells, latrine blocks and more than 50 hand-washing facilities are intended to help the population to protect themselves better against disease, on the one hand.

On the other hand, the time needed to get water is to be reduced, from around six hours to half an hour. Women and girls will be the main beneficiaries, as they are traditionally responsible for fetching water. This is of-

ten at the expense of schooling. The shorter distances mean that they have more time for school attendance and home-work. Overall, the project improves the lives of around 9000 people from 21 villages in a sustainable way.

Daniele Polini, Programme Manager

Photos: Niger Office, SWISSAID



WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

45 francs will pay for access to sanitary facilities for a resident in Falwel, for example. Hygiene is important – to stop pathogens and improve health.



CHAD
CENTRAL AFRICA
swissaid.ch/en/chad

When parents learn from their children

Chad is repeatedly blighted by violence between people of different faiths. SWISSAID shows young people how they can mediate peacefully.



Adam Mohamed is a member of the newly established Peace Brigade.

At a glance

In the country since	1965
Current projects at the end of 2019	5
Funds disbursed CHF	893,865
People benefiting directly	18,700
Ranking in the HDI	187 out of 189

Adam Mohamed is 20 years old, single and lives in southern Chad. He lives with his Muslim family in a settlement exclusively for cattle herders, a so-called ferrick. The neighbouring village of Nassian, the capital of the canton of the same name, is mainly inhabited by Christian farmers. Adam is completing the last year of his education there before finishing school. However, he has only recently had friends of a different faith. His Christian classmates did not want to have anything to do with a "kirdi", a person of a different faith – and he did not want to have anything to do with them either. They often fought in class over

trivial things. Adam did not used to hold back when it came to defending a fellow student from his ferrick.

There were always fights among the adults as well. For example, when a young bull belonging to the cattle herders invaded a farmer's field and damaged the crops. It was often a case of "an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth". Excessive violence was the result.

Respect and understanding

This has changed. "I have attended various training courses on non-violent conflict resolution and communication. I have become aware of how harmful my actions and behaviour are for peaceful coexistence," Adam says with a serious face.

These further training courses are part of the project "Joint efforts for peaceful coexistence". SWISSAID was commissioned by the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Re-

search Institute. The project is financed by an EU fund.

Adam Mohamed is a member of the newly founded Peace Brigade, which brings together young people from both religious groups. In addition to further training, discussion groups are organised to nurture mutual respect and understanding between Muslim cattle herders and Christian farmers.

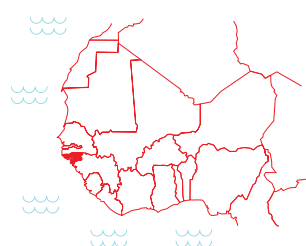
In the meantime, the inter-faith Peace Brigade is also called in when disputes arise again. The young people who are trained in mediation have a calming effect on their parents and help to de-escalate the situation. In this way, the adults learn from the young people that conflicting interests can be resolved peacefully – and that compromise is a long-term benefit to all concerned.

Daniel Ott Fröhlicher, Programme Manager



WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

120 francs will support a young person in attending two training modules on mediation and conflict resolution, for example.



GUINEA-BISSAU
WEST AFRICA

swissaid.ch/en/guinea-bissau

Where change begins

It takes time to build up grassroots organisations. Time which SWISSAID gave to an association, as luck would have it. Because today it is a wonderful example of sustainable change.

At a glance

In the country since	1980
Current projects at the end of 2019	5
Funds disbursed CHF	1,030,474
People benefiting directly	12,480
Ranking in the HDI	178 out of 189

I recently read a year-end report on the Djonguikoara Fan de Caio association. Reading it made me cast my mind back seven years. I can still recall that meeting in the small town of Caio, in western Guinea-Bissau. It was my first visit as country coordinator.

We were met by a room that was almost empty. An oppressive silence. Nobody knew what the association stood for – or who was responsible for what ... The big question was whether or not to wind the project up. To concentrate on working with other, more dynamic groups? We knew that the process of community development and building grassroots organisations would take time. The teething difficulties are sometimes a necessary step to

find one another, to create a structure and to develop a common vision. My colleagues from Guinea-Bissau and I, therefore, agreed to a one-year trial phase and then a new project. The association took the opportunity and subsequently elected a new president, consolidated its committee and took part in several training courses. It also asked us for literacy courses so that women could take on positions of responsibility within the organisation.

More and more young people

Nowadays, the Djonguikoara Fan de Caio is one of the most active and best organised associations in the Cacheu region. The umbrella organisation has specialised in agroecology. The number of member associations has increased from 12 to 23, with more and more boys and girls joining. The president, who was shy and hesitant at first, met with other partner groups and exchanged views with them about her role. She now runs the organisation

with self-assurance, commitment and recognition. She represents the issues before the courts and the authorities and now speaks with ease to large groups. I barely recognised her the last time we met. But that's not all: The association has become an important link in local area development. There is demand for the work and know-how of its members. For example, they surveyed the needs of the local community for the preparation of the local

development plan. The association was also entrusted with the management of the renovation fund for the local hospital. It also serves as a point of contact for other organisations on issues such as sexual and reproductive health and children's rights. The Djonguikoara Fan de Caio has an important role to play in our new project: The organisation negotiates access to land for women. There is no doubt in my mind that it is more than up to the task.

These changes, both structural and personal, have always been the essence of what drives me. It goes without saying that strengthening the grassroots organisations is a lengthy process. But nothing is more sustainable!

Carine Pin, Programme Manager



Grassroots organisations nurture change.



WHAT YOUR DONATION DOES

847 francs will pay for an association to obtain legal recognition – the basis for grassroots work in the countries. **42 francs** will pay for a person to receive training in association management.

Strong side effects

A man with a medicine cabinet: The weight of Niger's lack of healthcare system bears heavily on everyone's shoulders. The escalating coronavirus is making the situation even worse. With measures such as lockdowns or distance bans, the only source of income for many micro-entrepreneurs such as the street vendor in the picture has been lost. With dire consequences. Medicine that helps: global solidarity!

Flowers to help against forgetfulness



Provisional conclusion: Markus Allemann, Fabian Molina, Anne Challandes and Christine Badertscher hand over the signatures to National Council President Isabelle Moret (centre).

It is a windy, cold morning in early March 2020. The coronavirus is already rampant, albeit not yet with full force. A small delegation meets on the Bundesplatz. Its mission is to hand over the women farmers' appeal to the President of the National Council. Together with a bowl full of forget-me-nots, the 2000 or so signatures collected are handed over to Isabelle Moret. This is the preliminary conclusion of a major campaign.

"AGROECOLOGY WORKS!"

A transformation of our agricultural and food economy is necessary to achieve the global goals for sustainable development. Agroecology is a promising approach to this which SWISSAID has been pursuing for many years.

With a view towards giving agroecology a boost, several Swiss development organisations joined forces with the SDC last year and established the "agroecology works!" initiative. SWISSAID coordinated the work in the fledgling network and organised an initial agroecology exchange for representatives from agriculture, administration, politics and civilian society.



Agroecology points the way towards a sustainable agriculture and food economy.

SWISSAID's cooperation with the Swiss Farmers' and Rural Women's Association (SBLV) began on 12 June 2019 as part of the Women's Strike Day. This extraordinary alliance managed to make itself heard both online and offline. For example, a well-attended event was held at the University of Bern on the International Day of Rural Women in October 2019. The regional group in Zurich organised a panel discussion on the desperate fate of the women farmers in India. There were detailed reports in the media.

Only small steps

Despite the successes and a large media presence, unfortunately too little has changed for the women farmers. The problem is only mentioned in passing in the Federal Council's messages on Swiss international cooperation (IC) and on the Federal Council's 2022+ agricultural policy. "Things are not looking good for women farmers

in the South", says National Councillor Christine Badertscher, who worked for SWISSAID for a long time. However, she, along with like-minded people, will do everything in her power to ensure that the demands of the women farmers' appeal are reflected more in Swiss development cooperation.

Close, direct, transparent

SWISSAID has been working for better living conditions in countries of the Global South since 1947, and we have also been reporting on this online since 1997. It has always been important to us to report about people, issues and projects both sensitively and competently.

We have been doing this on a new website since March 2020. We rely on big images so that everyone can see, as well as on depth of content as a basis for nurturing sustainable change. The new design allows us to let you participate even more closely and directly. When the website went on-

line, it was immediately put to the test a week later. The coronavirus has been affecting all of our everyday lives, and while we here in Switzerland have been trying to continue our work as best we can despite the lockdown, we have been keeping a close eye on our partner countries.

Issues that aren't going away

After all, if a virus disrupts everyday life in Switzerland, what does it mean for the countries and people of the Global South? Our office managers on the ground and Markus Allemann, our managing director, have been reporting regularly on the situation. Empathetic. Close. Direct. If you haven't already done so, please feel free to drop by: www.swissaid.ch. And keep coming back. Even though our website may have changed – the issues we deal with have not and remain as crucial as ever.



Closely linked to our work even in times of the corona crisis. This is possible with our new website.

DANGEROUS FERTILISER IN MOROCCO

Together with our partner organisations, SWISSAID conducted a study in spring 2019 on the impact of phosphate fertiliser production on the environment and on human rights in Morocco. We were alarmed to discover that factories belonging to a Moroccan state-owned company are polluting the air on the Atlantic coast. The employees and the population suffer from respiratory diseases. Many of the company's employees are suffering from cancer, and many have died of it.

Switzerland is involved in trading the fertilisers produced by the Moroccan company: In addition to the corporation's sub-

sidiary in Geneva, ten other Swiss raw materials traders have business relations with the Moroccan giant.

None of these companies appears to have carried out due diligence with regard to compliance with environmental and human rights standards. Swiss companies are willingly turning a blind eye to gross human rights violations for the sake of their own profits. This is another reason why we need the corporate responsibility initiative.

IN BRIEF

Gene drives are a new type of genetic engineering that overrides the natural rules of inheritance. Entire populations and species can be manipulated or eradicated within a few generations. This high-risk technology is being tested in Burkina Faso of all places. The local population has had absolutely no say in the matter thus far. We have produced a short video to explain this. www.swissaid.ch/de/beitraege/gene-drives

All eyes have been on the climate since 2019. At long last! Agriculture has a special role to play in this discussion. On the one hand, it accounts for around a quarter of the world's greenhouse gases. On the other hand, it is battling the impact of climate change. Smallholder families in developing countries are most adversely affected. SWISSAID is drawing attention to the correlations in a policy document. You can find it on the website.

Parliament in Bern has spent five years discussing this issue. And it has now taken a small step towards greater transparency in commodities trading. The 500 or so commodities trading companies in this country are still not required to disclose their payments to the governments of the producing countries. However, the Federal Council now has the right to make trade internationally coordinated subject to the transparency obligation.

COMMENTS ON THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS



Monika Uhlmann
Head of Finance + Logistics

We have had a successful year, despite increasingly difficult conditions. In 2019, income from donations and project contributions increased by 15 % to 11.2 million Swiss francs compared to the previous year. By maintaining a consistent focus on our fundraising activities, we were able to hold our own in the highly competitive donations market. A big thanks go to our many private donors, both loyal and those who have recently come on board, as well as to our institutional sponsors who have given us substantial support for our work.

With a highly motivated international team, SWISSAID supported sustainable self-help projects worth 11.7 million francs in nine countries spread over three continents. Our coordination offices worked together with local partner organisations day in, day out to improve the living conditions of the poorest sections of the population. Measured in terms of operating expenditure, 65 % of our funds went into the southern hemisphere. We spent 2.6 million francs on information and awareness-raising work on development policy in Switzerland, equating to 14 % of our funds. The joy at the good annual result unfortunately only lasted for a short time. The world is a different place now. The coronavirus has a firm grip on us and has unfortunately also reached the poorest countries. The spread of the disease will have profound consequences. Our commitment is needed more than ever! We are determined to support our partner organisations and beneficiaries in the project countries with everything at our disposal to overcome the impact of this crisis.

These 2019 annual financial statements have been prepared in accordance with SWISS GAAP FER and ZEWO principles. The auditors Balm-er-Etienne AG have audited the accounts comprehensively in accordance with the statutory guidelines and found them to be correct. The audit report and complete annual financial statements are available to download from our website, www.swissaid.ch.

Balance sheet

ASSETS (in CHF)	Appendix	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
Cash and cash equivalents	5.1	6,415,480	7,138,141
Short-term assets with a stock market price	5.2	15,799,053	15,640,503
Other short-term receivables	5.3	1,234,604	1,560,917
Inventories		272,186	228,472
Deferred assets		263,721	228,602
Operating assets		23,985,044	24,796,635
Financial assets	5.4	306,530	276,365
Tangible assets	5.5	1,052,346	1,162,756
Intangible assets	5.6	203,818	109,367
Fixed assets		1,562,694	1,548,487
TOTAL ASSETS		25,547,738	26,345,122
LIABILITIES (in CHF)			
Liabilities from deliverables and services	5.7	275,995	312,265
Project-related commitments to programmes in the southern hemisphere	5.8	7,440,060	9,912,896
Accrued expenses and deferred income		503,427	573,611
Short-term provisions	5.9	682,757	440,605
Short-term borrowed capital		8,902,238	11,239,377
Fund for donations ring-fenced for the southern hemisphere programme		552,804	1,002,136
Fund for the future		500	100
Fund for sponsoring an organic farming project		6,500	2,000
Fund for sponsoring a water project		500	136
Fund for sponsoring a women's project		17,696	628
SDC fund	11	0	0
Ring-fenced fund capital		578,000	1,005,000
SWISSAID programme fund		6,490,259	6,417,331
SWISSAID infrastructure fund		658,598	658,598
Fluctuation reserve for securities and foreign currencies	5.10	1,961,167	1,977,492
Free capital		6,914,624	5,018,109
Free capital – SWISSAID Geneva	2	38,152	29,215
Free capital – SWISSAID Zurich	2	4,700	0
Organisation capital		16,067,500	14,100,745
TOTAL LIABILITIES		25,547,738	26,345,122

Operating accounts

REVENUE (in CHF)	Appendix 4.1	2019	2018
Free donations		6,271,153	6,253,442
Legacies		469,282	188,716
Sale of trinkets		511,857	651,220
Earmarked donations & contributions to projects	7.1	3,605,744	2,411,286
Contributions to projects from FEDEVACO		106,428	117,480
Contributions to projects from FGC		277,082	162,268
Proceeds from collections		11,241,546	9,784,412
SDC programme contribution		6,340,000	6,340,000
Project mandates		508,835	1,955,074
Other operating revenue	7.2	93,823	78,801
TOTAL OPERATING REVENUE		18,184,204	18,158,288
EXPENDITURE (in CHF)			
Projects overseas	5.8	10,565,953	10,071,834
Funds freed from project settlements	5.8	- 589,672	- 1,007,970
Expenditure for programme support		1,780,417	1,670,901
Personnel-related expenditure		1,467,472	1,398,743
Expenditure on materials		312,946	272,158
Expenditure for the overseas programme	7.3	11,756,698	10,734,764
Information and public-awareness programme in Switzerland		1,161,325	1,512,940
Expenditure for programme support		1,455,827	1,529,860
Personnel-related expenditure for the domestic programme		1,302,589	1,388,890
Expenditure on materials for the domestic programme		153,238	140,970
Expenditure for the domestic programme	7.3	2,617,152	3,042,800
Fundraising and general expenditure on publicity	7.3	2,744,108	2,960,371
Administrative expenditure	7.3	993,318	939,166
TOTAL OPERATING EXPENDITURE		18,111,276	17,677,102
OPERATING RESULT		72,928	481,186
Financial earnings (realised)		555,012	- 97,338
Financial earnings (not realised)		856,939	- 367,070
Financial expenditure		- 170,938	- 256,135
Financial result	7.4	1,241,013	- 720,543
Expenditure on real estate		- 9,046	- 8,602
Revenue from real estate		75,948	75,948
Non-operating result		66,902	67,346
Other profits carried over from previous periods	7.5	158,912	4,511
Result carried over from previous periods		158,912	4,511
RESULT PRIOR TO THE CHANGE IN FUND		1,539,755	- 167,500
Change in fund capital earmarked with restrictions		427,000	189,000
RESULT PRIOR TO THE CHANGE IN ORGANISATION CAPITAL		1,966,755	21,500
Change in the SWISSAID programme fund	8	- 1,966,755	- 21,500
INCOME CARRIED OVER IN FAVOUR OF PROCESSED FUNDS		0	0

Analysis of the change in capital in 2019

Appendix 8

in CHF	Opening balance	Income (internal)	Allocation (external)	Internal fund transfers	Application	Change	Closing balance
FUNDS FROM FUND CAPITAL							
Fund for donations ring-fenced for the southern hemisphere programme	1,002,136		4,637,422		-5,086,754	- 449,332	552,804
SWISSAID organic farming sponsorship fund	2,000		224,951		-220,451	4,500	6,500
SWISSAID water sponsorship fund	136		90,009		-89,645	364	500
SWISSAID women's sponsorship fund	628		213,255		-196,187	17,068	17,696
SWISSAID fund for the future	100		487,548		-487,148	400	500
SDC fund capital	0		6,340,000		-6,340,000	0	0
FUND CAPITAL EARMARKED WITH RESTRICTIONS	1,005,000	0	11,993,185	0	-12,420,185	-427,000	578,000
FUNDS FROM OWN FINANCE							
SWISSAID programme fund	6,417,331		72,928			72,928	6,490,259
SWISSAID infrastructure fund	658,598					0	658,598
Fluctuation reserve for securities and foreign currencies	1,977,492				-16,325	-16,325	1,961,167
Accrued free capital	5,018,109		1,896,515			1,896,515	6,914,624
SW Geneva	29,215		8,937			8,937	38,152
SW Zurich	0		4,700			4,700	4,700
Annual result	0		1,966,755		-1,966,755	0	0
ORGANISATION CAPITAL	14,100,745	0	3,949,835	0	-1,983,080	1,966,755	16,067,500

Analysis of the change in capital in 2018

in CHF	Opening balance	Income (internal)	Allocation (external)	Internal fund transfers	Application	Change	Closing balance
FUNDS FROM FUND CAPITAL							
Fund for donations ring-fenced for the southern hemisphere programme	1,177,467		4,205,390		-4,380,721	-175,331	1,002,136
SWISSAID organic farming sponsorship fund	733		289,460		-288,193	1,267	2,000
SWISSAID water sponsorship fund	500		85,915		-86,279	-364	136
SWISSAID women's sponsorship fund	12,300		214,446		-226,118	-11,672	628
SWISSAID fund for the future	3,000		199,556		-202,456	-2,900	100
SDC fund capital	0		6,340,000		-6,340,000	0	0
FUND CAPITAL EARMARKED WITH RESTRICTIONS	1,194,000	0	11,334,768	0	-11,523,768	-189,000	1,005,000
FUNDS FROM OWN FINANCE							
SWISSAID programme fund	5,376,381		1,040,950			1,040,950	6,417,331
SWISSAID infrastructure fund	658,598				-	0	658,598
Fluctuation reserve for securities and foreign currencies	3,012,334				-1,034,842	-1,034,842	1,977,492
Accrued free capital	5,018,109					0	5,018,109
SW Geneva	13,823		15,392			15,392	29,215
Annual result	0		21,500		-21,500	0	0
ORGANISATION CAPITAL	14,079,245	0	1,077,842	0	-1,056,342	21,500	14,100,745

Cash-flow analysis

Appendix 9

Flow of funds from operational activities (in CHF)	2019	2018
Annual result prior to the changes in funds	1,539,755	-167,500
Depreciation on tangible and intangible assets	257,486	158,015
Change in provisions	242,152	-123,348
Book gains/losses on securities	-856,939	367,070
Subtraction/addition (-) of accounts receivable and finance pledges	326,313	219,432
Subtraction/addition (-) of stocks	-43,714	-936
Subtraction/addition (-) of deferred assets	-35,119	-19,927
Subtraction/addition (-) of rental deposits	-167	-166
Subtraction (-)/addition of creditors	-36,270	30,202
Subtraction (-)/addition of project commitments for southern hemisphere programmes	-2,472,836	-4,537,492
Subtraction (-)/addition of deferred liabilities	-218,529	543,681
Flow of funds from operational activities	-1,297,868	-3,530,968
Flow of funds from investment activities		
Investment (-) / disinvestment of tangible assets	-51,344	-154,726
Investment (-) / disinvestment of real estate	154,525	0
Investment (-) / disinvestment of intangible assets	-196,364	-109,367
Investment (-) / disinvestment of securities investments	668,390	5,121,846
Flow of funds from investment activities	575,207	4,857,753
Flow of funds from finance activities	0	0
ADDITION (+) / SUBTRACTION (-) OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	-722,661	1,326,785
Fund of cash and cash equivalents 1.1.	7,138,141	5,811,356
Fund of cash and cash equivalents 31.12.	6,415,480	7,138,141

SWISSAID at a glance

SWISSAID is an independent foundation, without any religious or political affiliation, with its registered office in Bern, Switzerland. SWISSAID has committed itself since 1948 to championing the causes of the disadvantaged people of the southern hemisphere in rural areas where there are no other organisations on hand to support them. SWISSAID battles for the right of all people to lead their lives free from hunger, want and oppression. We are driven by the firm belief that poverty should not be anyone's fate. Its key areas of work are the fight against hunger, agroecology, gender equality and support for civil society. In addition to implementing self-help projects in the South, we also lobby policymakers in Switzerland in order to safeguard the interests of the poor people of the southern hemisphere. Improving lives in the southern hemisphere

hinges on social change in the northern hemisphere. We base our activities upon the expertise, experience and needs of our partner organisations in nine project countries in Africa, Asia and Latin America (Guinea-Bissau, Niger, Chad, Tanzania, India, Myanmar, Colombia, Ecuador and Nicaragua).

HOW WE OPERATE

SWISSAID supports initiatives undertaken by disadvantaged people in the Third World and works in tandem with non-governmental organisations. We provide aid and support our partner organisations at institutional level. This enables them to achieve a sense of independence and to take control of their economic, social and political lives. We do not shy away from confronting international corporations; this is always done with a view towards encouraging

the local communities and giving them the ability to help themselves.

SWISSAID works with local experts and rarely seconds Swiss experts to the southern hemisphere. Apart from anchoring projects more effectively in the local context, this also leads to a transfer of know-how and to job creation in the southern hemisphere. This helps to bring down programme-support costs, leaving a greater proportion of the donations available to help the people affected help themselves. Members of the Board of Trustees are appointed for four years. They can be re-elected. The period of office of the members of the Board of Trustees Committee is four years, and they can be re-elected twice, although longer terms may be agreed in justified cases.

Executive bodies (at the end of 2019)

SWISSAID BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Matthias Aebischer, member of the National Council, lecturer at Freiburg University, Bern, since 2012;
Sibel Arslan, member of the National Council, lic. iur., Basel, since 2017;
Claude R. Béglé, Dr oec., since 2016;
Didier Berberat, solicitor, journalist, since 2016;
Roman Berger, journalist, Zurich, since 2005
Urs Brändli, president of Bio Suisse, Goldingen, since 2018;
Edgar Ricardo von Buettner, senior consultant for strategic, participative and sustainable community development projects, Brazil, since 1983;
Mario Carera, socio-economist, Bern, since 2002;
Prof. Dr Pierre Centlivres, former director of the Institute of Ethnology of the University of Neuenburg, Neuenburg, since 1983;
Dr phil. Rudolf Dannecker, former vice-director of the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), Hinterkappelen, since 2002;
Dr Walter Egli, historian and former co-director of studies NADEL, ETH Zurich, Zurich, since 2005;
Gaby Fierz, ethnologist, Basel Museum of Cultures, Basel, since 2008;
Dr Rudolf Fischer, Dr phil. I, former head of the SWISSAID Department of Development Cooperation, Wettingen, since 2014;
Rémy Gogniat, journalist, La Chaux-de-Fonds, since 2009;
Bernhard Guhl, industrial engineer, Niederrohrdorf, since 2018;
Bruno Gurtner, economist, Bern, since 2008;
Barbara Gysi, member of the National Council, lecturer in Biology and Geography at the University of Zurich, since 2016;
Martin Hürzeler, fundraiser BR, Zurich, since 2009;

Laurent Jimaja, Master in Economics, President of SWISSAID Geneva, since 2016;
Odile Keller, economist, Belfaux, since 2019;
Florianne Koechlin, biologist, author, managing director of the Blauen Institute, Münchenstein, since 1996;
Maud Krafft, legal advisor, Lausanne, since 2005;
Werner Küng, former head of the SWISSAID Information & Fundraising Department, Wabern, since 2014;
Lisa Mazzone, member of the Council of States, lic. phil. I, since 2016;
Urspeter Meyer, lawyer, Köniz, since 1996;
Gian L. Nicolay, Dipl. Ing. Agr. ETH, Africa Coordinator at FIBL, Ardez, since 2010;
Isabel Perich, lic. rer. pol., organisation consultant, former head of the SDC/EDA Cooperation Office Belgrade, Wohlen BE, since 2018;
Wendy Peter, organic farmer, board of Bioforum Switzerland, Willisau, since 2010;
Chasper Pult, cantonal school teacher and cultural mediator, Paspels, since 1992;
Ruth Rauch, lic. rer. pol., team and organisational development, Bern, since 2004;
Prof. Dr Stephan C. Rist, professor for Human Geography, University of Bern, since 2017;
Daniel Roduner, expert in development cooperation, Bern, since 2007;
Martin Lukas Rohner, lic. oec. HSG, Chairman of the board of management of Alternative Bank Switzerland, Basel, since 2017;
Denis Ruysschaert, Dr of Sociology and agricultural engineer, since 2016;
Carlo Sommaruga, lawyer and member of the Council of States, Geneva, since 2010;
Karl Vogler, Bürglen, since 2017;
Christoph Wehrli, former editor of the NZZ, Zurich, since 2015;
Felix Wirz, managing director of Ecopolitics GmbH, Bern, since 2012

COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Bastienne Joerchel Anhorn, President of SWISSAID, economist, Renens, since 2012;
Fabian Molina, President of SWISSAID, member of the National Council, Zurich, since 2018;
Martin Sommer, Vice-President of SWISSAID, MSc Geography, managing director of devolutions GmbH, Nidwilerstrasse, since 2017;
Peter Bischof, former ambassador, Bellach, since 2018
Dr Claudia Friedl, member of the National Council and environmental scientist, St. Gallen, since 2015;
Dr phil. nat. Thomas Kohler, Bern, since 2010;
Emmanuelle Robert, lic. phil, communications officer, Lausanne, since 2017;
Marianne Roth, intercultural communication consultant, PR consultant, Zurich, since 2009

MANAGEMENT

Markus Allemann, Executive Director;
Sarah Mader and Daniel Ott Fröhlicher, Department of Development Cooperation (acting);
Monika Uhlmann, Department of Finance and Logistics;
Céline Kohlprath, Department of Development Policy and Media;
Jörg Arnold, Department of Information and Fundraising (acting)

Appendix to the annual accounts

0. Number of full-time equivalents	The average number of full-time equivalents over the year stood at 189 (it had been 177 in the previous year).		
1. General accounting principles	Accounts are rendered on the basis of the SWISS GAAP FER 21 / core-FER accounting recommendations and this procedure is conducted in accordance with the Swiss Code of Obligations, ZEWO regulations (agency governing charitable organisations which collect donations), as well as in accordance with the provisions of the Deed of Foundation and Regulations. The securities result is posted directly applying the gross principle with records of book profits and losses directly via the income statement.		
2. Consolidated group	The accounts of the coordination offices which are responsible for implementing the southern hemisphere programmes as well as SWISSAID Geneva and SWISSAID Zurich Associations are integrated fully into these annual accounts. SWISSAID does not have any subsidiaries or partner institutions over which it has a controlling influence.		
3. Affiliated organisations	The following organisations and institutions have close associations with SWISSAID: Alliance Sud (working group comprising SWISSAID, Fastenopfer, Brot für alle, Helvetas, Caritas, Heks), Max Havelaar Foundation, SAG (Swiss Working Group on Genetic Engineering), and Stop OGM. Contractually, Alliance Sud received CHF 369,072 of the annual budget. SWISSAID is represented among the other organisations on the board, without the allocation of substantial contributions. Unpaid services provided by third parties to SWISSAID only account for an insignificant proportion of the overall result and are, therefore, not listed.		
4. Accounting and valuation principles	Cash and cash equivalents	at nominal value.	
	Securities	Market value on the balance sheet date.	
	Foreign currencies	Exchange rate on the balance sheet date	
	Loans, accounts receivable and finance pledges	Nominal value.	
	Inventories	At cost less necessary valuation adjustments.	
	Financial assets	Acquisition value less linear business management depreciation.	
	Furnishings, machinery and plant	Acquisition value less scheduled linear depreciation. Period of use: Furnishings 10 years, IT equipment 3 years, machinery 3–6 years. Activation limit: CHF 3,000 (IT: CHF 1,000).	
	Real estate in Switzerland	Acquisition value less scheduled linear depreciation. The property is not subject to depreciation. Period of use: 75 years.	
	Property abroad	Acquisition value less scheduled linear depreciation. Period of use: 25 years.	
	Intangible assets	Investments in software are recognised as intangible assets and amortised on a straight-line basis over their expected useful life (3 years).	
	Liabilities	at nominal value.	
	Reserves	The amount is based on management's estimate and reflects expected future expenses at the balance sheet date.	
4.1 Posting of revenues	Free donations, earmarked donations and contributions to projects	Revenue from fundraising for the general public is recorded when payment is received. If there is an instruction from the donor, it is recorded as an earmarked donation and without an instruction as a free donation.	
	Legacies	Revenue from legacies and inheritances is recorded either at the time the payment is received (for monetary amounts) or at the time the legal disposal value is transferred (for real estate, etc.).	
	Subscriptions	Revenue from finance agreements with donors is recorded at the time the payment is received.	
	Project mandates	Revenue from project mandates is recorded at the time the contract is signed and the associated financing commitment is made.	
	Deliverables / services	Deliveries of goods and services are recorded as revenue at the time they are rendered.	
	Rental revenue	Rental revenue is recorded as income at the time payment is made.	
5. Explanatory notes on the balance sheet	5.1 Cash and cash equivalents (CHF)	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
	Cash/post office finance/domestic banks	5,677,111	6,427,517
	Foreign banks	738,369	710,624
	Total cash and cash equivalents	6,415,480	7,138,141

5.2 Short-term assets with a stock market price (CHF)	Market value 31.12.2019	Market value 31.12.2018
Bonds	10,309,275	10,169,430
Equities	3,801,715	4,034,881
Real estate funds	1,688,063	1,436,192
Total short-term assets with a stock market price	15,799,053	15,640,503

5.3 Other short-term receivables (CHF)	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
Withholding tax credit	67,165	50,564
Credit from deliveries	18,886	9,592
Pledge to Pagod (Niger)	32,555	0
Pledge to Sodefika (Chad)	126,645	0
Pledge to KSP EC (Myanmar)	15,837	15,837
Pledge to Upland Small Grants (Myanmar)	57,874	309,696
Pledge to UNO Unicri (Chad)	15,315	31,725
Pledge to PNUD (Guinea Bissau)	63,428	322,740
Pledge to DPP2 (Myanmar)	742,200	742,200
Employee loans abroad	94,699	78,563
Total other short-term receivables	1,234,604	1,560,917

The commitments relate to contractually guaranteed project mandate financing.

5.4 Financial investments (CHF)	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
Claro fair trade AG	250,100	250,100
Registered shares in Claro fair trade AG	1	1
Investment fund shares in Société Coopérative Philea International	1	1
Remei AG	10,000	1
Voting shares in Alternative Bank ABS	20,000	1
Rental deposits	26,428	26,261
Total financial investments	306,530	276,365

There is a contingent commitment on the share of USD 6,000 for the investment fund shares in Société Coopérative Philea International, Geneva (formerly the Fonds internat. de Garantie) The investment fund shares are used by a former partner organisation (ADIM) in Nicaragua to secure a loan of USD 70,000 with a local bank.

5.5 Tangible assets (CHF)	Plant and equip- ment	Land and build- ings at home	Property abroad	Total property
Acquisition values on 01.01.2019	986,122	1,040,000	603,006	1,643,006
Investments in 2019	51,344	0	0	0
Sales in 2019	0	0	- 154,525	- 154,525
Liquidated depreciations in 2019	- 44,064	0	0	0
Acquisition values on 31.12.2019	993,402	1,040,000	448,481	1,488,481
Accumulated depreciations on 01.01.2019	636,204	360,854	469,314	830,168
Scheduled depreciations in 2019	112,819	22,074	20,680	42,754
Liquidated depreciations in 2019	- 44,064	0	- 148,344	- 148,344
Depreciation balance on 31.12.2019	704,959	382,928	341,650	724,578
Net balance for material assets on 31.12.2019	288,443	657,072	106,831	763,903

The investments involve a generator and a solar power system in our countries of deployment and IT for the offices in Switzerland.

Tangible assets in the previous year (CHF)	Plant and equipment	Land and buildings at home	Property abroad	Total property
Acquisition values on 01.01.2018	831,395	1,040,000	603,006	1,643,006
Investments in 2018	154,726	0	0	0
Liquidated depreciations in 2018	0	0	0	0
Acquisition values on 31.12.2018	986,122	1,040,000	603,006	1,643,006
Accumulated depreciations on 01.01.2018	520,942	338,780	448,634	787,414
Scheduled depreciations in 2018	115,261	22,074	20,680	42,754
Liquidated depreciations in 2018	0	0	0	0
Depreciation balance on 31.12.2018	636,204	360,854	469,314	830,168
Net balance for material assets on 31.12.2018	349,918	679,146	133,692	812,838

	Software 31.12.2019	Investments under construction 31.12.2019	Investments under construction 31.12.2018
5.6 Intangible assets (CHF)			
Acquisition values on 01.01.	0	109,367	0
Investments in 2019 and 2018	196,364	0	109,367
Conversion from unfinished to finished products	109,367	- 109,367	0
Acquisition values on 31.12.	305,731	0	109,367
Accumulated depreciations on 01.01.	0	0	0
Scheduled depreciations in 2019	101,913	0	0
Depreciation balance 31.12.	101,913	0	0
Net balance for intangible assets on 31.12.	203,818	0	109 367

5.7 Liabilities from deliverables and services	2019	2018
Towards third parties	262,221	302,456
Towards executive bodies	13,774	9 809
Total liabilities from deliverables and services	275,995	312,265

5.8 Project commitments for southern hemisphere programmes

Cooperation agreements with local partner organisations generally form the basis for the commitments. There is no distinction made between short- and long-term commitments. Since SWISSAID's project activities are based on the needs of the partner organisations, the precise timing of the use of funds cannot be defined.

National programme (CHF)	Commitments on 1.1.2019	Project approvals 2019	Issued Project funds 2019	Non-used funds from project settlements	Commitments on 31.12.2019
India	628,070	1,142,420	1,204,270	216,822	349,398
Myanmar	2,214,310	978,216	1,921,175	67,955	1,203,395
Chad	684,359	1,131,541	839,865	3,916	972,119
Niger	1,907,487	660,895	1,375,896	151,458	1,041,028
Guinea-Bissau	987,723	761,654	1,030,474	17,993	700,910
Tanzania	242,850	1,572,667	1,615,642	3,709	196,165
Africa	108,655	0	13,290	0	95,365
Nicaragua	647,822	1,238,852	1,513,539	35,511	337,624
Colombia	877,937	1,347,944	1,457,976	19,606	748,299
Ecuador	1,613,684	1,507,242	1,252,468	72,702	1,795,756
Total commitments	9,912,896	10,341,431	12,224,595	589,672	7,440,060
Liquidation of reserves in acc. with 5.9.		+ 215,522			
Contribution to the Water Consortium		9,000			
Total projects abroad		10,565,953			

Project-related commitments to programmes in the southern hemisphere in the previous year

National programme (CHF)	Commitments on 01.01.2018	Project approvals 2018	Issued Project funds 2018	Non-used funds from project settlements	Commitments 31.12.2018
India	1,246,447	553,480	975,495	196,363	628,070
Myanmar	3,192,881	1,970,525	2,729,130	219,966	2,214,310
Chad	1,214,368	1,017,285	1,466,199	81,095	684,359
Niger	2,500,599	1,138,741	1,534,381	197,472	1,907,487
Guinea-Bissau	843,738	1,523,584	1,338,948	40,651	987,723
Tanzania	314,422	1,388,968	1,426,300	34,239	242,850
Africa	301,907	0	193,252	0	108,655
Nicaragua	1,629,291	511,627	1,469,169	23,927	647,822
Colombia	1,648,084	756,021	1,373,553	152,615	877,937
Ecuador	1,558,651	1,365,273	1,248,598	61,642	1,613,684
Total commitments	14,450,388	10,225,504	13,755,026	1,007,970	9,912,896
Formation of reserves in acc. with 5.9.		- 163,670			
Contribution to the Water Consortium		10,000			
Total projects abroad		10,071,834			

5.9 Short-term provisions (CHF)	Balance on 1.1.2019	Disposals 2019	Accruals 2019	Balance on 31.12.2019
Provisions for unsettled projects abroad	275,527	0	215,522	491,049
Provisions for personnel-related commitments	165,078	0	26,630	191,708
Total short-term provisions	440,605	0	242,152	682,757

The provisions for unsettled foreign projects relate to known budget overruns in ongoing projects for which a supplementary loan is payable at the end of the project.
Provisions for personnel-related commitments relate to overtime and unused holiday entitlements of employees in Bern and Lausanne.

Short-term provisions in the previous year (CHF)	Balance on 1.1.2018	Disposals 2018	Accruals 2018	Balance on 31.12.2018
Provisions for unsettled projects abroad	439,197	163,670	0	275,527
Provisions for personnel-related commitments	124,756	0	40,322	165,078
Total short-term provisions	563,953	163,670	40,322	440,605

5.10 Fluctuation reserve for securities and foreign currencies

The desired minimum balance is based on the provisions of the internal policy and is increased fully. For the inventory and changes, see the statement of changes in capital.

6. Remuneration to the executive bodies

Remuneration of the president of the Committee of the Board of Trustees: flat-rate remuneration of the president: CHF 9,000 p.a.*
Flat-rate remuneration of the vice-president: CHF 2,000 p.a.

*The role of president has been shared between two people since 1 July 2019

Remuneration of management: total wage costs for entire management (5 people) CHF 635,804 p.a.

Attendance fees for the Committee of the Board of Trustees: half-day meetings CHF 200, whole-day meetings CHF 300

Expenses at home/abroad: Expenses are remunerated on the basis of receipts submitted

Total remuneration for SRA: CHF 26 707 (flat-rate pay, attendance fees, expenses less donations) for 2019

of which, President: CHF 10,500 (flat-rate pay, attendance fees, expenses less donations) for 2019

Remuneration to the executive bodies from the previous year

Remuneration of the president of the Committee of the Board of Trustees: flat-rate remuneration of the president: CHF 6,000 p.a.

Flat-rate remuneration of the vice-president: CHF 2,000 p.a.

Remuneration of management: total wage costs for entire management (5 people) CHF 686,089 p.a.

Attendance fees for the Committee of the Board of Trustees: half-day meetings CHF 200, whole-day meetings CHF 300

Expenses at home/abroad: Expenses are remunerated on the basis of receipts submitted

Total remuneration for SRA: CHF 24,148 (flat-rate pay, attendance fees, expenses less donations) for 2018

of which, president: CHF 8,400 (flat-rate pay, attendance fees, expenses less donations) for 2018

7. Explanatory notes on the income statement

7.1 Ring-fenced project contributions

Evidence of how funds are appropriated is provided via project accounting and is the subject of an accounting audit.

Amounts in CHF	2019	2018
Project contributions by local authorities	312,650	167,500
Project contributions by cantonal authorities and lottery funds	435,740	269,500
Contributions to projects from LED	463,000	154,333
Project contributions by foundations	560,310	468,397
Project contributions from churches, private individuals, SMEs	801,986	735,996
Procurement of own funds in the southern hemisphere	486,811	14,899
Other project contributions	545,246	660,661
Total earmarked project contributions	3,605,744	2,411,286

7.2 Other operating revenue (CHF)	2019	2018
Sales of materials and gift items	86,981	76,069
Fees	5,428	2,520
Sundry revenue	1,414	212
Total other operating revenue	93,823	78,801

7.3 Operating expenditure

To calculate the administrative, fundraising and general publicity costs, the revised methodology for calculating the administrative costs of the ZEWO Foundation, which came into force on 1 January 2018, was applied.

Amounts in CHF	Expenditure Overseas programme	Expenditure Domestic programme	Fundraising and expenditure on publicity	Administrative Expenditure	Total operating expenditure
Programme expenditure	9,976,281	1,161,325	1,867,467	44,609	13,049,683
Personnel-related expenditure	1,467,472	1,302,589	721,590	657,654	4,149,305
Expenditure on materials	243,648	132,449	141,191	234,332	751,620
Depreciation on tangible assets	69,297	20,789	13,859	56,723	160,669
Total operating expenditure 2019	11,756,698	2,617,152	2,744,108	993,318	18,111,276

In addition to the depreciation and amortisation (property, plant and equipment and intangible assets) shown separately above, CHF 96 817 (previous year CHF 92 624) depreciation directly included in program expenses.

Operating expenditure in 2018

Amounts in CHF	Expenditure Overseas programme	Expenditure Domestic programme	Fundraising and expenditure on publicity	Administrative Expenditure	Total operating expenditure
Programme expenditure	9,063,864	1,512,940	2,127,356	45,750	12,749,909
Personnel-related expenditure	1,398,743	1,388,890	683,173	648,868	4,119,674
Expenditure on materials	250,499	134,473	145,512	211,645	742,128
Depreciation on tangible assets	21,659	6,498	4,332	32,903	65,391
Total operating expenditure	10,734,764	3,042,800	2,960,371	939,166	17 677 102

7.4 Financial result (CHF)	2018	2017
Revenue and gains achieved on shares / funds	472,932	-202,056
Revenue and gains achieved on bonds	109,300	27,787
Revenue achieved on cash and cash equivalents	14,291	15,848
Revenue and gains not achieved on shares / funds	717,094	-275,149
Revenue and gains not achieved on bonds	139,845	-91,921
Foreign-currency gain	-41,511	61,082
Asset-management fees and safe-custody fees	-129,070	-145,805
Bank charges and transaction fees	-41,869	-110,330
Total financial result	1,241,013	-720,543

7.5 Other profits carried over from previous periods (CHF)	2019
AHV/BAFU, refund for CO ₂ emissions in 2017	4,135
AXA Winterthur, no-claims bonus 2014–2018	7,129
Atupri, profit participation 2016–2018	3,140
Property in Tanzania, profit from sale	144,508
Non-operating result	158,912

Other profit carried over from previous periods (CHF)	2018
AHV/BAFU, refund for CO ₂ emissions in 2016	4,511
Non-operating result	4,511

8. Explanatory notes on the analysis of the change in capital	The fund distribution is based on the fund policy according to Swiss GAAP FER. The increased commitments towards the development projects will reduce the SWISSAID programme fund. In accordance with SDC requirements, the ring-fenced fund capital from the SDC is reported. The target for the minimum balance of exchange rate fluctuation reserves has been met.		
9. Explanatory notes on the cash-flow analysis	Cash and cash equivalents count as funds.		
10. Risk assessment	Management conducts a periodic risk assessment. Any resulting measures are discussed with the Committee of the Board of Trustees and then implemented.		
11. SDC fund	The unused amount in accordance with the programme contribution is reported in the 2019 annual accounts. Figures are calculated on 31/12 of the year in question.		
12. Liabilities to pension funds	Amounts in CHF	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
	GEPABU (contained under creditors)	- 8,924	2,468
	Publica (contained under creditors)	89	88
13. Unrecognised rental commitments	Amounts in CHF	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
	< 1 year	130,577	130,577
14. Contingent liability	Amounts in CHF	31.12.2019	31.12.2018
	As a member of the simple partnership Site 52 in Lausanne, SWISSAID has rented office premises including a car park and is jointly and severally liable for payment of the rent owed.	p.m.	p.m.
15. Events after the reporting date	On 31 January 2020, the World Health Organisation (WHO) declared the spread of COVID-19 (coronavirus) to be an international health emergency. The Swissaid Board of Trustees and Executive Board are monitoring the events and taking the necessary measures where necessary. At the time of approval of these financial statements, the financial impact of the direct and indirect effects of this epidemic cannot be reliably judged as yet. Since the coronavirus only reached epidemic proportions after the balance sheet date, the event is not recorded in the 2019 annual financial statements in accordance with legal accounting principles.		
16. Adoption of the annual financial statements	The 2019 annual financial statements were approved by the Executive Board on 25 March 2020 and submitted to the Board of Trustees for approval.		

A huge thank you!



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