



# Annual Report 2023

# Depth and Focus

Our world is characterized by injustice. It is seen everywhere and it is a part of everyday life. Luckily, there are people working for our foundation who are committed to fighting injustice with their heart and soul. Sadly, we cannot support everyone and everything that is being fought for. Doing so would exhaust our resources and put us at risk of a thematic fragmentation. It also contradicts our mission statement, which is "More depth—more impact".

The Board of Trustees sets the strategic objectives and creates the basis for their realization. Their primary goal must be to align the Foundation's vision and mission so that their operational implementation is as efficient and effective as possible.

Each year, the Board of Trustees meet with the team to take part in a strategy workshop. This is where the current situation is assessed and any necessary adjustments to the strategy in place are made. In 2023, we reinforced our focus areas, further defined our geographical focus and improved transparency with impact criteria. We make our decisions based on our values and these serve as our ethical guidelines.

What we achieve as the Linsi Foundation is determined by our observations of people's well-being, the improvement of their living conditions or the contribution to the common good. The impact can be assessed qualitatively or quantitatively. The first requires a clear and non-arbitrary assessment both on our part and by our partners, while the second is based on measurable KPIs.

To meet these requirements within the foundation, we have welcomed Reto Linsi to our team, adjusted our staff percentages and successfully recruited someone to the International Commitment department.

The successes in 2023 were only possible thanks to the huge commitment of our team and the valuable cooperation of our partner organizations.

On behalf of the foundation, we would like to thank everyone involved for their remarkable contribution to greater justice and a better quality of life.

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**Urban Linsi**  
Chairman of the Board of Trustees

# From the foundation

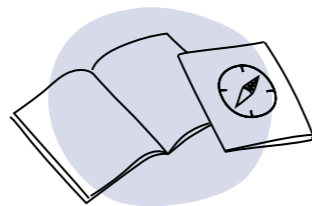
## A glimpse of 2023



**Reto Linsi**, the eldest of the founders U. + W. Linsi's four children, officially joined the Linsi Foundation on January 1, 2023. Reto's role is as a project collaborator in the cultural sector. In 2023 this led to the creation of the KulTurnus, an event in the former Knie Museum on Fischmarktplatz in Rapperswil. From end of April until the beginning of June, several artists from Switzerland and Berlin, exhibited an array of visual art comprised of paintings, drawings and sculptures. •



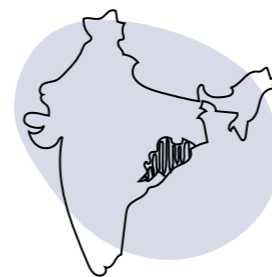
The starting point for the **"Dialogue Ethics" organization's workshop** was the idea of comprehensively incorporating the topic of ethics into our foundation and not leaving it as a single focus area in our structure. Our aim has been to become even more mindful of ethical actions and behavior. Accordingly, ethics and its impact should be taken into account when selecting funding projects. The workshop also served to strengthen the understanding of all foundation employees on this topic. Under the guidance and direction of Dr. Ruth Baumann-Hözl and Dr. Daniel Gregorowius, our organizational ethics and values charter was developed over the course of two days. As a result of the workshop, we have developed new strategic principles and a list of criteria for the Linsi Foundation. •



Our newly formulated strategy principles (version from 8.22.2023), and the paper "Focus Topics and Criteria Catalog" (version from 9.5.2023) both use the foundation's own Code of Conduct (version from 22.8.2023) as a guiding document. The Code of Conduct serves as an important **compass for sustainable action** at the Linsi Foundation. The vision, mission and ethics charter are there to ensure that all project participants, including ourselves, are guided by shared values. According to the charter, our list of core values include being respectful, honest, incorruptible and team-oriented. With such behaviour, we strive to strengthen our partners and beneficiaries so that they can transform the help given into helping themselves, which results in the greatest possible benefit. We refer to this desired condition as the culture of trust, care and willingness to learn. •



Isabelle Sommer and Urban Linsi, members of the Linsi Foundation management team, **visited our four partner organisations in Mozambique** (Horizont3000, Hilfswerk International, Solidar Suisse and Swisscontact). Together with Madagascar and Uganda, Mozambique is one of the focus regions of our support in Africa. A largely dysfunctional society, systemic corruption force the Mozambicans to fend for themselves. Food insecurity is quite high while the level of education is quite low. A shockingly 30% of the 30 million inhabitants are malnourished and despite 1.3 million children starting primary school each year, more than 47% do not complete the 6th grade and only 35% go on to high school. The state barely fulfils its responsibility to promote education, which is why our partner organizations in Mozambique are so important. School and vocational education are the most important fields of intervention of the organizations visited. Our partner organizations have forged such good relationships with the communities they serve, which has been an inspiration to those of us who have visited on various project trips. They are particularly committed to strengthening their structures and supporting those who need it most. •



The **Family Focused Village Development Program (FFVDP)** is a development program of the Linsi Foundation for India's rural communities in Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Odisha, three states which we are focused on. To implement this program, we have set up a Directorate India (DI), which acts as an extended arm of our foundation and whose employees report to the Linsi Foundation.

In 2023, the DI selected **four new local organizations** in Odisha after a careful evaluation process which started with a call for proposals. The most important aspects of the relationship between the DI and the implementing organizations are the new partners' commitments to governance and strategic direction as well as accounting standards and compliance with transparency. Additionally, they must provide the DI with systematic monitoring, thus making the impact of their work comprehensible. According to the DI reports, 10 organizations implemented the FFVDP by the end of 2023, which means that 17,269 people or 4,868 families benefited from this programme. •



On 17 November 2023, the Linsi Foundation was invited to the **Klanghaus Toggenburg** at Schwendisse above Wildhaus. This wonderful building was then nearly a year away from its completion. In 2019, founders U. + W. Linsi generously supported the Klanghaus project to ensure that the realization of this building become a reality. The people of St. Gallen voted in favour of the Klanghaus Toggenburg in a referendum, but realizing the project greatly depended upon securing the finances needed for this passion project.

This project is characterized by the combination of landscape, sound and architecture whereas the idea of the Klanghaus was based on the sounds of regional traditions. The Linsi Foundation supports the project not only because of its cultural impact but because of its sustainability as well. •

## Outlook 2024

Thanks to a stable income, we can continue to pursue and strengthen our work sustainably. We are intensifying our cooperation with our core partners and are looking for additional partners in our geographical focus, whereby our impact topics will be deepened. Humanitarian Commitment will remain at the same level and thus again account for a substantial share of our budget. We want to take into account crises that have been forgotten. The increase in staff to 6.1 FTEs (2023: 5.2 FTEs) will help us to deepen our internal processes, improve and increase digitalization as well as be closer to our partners.

## Report of the Executive Board

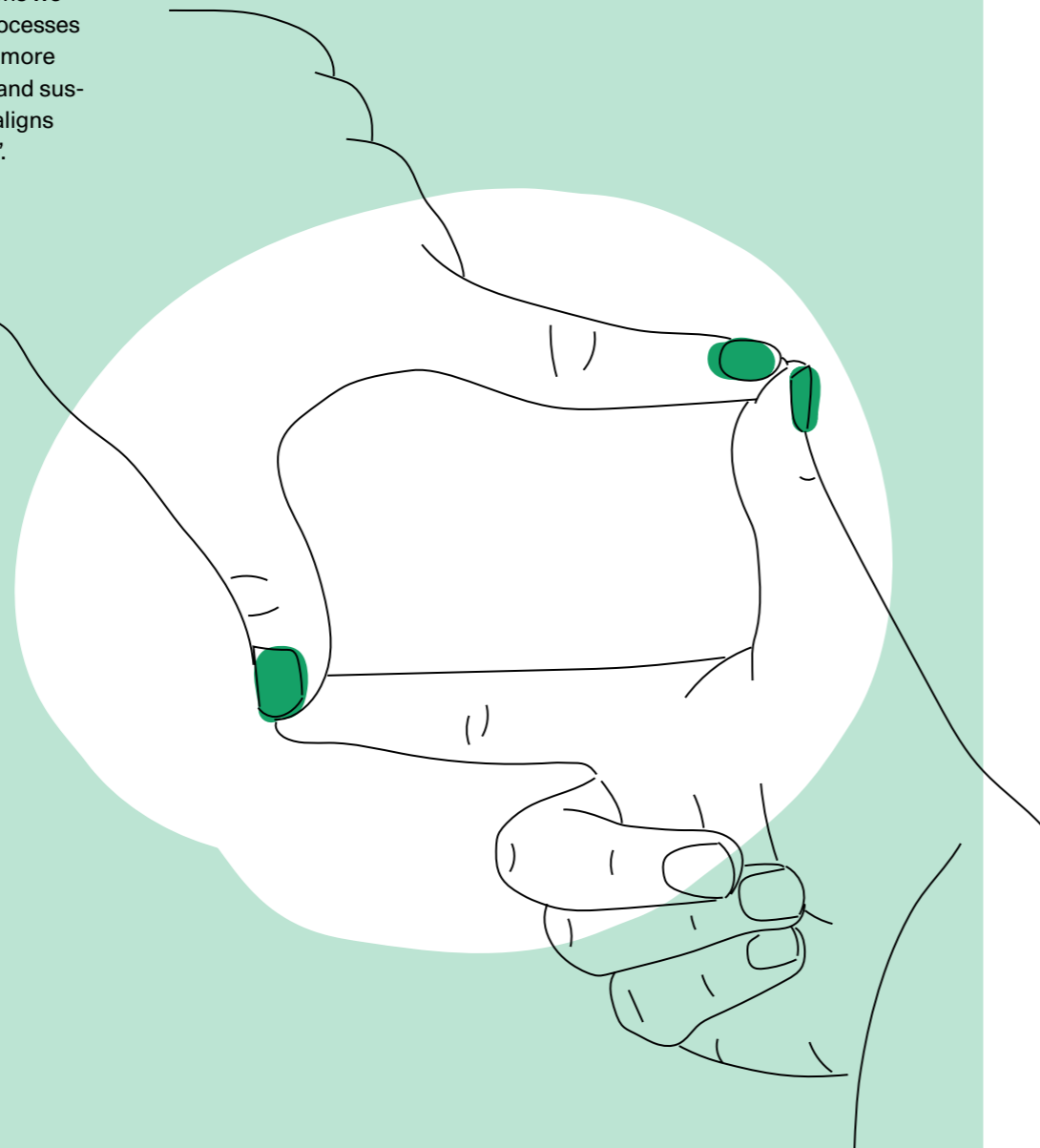
The members of our Executive Board are Bernadette Kälin (National Commitment), Isabelle Sommer (International Commitment), Franz Hollenstein (Finances & Services) and Urban Linsi (Chairman). They held ten formal meetings in 2023 and organized a strategy workshop to consolidate our previously broad range of topics and narrow the focus of our once geographically dispersed activities. The consistent application of our project management tool has been used successfully and proves to be of great benefit to the entire team. The resulting transparency continues to accelerate decision-making processes and increases the efficiency of our monitoring.

The **Annual Report 2023** provides insights into the activities of the Linsi Foundation and its management. At the same time, it serves as a status report and follows the Annual Report 2022, which essentially covers the period of the reporting year. It highlights sections on management, use of funds and their impact. The selected project reports provide an impression of the foundation's commitment. The Annual Report 2023 is available to all interested parties but may not be used by third parties without our consent.

## Focusing of our resources

The Linsi Foundation's growing dividend income from its shares in Belimo Holding AG is also increasing its budget. Our activities are expanding and the question arises as to what strategy we want to guide them. In our internal discussions, we realized that focus is the key.

We don't want to lose focus when selecting projects, therefore we will concentrate on long-term cooperation with those organizations we have built a trusting relationship with. Processes become simpler and contact persons more familiar, which leads to a more reliable and sustainable working relationship and thus aligns with our guiding principle: "more depth".



### International

#### Positioning East Africa

Based on strategic considerations regarding geographical focus and effective commitment, the Foundation Board has decided to concentrate our international resources on East Africa. One of the reasons for this is that support in the poorest countries brings resources to where they are most needed and the impact of these contributions is exponential. Projects in South America, South East Asia and Afghanistan have been removed from the Foundation's geographical focus, although humanitarian aid for Afghanistan will continue.

There were two options to consider in terms of concentrating our energy: establishing portfolios in Central America (we would make a difference here as other donors are withdrawing due to authoritarian tendencies and poor human rights), or expanding the portfolio in sub-Saharan Africa (West or East). Following an internal evaluation, we have decided to position ourselves in East Africa, which we define as Madagascar, Mozambique and Uganda.

The Human Development Index (HDI) is a development indicator for a total of 191 countries worldwide published by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). The bottom 25 countries in the 2023 ranking are almost exclusively African countries, including Uganda (166), Madagascar (173) and Mozambique (185), which we have selected as countries of focus. Unfortunately, the poorest of the poor are in this part of the world and it has been confirmed that Africa is the "forgotten" continent. A characteristic of poor countries is that they have very young societies and therefore a flat population pyramid with a broad base. In our focus countries, about half of the population is under the age of 20.

Whether such countries can make it out of poverty, is closely linked to whether there is enough work for young people, which gives their future perspective. If the proportion of those who do not make it into the labour market increases, the risk of radicalization in society, such as by extremist religious groups, also rises.

Our decision to focus on these countries is also due to the fact that they are relatively politically stable compared to other African countries that are afflicted by conflict or engaged in war. In terms of climate, East Africa is located in a zone that is severely affected by global climate change. More extreme conditions exacerbate the situation, particularly in regards to agriculture. In addition to these aforementioned reasons, economic factors are also taken into account: Given the modest economic level in our focus countries, every franc spent on aid is worth far more than in Switzerland, where the same amount of money has much less of an impact.

In 2023, the Linsi Foundation's financial commitment in Africa reached a total of CHF 2.88 million. Of this, 55% was allocated to Education & Income, 34% to Health and 11% to Social Justice. As of the end of 2023, 23 organizations in the aforementioned countries received support.

## National

In Switzerland, we support various projects and strive to build long-term relationships where possible. Our focus in the national area is primarily thematic, specifically covering the areas of Environment & Climate Protection and Social Integration and Culture. Since 2023, we have made our largest contribution to The Belimo Climate Foundation (BCF). The newly established cooperation between Belimo AG and the Linsi Foundation is reciprocal and close to our hearts.

### Cultural

We frequently receive requests to support cultural events and culture in general. We have therefore created decision-making criteria for the allocation of funds. Accordingly, we have defined a geographical region around the foundation's main office in Stäfa, because we want to give something back to the region where our roots lie. We support events that pursue the foundation's purpose of national commitment as well as projects that promote social cohesion. Individuals are not considered for support, whether it be in the form of scholarships, bursaries or sponsorships.

### Joint projects with Belimo

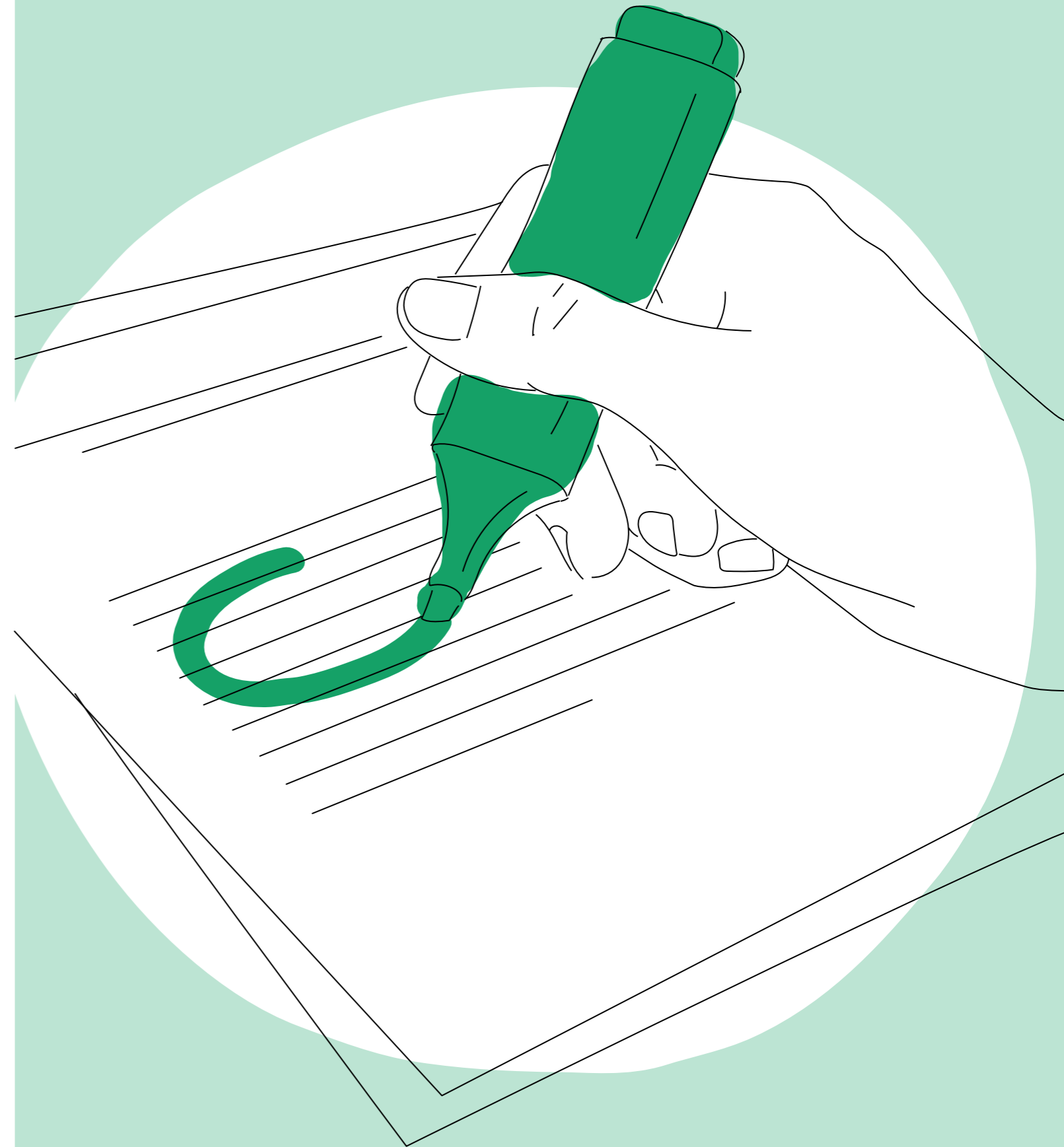
As already mentioned, the Linsi Foundation obtains its funds from shares in Belimo Holding AG in Hinwil. The Linsi family is closely connected to Belimo and are very grateful to the company and to its employees for the amazing job they have done over the years. Their commitment and hard work is why our foundation has received the dividends it has. For these reasons and more, we will continue to express our solidarity and lend support to Belimo's charitable projects.

With the establishment of The Belimo Climate Foundation (BCF) in September 2022, Belimo has been supporting non-profit institutions and non-governmental organizations in reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of buildings. With this foundation, Belimo is pursuing the path of increasing energy efficiency and reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. Reto Wälchli, Managing Director of BCF, says: "The projects financed by the foundation allow buildings to be optimized in terms of heating, ventilation and air conditioning technology and thus contribute to reducing the CO<sub>2</sub> footprint of the global real

estate portfolio." Very few people are aware of the huge leverage that the real estate industry has to achieve climate targets, which has been under utilised up to now. The Belimo Climate Foundation wants to change that. For the Linsi Foundation, nature and climate protection is an important area of our activities so we support the BCF substantially with donations.

This has also meant that we have renamed our previous focus topic Nature and Local Heritage Conservation to Environmental and Climate Protection. Since 2023 we have been focusing our support on these modified criteria.

The second project "Work integration at Belimo" (inclusion) is described later in the section on National Commitment. A constructive collaboration was also established here in 2023. •

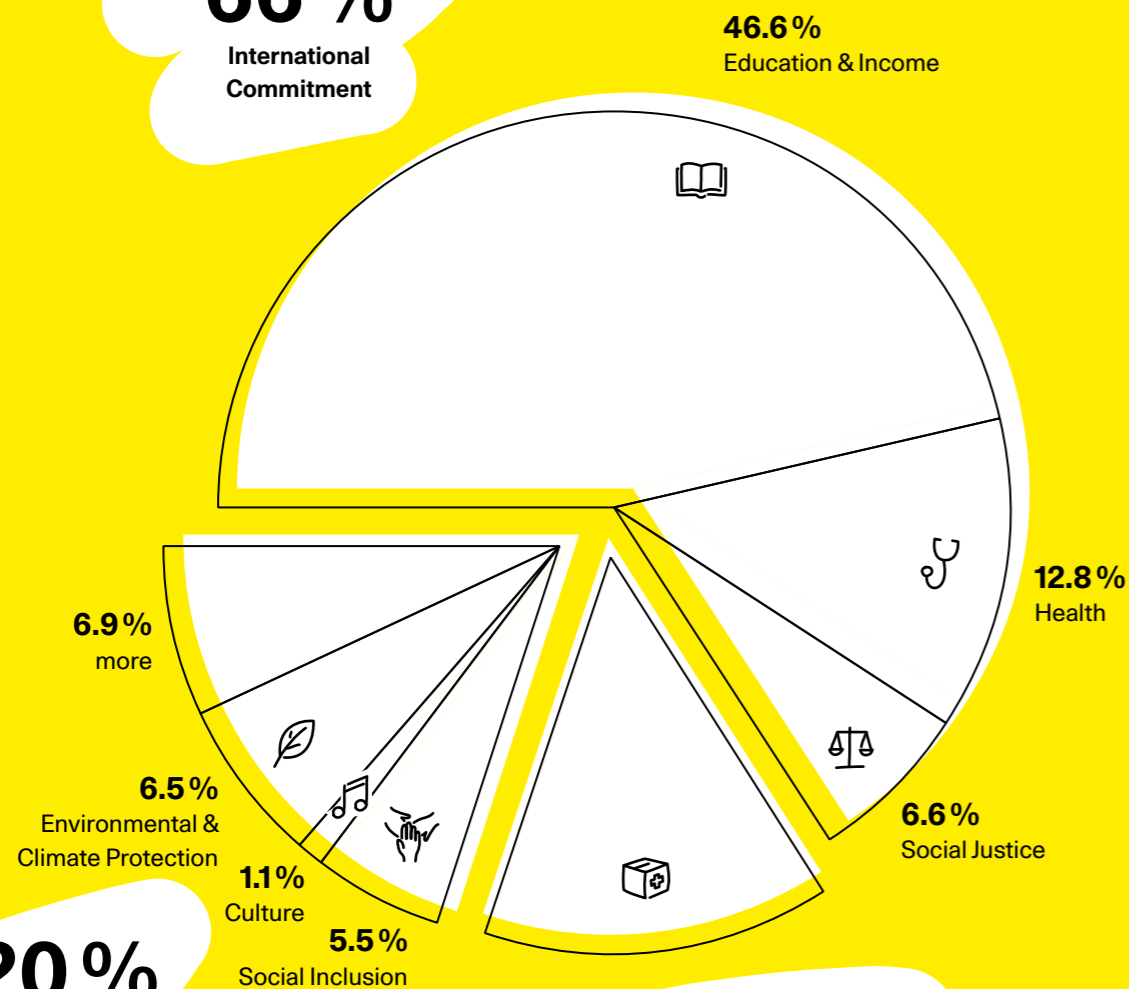




# The most important key figures for 2023

Our commitment in Switzerland focuses on the region around Lake Zurich and internationally on Africa and India—with the exception of humanitarian aid

**66%**  
International Commitment

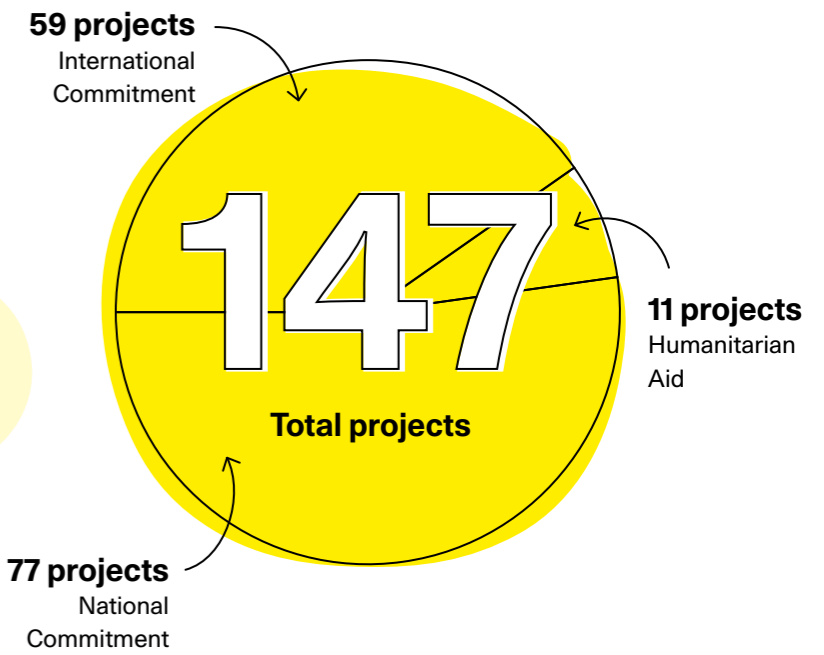


**20%**  
Commitment in Switzerland

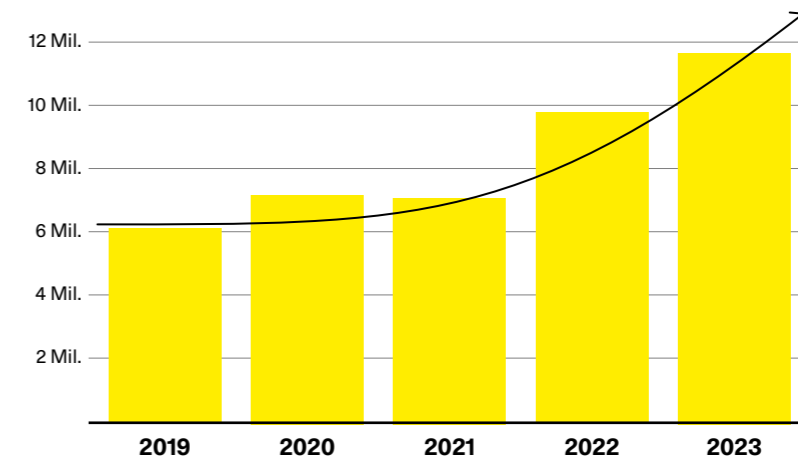
**14%**  
Humanitarian Aid

Our donations 2023 by area and focus topic

**11,563,260**  
**CHF**  
total contributions



Development of contributions over time (CHF)



**+5%**

Contribution per request compared to 2022

**186,000**  
**People**

reached

# Our focus topics

A funding decision based on our criteria is intended to achieve a sustainable impact in the supported projects



## 118,000

People

### Health

The conditions for a healthy life—access to clean drinking water and sanitary facilities—are not a reality for billions of people. Dirty water and a lack of hygiene allow pathogens to spread particularly quickly and cause diarrhea and malnutrition in children.



## 28,000

People

### Humanitarian Aid

Humanitarian aid means supporting people in life-threatening emergency situations and ensuring their survival. Humanitarian crises are triggered by natural disasters, violent conflicts and war or pandemics. The extent and number of humanitarian crises has also increased in recent years due to climate change.



## 16,000

People

### Education and Income

In order to break the vicious circle of poverty, people need an education and vocational training to ensure future prospects and the chance of a better income.



## 10,500

People

### Social Justice

Social inequality in the world has been increasing continuously for years. The widening gap between rich and poor means that millions of people continue to live in extreme poverty while private wealth continues to boom.



## 628,000

Contribution (CHF)

### Social Integration

We experience social inequality in Switzerland too, mainly due to lack of inclusion and social participation of disadvantaged groups of people.



## 122,000

Contribution (CHF)

### Culture

A humane world without culture isn't possible. Culture is an expression of human existence and plays a major role in social cohesion. It is the fundamental basis of a diverse and democratic society.



## 753,000

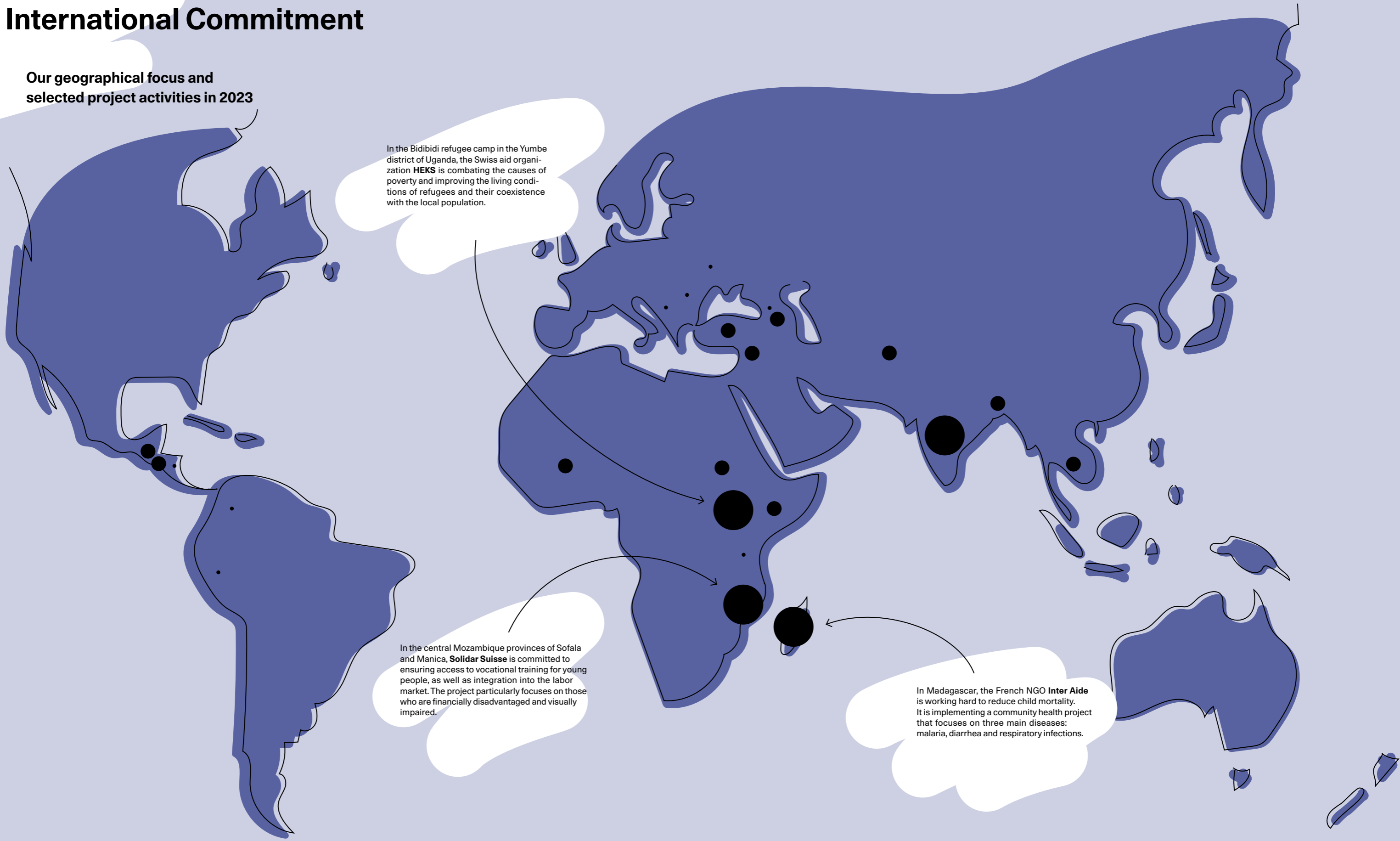
Contribution (CHF)

### Environmental and Climate Protection

Protecting the environment includes climate protection. We will work together to protect our livelihood through a respectful relationship with nature and the careful use of resources.

# International Commitment

## Our geographical focus and selected project activities in 2023



In the Bidibidi refugee camp in the Yumbe district of Uganda, the Swiss aid organization **HEKS** is combating the causes of poverty and improving the living conditions of refugees and their coexistence with the local population.

In the central Mozambique provinces of Sofala and Manica, **Solidar Suisse** is committed to ensuring access to vocational training for young people, as well as integration into the labor market. The project particularly focuses on those who are financially disadvantaged and visually impaired.

In Madagascar, the French NGO **Inter Aide** is working hard to reduce child mortality. It is implementing a community health project that focuses on three main diseases: malaria, diarrhea and respiratory infections.

• ≤ 50,000 CHF    ● 50,001–500,000 CHF    ● > 500,000 CHF

Average international donation for a total of 45 organizations in 2023: CHF 92,960



# Improving living conditions of refugees and the local population

The aid organization of the Swiss Protestant Reformed Churches (HEKS) is known throughout the country. It fights the causes of poverty and gives people access to vital resources such as land, water, food and education. HEKS / EPER also fights against exploitation and helps oppressed people to organize themselves and claim their rights.

In the northern district of Yumbe in Uganda, Bidibidi, the second largest refugee camp in the world, has been in existence since 2016. More than 230,000 people live here, most of them having fled the civil war in South Sudan. Bidibidi is not a typical camp, but rather an evolving trading centre. Various factors (isolation, the struggle of survival, the impossibility of returning to their homeland, conflicts between the host society and the refugees) make this large settlement extremely vulnerable.

The flow of refugees from South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo to Uganda continues unabated. Nevertheless, the funding provided by donors, such as food aid from the WFP, is being reduced. HEKS therefore works across borders in areas that are only covered by a few NGOs. There, HEKS monitors population movements, tries to understand the needs and adapts its interventions accordingly. It takes care of those who have been left behind and forgotten.

The overall goal of the project is to improve the living conditions of refugees and the local population, improve food security, increase income and ensure peaceful coexistence between the refugees and the Ugandan population living in and around the Bidibidi settlement. Humanitarian interventions have been completed and the focus is now on securing long-term livelihoods. To achieve these goals, HEKS is implementing various practical approaches, all of which are designed to increase household incomes and ensure peaceful coexistence.



**Geographical focus**  
Uganda: Yumbe District

**Project organisation**  
HEKS

**Project duration**  
2020–2024

**Vision**  
Better nutrition, more income and peaceful coexistence in the settlement

**Project description**  
Encourage community leaders and local authorities to jointly address local needs.

**Focus topics**  
- Education & Income  
- Health



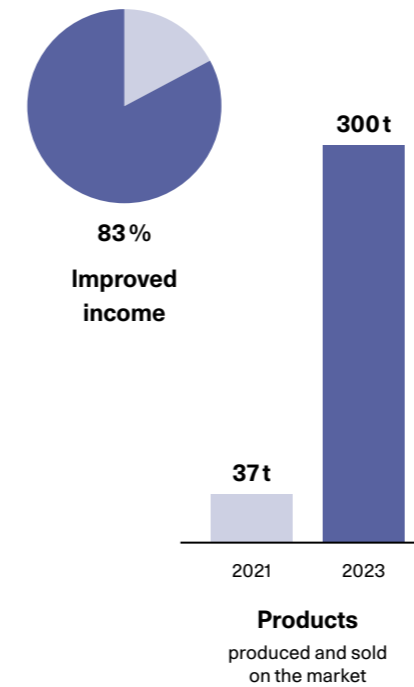




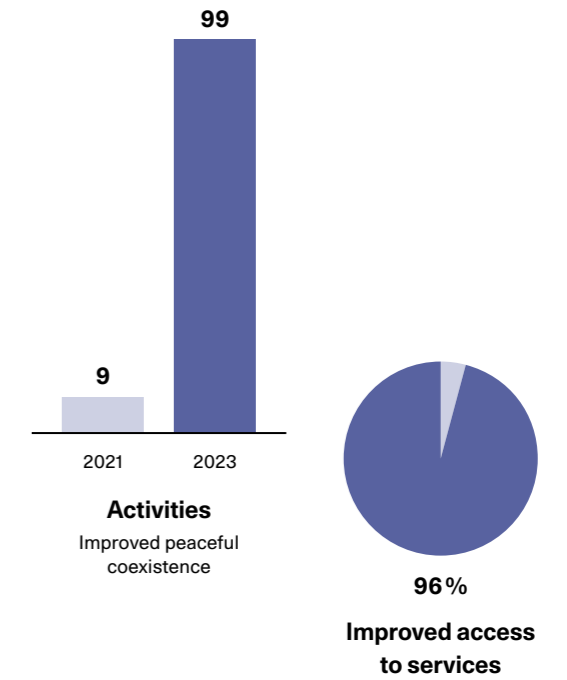
© Jumba Martin / HEKS/EPER

The results of the project in 2023 are impressive:

**1) Increased household income of refugees and host communities in Bidibidi**



**2) Peaceful coexistence between and among the refugees and the host communities in Bidibidi has improved**



- 83% of project participants report an improvement in their income.
- 93% of women report effective participation in decision-making bodies at community level.
- 686 households report an increase in income.
- The products produced and sold on the market in 2023 increased from 37 tons (2021) to 300 tons.
- Activities that improve peaceful coexistence between them have increased from 9 (2021) to 99 (2023).
- 96% of project participants report improved access to services (e.g. land, health, education, water, security).
- 172 participants were trained in conflict resolution and gained a deeper understanding of the subject. •



# Improving the health situation in rural areas

Since its foundation in 1980, the French NGO Inter Aide has been active in several countries (mainly in Africa) in the areas of water supply, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), agriculture, health and school development.

In Madagascar, a community health project has been running for several years which focuses on malaria, diarrhea and acute respiratory infections, which are the three biggest sicknesses there.

The partnership between Inter Aide and the Linsi Foundation, on the project just mentioned, began in January 2022 and is planned to last until the end of 2024. The districts of Farafangana, Vohipeno and Manakara in the Southeast of Madagascar have the highest population density in the country. The prevailing tropical climate involves brutal changes between droughts and floods, which jeopardizes food security and encourages the development of endemic diseases.

The aim of the project is to achieve a lasting reduction in child mortality. To this end, animators are sensitizing and educating families on the topic. A network of health workers at village level improves access to medical treatment as the few health centres are often far away. The third component of the approach is to ensure that the mechanisms can run sustainably, especially in regards to the supply of basic medicines.



**Geographic focus**  
Madagascar: Farafangana, Vohipeno and Manakara districts

**Project organization**  
Inter Aide

**Project duration**  
2022–2024

**Vision**  
Achieving a lasting reduction in child mortality

**Project description**  
Raising awareness and education about the three main diseases: malaria, diarrhea and respiratory infections with training for village health workers.

**Focus topics**  
- Health



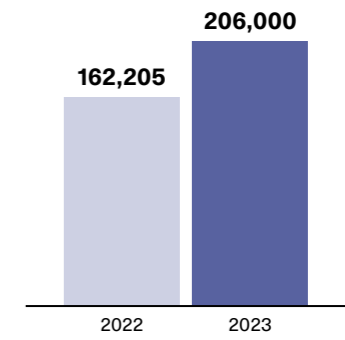




The figures for 2023 are as follows:

- **1315** village health workers
- Outreach to a population of **900,000** people in the extended area of operation in the districts of Vondrozo and Vangaindrano.
- The number of pediatric consultations increased by **27%** to **206,000**.
- **288** animations for **4500** people on the subject of child mortality and **340** animations with a total of **13,400** participants to raise awareness on health issues took place.
- In 2023, **62** village health workers and **473** animators were newly included. •

### Children's consultations



### Animations

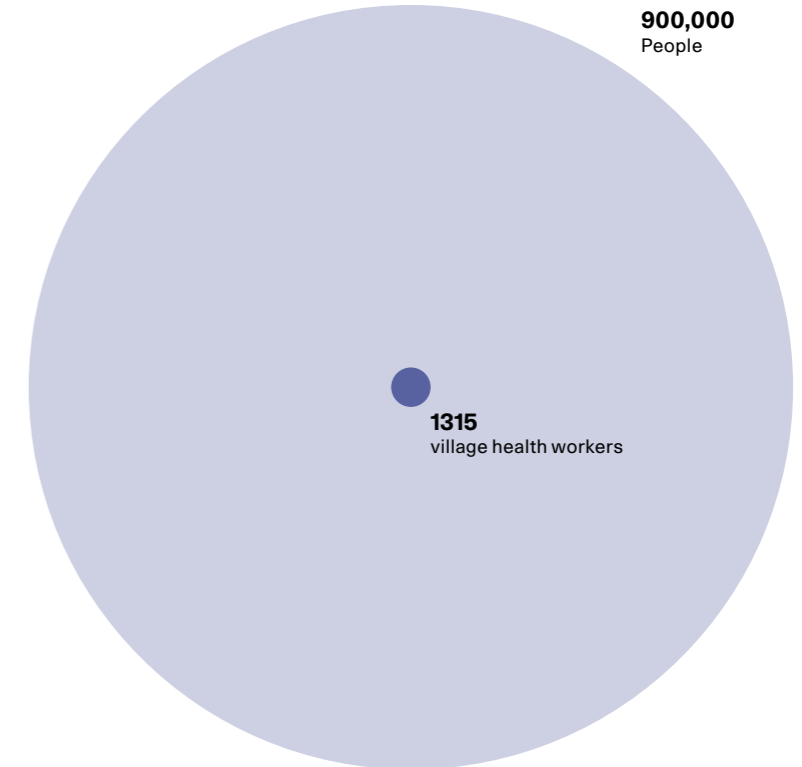


**4500**  
Participants on infant mortality



**13,400**  
Participants on raising awareness on health issues

### Outreach





## Improved access to vocational training and integration into the labour market

Solidar Suisse was founded in 1936 as the Swiss Workers' Relief Organisation (SAH) by the Swiss Federation of Trade Unions and the Swiss Social Democratic Party. Since 2005, the SAH's foreign department has been an independent organization and is now called Solidar Suisse. The Linsi Foundation's cooperation with this developmental organization started in 2021.

Youth unemployment in the provinces of Sofala and Manica in central Mozambique is a major challenge. The young people affected are unable to find employment for a number of reasons. They try to survive in the informal economy, which means they are employed in unregistered jobs without any legal protection.

With the project "Improved Access to Vocational Training and Integration into the Labor Market" Solidar Suisse is improving the professional skills of young people and young adults. A special focus is placed on financially disadvantaged trainees and the visually impaired.



**Geographical focus**  
Mozambique: Provinces of Manica and Sofala

**Project organisation**  
Solidar Suisse

**Project duration**  
2021-2024

**Vision**  
Vocational training for disadvantaged young people and visually impaired

**Project description**  
Providing vocational training and integration into the labour market

**Focus topics**  
- Education & Income





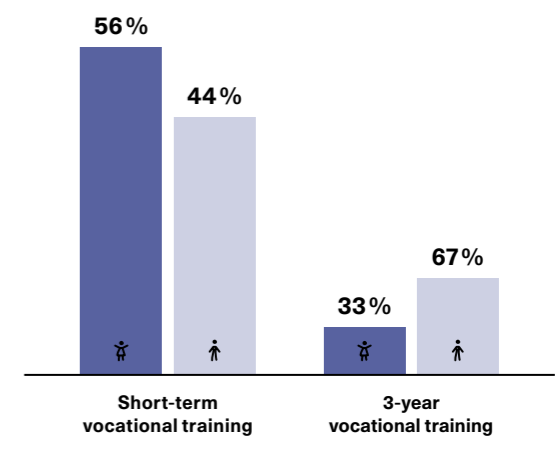


© Solidar Suisse

The initiative can be characterized by four components:

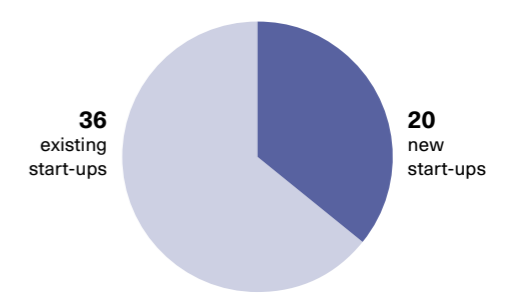
**1) Easier access to vocational training to acquire skills and competence adapted to the local labour market**

In 2023, 21 young adults from difficult socio-economic backgrounds received full scholarships for the 3-year training at the Instituto Agrario Marera. 41% of the young people (over one third of them women) who completed long-term vocational training were able to successfully integrate into the labor market, most of them as small entrepreneurs. In 2023, a total of 735 young adults successfully completed short-term vocational training, further training and / or retraining (56% of whom were women), and 181 young adults successfully completed a 3-year vocational training course (33% of whom were women).



**2) Promoting self-initiative and innovative business ideas**

In 2023, technical and commercial coaching was provided to 36 start-ups launched in the previous years 2021 and 2022—in collaboration with the participating vocational training institutes. In addition, 20 new start-ups were supported in the Chemba district (a total of 110 young adults).



**3) Supporting visually impaired people in acquiring skills to improve their income**

40 visually impaired young adults have undergone computer training.

**4) Certificates and improved curricula through cooperation with training centres and state authorities**

Direct cooperation with public institutions is now referred to as “round tables” with several stakeholders and exchange of experiences with other stakeholders. •



# Humanitarian Aid

Our donations for people in life-threatening emergency situations



MSF

## Medical care for internally displaced people in Mozambique and South Sudan

Médécins sans Frontières have been active in South Sudan since its independence in 2011. The target group of the project, includes 20,000 displaced people from the Agok region who have settled in Twic County after fleeing from interethnic violence. MSF aims to restore access to specialized medical care by renovating an operating theatre, increasing the capacity of hospital beds, training staff and stabilizing medical care in the region.

For this purpose, basic medical care is extended by a holistic approach (HIV services, severe malnutrition, sexual and reproductive health, etc.). In addition, the community is strengthened and skills are gained. The proven model of Integrated Community Case Management foresees training courses to teach community members how to diagnose and treat the most common diseases (malaria, malnutrition and diarrhea) so that patients don't go to the hospital too late.

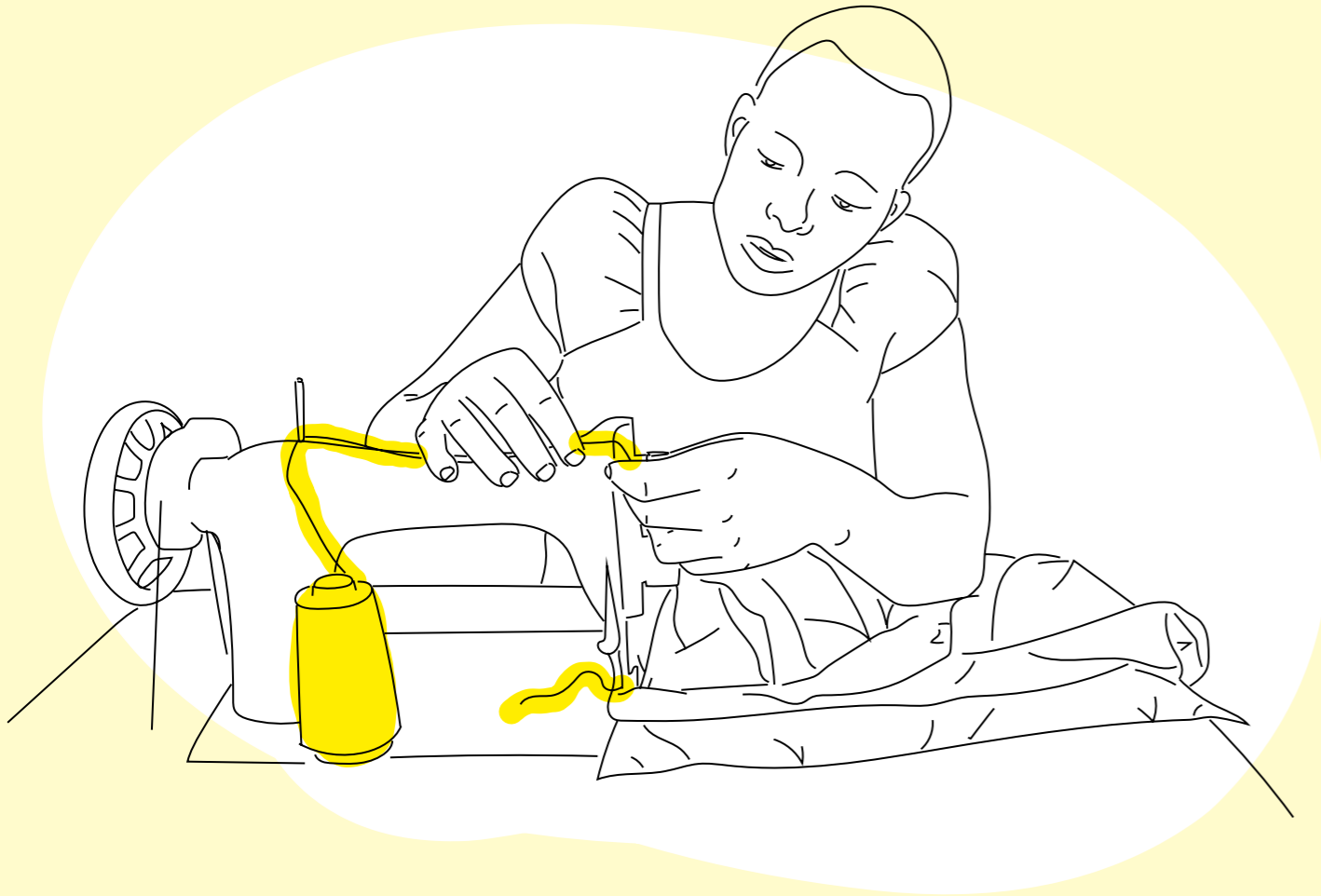
JRS Europe

## Strengthening the living conditions of refugees

Due to the war in Ukraine, millions of people are fleeing within Ukraine and to various European countries. Jesuit Refugee Service (JRS) Europe helps refugees in the war-torn country itself, as well as in various transit countries. The aim is to improve the living conditions of asylum seekers and refugees in Europe according to four priorities:

Firstly, protective measures, medical care and food are the top priorities. These are followed by monitoring the detention of refugees then humanitarian aid and social integration. Finally raising awareness, such as critical thinking, shared values and positive change follow. In 2023, JRS reached around 45,000 people with its services.



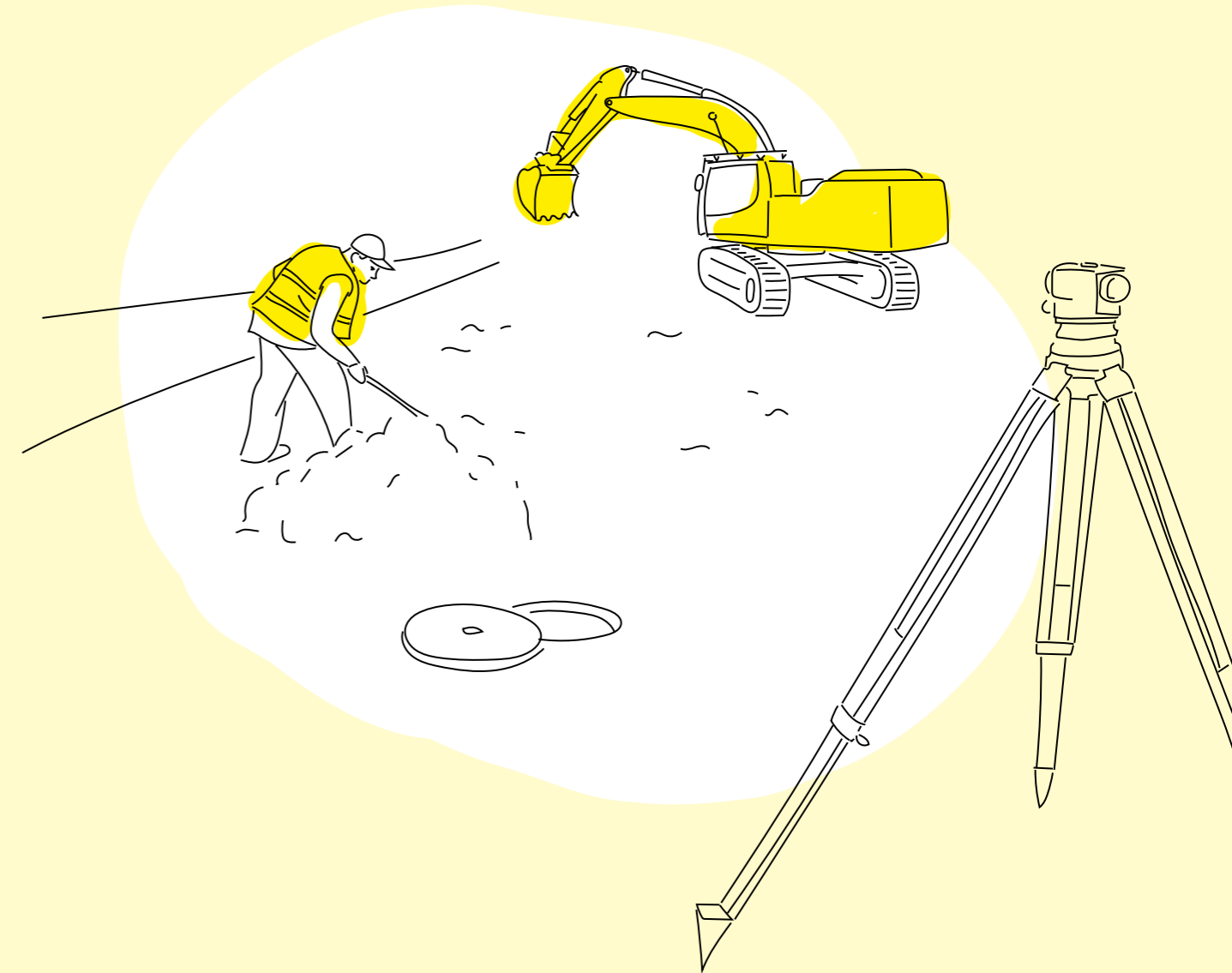


**JRS International**

## Supporting refugees in Kampala

JRS International has been working with refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons in Uganda since 1993. In Kampala, JRS focuses on using a multi-layered approach to help those affected become more resilient so that they can stand on their own feet.

Support with food, rent and medical assistance, psychological and psychosocial assistance, english lessons, access to basic and vocational training, access to micro loans, as well as mentoring and networking with existing local businesses and institutions.



**HEKS**

## Supporting those affected by the Aleppo earthquake disaster

The destructive earthquake in Turkey and Syria on 6th February 2023 was devastating for the local population. The situation was particularly precarious in Syria, where the conflict-related humanitarian crisis has been ongoing for twelve years. HEKS reacted quickly. Just a few hours after the earthquake, the local partner organizations set up shelters and emergency aid for families in churches and schools. There, 1,200 people received a place to sleep meals, hygiene articles and basic medical care every day. In April and May 2023, 983 families in need from Aleppo and Latakia, received financial support (CHF 73 each). HEKS is also renovating 15 bakeries in Aleppo. The long-term humanitarian aid focuses on rebuilding infrastructure and the economy.



### HEKS

## Emergency aid for refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh

A conflict between the two former Soviet republics of Azerbaijan and Armenia has been simmering in the region of Nagorno-Karabakh for decades. The most recent escalation was the violent conquest of the region by the Azerbaijani army. Tens of thousands of Armenians are currently fleeing across the border to Armenia out of a justified fear of ethnic cleansing. These people in the Gegharkunik and Vayots Dzor regions need emergency accommodation, food and other everyday necessities. The HEKS project “emergency aid for refugees from Nagorno-Karabakh” is intended to benefit around 7,000 refugees.

### Medair

## Improved health for women and children in Kenya

In recent years, the food stability in northern Kenya has steadily deteriorated. Five below-average rainy seasons in a row have led to the worst drought in 40 years. Malnutrition and diseases connected with unclean drinking water are a heavy burden.

Medair is focusing on the treatment and prevention of malnutrition in young children and pregnant and breastfeeding women, as well as access to clean water for the communities in the intervention area.

11,350 people, especially women and children, benefit from the activities. Caregivers of young children are trained in relevant topics and access to renovated water points benefit all community members.



# Commitment in Switzerland

## Our geographical focus and selected project activities in 2023

Caring for terminally ill children is almost impossible for a family on their own. Palliative care at the **Children's Hospital Zurich** provides these services, but they are largely not covered by the health-care system.

Cognitively impaired people who want to work with others who don't need special assistance. At **BELIMO** in Hinwil, **Werkheim Uster** has found inclusive workplaces in what we call "assembly islands".

People living below the poverty line in Switzerland should not lack a balanced diet because of their financial situation. The **Caritas market** now offers fresh fruit and vegetables at reduced prices in 23 locations across Switzerland.



• ≤10,000 CHF    ● 10,001–1,000,000 CHF    ● >1,000,000 CHF

Average national donations for a total of 71 organizations in 2023: 21,989 CHF



# Work integration at Belimo

## This project is all about inclusion. People with cognitive impairments want to work with others who are not dependent on support.

Werkheim Uster has many years of experience in the field of work integration and has set itself the goal of enabling people who need substantial support, to work directly on site at companies in the region. As an employer, BELIMO promotes social responsibility and has created precisely such inclusive workplaces.

In so-called “assembly islands”, Werkheim employees work hand in hand with BELIMO employees to complete components into end products. The collaboration between Werkheim Uster and BELIMO started with a pilot in spring 2023. By the end of 2023, four employees with disabilities, accompanied by two specialists, were working in Hinwil with an average workload of almost 80 %.

You can see how happy the Werkheim employees are. One told us, “The cooperation is great, I enjoy it. I like working with the women and we have fun together.”

The head of the working group at BELIMO is also full of praise: “It is remarkable to see how the BELIMO teams respond to the employees of Werkheim Uster, include them in the team and help develop viable solutions.”

BELIMO has worked with the IWAZ and Sonnehalde facilities in Wetzikon and would like to develop the knowledge gained in this initiative with Werkheim Uster further. Up to 20 employees with disabilities will be able to work at BELIMO through the project.

On the one hand, the expectations of the project are that barriers to inclusive forms of work can be overcome with confidence, which in turn fosters independence and inclusion. On the other hand, it should provide a productive service with significant added value for BELIMO.

As the Linsi Foundation, we provided substantial support for this project. •

### Geographical focus

Region of the Foundation's headquarters

### Project organization

Werkheim Uster Foundation

### Project duration

2022–2027

### Vision

Creating inclusive workplaces

### Project description

Integration of people with cognitive disabilities into the workplace through “assembly islands” at BELIMO.

### Focus topics

- Social Integration







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## Palliative Care at Zurich Children's Hospital

Caring for terminally ill children pushes the entire family to the limits of what they can cope with. Palliative care aims to help the concerned children spend the remainder of their lives in the best possible way. The palliative care team consists of 12 specialists (3 doctors, 3 nurses, 3 psychologists, 1 social worker, 1 scientist, 1 secretary) and takes care of the physical, psychological and social needs of the children and their families. This is done by providing care where the child is most comfortable, whether at home or in hospital. Palliative care at the Children's Hospital Zurich began in 2008 and continues to be supported. The services provided by the program are not covered by the health insurance system, which is why financial support from third parties is necessary. In 2023, 182 families with sick children were cared for. In over 60% of cases, the children were suffering from neurological diseases. In addition to providing care for families, the program also offers grief counselling, training, lectures and research.

**Geographical focus**  
Region of the Foundation's headquarters

**Project organisation**  
University Children's Hospital Zurich

**Project duration**  
2022–2025

**Vision**  
Making the best quality of life possible for terminally ill children.

**Project description**  
Palliative Care provides physical, psychological and social support to the children and their families.

**Focus topics**  
- Social Integration



© Caritas-Markt

## A balanced diet thanks to the Caritas market

Disadvantaged people in Switzerland are struggling the most with rising prices and have to make the best use of their limited resources. Often they rely on food that is filling rather than nutritious, which is proven to be less healthy.

This is the Caritas market's vision, as no one should have to sacrifice a balanced diet because of their financial situation.

To date, there are Caritas markets with discounted food at 23 locations throughout Switzerland, where fresh vegetables and fresh fruit are offered daily.

The stores are open to anyone with a shopping card issued by social services, their church, private social institutions and regional Caritas organizations. The stores are open to people who live below the poverty line, receive social assistance or supplementary benefits, or are in debt restructuring. Food is not given away for free because the aim of shopping at the Caritas market is to help relieve the pressure on one's budget. This relief should provide more manoeuvring room to those affected.

The project is making a difference. Whether it is financial relief, the prevention of malnutrition or improved health – the living conditions of those affected are improving.

The service, operating since 2017, is heavily frequented. In 2023, sales amounted to CHF 17.6 million with 1.1 million purchases. A somber but positive result, as it shows that more and more people can no longer afford to shop in regular supermarkets. Thankfully there are Caritas Markets to help the more than 750,000 people (2023) living in poverty in Switzerland. •

**Geographical focus**  
Switzerland

**Project organisation**  
CARITAS Market

**Project duration**  
2023

**Vision**  
Making healthy food accessible to people living in poverty.

**Project description**  
With an authorization card, customers have access to inexpensive products, including many fruits and fresh vegetables.

**Focus topics**  
- Social Integration



# Team

The number of full-time employees at the end of the year was 5.2 (previous year: 4.2).



**Urban Linsi**  
Chairman Executive Board



**Bernadette Kälin**  
Head of National Commitment,  
Member of the Executive Board



**Franz Hollenstein**  
Finance and Services,  
Member of the Executive Board



**Isabelle Sommer**  
Head of International Commitment,  
Member of the Executive Board



**Claudia Linsi**  
Project Staff India,  
Corporate Identity



**Sabrije Shala**  
Assistant



**Reto Linsi**  
Project Staff Culture

## Board of Trustees

Urban Linsi, since 2008, President since 2021  
Claudia Linsi, since 2006  
Bernadette Kälin, since 2015  
Burkhard Varnholt, since 2018  
Selim Kälin, since 2022

## Thanks to

With great commitment and a shared vision, all those involved have contributed to another successful financial year. Through joint work and trusting exchange, they have contributed to a fairer, more sustainable and more liveable society. The management would particularly like to thank our partners, whose work has had a significant impact. The Foundation Team and the Board of Trustees also deserve the highest recognition for their complete co-operation and for their unwavering support.

# Working for the common good

**The Linsi Foundation empowers  
disadvantaged people to sustainably  
improve their living conditions.**

It provides support, promotes and facilitates knowledge transfer and specializes in the strategic development of partners and joint programmes. The focus is on empowering partners and beneficiaries in helping people help themselves and with the greatest possible benefit.

This not only enables greater impact for the beneficiaries, but also success for our partners and greater justice for society.

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