



# PROVIDE CARE & BEAR WITNESS



**MÉDECINS DU MONDE -  
DOCTORS OF THE WORLD SWITZERLAND**  
ANNUAL REPORT 2021

Médecins du Monde – Doctors of the World Switzerland is a medical humanitarian organisation founded in 1993. Its mission is to ensure sustainable access to healthcare in Switzerland and throughout the world. Médecins du Monde Switzerland is an independent, politically and religiously impartial non-governmental organisation and one of the 17 associations in the Doctors of the World international network. The organisation's headquarters are in Neuchâtel, with an office in Geneva. Médecins du Monde Switzerland has a staff of 111 employees in the field and 15 at headquarters.

Doctors of the World Switzerland provides care and bears witness so that the right to health is effective for all, without financial, social, cultural or geographical obstacles. In partnership with civil society organisations and local authorities, it implements projects in the field with the goal of improving access to healthcare for vulnerable people and victims of crises and conflicts in a sustainable manner. Médecins du Monde Switzerland favours direct action, but works closely with local partners to ensure sustainability.

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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENCY



"All girls in school" said a poster I saw on a roadside in Benin more than 10 years ago. That poster made an impression on me. Time has passed, significant progress has been made in the fields of education and health, but it is clear that circumstances for girls and women in the world remain deeply unfair. This message is highly pertinent at a time when certain authorities are prohibiting girls from going to school, perpetuating an incomprehensible discrimination. School is a place for learning and living, a place for picking up life skills, which should be an effective tool for achieving a just and equitable society. The year 2021 has shown us once again that girls' right to life, education, protection and health can be swept away. Médecins du Monde Switzerland will continue to be outraged by these injustices.

According to the UN, one in three women worldwide is a victim of physical or sexual violence at some point in her life. We have made the fight against gender-based violence and the fight against all forms of discrimination a priority in our actions. In 2021, we helped nearly 7,000 women and children survivors of violence. Our teams also worked tirelessly to raise awareness among children, young people, men, women and political decision-makers of gender equality and the fight against all forms of violence. For, as Denis Mukwege points out in *The Power of Women* ("La force des femmes", Éditions Gallimard, 2021), the fight against sexual violence begins with men and women speaking out. Gender equality is essential if we are to ensure the right to health for all. Médecins du Monde's actions help to break the silence.

**Dr Dominik SCHMID, President**

**Cécile BASSI, Vice-presidente**

**John ORLANDO, Vice-president**

# PROGRAMME MAP



## MÉDECINS DU MONDE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK 417 PROJECTS IN 74 COUNTRIES

### AFRICA

Algeria / Angola / Benin / Burkina Faso / Cameroon / Central African Republic / Democratic Republic of the Congo / Egypt / Ethiopia / Ivory Coast / Madagascar / Mali / Mauritania / Morocco / Mozambique / Niger / Nigeria / Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic / Senegal / Sierra Leone / South Africa / South Sudan / Tanzania / Togo / Tunisia / Zimbabwe.

### AMERICAS

Argentina / Bolivia / Canada / Colombia / Guatemala / Haiti / Honduras / Mexico / Nicaragua / Paraguay / USA / Dominican Republic / El Salvador / Venezuela.

### ASIA

Bangladesh / Cambodia / Japan / Laos / Malaysia / Myanmar / Nepal / Pakistan / Philippines / Sri Lanka.

### EUROPE

Armenia / Belgium / Bosnia / Bulgaria / Croatia / France / Georgia / Germany / Greece / Italy / Luxembourg / Netherlands / Portugal / Russia / Spain / Sweden / Switzerland / Ukraine / United Kingdom.

### MIDDLE EAST

Iraq / Lebanon / Palestine / Syria / Turkey / Yemen.

## MÉDECINS DU MONDE SWITZERLAND

**36 PROJECTS  
IN 11 COUNTRIES**



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## BUDGET

Budget achieved in 2021:

**8.7 million**

An increase of:

**143%** compared to 2020

## HUMAN RESOURCES

**205** Médecins du Monde Switzerland actors

**126** employees

105 local staff in the field

6 international staff in the field

15 staff at headquarters

**79** volunteers (including volunteer board delegates)



## 400'000 BENEFICIARIES OF OUR PROGRAMMES

Nearly

**7'000**

women and children  
survivors of violence  
supported.

Nearly

**300'000**

people  
educated  
on SRHR and/or GBV.

More than

**100**

health institutions  
and/or GBV protection  
institutions supported.

**3'250**

health professionals  
trained in technical skills  
and care approaches.

**52**

community  
initiatives  
regarding the promotion  
of GBV or SRHR.

**25**

policy initiatives  
supported to reduce  
barriers to equitable  
and accessible SRHR  
and GBV information  
and services.

**122** local partners

# IN FIGURES

# THEMES

## Prevention and care of violence

Médecins du Monde is committed to combating multiple types of violence: physical, sexual, psychological and economic, with a particular focus on gender-based violence (GBV).

Our actions include the development of multidisciplinary programmes combining medical, psychological, social and legal support, prevention, the promotion of victims' rights and their professional and social reintegration.

Together with our partners, we address the challenges when it comes to delivering quality care and provide training and awareness-raising activities.

We are active in Bangladesh, Benin, Cameroon, Haiti, Mexico, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

The focus is on gender equality, as we understand gender equality as meaning equal rights, responsibilities and opportunities for all. To this end, we place a particular emphasis on promoting positive masculinity through preventive actions in order to establish equitable social norms.

## Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR)

Médecins du Monde is committed to women as a priority, as they are the main victims when it comes to barriers to healthcare access. We support them in becoming aware of their rights and raise awareness among different target groups, including adolescents and young adults.

Our projects include medical and legal support, family planning, medical monitoring of pregnant women, childbirth and newborn care, as well as psychological support and assistance in recognising their rights.

We are active in Benin, Cameroon, Haiti, Mexico, Nicaragua and Zimbabwe, working particularly with adolescent girls, the age group with the least access to modern contraceptive methods, with a prevalence of 4.9 per cent for 15-19 year olds. These difficulties stem from a lack of awareness of young people's sexual and reproductive rights, low parental commitment to their children's sexuality and a lack of political involvement.

The maternal mortality rate has decreased by 37% worldwide since 2000, yet 800 women still die every day as a result of pregnancy and five million children die before their fifth birthday each year. For this reason, SRHR remains a central theme for MdM.

## Mental health

Médecins du Monde is committed to the promotion of well-being and the prevention and treatment of mental health problems. We provide assistance to vulnerable people and adapt our psycho-social support to the nature of their needs.

Contexts of prolonged conflict, humanitarian crises and population displacement greatly increase the need for psychological care and support. For this reason, MdM implements suicide prevention activities for young people, offers psychological support for survivors of gender-based violence, helps children with non-curable illnesses as well as children and families who are victims of detention, and provides mental health support for Covid-19.

The UN estimates that nearly one billion people worldwide suffer from mental disorders. Mental health is an essential component of health and is often stigmatised and ignored. This is why MdM has made it one of its priorities and is implementing activities in the field of mental health in all its projects.

In order to help those who help and to avoid burnout, special attention is also given to health workers and frontline workers.

## Paediatric Palliative Care (PPC)

Médecins du Monde tackles the physical, psychological and social suffering of children with non-curable diseases. For several years, we have been offering a paediatric palliative care programme in countries with limited resources, where such care is almost non-existent.

One of MdM's main missions is to improve pain management for children with life-threatening conditions and at the same time to alleviate their suffering and that of their families, by focusing on four priority areas: care for sick children, the training of nursing staff in medical and nursing schools, research and network development, and, finally, advocacy for the introduction of PPC in national programmes and for the accessibility of medicines, particularly opiates.

We are active in Benin, Cameroon, Nicaragua and the DRC and, working with our local partners, we assist and alleviate the physical and general pain of the patient and the psychosocial suffering of his or her family. We want to ensure the best possible quality of life during the illness and until the end of the child's life. For this reason, the training we provide for health-care professionals is an essential part of our projects, helping to ensure their sustainability.



### 3 PROJECTS

**Donors:** Aspasie, City of Neuchâtel, City of Renens, City of Vevey, City of Le Locle, Jane Stale-Erzinger Foundation, Loterie Romande, ProCoRe, Republic and Canton of Neuchâtel, Rotary Club Neuchâtel, Sandoz Family Philanthropic Foundation, Swiss Federal Office of Public Health, Swiss Solidarity.

**Direct costs:** CHF 604,059

**Partners:** Caritas Neuchâtel, Caritas Vaud (le Hublot à Vevey and la Lucarne in Yverdon-les-Bains), Centre de santé sexuelle, Centre social protestant, City of Lausanne (l'Étape), Croix-Rouge, Direction générale de la santé du canton de Vaud, Fleur de Pavé, Générations Sexualités Neuchâtel, Grisélidis, Haute École ARC, LAVI, Mère Sofia Foundation (le Répit et la Soupe populaire à Lausanne), Nomad, Office des relations et des conditions de travail (ORCT), Point d'Eau, Salvation Army (La Marmotte), Service de la cohésion multiculturelle (COSM), Service des migrations (SMIG), Sleep-in, Unisanté, Zone Bleue.

# SWITZERLAND

**Types of actions:** Access to care for people in difficult situations, Covid-19, SRHR

In 2021, Médecins du Monde continued to deal with the effects of the pandemic on the population in Switzerland. The most vulnerable sections of society suffered enormously from the economic downturn, further reinforcing inequalities, particularly as regards access to healthcare.

When the massage parlours were forced to close, sex workers were suddenly left with no income. Mdm responded by expanding its services, notably through the distribution of food vouchers. Psychosocial support has also proved to be more essential than ever. Local support for beneficiaries remains at the heart of the Prevention and Access to Care for Sex Workers (PASS in the French acronym) project. Mdm's social workers meet with sex workers, identify their needs and propose an appropriate response. They regularly visit massage parlours, but also manage a telephone hotline and receive beneficiaries at Mdm's premises when they drop in spontaneously. In addition, free condom distribution was continued this year, in order to minimise the financial burden of sex work and prevent the spread of sexually transmitted diseases in times of economic crisis. In 2021, 457 interventions were carried out, reaching 162 beneficiaries.

The Health Centre in La Chaux-de-Fonds, while continuing to fulfil its primary purpose - to provide nursing consultations to asylum seekers, people without legal status and vulnerable people - also continued to respond to the emergency health crisis. From the outset, Médecins du Monde's healthcare assistants, volunteers and nurses were part of the response to the pandemic in the Swiss canton of Neuchâtel, and showed great courage and flexibility. In addition, Médecins du Monde was asked to take part in canton-wide and national seroprevalence studies to assess the proportion of the population infected and who have developed antibodies against the virus. The Health Centre also organised information sessions on the Covid-19 vaccine in collaboration with the Public Health Service and the Public Health Services of Bern. Subsequently, vaccination days specifically for undocumented migrants were organised in collaboration with the Nomad home help and care institution.

Finally, since December 2020, two nurses from Médecins du Monde have been offering consultations to homeless people in seven accommodation facilities in the canton of Vaud, as well as at the soup kitchen. During this first year of the project, 746 people in precarious situations have benefited from a health check-up, treatment and psychosocial support, through 1647 anonymous and free consultations.



# SOUTH AFRICA

**Types of actions:** Covid-19, Prevention and care of violence

Through our partnership with Altus Sport in South Africa, MdM has been active since 2019 in the township of Mamelodi, a socially and economically disadvantaged area of Pretoria. Our project provides educational support to children, organises sports activities and teaches life skills (self-knowledge and rights, respect, gender equality) via extracurricular activities.

The Covid-19 pandemic and the measures put in place to contain it have led to increased needs in the areas of mental and physical health and the prevention of social inequalities and gender-based violence. In 2021, Altus Sport produced take-home manuals in order to continue supporting children from a distance during the months-long closure of schools in response to Covid-19. Thanks to this support, 83% of the children were able to move up to the next grade. The support workers - young adults who also come from the township - were able to continue their distance learning to facilitate their integration into the world of work. Three of them managed to find long-term employment during the year. MdM also supported the association in improving its fundraising skills. Finally, Altus Sport signed a new partnership with the UEFA foundation, ensuring greater sustainability for its projects.

At the end of 2021, after 10 years of support and guidance in the field by IMBEWU and then Médecins du Monde Switzerland, the South African organisation will be able to continue its activities independently. Altus Sport is well established in the townships of Pretoria and has a good project management capacity and sufficient funding to ensure the sustainability of its activities.



## 1 PROJECT

**Donors:** Latitude 21, UEFA foundation for Children.

**Direct costs:** CHF 34,198

**Partner:** Altus Sport.



# BANGLADESH

**Type of actions:** Prevention and care of violence

The refugee crisis in Bangladesh remains critical. More than 850,000 Rohingya refugees are now living in the district of Cox's Bazar, where their living conditions are deteriorating: their freedom of movement has been reduced due to the erection of barbed wire around the camps, violent incidents by armed gangs are increasing, and a fire in March left several people dead. The refugees also face many hazards as regards gender-based violence (GBV), including rape, sexual and physical assault, psychological abuse, forced marriages and child marriages, human trafficking and denial of access to resources. In 2021, women and girls accounted for 97% of reported survivors of GBV in the refugee camps, and 81% of this violence was perpetrated by their partners.

In 2021, Médecins du Monde's intervention focused on working with fifteen health facilities in the camps and host communities to improve the well-being of GBV survivors in the district of Cox's Bazar, in partnership with five local NGOs. Médecins du Monde advocates for easier access to the camps for humanitarian actors and a sustainable solution to this crisis, which requires addressing the integration prospects of the refugees.

As a result of this project, 119 health workers have been trained in victim support and clinical management of rape. Safe referral pathways for GBV survivors were developed at health facilities. The intervention has also led to the implementation of data management systems - previously non-existent - in these health facilities. In addition, the implementation of a gap analysis regarding GBV in the health services resulted in the creation of a work plan for compliance with national standards in each health facility.

MdM also worked at community level to increase knowledge and awareness of GBV and the services provided by volunteers working in the camps and host communities. 1,200 people were educated on GBV through 60 awareness sessions.

## 1 PROJECT

**Donor:** SDC.

**Direct costs:** CHF 118,078

**Partners:** Association for Water and Rural Development (AWARD), Centre de santé et de bien-être familial Upazilla, Health Management in Broader Dimension Foundation (HMBD), Ministry of Women and Children's Affairs, Prantic Unnayan Society, Research and Training Management International (RTMI), Shayestabad Altruism Institute of Nation-Wide Task Bangladesh (Saint Bangladesh).



## 9 PROJECTS

**Donors:** Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI) of the Canadian Embassy, City of Versoix, ENABEL, Global Affairs Canada, Latitude 21, Pierre Pfister Foundation, Plan International, Republic and Canton of Geneva, SDC, Swiss Solidarity, Symphysis Foundation – CHILDREN fund, UNFPA, UNICEF.

**Direct costs:** CHF 1,174,789

**Partners:** Association des Femmes Avocates du Bénin, Centre International pour la Promotion de la Création (CIPCRE), Cinéma numérique ambulant, Conseil National des Artisans du Bénin (CNAB), Institut supérieur des Métiers de l'Audiovisuel (ISMA), Institut des Filles de Marie Auxiliatrice des Sœurs Salésiennes de Don Bosco (IFMA), Le Centre, Beninese Ministries of Health; Social Affairs and Microfinance; Justice; Pre-school and Primary Education; Secondary, Technical and Vocational Training; Interior and their respective decentralized services. Plan International, Terres Rouges, Thakamou Culture Arts, University of Abomey-Calavi.

# BENIN

## Types of actions: Covid-19, PPC, Prevention and care of violence, SRHR

Despite the necessary adaptations related to Covid-19, 2021 was a year of major developments for the projects in Benin. An important chapter in our history also came to a close with the conclusion of the project "Health promotion for children aged 0 to 5 in the slums of Cotonou" (2014-2021). Through this intervention, support was provided to more than 700 families in the form of health and pre-school initiatives. In addition, two school infirmaries built and managed by MdM were taken over by the state during this last phase.

MdM has maintained its commitment to promoting sexual health among young people through its early pregnancy prevention and support project (2019-2021). In 2021, 79 pregnant girls aged between 13 and 17 received holistic medical, psychological, social and legal support. They also received financial support for their educational or professional reintegration. In addition, 3,000 teenagers from four secondary schools in Cotonou were given information on the consequences of unplanned pregnancies.

MdM is the leading organisation involved in the prevention and management of GBV in the country and keeps supporting survivors. Through the four support centres, more than 1,400 survivors of violence have received medical, psychological, social and legal assistance. Following an advocacy campaign, the national police academy asked MdM to develop a training module for police officers aimed at providing better care and support for survivors of GBV. This module will be included in the training programme for future police officers from January 2022. Advocacy for free medical-legal certificates for GBV survivors is ongoing.

Through its intervention, financed by Plan International Benin, which ended in December 2021, MdM was also able to provide training (100 hours) to 30 young paralegals aged between 18 and 24 to enable them to detect cases of human rights violations in the five districts around the Dantokpa market in Cotonou. When the project was completed, 450 children had also been made aware of their rights. The outreach activities of the young paralegals resulted in the referral of 34 cases of child survivors of violence, the identification of security risks for women and girls, and the proposal of 32 initiatives to local councils to make their communities safer.

Lastly, MdM is breaking new ground by also focusing on parenting and positive masculinity. The association's artistic activities have led to a greater involvement of men, community leaders and women in achieving its objectives of promoting health and reducing violence in Benin.





## 6 PROJECTS

**Donors:** The Cantons of Graubünden, Nidwalden, Thurgau. City of Frauenfeld, City of Grand-Saconnex. GIZ, J&K Wonderland Foundation, JYLAG Foundation, La Marie-Maurice Foundation, Medicor Foundation, Migros Aid Fund, Ministry of Health, The Municipalities of Bettingen, Biberist, Bottmingen, Collonge-Bellerive, Goldach, Plan-les-Ouates, Risch, Saanen. Pierre Demareux Foundation, SDC.

**Direct costs:** CHF 1,821,114

**Partners:** Alternative Santé, Association des Cadres Supérieurs de Santé du Noun, Cameroonian Ministries of Public Health; Social Action; Justice; Basic Education; Women's Empowerment and the Family. Délégation Régionale de Santé Publique de l'Ouest, Délégation Régionale de Santé Publique du Nord-Ouest, District de Santé de Fouban, District de Santé de Bamenda, District de Santé de Nkwen, District de Santé de Mbouda, District de Santé de la Mifi, District de Santé de Foubot, Fédération Internationale des Femmes Avocat, Santo Domingo.

# CAMEROON

**Types of actions:** Covid-19, PPC, Prevention and care of violence, SRHR

Médecins du Monde continued its activities to support communities in the North-West and West regions of Cameroon. In 2021, two new listening and counselling units for survivors of gender-based violence were created and 500 people have already been treated there. The operation of these centres is based on MdM's experience in Bamenda, where we have been running a GBV prevention and care project since 2018. The North-West intervention zone, of which Bamenda is the capital, has been heavily affected since 2016 by a socio-political crisis, which has evolved into a confrontation between non-state armed groups and the national military forces. Through this project, MdM has sponsored a listening and counselling unit, trained nursing staff on GBV and raised awareness of the issue. This project is also committed to the education of children from families who have been internally displaced due to the prolonged crisis. More than 3,500 children have benefited from recreational and educational activities.

MdM places particular emphasis on sexual and reproductive health services for the most vulnerable people, including Bororo (a semi-nomadic people in Cameroon) communities and displaced populations, who have little access to healthcare.

Our association is working in the 72 health facilities in the West region to improve access to and the quality of sexual and reproductive health services. Twelve of the 72 health facilities were upgraded in 2021 and 400 health staff were trained. MdM is also supporting a network of volunteer medical specialists in the region and has helped to set up a professional medical consultation service by telephone. In 2021, 607 medical issues were treated remotely by volunteer specialists.

In Yaoundé, our support to two local organisations specialised in paediatric palliative care continued. Volunteers and medical staff were trained and 25 patients and 250 family members received medical, psychological and social follow-up, including at home.

We also continued our support to hospitals and health facilities in the prevention and management of Covid-19.





### 3 PROJECTS

**Donors:** City of Geneva, FEDEVACO, La Marie-Maurice Foundation, SDC, USAID – BHA, UNFPA (CERF).

**Direct costs:** CHF 746,697

**Partners:** ASF Canada, Espoir des Femmes Haïtiennes, ministère à la Condition Féminine et Droits de la Femme, Haitian Ministries of Women's Affairs and Women's Rights; Public Health and Population; National Education and Professional Training. Sourire d'Enfants Haïti, SOVELAVI.





### Types of actions: Covid-19, Prevention and care of violence, SRHR

The political, security and humanitarian crisis in Haiti continues to worsen and reached worrying extremes in 2021. The year was marked by the assassination of the President, a powerful earthquake which caused significant damage in the South and South-West and increasingly intense conflict between armed gangs, leading to a general deterioration of the security situation in Port-au-Prince.

MdM is present in the Port-au-Prince metropolitan area and in the Goave region. In the latter, we are committed to education, as well as the prevention of and response to gender-based violence and the improvement of sexual and reproductive health and rights. In 2021, 1,890 students, 66 teachers and 542 parents were educated on these issues in schools. In addition, more than 165,000 inhabitants of the region received information through training workshops, presentations and radio spots. Meanwhile, more than 41 nursing staff and 87 parents were trained in GBV management and SRHR. 136 survivors of GBV were also treated in a holistic manner with the support of our local partner l'Espoir des Femmes Haïtiennes. Finally, in collaboration with the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training (MENFP in the French acronym), 35 monitoring committees were created in order to establish a charter of good practices for combatting GBV in schools. Once approved and made public, this charter will be deployed nationwide by the Ministry.

In the metropolitan area, which was severely affected by urban violence and the Covid-19 pandemic, MdM provided an emergency response, supporting the Haitian health system in the disadvantaged suburb of Fontamara, following the displacement of the population from the Martissant area of Port-au-Prince due to armed gang violence. As part of this project, two health facilities were supported in their response to the crisis, 80 nursing staff were trained, 31 survivors of GBV were treated and more than 16,000 people were educated on protective measures against Covid-19 and GBV.

In addition, and in order to respond to the needs of the displaced population, MdM set up and supported safe spaces for prevention and care for survivors of violence in the neighbourhoods of Vallée Bourdon, Bas Delmas and Canaan. These spaces have seen 1,707 survivors of violence receiving assistance. At the same time, nearly 4,000 members of the community have been made aware of the issue of GBV and 20 health workers have been trained to provide care. Finally, in order to enable a return to economic autonomy for these displaced persons, 1,911 people benefited from income-generating activity training and 317 people received a cash payment.

Despite the very difficult security situation in Port-au-Prince, which continues to affect access to a large part of the capital, MdM has been able to continue to implement its projects in the metropolitan area, thanks to strong partnerships with local actors in the areas of intervention and a good level of acceptance among the population.



#### 4 PROJECTS

**Donors:** Basque Agency for Development Cooperation, Diputación Foral Gipuzkoa (DFG), FEDEVACO, Swiss Solidarity, SDC.

**Direct costs:** CHF 403,146

**Partners:** Autonomous health system, Bizilur, Centre for the Care of Domestic Violence, CIDECI (University of the earth), Decentralised services in San Cristóbal of the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Equality, Hogar Comunitario Yach'il Antzetik-A.C., Human Rights Ombudswoman de San Cristóbal, Intercultural University of Chiapas, Immediate Attention Module for women in risk situations (MAI), Juntas de Buen Gobierno, Lumaltik, Neighbourhood Assembly La Colonia Maya, Paz y Solidaridad, Public secondary schools of San Cristóbal de las Casas, Support programme for women's organisations in federal departments.

# MEXICO

## Types of actions: Covid-19, Prevention and care of violence, SRHR

In 2021, MdM continued to respond to the Covid-19 pandemic and work on improving GBV prevention and care in the city of San Cristóbal de las Casas in Chiapas.

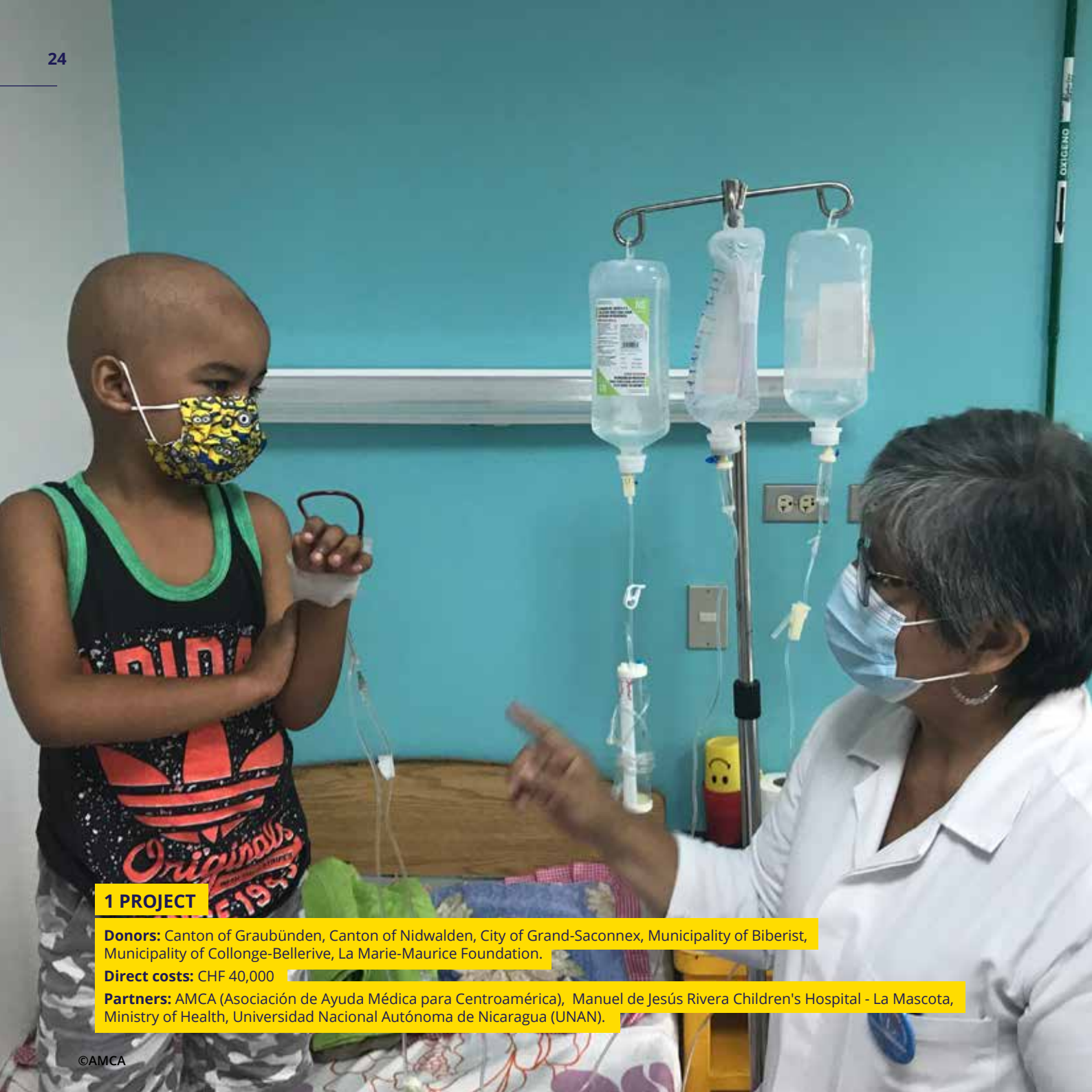
Through a mobile clinic that travelled to 18 neighbourhoods in the city, nearly 815 patients received free medical care and 89 people received psychological care in a safe and confidential space. Awareness-raising activities were also carried out to combat the spread of Covid-19, including the monthly participation of our specialists in local prime-time radio programmes. In terms of mental health, in addition to short-term therapy, longer-term psychotherapy programmes were provided to treat depression, anxiety, suicidal thoughts and psychiatric disorders.

As part of the violence prevention project, we provided awareness-raising on GBV and SRHR to more than 1,300 students in two secondary schools, with a particular focus on identifying and dealing with situations of violence and bullying. In addition, a charter of good practices for preventing and dealing with violence in schools was drawn up with the participation of all members of staff.

Furthermore, in collaboration with the local community, various artistic workshops dealing with GBV were held, raising awareness among 170 people. In parallel, activities around the topic of positive and non-violent masculinity were held with men in three districts of the city.

Finally, 80% of the staff of the Women's Hospital were trained in the dignified treatment and protocol for the management of GBV survivors. The high level of satisfaction among the hospital's patients as well as that of the staff has resulted in the Ministry of Health looking to replicate MdM's methodology in other hospitals in the state and to set up direct collaborations for the training of its staff. A survey on the needs and priorities of women in San Cristóbal in relation to SRHR and GBV was also launched, with the aim of enhancing the strategy and services of our partner, the Yach'il Antzetik community shelter, which provides support to women with unwanted pregnancies.

The year 2021 also marks the end of the Lumaltik project, which strengthened the capacities of indigenous women in the autonomous health system of the Tzotz Choj region of Chiapas. A large number of community health workers were trained under this project. Finally, MdM is winding up its support to CIDECI, through which we have facilitated the consolidation of the study system.



## 1 PROJECT

**Donors:** Canton of Graubünden, Canton of Nidwalden, City of Grand-Saconnex, Municipality of Biberist, Municipality of Collonge-Bellerive, La Marie-Maurice Foundation.

**Direct costs:** CHF 40,000

**Partners:** AMCA (Asociación de Ayuda Médica para Centroamérica), Manuel de Jesús Rivera Children's Hospital - La Mascota, Ministry of Health, Universidad Nacional Autónoma de Nicaragua (UNAN).



# NICARAGUA

## Type of actions: PPC

Despite small signs of economic recovery, Nicaragua - the second poorest country in Latin America - remains deeply affected by extreme political and social polarisation.

In 2021, between August and October, the country also faced a sharp increase in Covid-19 cases due to the Delta variant. However, the health system was able to treat patients and vaccination helped to reduce the infection rate.

Collaboration with our local partner AMCA resulted in 638 children with non-curable conditions being treated and monitored. This figure, which represents a significant increase compared to previous years (2018-2021), reflects the acceptance and expansion of the application of paediatric palliative care and an increased capacity of the health system to provide care even in patients' homes. Three single rooms dedicated to palliative care have also been upgraded and 120 health specialists have been trained in palliative care.

Work was also done to increase knowledge and awareness among the Swiss public of the importance of palliative care, particularly in countries in the Global South, through the publication of specialist articles.



#### 4 PROJECTS

**Donors:** City of Zürich, ECHO, Latitude 21, SDC, Swiss Solidarity, Wallonie Bruxelles International.

**Direct costs:** CHF 1,108,922

**Partners:** AISHA (Association for Woman and Child Protection/Gaza), Ministry of Health, Palestinian Counselling Center (PCC), SAWA and a network of 24 community-based organisations in the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem.



# PALESTINE

## Types of actions: Covid-19, Mental health

Médecins du Monde continues to work closely with the Ministry of Health and key local partners to improve the mental health and increase the resilience of the most vulnerable communities in East Jerusalem, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. The context is characterised by more than 70 years of Israeli military occupation and loss of Palestinian land, daily human rights abuses, internal Palestinian political divisions and increasing incidents of violence between Palestinians, Israeli settlers or the Israeli military. In addition, the negative impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on the welfare of the population and the economy of the Occupied Palestinian Territory is still being felt.

In 2021, our teams worked on promoting well-being, improving the quality of mental health services, and responding to the Covid-19 pandemic and the crisis after the escalation of hostilities in Gaza in May 2021. After identifying needs in coordination with humanitarian actors on the ground, we strengthened the capacity of the Ministry of Health. We focused on training health workers in suicide prevention, patient management and the referral of severe cases requiring psychosocial and mental health support to appropriate health facilities, as well as the identification and management of Covid-19 cases. Nursing staff were also trained in individual coping mechanisms for difficult situations. In 2021, a total of 856 health workers, including those working on the front line of emergency response, were trained. Awareness-raising activities on the subject of explosive remnants of war and resilience were also carried out by MdM staff with 6,000 children and adults, including caregivers. In addition, MdM organised donations of essential medicines and medical equipment and supported the Ministry of Health's prevention campaigns against Covid-19. 625 dignity kits were also provided to support internally displaced persons.

Our main local partners who provide health services to the most vulnerable populations were also trained (183 people, mainly women) according to the specific needs of each organisation. In addition, with the support of PCC, mental health care was provided to 1,060 people (40% women) in Bethlehem, Hebron and East Jerusalem. Finally, SAWA conducted 22,725 telephone consultations with 13,398 callers from the West Bank and Gaza, while AISHA conducted 6,929 consultations in the Gaza Strip.

# DRC

## Type of actions: PPC

In collaboration with the local organisation Pallia Familli, MdM is working in three areas (Mont-Ngafula, Lemba and N'djili) of the capital Kinshasa to improve the quality of and access to paediatric palliative care. In total, 128 patients were treated and 1,875 consultations were carried out. As part of efforts to support health institutions in improving the skills of health workers in palliative care, two new health institutions - the paediatric hospital in Kalembelembe and the Saint-Luc general referral hospital in Kisantu - were provided with training in 2021. In addition, three university clinics and the general referral hospital in N'djili have been provided with ongoing support in the form of medical equipment.

With the aim of improving palliative care skills among healthcare staff, three training sessions and a seminar were organised in 2021, with a total of 137 participants. Furthermore, four caregivers who are members of the Pallia Familli network, two of whom are directly supported by MdM, have completed their long-term training in palliative care at the Catholic University of Louvain.

In collaboration with teachers from the Institut Supérieur des Techniques Médicales in Kinshasa, the second-year training module in paediatric palliative care was designed and the first-year module was improved. Nearly 512 students have received this training. Books on palliative care in the library, supported by MdM, were consulted by almost 500 people.

Finally, efforts to disseminate the national palliative care guidelines have continued and a monitoring committee for the national plan has been established. Advocacy work has also continued, with the aim of getting palliative care and access to opiates for pain management included in national health plans.

## 1 PROJECT

**Donors:** The Cantons of Graubünden, Nidwalden, Thurgau. City of Frauenfeld, City of Grand-Saconnex, The Municipalities of Biberist, Collonge-Bellerive, Goldach, Plan-les-Ouates, Saanen. La Marie-Maurice Foundation, SDC.

**Direct costs:** CHF 72,903

**Partners:** Catholic University of Louvain (UCL), CUK Hospital, Kalembelembe pediatric Hospital, Institut Supérieur des Techniques Médicales (ISTM) of Kinshasa, Ministry of Health, Ndjili Hospital, Pallia Familli, Saint Joseph Hospital, Saint-Luc de Kisantu Hospital.

# ZIMBABWE

**Types of actions:** Mental health, Prevention and care of violence, SRHR

MdM became involved in Zimbabwe, in the Chimanimani district of Manicaland province, after Cyclone Idai hit in 2019, devastating the region and increasing the already significant needs in terms of mental health, SRHR and support for survivors of gender-based violence. Since 2020, MdM has been working closely with the communities, in partnership with the local association TSURO Trust. We provide training to community leaders and nursing staff in four health facilities to facilitate the identification and referral of survivors of GBV or people in need of SRHR and mental health care. We have also refurbished and re-equipped three health facilities.

Our teams successfully supported communities in the creation of the first referral system for GBV survivors, which benefited 124 people between 2020 and 2021. In addition to providing a better outreach service for the district's vulnerable populations, our intervention has significantly increased the confidence of community members in the structures and nursing staff and increased their attendance rate. In 2021, more than 2,100 pregnant women received follow-up care in the four health facilities supported, compared to only 430 in 2019.



## 1 PROJECT

**Donors:** SDC, Swiss Solidarity.

**Direct costs:** CHF 221,780

**Partner:** TSURO Trust.

# ADVOCACY

## TOGETHER, LET'S ENSURE THE RIGHT TO HEALTH FOR ALL

MdM Switzerland bases its work on an analysis of the determinants of health in each context. In Switzerland and internationally, our advocacy is based on our results, the impact of implementation and the expertise developed in conjunction with our partners and the MdM network. Here is a look back at some of our advocacy activities:

### **Feminism Asylum**

MdM is a signatory of the Feminism Asylum petition and advocates for the rights of survivors of violence. Launched simultaneously across Europe, the petition is addressed to the European Union and the Schengen member states. In particular, it calls for the right to international protection to be guaranteed through the effective recognition of any specific asylum grounds for women, girls and LGBTIQ+ people.

### **16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence**

The 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence is an annual international campaign that begins on the 25th of November and ends on the 10th of December, Human Rights Day. For MdM, this commitment on the ground is reflected throughout the year, in our programmes, in our commitment to the defence of sexual and reproductive rights and in our fight against inequality and injustice, which are obstacles to the exercise of the right to health.

### **Intellectual property and public health**

On the 30th of November 2021, MdM campaigned for the waiver of intellectual property rights on Covid vaccines (TRIPS waiver), tests and treatments. Access to health is a responsibility that cannot be subject to the rationale of maximising profits. In Geneva, the street protest took place despite the fact that the WTO ministerial conference was cancelled due to the Omicron variant.

### **COP-26**

The MdM network was present at COP-26 in November in Glasgow where health was on the agenda of the conference for the first time. In its role as an individual observer organisation, MdM organised several events and presented various position statements. These included: the MdM network declaration; the presentation of the network strategy at the WHO pavilion; participation in the march for climate justice in Glasgow as well as at the Global Conference on Health and Climate Change.

### **Generation Equality Forum**

The Generation Equality Forum took place in Paris from the 30th of June to the 2nd of July 2021. The Forum launched a five-year action plan for making irreversible progress on gender equality based on a series of concrete, ambitious and transformative actions. The MdM network co-organised an official event at the summit: "Defending our feminism: our bodies, our genders, our choices".



# CAMPAIGN

## ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE, A PODCAST BY MÉDECINS DU MONDE SWITZERLAND

As part of its campaign around the project to strengthen access to healthcare for homeless people, Médecins du Monde launched a 5-episode podcast. Produced by Elisa Migliarini from inside the shelter facilities, it gives a voice to the project's beneficiaries and staff.

The podcast is available on all the usual listening platforms (Apple Podcast, Deezer, Google Podcast, Spotify, etc.).

The illustrations were done by Quentin Pauchard.



To listen to  
the podcast,  
scan the QR code.



# ASSOCIATION

## THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly is the most senior body in the organisational structure of Médecins du Monde Switzerland. It has the ultimate authority to make decisions and is the only body authorised to amend the association's articles of association. It meets once a year.

## THE COMMITTEE

The committee is elected by the general assembly as the executive body. It meets on its own initiative and elects the President, the Vice-President, the Treasurer and the Secretary General. The committee meets about ten times a year, including for one or two sessions of strategic reflection.

## THE OPERATIONAL UNIT

The operational unit is the management body of the association and is based at the headquarters in Neuchâtel. It also has an office in Geneva.

## THE MANAGEMENT

Jean Michel Jordan (until September 2021) / Morgane Rousseau (from September 2021).

## THE COMMITTEE ELECTED AT THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY ON THE 3RD OF NOVEMBER 2021

- President** ..... **Dr Dominik SCHMID** / Specialist in gynaecology and obstetrics
- Co-vice-presidente**... **Dre Cécile BASSI** / Specialist in internal medicine and tropical medicine
- Co-vice-president**... **M. John ORLANDO** / Social worker HES (Swiss university of applied sciences), specialist in international cooperation and humanitarian aid
- Secretary General**... **M. Antoine KERNEN** / Teacher-researcher at the Faculty of Social Sciences and politics of the University of Lausanne
- Treasurer** ..... **Mme Françoise JEANNERET** / Lawyer, private curator
- Members** ..... **Dre Cécile CHOUDJA OUABO** / Doctor, paediatrician FMH / paediatric haemato-oncologist  
**Pr Nago HUMBERT** / Specialist in medical psychology and paediatric palliative care  
**Dr Michel HUNKELER** / SSpecialist in rheumatology, physical medicine and rehabilitation  
**Dre Frédérique JACQUÉRIOZ BAUSCH** / Specialist in tropical medicine  
**M. Alexandre KAMAROTOS** / Executive Director of Defence for Children International  
**Mme Nicole NIEDERBERGER** / Public health nurse



# PARTNERSHIPS

## MÉDECINS DU MONDE SWITZERLAND IS A MEMBER OF

### **Médecins du Monde Network**

Médecins du Monde's international network consists of 17 independent organisations around the world (Argentina, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States).

United by a common Charter, each delegation has as its mission to provide care and bear witness.

### **Gender Equality & Health Alliance**

The Gender Equality and Health Alliance is composed of three Swiss non-governmental organisations: IAMANEH Switzerland, Médecins du Monde Switzerland and Women's Hope International.

The alliance proposes a joint programme to the SDC for the years 2021-2024. The collaboration encompasses programme-related aspects with joint projects, complementarity in fundraising activities, advocacy campaigns, and the sharing of experiences and methodological tools.

### **Cinfo network**

**Club suisse de la presse - Geneva Press Club**

**FEDEVACO - Vaud Cooperation Federation**

**Latitude 21 - Neuchâtel Development Cooperation Federation**

**Le Courrier**

**Medicus Mundi Switzerland**

**National Platform for Undocumented Migrant Healthcare**

# MESSAGE FROM THE TREASURER



After a complicated year in 2020 in terms of monitoring the financial and accounting management of the Association - difficulties which led to a significant delay in the closing of the accounts - the backlog was cleared and the 2021 accounts were closed on time. This challenge was met thanks to the extraordinary commitment of the staff in the finance and accounting departments (both at headquarters and in the field), and I would like to thank them sincerely.

The 2021 accounts close with a break-even result, with income of more than 7.9 million Swiss francs (CHF), a very slight increase compared to 2020. The balance sheet total is down by more than CHF 890,000.00 (-16%) to CHF 4.569 million compared to 2020. This is mainly due to a change in accounting policy: in the past, multi-year donor contracts were booked when they were signed, with income from future years being added to the funds allocated to the various projects. From 2021 onwards, income will only be booked for the year in question, resulting in a decrease of more than CHF 1.3 million in project funds to around CHF 2 million (2020: CHF 3.3 million). The free capital increased by more than CHF 530,000.00 to almost CHF 2 million, mainly in the general reserve, which increased to almost CHF 1.6 million. This reserve can be used in the future for the development of the Association. The growth in equity thus strengthens the financial stability of Médecins du Monde Switzerland and increases its capacity to commit to new projects.

The total income of CHF 7.9 million is close to that of the previous year, despite the change in the accounting method. However, this change does not allow for a comparison of the source of income from one year to the next. For 2021, private contributions amount to CHF 3.4 million, with funding from Swiss Solidarity accounting for more than a third. Public funding accounts for the largest share of the association's resources (56%) and the federal government's share accounts for almost half.

In terms of expenditure, projects account for 86.7% and involve twelve countries. These direct project expenses increased sharply between 2020 and 2021 from CHF 6 million to CHF 8.6 million (143%). The Association's growth in 2021 was therefore mainly due to an increase in the volume of activities in the various fields of intervention. The most extensive programmes are in Cameroon, Benin and Palestine. Activities in Switzerland represent 8% of project expenditure. Finally, the costs of the Association's headquarters - CHF 1.1 million - have increased by 13%, and this increase is explained by the support needed to develop activities.

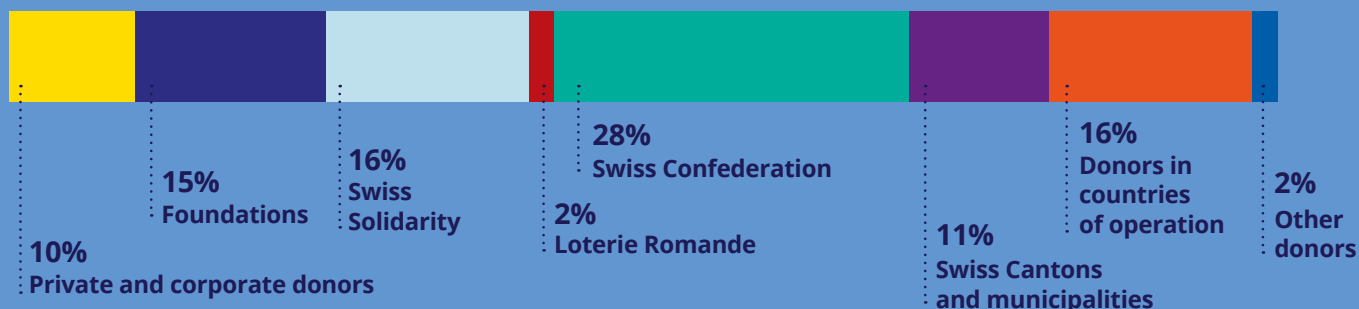
The notes to the accounts provide a detailed outline of all activities and funding.

In conclusion, from a financial point of view, activities in 2021 are in keeping with the previous year, which saw significant development. The increase in equity allows us to look to the future with a certain degree of financial confidence and the reorganisation of the support department will also contribute to this confidence.

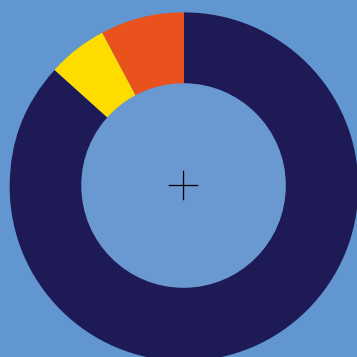
**Françoise JEANNERET**

# SOURCE AND ALLOCATION OF FUNDS

## SOURCE OF FUNDS

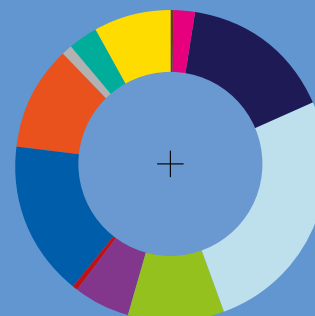


## ALLOCATION OF FUNDS



- 86.7% Projects
- 5.6% Administration
- 7.7% Communications & fundraising

## BREAKDOWN



- 0.5% South Africa
- 2% Bangladesh
- 16% Benin
- 26% Cameroon
- 10% Haïti
- 6% Mexico
- 0.5% Nicaragua
- 16% Palestine
- 11% Médecins du Monde Network projects
- 1% DRC
- 3% Zimbabwe
- 8% Switzerland

# BALANCE SHEET & OPERATION ACCOUNT

## Balance sheet

IN SWISS FRANCS	Annex	31/12/2021	31/12/2020
<b>ASSETS</b>	<b>3.1.</b>		
Total liquid assets		1,888,671.00	809,610.15
Total receivables		1,683,448.39	3,644,393.05
Total accrued assets		30,566.80	52,194.56
Current assets		3,602,686.19	4,506,197.76
Total financial assets	3.1.6.	1,073,845.55	956,200.74
Total tangible fixed assets	3.1.7.	3.00	3.00
Fixed assets		1,073,848.55	956,203.74
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>4,676,534.74</b>	<b>5,462,401.50</b>

<b>LIABILITIES</b>	<b>3.2.</b>		
Creditors	3.2.1.	232,214.51	404,343.41
Total accrued liabilities		400,996.65	206,433.92
Short-term foreign capital		633,211.16	610,777.33
Capital of the restricted funds	3.2.4.	1,999,810.08	3,302,779.92
Capital of the free funds allocated by the committee		1,829,571.04	1,334,901.79
Free capital		213,942.46	213,942.46
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>		<b>4,676,534.74</b>	<b>5,462,401.50</b>

This overview is a summary of the annual accounts audited by the auditing firm Leitenberg & Associés SA. The detailed annual accounts are available on our website: [www.medecinsdumonde.ch](http://www.medecinsdumonde.ch)

## Operating account

IN SWISS FRANCS	Annexe	2021	2020
<b>INCOME</b>			
Private and corporate donors		831,173.78	446,403.22
Foundations (excluding Swiss Solidarity)		1,188,442.25	942,858.00
Swiss Solidarity		1,282,236.04	233,573.00
Loterie Romande		120,000.00	-
<b>PRIVATE</b>	<b>3.3.1.</b>	<b>3,421,852.07</b>	<b>1,622,834.22</b>
Swiss Confederation		2,261,000.00	4,216,095.77
Cantons		474,534.65	320,143.76
Cantonal federations		328,522.00	292,450.00
Municipalities		96,500.00	87,900.00
Other donors		123,140.42	192,508.15
Donors in countries of operation		1,249,040.64	1,127,321.76
<b>PUBLIC</b>	<b>3.3.2.</b>	<b>4,532,737.71</b>	<b>6,236,419.44</b>
<b>Overall total of funding and grants</b>		<b>7,954,589.78</b>	<b>7,859,253.66</b>
Other income	3.3.3.	10,571.75	10,916.45
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>3.3.</b>	<b>7,965,161.53</b>	<b>7,870,170.11</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
<b>Total direct project costs</b>	<b>3.4.1.</b>	<b>-7,122,085.00</b>	<b>-4,519,493.57</b>
<b>Project support costs</b>	<b>3.4.2.</b>	<b>-413,891.50</b>	<b>-521,016.83</b>
Administration costs	3.4.3.	-487,945.44	-384,717.45
Fundraising & communications costs	3.4.4.	-667,550.84	-634,444.02
<b>Headquarters costs</b>		<b>-1,155,496.28</b>	<b>-1,019,161.47</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>3.4.</b>	<b>-8,691,472.78</b>	<b>-6,059,671.87</b>
<b>INTERMEDIATE RESULT 1</b>		<b>-726,311.25</b>	<b>1,810,498.24</b>
Financial charges and exchange losses		-206,220.76	-88,524.19
Financial income and exchange gains		192,976.15	59,088.54
<b>FINANCIAL RESULT</b>	<b>3.4.5.</b>	<b>-13,244.61</b>	<b>-29,435.65</b>
Extraordinary expenses		-43,667.09	-89,396.38
Extraordinary income		6,629.49	31,537.85
<b>EXTRAORDINARY RESULT</b>	<b>3.4.6.</b>	<b>-37,037.60</b>	<b>-57,858.53</b>
<b>INTERMEDIATE RESULT 2</b>		<b>-776,593.46</b>	<b>1,723,204.06</b>
Use of funds		8,395,451.22	5,932,115.10
Allocation of funds		-7,124,188.51	-7,412,850.44
<b>CHANGE IN DONOR FUNDS</b>	<b>3.4.7.</b>	<b>1,271,262.71</b>	<b>-1,480,735.34</b>
<b>ANNUAL RESULT 1</b>		<b>494,669.25</b>	<b>242,468.72</b>
Allocation to the securities reserve fund		-24,569.20	-2,696.93
Allocation to the general reserve fund		-470,100.05	-239,771.79
<b>CHANGE IN RESERVES DECIDED BY THE COMMITTEE</b>	<b>3.4.8.</b>	<b>-494,669.25</b>	<b>-242,468.72</b>
<b>ANNUAL RESULT 2</b>		<b>0.00</b>	<b>0.00</b>

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the **4,069 private donors** who supported our activities in 2021. Médecins du Monde Switzerland is pleased to welcome **1,387 new donors** this year. We would also like to thank the following institutions and organisations for their contributions:

## INSTITUTIONAL FUNDERS

Basque Agency for Development Cooperation (AVCD), Belgian Development Agency (ENABEL), Canadian Fund for Local Initiatives (CFLI) of the Canadian Embassy, Diputació Foral Gipuzkoa (DFG), European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO), German International Cooperation (GIZ), Global Affairs Canada, Swiss Solidarity, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United States Agency for International Development (USAID-BHA), Federal Office of Public Health (FOPH), Plan International, Wallonie-Bruxelles International (WBI).

## FEDERATIONS

Neuchâtel Development Cooperation Federation - Latitude 21, Vaud Cooperation Federation - FEDEVACO.

## CANTONS, MUNICIPALITIES AND CITIES

Canton of Graubünden, Canton of Nidwalden, Canton of Thurgau, City of Frauenfeld, City of Geneva, City of Neuchâtel, City of Renens, City of Vevey, City of Zurich, City of Grand-Saconnex, City of Le Locle, City of Versoix, Municipality of Avenches, Municipality of Epalinges, Municipality of Oron, Municipality of Bettingen, Municipality of Biberist, Municipality of Bottmingen, Municipality of Bougy-Villars, Municipality of Bourg-en-Lavaux, Municipality of Bussigny, Municipality of Collonge-Bellerive, Municipality of Goldach, Municipality of Plan-les-Ouates, Municipality of Saanen, Municipality of Vandoeuvres, Municipality of Vich, Municipality of Mont-sur-Lausanne, Republic and Canton of Geneva (ISS), Republic and Canton of Neuchâtel.

## FOUNDATIONS

Franmar Foundation, Jane Stale-Erzinger Foundation, Jylag Foundation, J&K Wonderland Foundation, La Marie-Maurice Foundation, Loterie Romande - Neuchâtel Distribution Commission, Medicor Foundation, Migros Aid Fund, Pierre Demaurex Foundation, Pierre Pfister Foundation, Sandoz Family Philanthropic Foundation, Symphasis Foundation - CHILDREN Fund, UEFA Children's Foundation.

## SERVICE CLUBS

Rotary Club Neuchâtel

**A BIG THANK YOU for the time and support to:**  
**Pierre-William Henry, photographer,**  
**all the volunteer doctors and our partner pharmacies as well**  
**as the association's members and volunteers.**



# IMPRESSUM

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© Pierre-William Henry

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