



Save the Children

ANNUAL REPORT 2018

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**To protect the children and families in our programmes, the names of the people portrayed have been changed.*

FOREWORD



Sven Hoffmann
Board President of
Save the Children Switzerland



Ömer Güven
CEO of Save the Children
Switzerland

For children: In Switzerland and around the world.

2018 was a challenging year for children and for our organisation. The beginning of the year brought a stark reminder of the dangerous environment in which we perform our work for children. The armed attack on our office in Afghanistan was a terrible shock for the humanitarian sector. Four of our Save the Children colleagues lost their lives in this tragedy. The office in Afghanistan was temporarily closed, but our staff on the ground continued their work for children in Afghanistan.

The topic of “children in conflict areas” accompanied us throughout the year. After all, almost one in five children is currently growing up in a conflict area. These include Rohingya children in Bangladesh, where the approaching spring monsoon threatened to flood refugee camps accommodating more than 800 000 children and families. Thanks to the solidarity of our donors, we were able to provide fast and sustainable assistance in this emergency and to protect children from possible catastrophe (see page 23).

In Switzerland, we also supported children who are from conflict regions. We successfully completed our pilot project of child- and youth-friendly spaces in asylum accommodation and transition centres in Switzerland and handed over responsibility for these to the organisations managing the centres. Through our work, we were able to present our concerns at the federal level and reached more than 1000 children with daily supervised play and study activities. We assisted these refugee children in processing their trauma, thereby facilitating their integration into society in our country and avoiding additional follow-up costs (see page 29).

From a financial point of view, we recorded revenues of CHF 23.3 million. This is less than in the previous year

but continues the positive trend of donation income in recent years. These revenues were used in projects in 36 countries around the world. The funds went towards disaster relief (36%), health (21%), education (19%), child protection (15%), Disaster Risk Reduction (8%) and Advocacy (1%).

We were also able to lay the foundation for a promising partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC). Save the Children has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the ICRC under which we will work together to educate children in humanitarian crisis regions over the coming years.

However, all these achievements and work for children would not be possible without the support of our donors. Thanks to them, numerous children in Switzerland and around the world can be healthy, attend school and be protected. Thank you for continuing to stand by our side in the future as we approach the centenary of Save the Children.

Sven Hoffmann
Board President of Save the Children Switzerland

Ömer Güven
CEO of Save the Children Switzerland

AMBITION FOR CHILDREN

Our vision is a world where every child survives, learns and is protected. To realise this vision, Save the Children aims to achieve three milestones for children by 2030:



SURVIVE

No child under five **dies** of avoidable causes.



LEARN

Every child benefits from high-quality primary **education**.



BE PROTECTED

Violence against children is **not tolerated**.

We define milestones as noticeable, sustainable and positive changes to the current situation, which we are working on making together with others.

WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

For the most deprived and marginalised children

When working towards our ambitions, we focus on targeting the most deprived and marginalised children around the world: the children who have not been able to benefit from recent social and economic improvements.

We work both in the humanitarian context (emergency and disaster relief) and in long-term development partnerships to make sustainable progress towards our three milestones. Our work is divided into six key areas:



Education



Health and nutrition



Child protection



Emergency aid and disaster relief (humanitarian aid)



Advocacy



Disaster Risk Reduction

VISION, MISSION, VALUES

VISION

A world where every child survives, learns and is protected.

MISSION

We want to create positive change in the lives of children – especially the most deprived – now and in the future.

VALUES

Our organisation is built on the following values:

Responsible

We strive for the highest standards of honesty and personal conduct. We never jeopardise our reputation and always act in the best interests of children.

Committed and efficient

We demand the best of ourselves and our colleagues, set ourselves high goals and commit to increasing the quality of everything we do for children.

Creative

We are open to new ideas, welcome change and take calculated risks to develop sustainable solutions for and with children.

Cooperative

We respect and value each other, grow in our diversity and, through our global strength, work together with our partners to make a crucial difference to children.

Measurable

We take personal responsibility for ensuring that our resources are used efficiently and that we achieve measurable results that can be verified for partners, donors and children.

“HUMANITY OWES THE CHILD THE BEST IT HAS TO GIVE.”

EGLANTYNE JEBB,
FOUNDER OF SAVE THE CHILDREN

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

February –

Report on the war against children

One in six children around the world grows up amid conflict and war. This was the subject of our report on the war against children, published in February. **357 million children are affected.** This figure represents an **increase of 75%** since the early 1990s. We are calling for children to be better protected in conflict situations.

March –

Syria: Seven years of war

Syria's four de-escalation zones represent areas that are not to be attacked. Save the Children pointed out in its report that this is not the case. In the Syrian conflict, the number of displaced people has never been so high; **the number of civilian victims has risen by 45%**, and even schools have come under attack. Save the Children is continuing to call for access to crisis areas for aid agencies and an immediate end to violations of children's rights.

March – Yemen moves into the public eye

In March, Save the Children appealed for urgent help on behalf of all the children of Yemen. The situation in Yemen is disastrous and the longer the war lasts, the more children are dying. The situation has still not improved – **more than 22 million people need humanitarian aid** – and there is great desperation among the Yemeni population.

April – Monsoon in the Rohingya refugee camps

This spring, Save the Children campaigned strongly for Rohingya refugees in the refugee camps in Cox's Bazar because, as well as their expulsion, the arrival of the monsoon threatened another disaster: flooding, overflowing latrines, separation of families and desolate hygiene conditions. Thanks to the support of Swiss Solidarity, Save the Children was able to prepare for this, **distributing protection packages and giving identification bracelets to children, enabling the worst outcomes to be averted.**

October – Earthquake in Indonesia

In October, a severe earthquake struck the Indonesian island of Sulawesi, triggering a tsunami. **More than 2,200 people lost their lives**, hundreds of thousands had to be accommodated in shelters, and children were separated from their families. Save the Children was on site just 72 hours after the earthquake and was able to provide much-needed assistance.

November – Protection for children in Swiss asylum centres

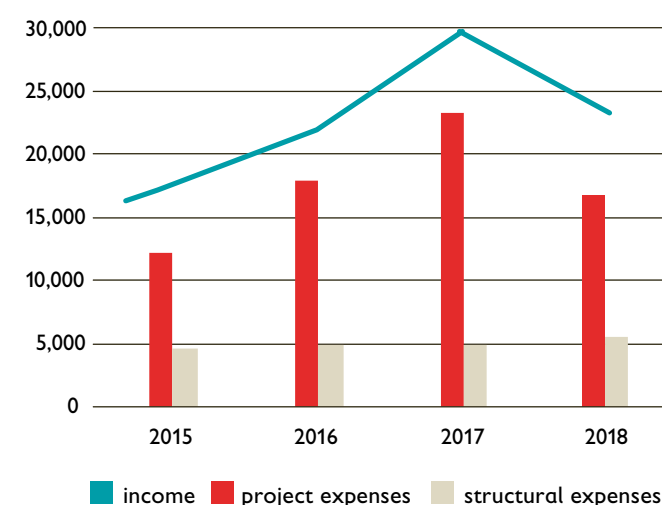
To mark Children's Day, Save the Children called on the authorities to consider implementing child-friendly structures in asylum centres. We were able to pass on directly the experience gained through Save the Children's recently completed three-year pilot project. **Over 1,000 children were reached** during the pilot programme. They were given child-friendly support for their development and reliable processes to combat the uncertainty in their everyday life.

FIGURES FOR 2018

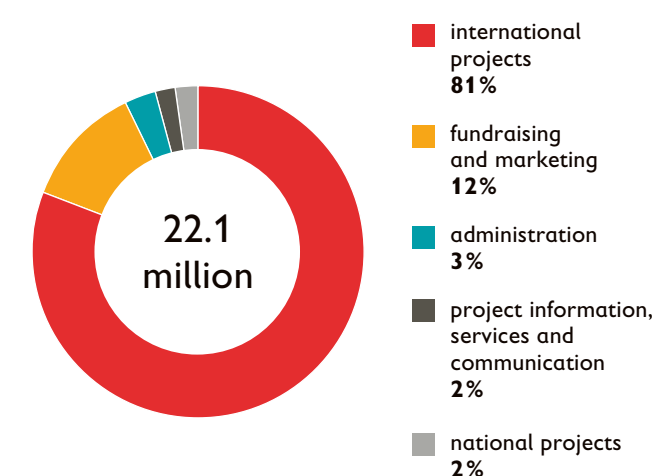
Figures for 2018 (in CHF thousand)

	2018	2017	Changes (in %)
Income	23,354	29,609	–21 %
Project expenditure	–16,743	–23,329	–28 %
Structural expenditure	–5,308	–4,970	7 %
Financial expenditure	–41	62	–166 %
Result before fund and capital adjustment	1,262	1,371	–8 %
Adjustment of earmarked funds	–281	–4,191	–93 %
Annual result	981	–2,820	–135 %
Adjustment of committed capital	–	1,750	–100 %
Result after fund and capital adjustment	981	–1,070	–192 %
Organisational capital	36	–945	–104 %

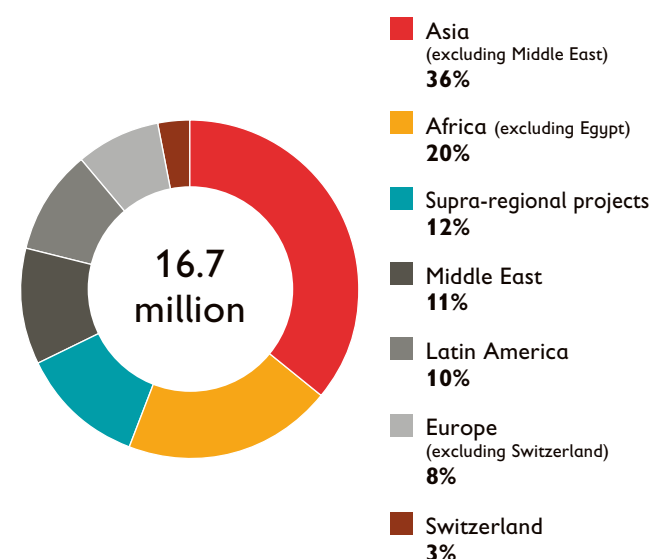
Project and structural costs (in CHF thousand)



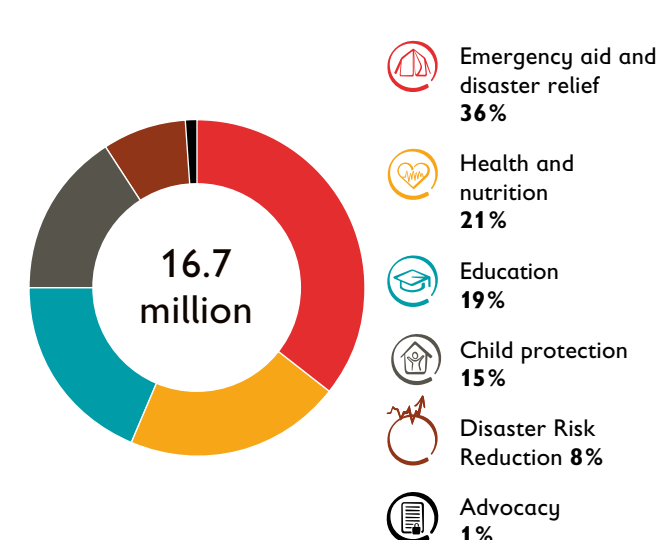
Use of funds in 2018



Project expenditures by region



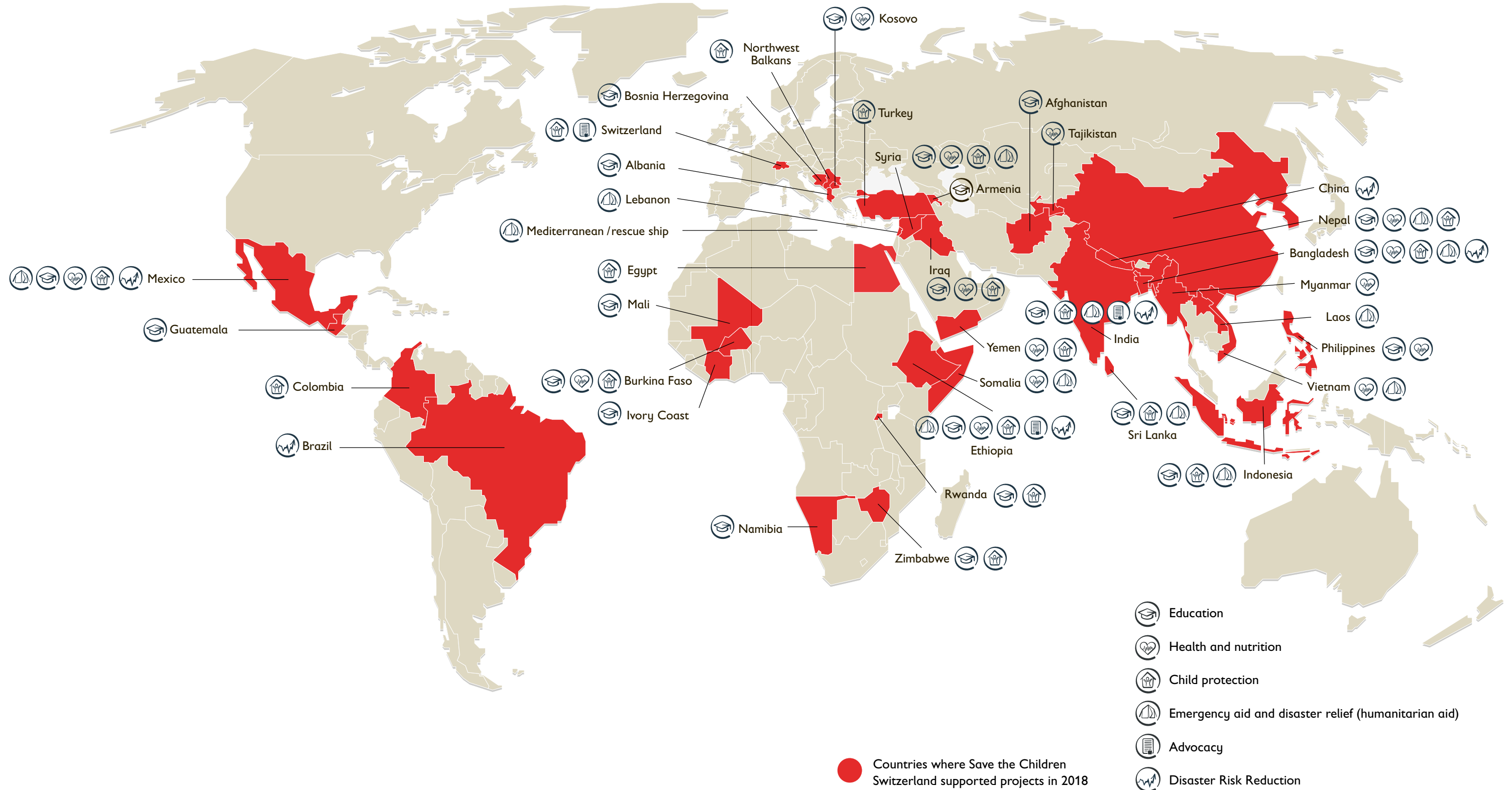
Project expenditures by focus



PROGRAMME WORK 2018

Save the Children Switzerland supported projects in 36 countries in 2018. We work both in the humanitarian context and in long-term development partnerships, focusing on education, health and nutrition, child

protection, emergency and disaster relief (humanitarian aid), disaster prevention and children's rights.



Ethiopia: Early childhood education

BACKGROUND

With over 900,000 registered refugees, Ethiopia has taken in the second-largest number of refugees in Africa. The Gambela region – where our educational project is being implemented – is located in the west of the country and has taken in the most refugees. However, the region is one of the least developed areas in the country. The impact of refugee flows has affected the quality of both primary and early childhood education in Gambela.

WE HAVE REACHED
4,500
Children
WITH OUR PROJECT.

OUR PROJECT

The project is divided into two phases: in the first phase of the project, from May 2017 to June 2018, our focus was on improving the quality of early childhood education in our special centres in three refugee camps (Tierkidi, Jewi and Pugnido). We also helped local authorities to develop special training courses for teachers of children under the age of five, and translated these into local dialects.

In the second phase of the project, which began in 2018, our work has focused on enabling children to access these educational services. This includes children from the refugee camps and from the surrounding host communities. The project is piloting two accelerated early childhood education programmes. With these methods, we are able to reach children who would otherwise be completely excluded from preschool education. We provide them with access to education and take an innovative approach that can serve as an example for early childhood education in emergencies in the future.

CHILDREN ATTEND THEIR SCHOOL FOR EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION IN THE JEWI REFUGEE CAMP.

Ivory Coast: Literacy Boost and Numeracy Boost

The Save
the Children
initiative will be
part of teacher
training in the
future.

BACKGROUND

The quality of education in the Ivory Coast remains a major problem. Studies show that even after completing primary school, on average 52% of students have insufficient reading skills and 73% have insufficient maths skills. This means that, even after six years of elementary school, a large majority of students still have great difficulty reading and counting.

Literacy Boost and Numeracy Boost are initiatives developed by Save the Children to improve the reading and maths skills of primary school students. Learning is supported in classrooms and in communities (e.g. in reading clubs or by learning with classmates) with child-friendly and interactive activities. Teachers also gain a better understanding of how children learn to read, write and do arithmetic.

OUR PROJECT

Following the positive results in several other countries, in 2015 we launched the Literacy Boost and Numeracy Boost initiatives in our projects in the Ivory Coast. The aim was to address weaknesses in reading and maths. After completing a successful pilot project in two rural communities, the national Ministry of Education decided to extend this initiative more broadly. In future the Literacy and Numeracy Boost initiative will be part of the training of primary school teachers. To enable this, Save the Children trained ten teachers who are responsible for national training, and developed textbooks for them to use.



Videos about the project:
savethechildren.ch/literacyboost

PRIMARY SCHOOL TEACHERS RECEIVE SPECIAL TRAINING TO IMPROVE THE READING AND MATHS SKILLS OF SCHOOLCHILDREN.

Health for mothers and their children



A MOTHER AND HER CHILD IN A SAVE THE CHILDREN HEALTH PROJECT IN MALAWI.

We have reached around **75,000 children** with this pilot project – and we hope to expand it further.

In our health projects, we offer maternal and child-care, neonatal care, and general health and nutrition programmes at both global and national levels.

We work on an interdisciplinary basis to prevent illness, malnutrition, and maternal and neonatal deaths. Our goal is that no child under five dies of avoidable causes. In order to meet the many challenges that we face, we incorporate healthcare principles, innovative approaches and practice-based projects. In this way, we ensure that we can provide the most efficient implementation of our projects and have the widest possible positive effect on the population.

Innovative approach in the fight against malaria – in Malawi

In Malawi, malaria is found in 95% of the country and, as one of the most common causes of disease and death in all age groups, is one of the biggest health problems for the population. The goal of our innovative pilot project is to treat as quickly as possible schoolchildren in remote regions who are showing signs of illness, and to ensure that schoolchildren diagnosed with malaria at school have access to medical care within 24 hours. This approach is based on the World Bank's recommendation to develop approaches to enable teaching staff to quickly diagnose and effectively manage malaria in remote areas with limited access to healthcare.

Our initiatives:

- Strengthen skills and knowledge of the diagnosis and treatment of malaria in schools and among teachers
- Consciously design the school environment based around health, hygiene and safety criteria
- These approaches will be improved and finalised, together with the government, so that malaria prevention can be widely applied in schools in the future.

Practical project to provide improved medical care when faced with food insecurity – in Somalia

For over two decades, Somalia has been afflicted by one of the world's longest-running humanitarian crises. The combination of conflict, mass exodus, multiple droughts, floods and extreme poverty have greatly increased food insecurity. Combined with poor social services, the population's risk of disease and malnutrition has increased.

The main objective of the three-year health project in Somalia is to improve the medical care of mothers, new-borns and children. We ensure access to medical advice and treatment for entire communities and strengthen social responsibility in communities.



Our initiatives:

1. Application of innovative solutions to ensure repeated use of those solutions and awareness among the population
2. Distribution of health kits to support child food security and family planning
3. Strengthening the government health system
4. Improved awareness of the importance of health services, increased knowledge of diseases and treatment options, and clearly defined responsibility for community medical care

Our practical projects are based on the principle of flexible adaptation. Innovative approaches are continually being developed and procedures optimised, documented and applied to other areas, thanks to the practical experience gained.

Principles of healthcare

We see the following three principles as the most important approaches to helping children in our health projects and reducing child mortality. They are practice-focused and suitable for application in different situations and countries.

1. Nutrition for young children

We call for and support the nutrition of toddlers to ensure their survival and to enable their healthy physical and cognitive development.

2. Involving the community in projects

When we involve entire communities in health programmes, children can be treated at home, even in remote areas; this can often be a life-saving factor.

3. Protecting new-borns

The first 28 days are the most critical time for a new-born – 2.7 million new-borns die each year during this period. Most neonatal deaths can be prevented by providing targeted education and support for mothers during pregnancy and postpartum.



Child protection in Iraq

BACKGROUND

As a result of the continued crisis in Iraq, over 3 million internally displaced people now live in the country itself and in the Kurdistan region, and almost half of them are children – children who are exposed to violence and abuse. The situation also puts pressure on public safety authorities, as meeting the urgent needs of the population affected is challenging.

WHAT SAVE THE CHILDREN IS DOING

As part of our work in Iraq, we focus on protecting internally displaced persons including children from the local population in Chanaqin City, which receives little national humanitarian aid. Because the protection needs of children are so great (including protection from child marriage, child labour, exploitation and neglect), we are implementing a project combining education, protection, water and sanitation facilities in refugee camps and urban areas. In this way, most of the children's needs can be addressed and conflict-affected communities can be supported in their daily lives. We work closely with families and other organisations to protect children from dangerous situations.

Half of
ALL REFUGEES IN
IRAQ ARE CHILDREN

OUR PROJECT

We have built new classrooms and equipped them with sanitary facilities and access to safe drinking water. In armed conflicts, access to education and daily schooling is very important for the physical and mental protection of children.

Together with teaching staff and parents, we have also developed child protection campaigns to protect children from violence and child labour. In addition, we have spread the most important messages among communities affected and to the relevant authorities.

OUR PROJECT

In order to identify particularly vulnerable children, in Belgrade we made mobile child protection teams available in parks, informal shelters and settlements. We also set up a one-stop shop where refugee children and their families could access child protection and counselling services while waiting for registration with the police or transportation to an asylum centre. They received psychosocial support and we provided recreational activities for children, and ensured that people received medical help and were informed about their rights.



THOUSANDS OF UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN CAME TO EUROPE VIA THE BALKAN ROUTE

Child protection in Serbia

In order for unaccompanied refugee children to have a childhood again in a safe environment, we provided assistance to the Serbian authorities to strengthen the existing system for the care of orphans. In this way, we helped ensure that these children might have a safe, new home.

BACKGROUND

The Balkan route was the main migration route to Western Europe during the European refugee crisis. Refugee children – girls and boys, thousands of them unaccompanied or separated from their families – were at high risk of violence, sexual abuse and trafficking. Even though Serbia was only a transit country, it still represented an end point for many children and their families fleeing their homelands.

WHAT WE DO

We are committed to the protection and care of refugee children in Serbia. The goal of our child protection project is to identify particularly disadvantaged and vulnerable children who are in urgent need of help. We referred these children to appropriate contact points to secure medical care, access to food, shelters, legal advice or registration to be reunited with family members.

TWO GIRLS PLAY TOGETHER IN FRONT OF THEIR TENT IN A FACILITY FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PEOPLE IN IRAQ.

Our focus on continual development

Save the Children constantly strives to develop proven, solution-focused approaches in order to implement projects that are as sustainable as possible and can be extended to a large proportion of the population.

We work together with our partners and carry out research ourselves where necessary to develop new, practical projects. For example, between 2016 and 2018, we carried out a number of research projects with the support of the C&A Foundation on disaster prevention in urban areas, risk reduction in everyday life and increased safety on the journey to school and while at school.


Our research on disaster prevention and empowering children in urban areas includes ten research projects in seven countries. We also implemented pilot projects in these countries and were able to test the programmes that we developed during our research.

Our aim is to make our research results widely available, which is why we present our results online, at conferences and in workshops – in the hope that they will be included in projects run by our partners and other organisations.

More about the research results and a video with the most important findings from research for children: savethechildren.ch/research



Overview of our research on disaster risk reduction and strengthening the resilience of children in urban areas:

-  10 research projects, many of them in collaboration with GADRRRES partners
-  7 research reports, 13 case studies, 3 implementation guides, 11 project implementation primers and 3 promotional videos
-  7 online workshops (webinars) on capacity building for researchers and stakeholder involvement in implementation
-  Presentation of the research in 28 forums
-  Conduct of 2 international events to provide continuing education in this field



Mexico: Disaster Risk Reduction through schools and the education sector

BACKGROUND

Mexico is regularly affected by natural disasters and manmade crises (including violence and crime). The potential for damage from future earthquakes is high: during the 2017 earthquake, more than 16,000 schools were damaged. School-based disaster prevention plays a key role in the safety of children. In addition, with the involvement of parents and the community, the condition of schools has been improved and measures have been taken to minimise risk. We also work at the community and state levels to promote recognition of the importance of safe schools for children and to implement appropriate measures relating to this. The aim of our work is that no child is injured in a disaster and that the children affected do not miss a day of school.



OUR PROJECT

Between 2016 and 2018, we ran a project in the state of Yucatan, which is often affected by seasonal tropical storms and floods. A large proportion of the population lives in poor conditions. We ran various courses for children and other people from schools and communities, and developed tools to standardise the identification and exploration of the risks that children face in schools. We implemented measures to make schools safer (such as standardised evacuation instructions and procedures, organisation of school rescue teams with clear roles, and risk maps). Government staff have also been trained in applying risk assessments to schools, and school principals and teachers have been supported in improving existing disaster prevention policies in their schools.

WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED

- Collaboration and partnerships with government ministries and various state and local institutions to identify gaps in the implementation of existing policies
- Collaboration with the Department of Education at the Primary Level at the Ministry of Education in Mexico City to include disaster prevention in the curriculum
- Targeted training of safety officers in schools and communities (e.g. on standard evacuation instructions and procedures)
- Training for teachers on the topic of safe schools
- Integration of our work on disaster prevention into emergency aid following the earthquake



In disaster situations, every second counts

Every year, millions of people are affected by natural disasters and man-made crises. Because of global warming and population growth, the number of people affected is increasing every year.

However, it is difficult to provide humanitarian assistance in these situations due to logistical challenges and the time that it takes to get there. Nor do we know when and where the next catastrophe will occur, or whether it will be an earthquake or an outbreak of disease. What we do know is that, unfortunately catastrophes will continue to occur in the future. In order to provide humanitarian aid as quickly and efficiently as possible under these challenging conditions, Save the Children Switzerland has a special Children's Emergency Fund.

How does the Children's Emergency Fund work?

The way that the Children's Emergency Fund works is simple. Instead of waiting until a catastrophe has occurred before we collect donations, we put aside in advance funds that we can use to provide immediate humanitarian aid in the event of a disaster. This allows us to be the first to provide support on the ground within 48 hours of a disaster. This is much faster than other humanitarian missions and directly affects the number of lives that can be saved.

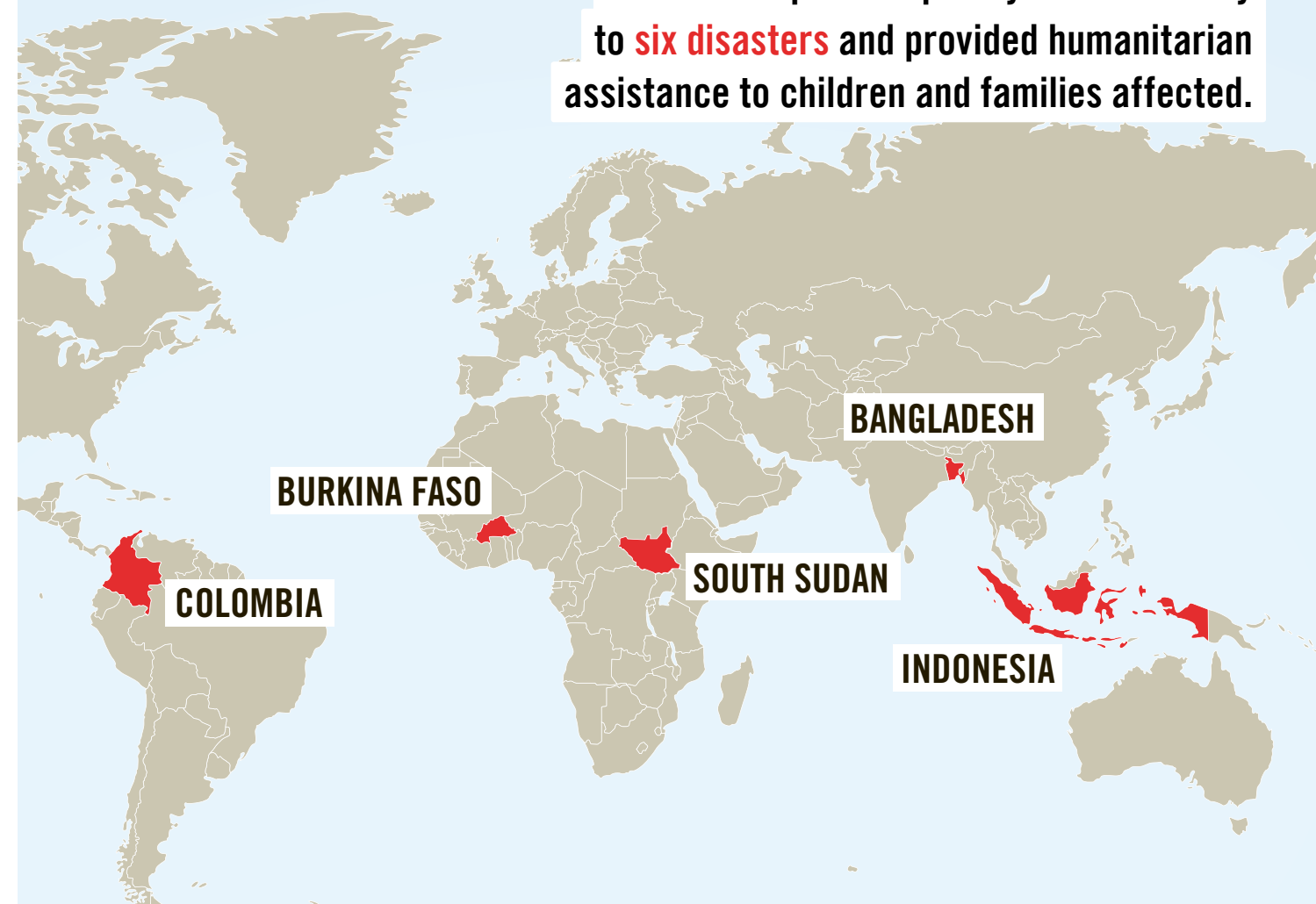
Example: Tsunami in Indonesia

The tsunami in Indonesia in December 2018 is an example of how effectively the emergency fund works. Late in the evening on 22 December, a tsunami struck the coast of Indonesia in the Sunda Strait. Four hundred people were killed and tens of thousands lost their homes. On the morning of 24 December, less than two days after the disaster and once our local staff had been able to evaluate the situation, we decided to provide specific humanitarian assistance. Thanks to the Children's Emergency Fund, we were able to respond very quickly.

- We distributed tents and kits of other materials for emergency shelters.
- We set up child-friendly spaces to provide children with a sheltered environment where they could play and learn.
- We identified children who had been separated from their parents in the chaos of the catastrophe and worked to reunite them with their families.

We helped over 8,000 people immediately after the tsunami.

Since creating the **Children's Emergency Fund**, we have responded quickly and efficiently to **six disasters** and provided humanitarian assistance to children and families affected.



Country	Crisis	Our assistance	People helped
Bangladesh	Rohingya refugee crisis	Preparations for the monsoon season	672,634
Burkina Faso	Hunger crisis	Treatment of malnourished children	Not yet complete (goal: 13,900)
Colombia	Refugee crisis in Venezuela	Education in emergency situations and medical support	34,442
Indonesia (Sulawesi)	Earthquake and tsunami	Emergency aid and disaster relief	97,399
Indonesia (Sunda Strait)	Tsunami	Emergency aid and disaster relief	8,474
South Sudan	Measles outbreak	Vaccination programme to prevent further spread	Not yet complete (goal: 38,000)



EMERGENCY AID, DISASTER RELIEF



EMERGENCY AID IN INDONESIA

The year 2018 was marked by multiple catastrophes in Indonesia. Through our many years of work on the ground, we were able to respond to natural disasters immediately and provide emergency aid to children and families affected by the following situations:



Lombok

In August, several earthquakes on the island of Lombok led to significant damage and caused numerous injuries and deaths. In total, around 3.8 million people were affected, many of whom lost all of their belongings. We implemented child protection measures and distributed emergency kits with materials to construct shelters. We also provided help with our programme for education in emergency situations by setting up temporary learning centres where children could learn and play in a safe environment.



Sulawesi

A tsunami hit the island of Sulawesi in September. We responded immediately and provided much-needed relief supplies to address the lack of food, clean drinking water, sleeping and living facilities, and functioning sanitation. We ensured that children who had been separated from their families were reunited with them. Through child-friendly spaces and temporary learning centres, we quickly created reliability in everyday life for the children affected.



Sunda Strait

On 22 December, a tsunami hit the coast of Java, Sumatra and other small islands along the Sunda Strait. More than 36,500 people were affected – half of them children. Despite the fact that our staff were already working at capacity, we were still able to provide emergency aid after this disaster and could react quickly thanks to the Children's Emergency Fund (see page 20).

Since August 2017, violence and human rights violations in Burma have forced hundreds of thousands of Rohingya to flee across the border into Bangladesh. There are now around 923,000 Rohingya refugees living in Bangladesh.

They have found refuge in informal settlements, refugee camps and local host communities. However, the landscape there is prone to flooding and landslides, especially during the heavy monsoon rains and cyclone season. **The largest provisional refugee camp there – Kutupalong-Balukali – is currently the largest refugee camp in the world.**

Projects: Education in emergency situations

Aim: Rohingya children and children in the local host communities have access to inclusive and age-appropriate learning and development opportunities in a sheltered environment.

- By building and equipping 73 temporary learning centres with gender-segregated sanitation facilities, we have been able to provide access to informal education for around 8,700 children.

Projects: Health

Aim: Rohingya families and local reception communities have ongoing access to medical care at the Save the Children Health Centre in Teknaf.

- They receive assistance kits with equipment to help care for new-borns and small children, and to provide support for pregnant women and psychosocial support.
- In addition, counselling is offered in child protection situations such as cases of violence, abuse, child marriage, separation of families or child labour.
- Campaigns for hygiene standards are preventing outbreaks of diarrhoea and cholera. One of our health centres specialises in treating diarrhoea and we have set up nine first aid wards.



EMERGENCY AID IN BANGLADESH

Save the Children is one of the leading aid agencies **operating locally**. With our projects, we provide assistance with child protection, education, health, nutrition, water and sanitation. So far **we have helped over 780,000 people – including more than 450,000 children.**

The largest provisional refugee camp – Kutupalong-Balukali – is currently the largest refugee camp in the world.





**LEARN MORE ABOUT
THIS IN THE VIDEO FOR
THE PILOT PROJECT IN
SINDHUPALCHOK:**

SAVETHECHILDREN.CH/SUBHARAMBHA

Nepal: Subharambha project

BACKGROUND

Subharambha is Nepalese and means “good start”, which is precisely the goal of our project being implemented in the Kalikot district – in one of the most disadvantaged regions of Nepal. Based on our positive experience from a pilot project in Sindhupalchok, Nepal, the project targets children aged from zero to three years to meet their needs using a special, integrated approach. We are reaching 2,500 adults and 1,000 children with this project.

OUR PROJECT

We train volunteer health workers in the communities to provide group education for parents on the nutritional, health and development needs of their children. For example, they show the participants simple ways to play games that promote children’s cognitive development and encourage parents to interact lovingly and attentively with their children, because this forms the basis for the healthy and positive long-term development of children. Children’s ability to learn and their physical and mental health are also strengthened in this way. Our project purposefully starts at this age because the first years of life are particularly important for a child. During this time, their experiences and relationships with their closest caregivers significantly influence the child’s brain development.

WHAT SAVE THE CHILDREN DOES

- We train volunteer health workers who advise parents on children’s nutritional, health and development needs.
- We implement early childhood education initiatives, which are very important for children aged from zero to three years.
- We have already carried out more than 90 training sessions.
- We are reaching over 2,500 adults and 1,000 children through this project.

**PLAY IS PART OF THE PROCESS
WHEN A HEALTH WORKER VISITS
A FAMILY AT HOME.**

Our projects for young people

In our projects, we also try to meet the specific psychological and social needs of young adults. We work with young people in emergency situations, during the post-disaster recovery phase and in development contexts. Because they are also important players in the development of a safe environment for children.



EVELINE IN A SAVE THE CHILDREN PROJECT IN RWANDA

“PROJECT HUMANITY” RWANDA AND ZIMBABWE

In 2018, Save the Children led the innovative Project Humanity in Rwanda and Zimbabwe to strengthen the self-esteem and leadership skills of young people from local and refugee communities. In this programme, the young people first learned the four humanitarian principles of neutrality, humanity, independence and impartiality, and were then helped to translate the ideas behind these principles for the benefit of their own communities. As a result, the participants proposed a large number of small projects in order to effect change in their environment. These included household chores to assist older people, village clean-up campaigns and initiatives to increase social cohesion.



TWO CHILDREN FROM RWANDA IN A SAVE THE CHILDREN PROJECT

“Before I participated in Project Humanity, I often just thought of myself. Now the situation is different because I know the humanitarian principles and respect people around me.”

Boy from our project in Rwanda



A GIRL WHO LEARNED TO READ IN ONE OF OUR PROJECTS.



TWO YOUNG PEOPLE WHO IMPROVED THEIR CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR PROJECT.

CAREER OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE PHILIPPINES

Save the Children responded to the career development needs of young people following Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines. The aim of this project was to improve the young people's chances of obtaining jobs or successfully becoming self-employed after completing vocational schooling. Young people were also able to acquire soft skills in job searching, job applications and job interview preparation, as well as decision-making and entrepreneurial skills. This initiative also increased the resilience of young people to disasters that they, their families and their communities may face in the future.

“I’ve been explaining to my parents and neighbours how important it is to help people in need. We are all better off when we do this.”

Noel, 21, from Zimbabwe



JULIET, 18, ATTENDED OUR PROJECT AND WANTS TO BE A TEACHER.

LEARN-AND-PLAY CART – A MOBILE CHILD-FRIENDLY SPACE

At the cantonal and community level, children in asylum accommodation do not always have child-friendly spaces available to them. Often caregivers also lack the time and knowledge to develop age-appropriate support for them. This situation is what led to the development of our mobile learn-and-play cart (also known as the toolkit and activity box). This is a cart with

key equipment and instructions for activities for children of various ages. It supports playful learning, creative design and the social, emotional and cognitive development of children, both indoors and outdoors. The cart is available to asylum accommodation providers for training and replication purposes.



Refugee children in Switzerland: For a better future

**When children lose their
childhood, we provide support
for their future**

Most refugee children who come to Switzerland with their families are from countries affected by crisis, such as Eritrea, Afghanistan, Syria, Somalia and Iraq. Many of these girls and boys have lost part of their childhood through violence, separation, evacuation and neglect. We do everything we can to ensure that they do not lose their future.

In 2018, the proportion of asylum applications for children and young people was very high, at 41%. Most of these children stay in Switzerland for the longer term (refugee protection rate for children in 2018: 85%). Therefore, provision of the appropriate support at the earliest opportunity is crucial. For children who have not been to school for a long time and who have experienced great insecurity, we find that the faster they experience stability again, and are protected and supported in their development, the better they can process their experiences and develop their potential.

**“The improvement in the
quality of childcare through
the Save the Children
programme has been a
quantum leap.”**

Quote from a pastor at the reception
and processing centre for asylum
seekers in Bern

Pilot project: Child-friendly spaces in asylum centres

Living in shared accommodation can be stressful for children. In centres where over 200 people may live together, children are exposed to risks such as lack of care and abuse. Often, they and their parents suffer from stress and disorientation.

As the special needs of children in asylum accommodation are frequently under-appreciated, we implemented our child-friendly spaces programme as part of a pilot project from 2016 to 2018. Working together with the State Secretariat for Migration (SEM) and the ORS and AOZ asylum service providers, the pilot project was carried out in three asylum centres for up to twelve months. These were the Hall 9 urban transition centre in Zurich-Oerlikon and the reception and processing centres in Kreuzlingen and Bern. In total, more than 1,000 children regularly participated in supervised play and educational activities.

At the end of August 2018, the last of the pilot projects in Bern was successfully completed and handed over to ORS, which will now continue this work. Evaluation of the project in the three centres showed that important goals have been achieved: child-friendly spaces have been created; a daily offering of age-appropriate activities is led by trained caregivers; child protection policies and practices have been embedded in the centres; and further education, activity instructions and other tools will guarantee the sustainable continuation of the programme. Recommendations and examples of best practice have been carefully reviewed and have led to a significant improvement in standards of care. A key achievement: We are delighted that, in all new federal asylum centres, child-friendly spaces are now prescribed by the SEM and are part of the operational concept.

We would like to offer our sincere thanks to all Swiss foundations, companies and individual donors who have placed their trust in us and made our commitment to refugee children possible.

Strengthening partners through our experience: Our service offering

Last year saw a significant expansion of our service offering to embed our expertise in the care, support, protection and child-friendly accommodation of vulnerable children in the asylum field.

Professional consulting and support:

Building on our pilot project, we developed a consulting service for organisations working in the asylum field. As part of this offering, we shared our expertise in protecting children and providing them with professional support in asylum housing with accommodation managers from different regions. This led to our partner organisations significantly and sustainably improving their standard of care.

Training and development:

Eighty employees from twelve asylum accommodation centres participated in our practical training courses. The courses covered child development, psychosocial support of children, the basics of traumatised, practical tips for support and the creation of a suitable environment, protection of children, and healthcare provision such as dental hygiene and proper hand washing. The focus was on the participants' current questions and solutions that they defined jointly in order to improve support for children.

Online resources:

We developed a variety of activity and video guides that are available to interested parties free of charge as an online resource. Behavioural guidelines and institutional child protection tools were also developed and shared with partner organisations in order to enhance the protection of children.

More information can be found at:
www.savethechildren.ch/weiterbildung
(in German)



Our work in Switzerland

Violence is never tolerated!

Last April, we held a workshop on non-violent education with children and adolescents in Biel. The focus was on the children's opinions and their messages were captured in powerful photos. At a conference in Bern on the protection of children through the prohibition of corporal punishment, the children's voices were presented through these images. The conference led to the development of a video interview with international Save the Children experts.

Ombudsman for children's rights

Together with other non-governmental organisations, we are advocating for the creation of an ombudsman's office for children's rights in Switzerland. This would offer advice and expertise, and accept complaints from children.

Teaching material on children's rights

There is a lack of knowledge about children's rights in Switzerland among both children and adults. This is partly because children's rights are not part of the Swiss curriculum. We provide secondary education materials on children's rights in collaboration with the kiknet school platform.



HOW WE USE DONATIONS

EVERY CHF 100 DONATED
IN 2018 WAS USED AS FOLLOWS:



CHF 83	for international & national Save the Children projects
CHF 12	for fundraising and marketing
CHF 3	for administration
CHF 2	for project information, services and communication

ZEWO CERTIFICATION



Save the Children Switzerland is Zewo-certified. The Zewo seal of approval is granted to trusted aid organisations and guarantees the targeted, efficient and effective use of donations.

The Zewo foundation regularly verifies compliance with the quality criteria. As part of our Zewo certification and to ensure that our accounting is transparent and reliable, we prepare our annual financial statements in accordance with Swiss GAAP FER accounting standard. The annual financial statements are audited externally by PricewaterhouseCoopers AG.

SAVE THE CHILDREN NETWORK

Our Network

The international Save the Children network comprises 27 member organisations (including Switzerland), 59 country offices, 5 regional offices and 4 advocacy offices, and operates in 125 countries. The network was established in 1919.


The 27 member organisations are jointly responsible for steering the strategic direction of the organisation. They engage in fundraising and they implement national programmes within their own countries for the most deprived children.

Save the Children International is constituted by the member organisations and acts on their behalf. In addition, Save the Children International, with its regional and country offices, is responsible for international project implementation in countries where there is no Save the Children member organisation. Member organisations and country offices work closely together, enabling the long-term local anchoring of our project work. In countries where there are neither members nor country offices, project implementation takes place across borders or through partner organisations.

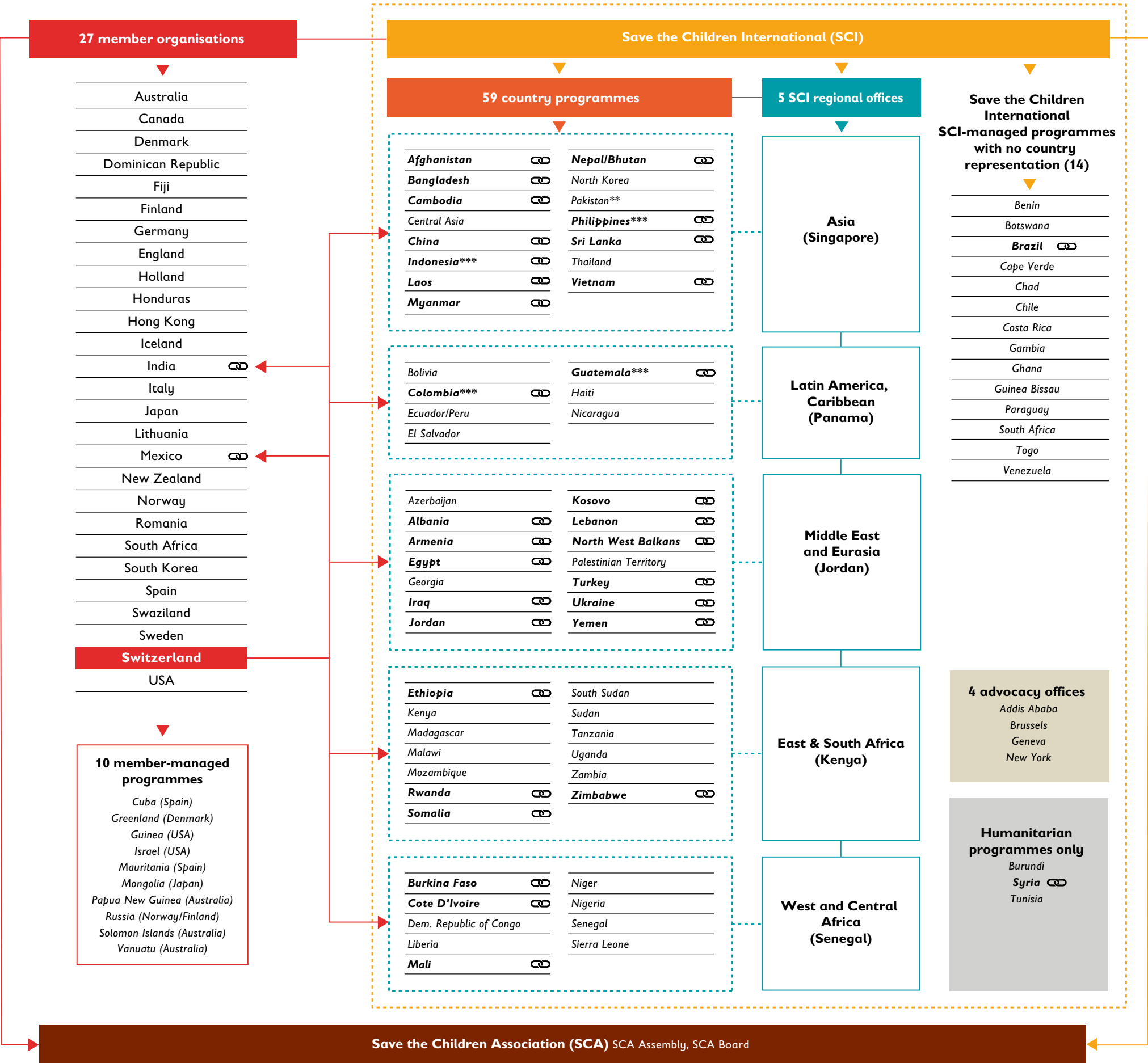
Our advocacy work

As well as its regional and country offices, Save the Children International has four advocacy offices. They work with the United Nations, government representatives and international organisations to embed and promote children's rights internationally. One of these four advocacy offices is in Geneva. Save the Children Switzerland provides administrative support to the team in Geneva and knowledge is exchanged on an ongoing basis.

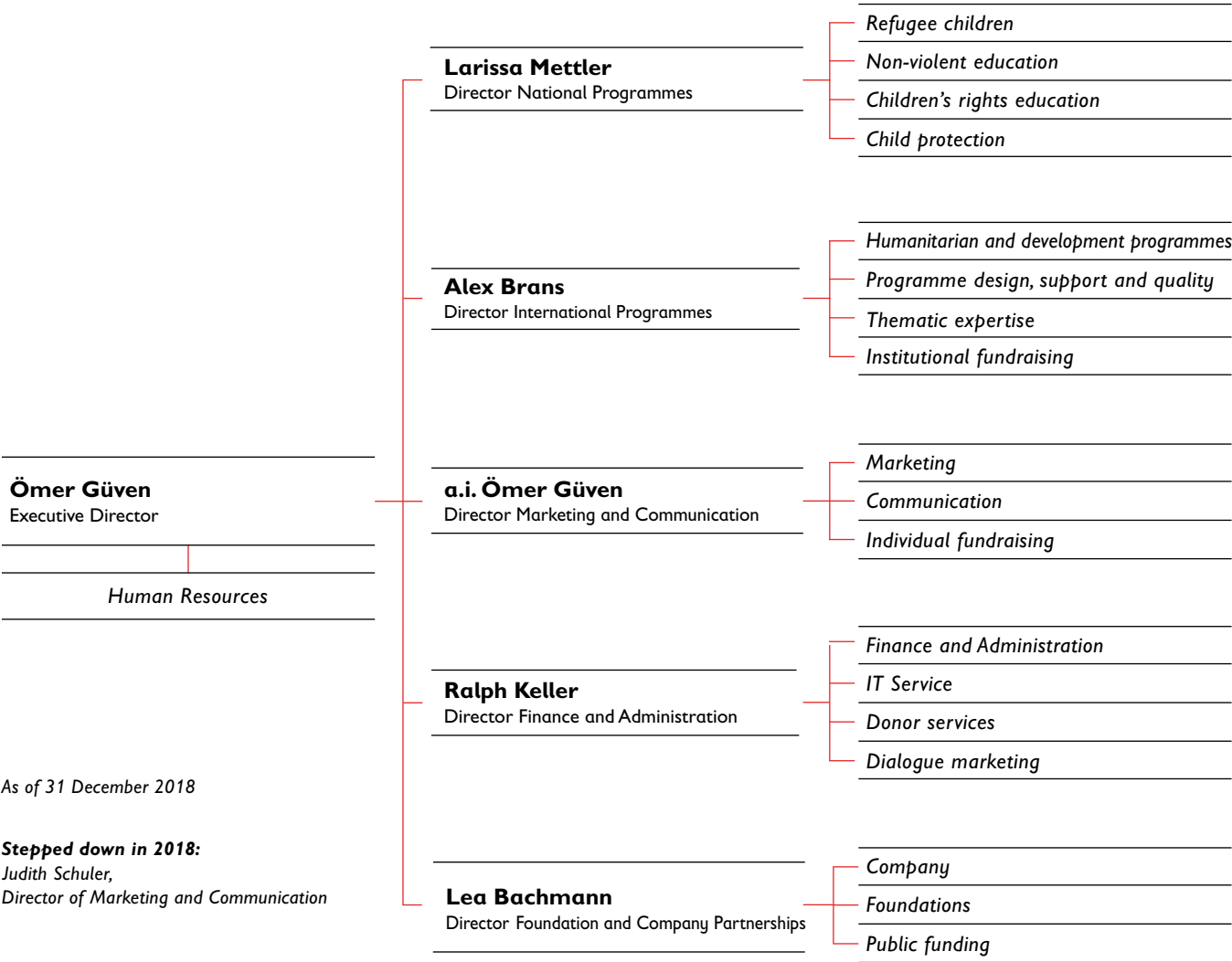
LEGEND

 Countries that Save the Children Switzerland collaborated with in 2018:

- Save the Children runs programmes in 60 countries – but has only 54 country offices. The offices for Nepal and Bhutan, Peru and Ecuador, the north-western Balkans (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro and Serbia), Central Asia (Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan), and Kenya and Madagascar have been merged.
- Save the Children International is responsible for the projects in these countries, but they are nonetheless registered as member organisations.
- Possible future member organisations – Save the Children International has the right to fundraise here.



SAVE THE CHILDREN SWITZERLAND





A CHILD AT A SAVE THE CHILDREN
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION CENTRE,
SISSAKO, MALI.



COMMENT ON THE ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT

Ralph Keller, Director of Finance and Administration, Member of the Senior Management Team

In the 2018 financial year, we achieved a total income (from donations and other sources) of CHF 23.4 million. Although this represents a decrease of CHF 6.3 million compared to the previous year (CHF 29.6 million in 2017), the positive development of the last few years is continuing. Of this total income, we invested CHF 16.7 million in our projects and programmes for children. Around 47% of all project expenditures were once again allocated to Asia and the Middle East. In addition, projects in Africa, Eastern Europe and Latin America are continuing to influence our geographic focus.

This year, we have once again achieved a good ratio between the funds invested in projects in Switzerland and abroad, and expenditure on related communications, fundraising and administration. Project work consumed 83.3% of all funds, meaning that four out of every five francs donated directly benefit children and their families in our 37 project countries.

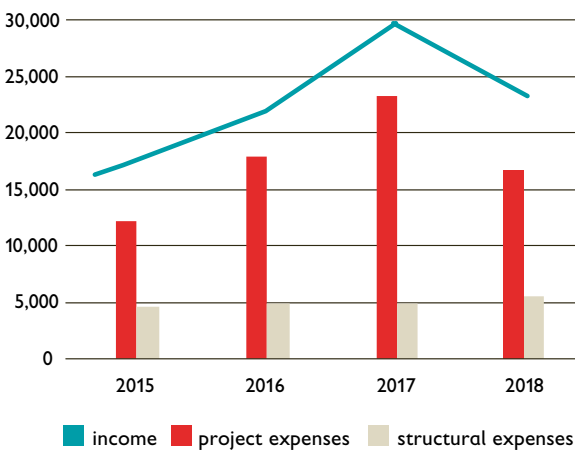
Compared to the previous year, project expenditure has been accompanied by slightly higher expenses for information, fundraising and administration: 16.7% of all revenues were used for this purpose – an increase of 4.5% over the previous year (12.2%). Personnel and rental costs have continued to account for the largest proportion of total administrative expenses. In the current reporting year, the balance sheet loss from the previous year was offset. However, this resulted in low project expenditure and limited spending in all other areas. The creation of additional reserves will continue to be very important, as this is essential for project work to meet ongoing and acute needs.

The financial statements for 2018 comply with the requirements of Swiss GAAP Core FER and FER 21 and are summarised on the following pages.

The audit was conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers AG in Zurich.

The detailed auditors' report and the full financial statements can be viewed on our website (in German): www.savethechildren.ch/annualreport

Project and structural costs (in CHF thousand))





BALANCE

Assets (in Swiss Francs)	31.12.2018	31.12.2017
Current assets		
Liquid funds 1.1.)	1,789,996	2,002,016
Receivables from supplies and services 1.2.)	762,676	100,122
Del credere	–69,200	–5,300
Other short-term receivables 1.3.)	1,312,689	48,440
Accrued income 1.4.)	2,946,965	2,898,802
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	6,743,126	5,044,080
Fixed assets (in Swiss Francs)	31.12.2018	31.12.2017
Tangible assets	3,086	13,732
Intangible assets	18,622	28,868
TOTAL FIXED ASSETS 1.5.)	21,708	42,600
TOTAL ASSETS	6,764,834	5,086,680
Liabilities (in Swiss Francs)	31.12.2018	31.12.2017
Borrowings		
Trade accounts payable 1.6.)	1,740,142	1,383,147
Other short-term liabilities 1.7.)	244,510	94,878
Deferred income 1.8.)	272,617	363,265
TOTAL BORROWINGS	2,257,269	1,841,290
Fund capital (in Swiss Francs)	31.12.2018	31.12.2017
Earmarked funds	4,471,801	4,190,646
TOTAL FUND CAPITAL 1.9.)	4,471,801	4,190,646
Organisational capital (in Swiss Francs)	31.12.2018	31.12.2017
Share capital	18,751	18,751
Fixed capital	0	0
Free capital	17,013	–964,007
Profit brought forward	–964,007	105,667
Annual result	981,020	–1,069,674
TOTAL ORGANISATION CAPITAL 2.0.)	35,764	–945,256
TOTAL LIABILITIES	6,764,834	5,086,680



OPERATING STATEMENT

Financial year (in Swiss francs)	2018	2017
Income		
Donations	6,476,353	6,827,458
Legacies/inheritances	0	30,000
Total donations	6,476,353	6,857,458
Save the Children contributions	692,892	0
Third-party contributions	9,853,208	14,336,156
Public contributions	6,323,574	8,397,254
Total contributions	16,869,674	22,733,410
Proceeds from receivables	7,879	17,885
TOTAL INCOME 2.1.)	23,353,906	29,608,753
Expenditure (in Swiss francs)	2018	2017
“Save the Children International” project expenditure	–16,202,896	–22,757,416
“Switzerland programmes” project expenditure	–463,186	–504,355
“Various” project expenditure	–76,793	–67,423
Total project expenditure 2.2.)	–16,742,875	–23,329,194
Fundraising	–676,887	–710,446
Information work	–138,644	–159,808
Payroll costs 2.3.)	–4,052,622	–3,623,353
General structural expenditure	–376,248	–385,674
Depreciation and amortisation	–63,818	–91,159
Total structural expenditure	–5,308,219	–4,970,440
TOTAL EXPENDITURE 2.4.)	–22,051,094	–28,299,634
Operating result (in Swiss francs)	2018	2017
TOTAL OPERATING RESULT	1,302,812	1,309,119
Financial result (in Swiss francs)	2018	2017
Interest expenditure	0	0
Interest income	11	147
Forex losses	–109,192	–63,182
Forex gains	68,544	124,888
Total financial result	–40,637	61,853
ANNUAL RESULT BEFORE FUND AND CAPITAL ADJUSTMENTS	1,262,175	1,370,972
Adjustment of earmarked funds	–281,155	–4,190,646
ANNUAL RESULT	981,020	–2,819,674
Adjustment of committed capital	0	1,750,000
ANNUAL RESULT AFTER FUND AND CAPITAL ADJUSTMENTS	981,020	–1,069,674



PROJECT EXPENSES

Africa

	Project contributions (in Swiss francs)	Focus
Egypt	3,183.95	
Ethiopia	272,167.40	
Burkina Faso	203,891.00	
Ivory Coast	112,800.45	
Mali	84,576.37	
Namibia	33,826.00	
Rwanda	38,158.00	
Zimbabwe	30,135.00	
Somalia	2,516,817.89	
TOTAL AFRICA (excl. Egypt)	3,295,556.06	

Middle East

	Project contributions (in Swiss francs)	Focus
Iraq	667,525.00	
Yemen	31.00	
Lebanon	44,904.85	
Syria	1,008,106.25	
Turkey	166,041.95	
TOTAL MIDDLE EAST	1,886,609.05	

Asia

	Project contributions (in Swiss francs)	Focus
Afghanistan	9,423.04	
Armenia	98,058.00	
Bangladesh	1,403,711.27	
China	567,187.58	
India	628,386.15	
Indonesia	450,901.80	
Myanmar	1,336,308.22	
Laos	73,175.20	
Nepal	837,220.02	
Philippines	137,120.00	
Sri Lanka	294,240.69	
Tajikistan	123,606.00	
Vietnam	115,182.87	
TOTAL ASIA (excl. Middle East)	6,074,520.84	

Latin America

	Project contributions (in Swiss francs)	Focus
Brazil	32,667.95	
Guatemala	14,577.06	
Colombia	90,772.00	
Mexico	1,566,113.75	
TOTAL LATIN AMERICA	1,704,130.76	

Europe

	Project contributions (in Swiss francs)	Focus
Albania	319,243.29	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	48,060.00	
Kosovo	457,754.00	
Mediterranean/Rescue ship	55,679.57	
Northwest Balkans	458,031.19	
TOTAL EUROPE (excl. Switzerland)	1,338,768.05	

Switzerland

	Project contributions (in Swiss francs)	Focus
TOTAL SWITZERLAND	463,185.89	

Supra-regional projects

	Project contributions (in Swiss francs)	Focus
Global children's rights projects	989,003.52	
International project coordination and quality assurance	991,101.00	
TOTAL SUPRA-REGIONAL PROJECTS	1,980,104.52	

Project expenses

	Project contributions (in Swiss francs)	Focus
Emergency aid and disaster relief	5,950,401.29	
Health and nutrition	3,467,342.33	
Education	3,147,123.66	
Child protection	2,553,705.59	
Advocacy	209,548.99	
Disaster Risk Reduction	1,414,753.30	
TOTAL Project expenses	16,742,875.16	



Education



Health and nutrition



Child protection



Emergency aid and disaster relief (humanitarian aid)



Advocacy



Disaster Risk Reduction



THANK YOU
FOR HELPING US TO
HELP OTHERS! 

THANK YOU

Our work for children would not be possible without the generous support of our donors. Whether as a private donor, child guardian, company, foundation, work community, school class, association, volunteer or the public sector – people like you make the crucial difference for children around the world!

Thanks to you, we will do everything in our power to ensure that every single child survives, learns and is protected – including in emergencies and disaster situations. Thank you for supporting us so kindly, generously and sustainably.

Special thanks to:

- | | | | |
|----------|---|----------|---|
| B | Boston Consulting Group AG Switzerland
BVLGARI | N | NonStop Gym |
| C | Canton de Genève
Christian Bachschuster Stiftung Jona
Clariant Foundation
C&A Foundation, in partnership with C&A | O | Oak Foundation |
| D | Direktion für Entwicklung und
Zusammenarbeit (DEZA) | P | PregLem SA |
| F | Fondation Alta Mane | R | Ref. Kirchen Bern-Jura-Solothurn
Roma Education Fund
Royal Plaza Montreux SA |
| G | Glückskette
Google Switzerland GmbH
GSK | S | Sick Children Foundation
Stadtverwaltung Bern
Stiftung Mercator Schweiz
Swiss Charity Concert
Swiss Re Foundation |
| H | Herzog & de Meuron | T | TAG Heuer SA
Tryba Stiftung World for Children |
| I | IKEA
International Organization for Migration (IOM) | U | UBS Optimus Foundation |
| K | Kanton Zürich Lotteriefonds
Kühne + Nagel International AG
Kühne Foundation
Kanton Basel-Landschaft Swisslos-Fonds | V | Volkart Stiftung
Valora Schweiz AG
Volkart Stiftung |
| L | LINK Marketing Services AG | Z | Zurich Foundation |
| M | Marionnaud Switzerland AG
Medicor Foundation Liechtenstein
Migros Unterstützungsfonds | | Additional thanks to our
generous private donors. |

SUPPORT OUR WORK



CHILDREN LEARNING IN A SCHOOL BUILT BY
SAVE THE CHILDREN IN A RURAL AREA OF UGANDA.

Would you like to support Save the Children as an individual,
a company or a foundation? Find out how you can support us here:

One-off donation.

You can support Save the Children with a one-off
amount of your choice.

 savethechildren.ch/donate

Regular donation.

With a regular donation of at least 20 francs per
month, you will become a Save the Children Child Gu-
ardian project sponsor, supporting the most disadvan-
taged children around the world. As a Child Guardian
project sponsor, you will regularly receive our Save
the Children Magazine and find out how your specific
donation will be used.

 savethechildren.ch/childguardian

Event donations.

Birthdays, weddings, anniversaries – joyful events are
excellent times to raise funds for the most disadvanta-
ged children. We can support you with documents and
tools to communicate your concerns and ours.

 info@savethechildren.ch

Donations for bereavements, inheritances and legacies.

At the end of a fulfilled life, many people want to sup-
port future generations. A donation at a time of bere-
avement or a legacy is a lasting and effective form of
remembrance – and gives children and their families a
future. We will be happy to help.

 legate@savethechildren.ch

Corporate partnerships

Through a partnership with Save the Children, you can
help needy children directly, professionally and sus-
tainably. From small- and medium-sized companies to
large international corporations: together we can give
children around the world a better future.

 partner@savethechildren.ch

Foundation partnerships

Save the Children guarantees expert, dependable and
professional project work in order to fulfil its purpose
as effectively and efficiently as possible. We will be glad
to develop tailor-made solutions for you.

 partner@savethechildren.ch

Fundraisers

You can also support our work together with your work
colleagues, friends or family – for example, through your
own donations or fundraisers. We will be happy to pro-
vide you with inspiration and useful tools to help.

 info@savethechildren.ch



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www.savethechildren.ch/donate

FOR CHILDREN. IN SWITZERLAND AND AROUND THE WORLD.



Save the Children

Save the Children

As the largest independent children's rights organisation in the world, Save the Children has been working specifically for the rights of children since 1919. In Switzerland and around the world, we ensure that children can grow up healthily, go to school and be protected. In emergencies and disaster situations, when children are among the most vulnerable, we are one of the first on the ground and the last to leave.

We make sure that the special needs of children are met, and that their voices are heard. We achieve sustainable change for millions of children and do everything in our power to positively influence their lives and their future – including in emergencies and disaster situations.

Save the Children

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