



International Geneva
Directory of Geneva Global Health Actors

Antenna Foundation | ANTENNA

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

Antenna is a Swiss foundation committed to the scientific research of technological, health and economic solutions in partnership with universities, non-profit organizations and private companies to meet the basic needs of marginalized populations in developing countries. In order to overcome the North-South divide, Antenna is looking for innovative solutions to improve the daily living conditions for the most disadvantaged people. Founded in 1984 as a network of lawyers, Antenna runs nowadays over 60 projects in more than 30 countries. Antenna aims to develop and transfer affordable, effective, innovative, simple and sustainable technologies in the areas of water and sanitation, nutrition, medicine, agriculture, energy and microcredit. Antenna works together with the local population, making sure that technologies are field tested, affordable and user-friendly.

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Water and hygiene
- Nutrition
- Agriculture
- Energy
- Medicines
- Microcredit

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

The main three areas of health-related activities of the Antenna Foundation are Medicines, Nutrition and Water and hygiene. Other projects such as agriculture and clean energy also have health-related outcomes and impact. Projects focusing on medicines and medical technologies are concentrated on the topics of diabetes and hypertension, malaria and mental health. Nutrition programmes include the cultivation, distribution and development of micronutrient-rich spirulina products, which reduce the risk of chronic malnutrition among children and adults. In order to support the access to safe drinking water, Antenna Foundation is working on improving WATA, a technique that allows the local production of sodium hydrochloride as a substitution for chlorine in water treatment.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

Antenna is governed by a 5-member foundation board, which is chaired by Yves Burrus. Daily operations are managed by a small team in Geneva, which is headed by the Director and Founder of Antenna, Denis von der Weid. There are additional offices in Paris, Madurai, Conakry, Goma, and Ouagadougou.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

In 2017, 90 % of Antenna Foundation's income came from donations, with the remaining 10% coming from income received through WATA, Energy and others. Total income was CHF 4.5 million. Donors include the Swiss Department for Development and Cooperation (SDC), the Republic and Canton of Geneva, several communes in the Canton of Geneva, the Programme for the promotion of renewable energy in international cooperation (REPIC) and private donors.

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