



International Geneva
Directory of Swiss Global Health Actors

Terre des Hommes Foundation | TdH

<https://www.tdh.ch/en>

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BACKGROUND AND MISSION

Terre des hommes was founded in 1960 by Edmond Kaiser after he witnessed the appalling situation of children in refugee camps during the Algerian conflict. TdH's goal is to steadily improve the conditions of the most vulnerable children worldwide by improving the health of children and their mothers, protecting children and youth in migration, tackling child labour, promoting access to justice for children and youth and providing humanitarian aid to children and their families. All projects therefore revolve around children and their rights and best interests. The Foundation provides assistance to over four million children and their families in more than 45 countries each year through their health, protection and emergency relief programmes. Tdh is part of the Terre des Hommes International Federation (TDHIF).

AREAS OF INTEREST

- Maternal, newborn and child health
- Digital health and innovation
- Nutrition
- Cardio paediatric surgery
- Health system strengthening
- Water, sanitation and hygiene
- Child protection (with focus on migration, access to justice and tackling child labour)
- Child protection in emergencies

HEALTH-RELATED ACTIVITIES

TdH is committed to improving health conditions for mothers and children under five and promoting access to healthcare for to underprivileged communities, mainly in Africa and Asia. In collaboration with authorities, partners, civil society and communities, TdH aims to improve the quality of care especially at primary care level where the organization carries out projects in the area of perinatal health, nutrition, integrated management of childhood illnesses, Health System strengthening, and WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene). TdH also runs important projects in livelihood and food security, and access to health for children in crisis areas.

The Health Programme has been investing in innovation for years and today TdH has rich pipeline of ground breaking projects with two of them reaching national scale. The organization has established strategic partnerships with renowned international partners, institutes and experts to bring cutting-edge technologies to children, improve their access to quality health care services for them.

Innovative flagship projects include a digital aid tool for primary health care workers (<http://ieda-project.org/>) which is now at scale in Burkina Faso and delivers more than 200,000 monthly consultations. The usage of innovative midwife training based on simulation (<https://www.tdh.ch/en/projects/simeson>) granted TdH with an international 1 million dollar Prize by the Balzan Foundation. TdH is also active in the area of highly specialised care: historically based on children transfers from Africa to Europe for medical treatment or surgery, today TdH also builds local capacity for specialised surgery.

GOVERNANCE AND STAFF

Daily operations are managed by an 8-member Executive Board. An 8-member Supervisory Board oversees the organisation of the Foundation and is responsible for monitoring ongoing activities, administration, use of resources, risk management and regulation. President of the Council and the Supervisory Board is Beat Mumenthaler. TdH employs over 2'000 employees on a local level for projects in target countries. Almost 200 people are employed in Switzerland and over 130 abroad with Swiss employment contracts.

FUNDING SOURCES AND BUDGET

In 2017, total income was CHF 102.6 million, financed by contributions by members of the TDH International Federation, Swiss solidarity, income abroad, and contributions by the SDC and foreign governments (71%), as well as through public fundraising efforts (29%). 83% of the expenditures in 2017 went to projects and programs abroad, the remaining 17% was due to cover administrative and fundraising costs.

PUBLICATIONS

Relevant publication can be accessed at <https://www.tdh.ch/en/digital-library>

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